



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

December 1	December 2	December 3	December 4	December 5
Open Gym Kindergarten Immunization Clinic – Island Health	8:00 – SBT Kindergarten Hearing Clinic Field Trip – D05, D10, D12 – Skating Elder in Residence 2:45 – Health and Safety Meeting	Open Gym Strong Start Salad Bar (Div 1-10) Grade 7 Volleyball Tournament @ Queneesh	Toonie Sale	Open Gym Hot Lunch (Hot Dogs) Elder in Residence
December 8	December 9	December 10	December 11	December 12
Open Gym	8:00 – SBT Field Trip – D05, D10, D12 – Skating Elder in Residence 2:45 – Staff Meeting 6:30 – PAC Meeting	Open Gym Strong Start Salad Bar (Div 11 – 17)	PAC Re-Gift Sale Field Trip – D04 - at The Views Toonie Sale	Open Gym Hot Lunch (Pizza) Elder in Residence Term 1 Learning Summaries Sent Home 5:00 – Staff Winter Social

Upcoming dates to note:

- December 16 – Winter Concert
- December 19 – Last Day Before Winter Break
- January 5 – First Day Back After Winter Break

Registration for Kindergarten and Other Programs for 2026/2027

Please read the information below regarding programs available for the 2026/2027 school year.



Registration for Kindergarten and other programs for 2026/27 School Year Important Information for Comox Valley Schools (SD 71) Families

Comox Valley Schools (School District No. 71) will be enrolling Kindergarten students (Neighbourhood, French Immersion, Montessori, Indigenous, Pathways Learning Community, ENTER, Fine Arts and eClasses) in District schools for attendance in September 2026. To be eligible for enrolment in September 2026, a student must turn five (5) years of age by December 31, 2026. Each child's birth certificate and proof of address must be uploaded for registration. BC Services Cards will not be accepted as proof of birth however your child's BC Personal Health Number (PHN) is required on the registration form. A Passport or Landed Immigrant authorization are suitable forms of documentation in lieu of birth certificates.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

For more information about program registration, please check the posted information on the school district website:

- Neighbourhood (the Kindergarten program in your catchment school);
- Early French Immersion (located at Ecole Puntledge Park and Ecole Robb Road);
- Indigenous K/1 Aspen Park Elementary; Open House January 12 from 5:00 – 6:15 pm at Aspen Park Elementary
- Indigenous K/1 Ecole Puntledge Park Park; Open House January 13 from 5:00 – 6:15 pm at Ecole Puntledge Park
- Montessori (located at Queneesh and Courtenay Elementary); Open House January 8 from 6:00 – 7:00 pm at Queneesh Elementary
- Pathways Learning Community (K-5 at Airport Elementary); Open House January 7 from 6:30 – 7:30 pm at Airport Elementary
- ENTER (K-7 at Aspen Park Elementary); Open House January 7 from 5:00 – 6:00 pm at Aspen Park Elementary
- Navigate (NIDES) Compass Program; Open House January 30 from 9:30 – 11:30 am at Tsolum Campus
- Navigate (NIDES) Fine Arts eCademy (FAe); Open House January 30 from 9:30 – 11:30 am at Tsolum Campus
- Late French Immersion (Grade 6); Open House January 22 from 6:00 – 7:00 pm at Ecole Puntledge Park

Kindergarten and other Program Registration Information

All Kindergarten classes are full-day programs. The following choices are available for Kindergarten Registration.

Please note that we have a couple of programs that will run at Aspen for next year:

- ENTER (K-7 at Aspen Park Elementary); Open House January 7 from 5:00 – 6:00 pm at Aspen Park Elementary
- Indigenous K/1 Aspen Park Elementary; Open House January 12 from 5:00 – 6:15 pm at Aspen Park Elementary

Early French Immersion (Ecole Puntledge and Robb Road), Montessori (Queneesh and Courtenay) and Indigenous K-1 (Ecole Puntledge and Aspen Park):

- Online Expression of Interest is open Tuesday, January 13 until Friday, January 16 at 6:00 pm. (The expression of interest will remain open after the initial intake for waitlist applicants). Program entry is based on a lottery system, not first come first serve. Please complete the expression of interest form for your program of choice on the SD71 registration page www.comoxvalleyschools.ca/student-registration.
- The indicated school you select will contact you and provide directions about confirmation or wait listing for placement.
- Indigenous K/1 at Aspen Park (registering K/1) and Ecole Puntledge (registering K-only): Priority will be given to students of ancestry before Friday, January 16, 2026.
- Siblings of current students in the programs above will have priority, if they are registered before Friday, January 16, 2026.

Pathways Learning Community (K-5 Airport) and ENTER (K-7 Aspen):

- Online Expression of Interest for all grades opens Tuesday, January 13 until Friday, January 16 at 6:00 pm. (The expression of interest will remain open after the initial intake for waitlist applicants). Program entry is based on a lottery system, not first come, first serve.
- Siblings of current students in the programs above will have priority, if they are registered before Friday, January 16, 2026.
- The indicated school you select will contact you and provide directions about confirmation or wait listing for placement.

