



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 29	September 30	October 1	October 2	October 3
Open Gym Orange Shirt Day School wide activities for National Truth and Reconciliation	No School – National Day for Truth and Reconciliation	Open Gym Photo Day Strong Start Cross Country @ Puntledge Park Elementary 6:30 – PAC Budget Meeting	Full School SBT	Open Gym
October 6	October 7	October 8	October 9	October 10
Open Gym	Cycling Program (Grade 4/5) Full School SBT	Cycling Program (Grade 4/5) Open Gym Strong Start Cross Country @ Huband Elementary	Cycling Program (Grade 4/5)	Open Gym

Upcoming dates to note:

- October 13 – **No School** (Thanksgiving)
- October 14 – PAC Meeting
- October 22 – Phot Retake Day
- October 24 – **No School** (Pro-D)
- October 31 – Halloween

PAC fundraising and budget meeting – October 2

Thursday October 2 at 6:30pm. We invite all families to join our upcoming PAC fundraising and budget meeting to participate in discussions and decisions regarding fundraisers and the allocation of funds.

Location: Aspen Park Elementary in the Multipurpose Room.

Support Our Grade 6/7 Students – Buy a Great Little Coupon Book!

Our Grade 6/7 classes are selling *The Great Little Coupon Book* to help fund their exciting year-end trip! Each book is packed with incredible savings that more than make up for the \$15 price tag.

Some featured deals include:

- **2-for-1 loaves of bread** at Cobs Bread
- **2-for-1 admissions** to the Aquatic Centre
- Discounts at many local restaurants and businesses

When & Where: Coupon books will be available for purchase next **Wednesday October 1st** and **Thursday October 2nd**, after school (2:30pm), in the front foyer.

Cost: \$15 each – a small price for big savings!

cash, cheque or e-transfer aspenpark@sd71.bc.ca **** please make note that it is for coupon book*****

Can't make it in person? No problem! Just email Michelle.Wiest@sd71.bc.ca, and she'll be happy to arrange getting one to you.

Hot Lunch - Hot lunch starts on Friday October 10th!

We are looking for volunteers to help pick up orders as needed, organize and distribute on Fridays throughout the school year. Parent support is invaluable to ensure the Hot Lunch program is a success! Ideally, we need 3-4 volunteers per Friday. The time commitment is approximately 1.5 to 2 hours (10:45-12:15 and 10-12:15 on hot dog days).

If you are available and willing to help out, please let me know via email at aspenparkhotlunch@gmail.com.

Helene Williamson
Hot Lunch Coordinator

Photo Day – October 1st

School photos will be taken on Wednesday, October 1st. Photos can be viewed and purchased online.

- Orders placed by the deadline will be delivered to the school in bulk for distribution (sorted by class) approx. 3-4 weeks after the deadline date.
- After the shipping deadline, a shipping fee is applied, and orders will be shipped directly to their address. Photos remain online indefinitely.

For questions or support, please contact Island Life Photographics at 778-420-2833 or info@islandlifephotographics.ca

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation at Aspen Park

The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation is a time for us to pause, reflect, and honour the children, families, and communities impacted by residential schools. It is also a time to learn together and to continue our commitment to reconciliation as a school community.

Throughout the week of **September 24–26**, students will take part in age-appropriate classroom learning and school-wide activities, including a story walk in the forest and a singing and drumming gathering. These experiences will help us reflect on the importance of truth, listening, and reconciliation.

On **Monday, September 29**, we invite **parents and families to join us before school** at a resource table in front of the school. Families will be able to pick up an **orange felt shirt with a safety pin** as a symbol of connection and commitment. Later that day, at **1:00pm**, every class will gather outside for their own reflection circle, while the whole school wears orange in solidarity.

We are grateful for the chance to share this important learning with our students and with you, their families.

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**

Pictures







VOLLEYBALL CO-ED YOUTH CAMP

FUNDRAISER
ISFELD SR BOYS

\$25
REGISTRATION



OCT 18TH
AT ISFELD

GR 5-6
9:00-11:00 AM

GR 7
11:30AM-1:30 PM

GR 8
2:00-4:00 PM



Comox Valley Spirit Walk

September 30th

to recognize the National Day for Truth & Reconciliation



"In orange shirts and ribbon skirts, moccasins and a feather, we embrace the spirits of the ancestors, and we all walk together."

At 10am we will walk as a community from Harmston Park down 5th Street to Lewis Park
Everyone is Welcome.

We respectfully acknowledge that the land we gather on is Unceded Traditional Territory of the K'omoks First Nation, the Traditional Keepers of this land.





What kind of information can I find on erase.gov.bc.ca?

- **Practical guidance** to help you support your child's safety and well-being
- **Resources and information about:**
 - Diversity and inclusion
 - Mental health and substance use
 - School and online safety
- **Free training sessions** to help you keep your child safe online
- **Videos** explaining erase, the Report It Tool, and safe, caring and inclusive schools
- **Tips** for bringing concerns to your child's school

What is the Report It Tool?

Report It is an **anonymous online tool** for **students** to report anything concerning to their school safety team—whether it happens at school, online, or somewhere else. Find it at erase.gov.bc.ca.

Questions? Reach out to your school to learn more.



Ministry of
Education and
Child Care



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

Respectfully,

Zale Darnel

Principal, Aspen Park Elementary