



Aspen Park Elementary School Newsletter

Hello Aspen Park Families,

I am very excited to be joining Aspen Park Elementary as your new principal. I feel truly honoured to become part of this wonderful school community. Over the past several years, I have been the principal at Miracle Beach Elementary, and I look forward to bringing that experience with me as I begin this new chapter at Aspen Park.

I am eager to get to know our students, families, and staff, and to continue building on the strong foundation of learning, connection, and care that already exists here. I look forward to continuing to build on Aspen Park's strengths to ensure every child feels a sense of belonging and is excited to learn each day.

I look forward to meeting you all in the weeks ahead!

With just over one week to go before school returns, I know some of you are starting to look ahead to the new school year. Below are a few information items that will help you get ready for "back to school"



Week at a Glance

September 1	September 2	September 3	September 4	September 5
Labour Day – No School	Professional Development Day – No School	First Day Back to School (Half Day – 11:45 Dismissal) 1:00 - Staff Meeting	1:00 – Fire Drill (No Bells)	10:30 - Primary Assembly 1:00 – Intermediate Assembly
September 8	September 9	September 10	September 11	September 12
	11:00 – Fire Drill 7:00 – PAC Meeting			

Upcoming dates to note:

- September 15th to 19th – Consent Week
- September 17th – Earthquake Drill
- September 19th – Terry Fox Run

- September 26th – School Assembly
- September 29th – Orange Shirt Day
- September 30th – No School – National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
- October 1st – Photo Day

New items will always be highlighted in **yellow** in the weekly newsletter.

First Day of School

The first day of school for students from grade 1 to grade 7 is Wednesday, September 3rd from 8:35 am until 11:45 am. Incoming Kindergarten students will have a different schedule which was communicated separately.

Recess and Lunch

Students will be outside at recess and lunch unless poor weather make it unsafe to be outside. Please ensure students have weather appropriate clothing with them at school. Students should not take food outside during recess and lunch. By not allowing food items to be on the playground and field it will help reduce garbage outside and thereby also reduces visits from wildlife in the area.

School Supplies

For the 2025-2026 school year Aspen Park Elementary will be providing basic school supplies to students in Kindergarten to grade 7. Instead of parents purchasing individual sets of supplies, families provide money to the school and the school will purchase supplies for each student. This approach will ensure equity and equality among all students and will save parents time (no shopping!) and money (ordering in bulk, our discount on school supplies is significant). The only items parents will have to provide are a backpack, a lunch bag, and appropriate shoes for gym.

Grade 1 to grade 7 the fee will be \$40
Kindergarten fee will be \$30

The office will accept cash, cheque, or e-transfer. Fees are due no later than October 17th. Those who are choosing the e-transfer option, you can send the transfer to AspenPark@sd71.bc.ca. Please make sure you include the following message: ***School Supplies-Student(s) Name***

Communication

Email will be the main source of communication between school and home. Please ensure your contact information is current and up to date. If you are reading this email and your child is coming to Aspen Park Elementary in September, we are off to a good start! If you are reading this email and your child is not coming to Aspen Park Elementary in September, kindly reply and we will remove you from the distribution list. Student verification forms will be sent home in September to confirm all other contact information.

School Newsletter

A newsletter will be sent via email and posted to the website each week with important events and school information. New items will be highlighted each week.

Construction

As you may have noticed construction is preceding quickly on the new addition to the school. The construction adds extra complexities to our pickup and drop off routines. Please be patient and allow extra time as needed. Any additional constructions updates will be communicated in the weekly newsletter.

Feel free to email me at zale.darnel@sd71.bc.ca if you have any questions or comments.

I look forward to seeing everyone on September 3rd. Have a great rest of your summer!

Respectfully,

Zale Darnel

Principal, Aspen Park Elementary