Please note that online expression of interest from Indigenous K/1 and ENTER (K-7) is January 13 to January 16.

Neighbourhood School:

Parents are asked to register their children at their current neighbourhood catchment school using the online registration located on our website www.comoxvalleyschools.ca/student-registration starting **Tuesday, January 20, 2026**. While most, if not all, students living in a school's local catchment will be accommodated at that school, they cannot be guaranteed placement in the catchment area school and may be required to go to the nearest school having space available. To determine your neighbourhood catchment school, please visit our district website at comoxvalleyschools.ca, click on "Schools" and go to "Schools Locator". If you live in an area where busing is provided, please complete a Bus Transportation Registration Form which is located at <https://www.comoxvalleyschools.ca/student-transportation>. All students travelling on School District No. 71 school buses must carry a bus pass. If you do not have access to technology to complete the online registration, connect with your neighbourhood school for registration support.

Neighborhood Kindergarten Registrations opens January 20th.

Hot Lunch

Hot Lunch will be open for January, February and March ordering on November 27 until December 7th.

1. Go to <http://aspenpark.hotlunches.net>
2. Click on "Click Here to Register"
3. Our school access code is APLH
4. Enter your name, email address and phone number. Choose a User ID that you will use for access to our on-line hot lunch program. Enter a password and then enter it again to verify that it is correct.
5. Once you are registered, you will be logged into the website.
6. Please add your child(ren) by clicking on the "STUDENTS" button. **PLEASE ENSURE YOU SELECT THE CORRECT TEACHER/ DIVISION FOR YOUR CHILD(REN).** Once your children have been added to the system you will be able to place lunch orders immediately by clicking the "Order" button beside each child's name.
7. Payment options:
 - Pay by credit card via the website
 - Pay by cheque made payable to Aspen Park PAC
 - Pay by cash
 - Please note that **if you are paying by cash or cheque you MUST print off a Remittance Form and attach it with your payment.** This form is located under the Orders Tab. Payments and Remittance Forms can be submitted directly to the school office.

Lost & Found Reminder

Our Lost & Found is bursting with cozy sweaters, jackets, and other treasures looking to make their way home! Families are encouraged to stop by the school and take a quick peek for any missing items. All unclaimed belongings will be donated on December 19th. Thanks for helping us reunite these items with their owners!

Winter Concert – Tuesday, December 16th

Get ready to celebrate the holiday season with the wonderful musical talents of our students! We are delighted to offer two performance options for families, an afternoon concert and an evening concert.

To ensure we have enough space for everyone, we kindly ask families to choose one concert to attend. This helps us accommodate all guests comfortably.

Afternoon Concert

- Time: 1:00 pm

Evening Concert

- Time: 6:00 pm

We look forward to welcoming you for an afternoon or evening of festive music and holiday cheer. These performances are a special opportunity for friends and families to come together and enjoy the creativity our students bring to the stage.

School Closure Information

There will be occasions when schools must temporarily close due to inclement weather, power outages or for emergency reasons. The superintendent may make the decision to temporarily close *any or all* district schools when the safety of students and staff may be compromised.

Parents, students and school district staff will be informed through the school alerting system, email, [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) & [Instagram](#), and by notifying local media by **6:30 a.m. – at the latest**. Every attempt will be made to post announcements about closures on the school district website, however, power outages may interfere.

If there is no announcement on the school website /social media, please be sure to listen to one of the local radio stations:

- **97.3 FM** – The Eagle
- **98.9 FM** – The Jet
- **100.7 FM** -The Raven

No announcements by 6:30 am indicates schools are open and operating at usual.

[School Closures and Bus Schedules during Inclement Weather / Power Outage \(PDF\)](#)

Strong Start Update

Our Strong Start program will be on hold for January, February, and March due to construction-related changes on our site. With our portables being removed and our new building not yet ready, we are unable to host the program during this transitional period.

We appreciate your understanding and patience as we work through these temporary challenges. We look forward to welcoming Strong Start families back in April in our beautiful new space!

Re-Gift Sale – December 11

Aspen Park PAC is very excited to bring the Re-Gift sale back for another year on Dec 11.

We need donations!! These can be dropped off at the school office beginning on Nov 27. We ask that donations be in a clean and usable condition and games/puzzles contain all pieces. Popular items include: pottery, mugs, scarves, small framed art, ties, vases, costume jewelry, toys, games, books, home decor etc.

Note. We are unable to accept cosmetics, toiletry items or other personal products.

We also need donations of wrapping paper, tissue paper, tape, bows, tags, bags, and small boxes (amazon, sturdy food boxes) etc.

Every class will get a chance to shop during their classes time slot on Dec 11 for gifts for their loved ones. Every item is sold for \$1.00. This is a great fundraiser for our school PAC, but the best part is watching how excited the kids are to carefully choose their gifts. All purchases will be gift wrapped for students to bring home. Purchases may be limited depending on the number of donations received.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Luba at aspenpac@gmail.com. Set up will be 6:00pm on Dec 10th. And the sale begins at 8:50am on Dec 11 and will run until the end of the school day. If you can't stay the whole time, no problem - we'd love help for any portion of the day.

Pictures







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