



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

June 1	June 2	June 3	June 4	June 5
8:15 - Open Gym 2:35 – EA Meeting	8:00 – SBT Elder in Residence KFN Success Meetings D14 & D16 – Field Trip 2:45 – Health & Safety Meeting	Open Gym 9:00 - Strong Start ROCKS Draw Lunch	KFN Drumming	Open Gym Elder in Residence Diversity Day Isfeld Grade 7 Tour
June 8	June 9	June 10	June 11	June 12
8:15 - Open Gym D12 – Field Trip Library Summer Reads	8:00 – SBT Elder in Residence 2:45 – Staff Meeting	Open Gym 9:00 - Strong Start D01 & D02 – Hands on Farm	Aquarium Visit 6/7's @ Playland D09/D10/D11 – Field Trip D12/D13 – Field Trip	Open Gym Elder in Residence Aquarium Visit D06 – Field Trip

Upcoming dates to note:

- June 19 – Beach Day
- June 22 – Indigenous Peoples Day
- June 24 – Grade 7 Graduation Celebration
- June 25 – Last Day of School

Universal Lunch Program



Aspen Park Elementary School

Feeding Futures Universal Lunch Program
September 2026



Comox Valley Schools
A Community of Learners
INNOVATIVE • INCLUSIVE • INSPIRING

A NEW UNIVERSAL LUNCH PROGRAM IS COMING!

Starting September 2026, a universal lunch program will be available at Aspen Park Elementary School, offering all students the opportunity for nourishing lunch, every school day, regardless of their ability to pay.

Lunches are a suggested price of \$4 each. With support from provincial Feeding Futures funding, we are offering a pay-what-you-can model. This means you can anonymously pay the full balance, nothing, or anything in between, whatever works for your family.

What is a Universal Lunch Program?

A universal lunch program provides all students equitable access to nourishing food, supporting better learning outcomes, focus, and overall well-being. By offering the same meal to all students, the program reduces stigma, encourages students to try new foods, and promotes food equity across the school community.

Questions?

Please email Thea Cockerton
thea.cockerton@sd71.bc.ca

How will it work at Aspen?

Monthly menus will be posted online around the middle of the previous month. (For September 2026, online ordering will open on September 11, with food delivery starting Monday September 21st). Families will create a Munch a Lunch account, select the meals their student would like, make a payment at their discretion, and that's it! Meals will be delivered directly to students in their classrooms on the days they've ordered.

Will I have to pay with a credit card?

Yes, currently, we can only accept online orders paid by credit card. If using a credit card is a barrier, you can select \$0.00 as your payment amount. Cash or cheque donations can be made separately, but they won't be connected to your account or order.

How do I place an order?

- Go to www.munchalunch.com/schools/aspen to create an account.
- Click 'Register Here'
- Add each of your children, their grade, and teacher
- Go through each meal every day, making sure to 'Add' your selections to your cart.
- Click 'Finished' then 'Next' to confirm. If 'Yes, this is correct' then 'Checkout'
- Complete the pay what you can page and submit your order.

Reusable Containers!

Meals will be served in *Friender* reusable containers that will be collected from the school, professionally washed, and reused to reduce single-use packaging waste!



Details coming in September!

Provincial Feeding Futures funding is provided so that 'students have access to food, daily, in an equitable, accessible, and non-stigmatizing manner'
Offering the same meals to all students helps create a school environment where everyone feels included and supported.

Library

Classes that participated in the [Chocolate Lily Awards](#) this year found out the results of the votes they cast alongside students from across the province. In the picture book category, the winner was *The Day Dancer Flew* by Tiffany Stone and Brittany Lane. The Chapter Book/Early Novel category winner was *Crystal Cave* by Mike and Nancy Deas. Finally, the winner of the novel category was *Team Park* by Angela Ahn.

Students who participated were also eligible to enter a completed bingo card to win a \$20 gift card to a local bookstore. Izzy from Ms. Rehnby's class won!! Congratulations Izzy. Your gift card is waiting for you at Laughing Oyster!

The much anticipated results of the Minecraft competition also came out this week. Aspen showed up in a big way at all levels. Congratulations to 2nd place winner in the Primary K-3 division: Liam! In the Junior Intermediate division for Grades 4 and 5, congratulations on their 1st place win to Rowen, Molly and Arietty, and in 3rd place Thea! Finally in our Senior Intermediate division for grades 6 and 7, congratulations to Odin in 2nd place and Beatrix and Anwyn in 3rd place!! Bravo on all the hard work you put into your worlds this year!

Our last piece of exciting news came from Hackergals. This year 4 students participated in the Hackergals club and attended the Hackathon in early May. Each submitted a project to be judged, individually or in pairs. We found out earlier this week that out of hundreds of submissions from across the country, Brin and Calina won! Congratulation to all of you on all your hard work learning coding skills this year! See the game they created here: <https://scratch.mit.edu/projects/1311185467>

Our journalism students are hard at work on their final issue of the year. Please stay tuned for that coming in early June.

School Jersey Return

If your child has borrowed a school jersey this year (or in past years), please help it find its way back home to Aspen Park. We are collecting all school jerseys so they can be washed, organized, and ready for future teams and events.

Please check backpacks, laundry baskets, bedrooms, and any other places jerseys like to hide. Jerseys can be returned to your child's classroom teacher or dropped off at the office.

Thank you for helping us keep our Aspen spirit gear ready for the next group of athletes!

Planning for the 2026/2027 School Year

As we begin planning for next school year, we ask that any families who know they will not be returning to Aspen Park Elementary for the 2026/2027 school year please let our office know by emailing aspenpark@sd71.bc.ca

This information helps us with class organization and planning for the year ahead. Thank you for your support as we prepare for another great year at Aspen Park!

Pictures









Community Information

RCMP Notice

Comox Valley RCMP is reminding families that gas-powered dirt bikes and high-powered e-dirt bikes are not street legal and are not permitted on school grounds or for travel to and from school.

Schools across the Comox Valley have seen an increase in students riding these vehicles in unsafe ways near schools, neighbourhoods, roads and pathways. In some cases, students may not realize that e-dirt bikes are treated similarly to gas-powered dirt bikes under the BC Motor Vehicle Act and are subject to significant fines, vehicle impoundment and other penalties.

Comox Valley Schools is asking parents and caregivers to please ensure children are not riding dirt bikes or e-dirt bikes to school or on school property. These vehicles create serious safety concerns for riders, pedestrians, cyclists and other students.

We appreciate families working with us and local RCMP to help keep school communities safe for everyone.

Comox Volleyball Camp - July 6th to 9th

Brian Stevens, along with local athletes and coaches, will once again be hosting the longest running volleyball camp in the North Island from July 6th-9th. You will receive maximum ball contacts, tons of coaching feedback, improve your skills, techniques, strategies, and have A LOT of FUN!! This camp has both an indoor and outdoor (grass) component.

Contact Brian Stevens at: *email* bdstevens@hotmail.com

WildCoast Volleyball Camps

Spring Grass Volleyball League for athletes ages 12–16. The program focuses on high-repetition, game-based development in a positive, structured environment that complements school and club sport.

Program Details:

- Program: WildCoast 4s – Spring Grass League
- Ages: 12–16 (co-ed, grouped by level)
- Schedule: Wednesdays, May 20 – June 24, 5:30–7:30 PM
- Location: Village Park (Comox Community Centre Field)
- Registration: <https://forms.gle/j3gZAFiRS4ECZcRaA>

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