



Aspen Park Elementary School Newsletter

Hello Aspen Park Families,

Here are this week's information items. New items are in **Yellow**.

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) 12:30 - 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 23th – Assembly
- September 29th – Orange Shirt Day
- September 30th – No School – National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
- October 1st – Photo Day

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.

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***

School Code of Conduct

Our [Aspen Park Elementary Code of Conduct](#) sets clear expectations for behavior, fostering a safe and respectful environment. It promotes consistency, accountability, and helps prevent conflicts, ensuring that all students can focus on learning and personal growth. I have included it as an attachment on this email, and it is also available on our [website](#).

School Website

The [School Website](#) has a link to the weekly newsletter (under the “School Newsletter” section) along with other useful information, including absence reporting. Please check the school website as needed throughout the school year.

Message from Ms. Sabell

Welcome back Families! I hope your summer was filled with rest, fun, and time with the people you love. As I begin my fourth year at Aspen, I’ve been reflecting on how lucky I am to be part of this community. The kindness, support, and sense of belonging here make this such a special place. I can’t wait to see our students’ smiles filling the halls again—their energy reminds us why we do this work. I feel truly grateful to partner with you in supporting your children, and I’m looking forward to all the learning, growth, and memories we’ll share together this year.

Parking/ Drop-off

We encourage all of our students to try to walk, bike or scooter their way to school but understand that is not possible for everyone. For those families who drive their student(s) to school, please remember that our parking lot can be busy, so it is important that we keep it safe for everyone.

Please be aware our parking lot is not large. Families who drop off their student(s) should use our drop and go lane in the front of the school. Please note there is no parking for drop off or pick up as we are limited for space. Families are asked to move through the parking lot and pick up their child at the end of the parking lot near the garden. If your child is not there, then please do not park and wait as we want a continuous flow through the parking lot. Instead, continue driving, exit the parking lot and then loop around to the entrance to go through again and hopefully your child will be ready at that time.

District Calendar

For those of you looking to plan for the upcoming school year, important dates can be found on the [District Calendar](#).

Emergency Response & Fire Drills

Regular fire drills and emergency response drills will be held throughout the year to practise student safety procedures. Please review all upcoming safety drill dates on the School Newsletter in the Week at a Glance section. Classroom teachers will walk through expectations and practice with students during the first week of school.

Bell Schedule

Our bell schedule will remain the same as last year:

8:35 am	Warning Bell
8:40 am	School starts
10:10 – 10:25	Morning Recess
11:45 – 12:05	Lunch eating time
12:05 – 12:30	Lunch Recess
2:30 pm	End of day dismissal

Reporting an Absence

School Messenger is a communication suite used by Aspen Park Elementary for attendance reporting and to notify parents of unexcused absences. Please refer to our website for information on how to report an absence and install the app. Click [here](#) to go directly to this link.

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 do not take food outside during recess and lunch. By not allowing garbage to be on the playground and field it will help reduce garbage outside and thereby also reduces visits from wildlife in the area.

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.

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