



Aspen Park Elementary School Newsletter

Hello Aspen Park Families,

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

Week at a Glance

September 7	September 8	September 9	September 10	September 11
No School	First Day of School (Half Day) Dismissal at 11:45am ENTER SPARK Meetings Kindergarten Gradual Entry 12:30 – Staff Meeting	ENTER SPARK Meetings Kindergarten Gradual Entry 11:15 – Fire Drill (No Bells)	ENTER SPARK Meetings Kindergarten Gradual Entry	ENTER SPARK Meetings Kindergarten Gradual Entry
September 14	September 15	September 16	September 17	September 18
8:15 – Open Gym	10:30 – Primary Assembly 1:00 – Intermediate Assembly	Open Gym 9:00 – Fire Drill		Open Gym

Upcoming dates to note:

- September 21 – Pro-D Day **(No School)**
- September 22 – Earthquake Drill
- September 22 – Aspen Open House
- September 24 – Terry Fox Run
- September 30 – Day for Truth and Reconciliation **(No School)**
- October 1 – School Assembly

Bell Schedule

Due to this year's school calendar and the required instructional time, we have made a small adjustment to our daily schedule. Our school day will now begin at 8:35 a.m., rather than 8:40 a.m. We appreciate your support in helping students arrive on time and ready for a great day of learning.

8:35 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

School Supplies

For the 2026-2027 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.

- Kindergarten to Grade 7 the fee will be \$40
- The office will accept cash, cheque, or email transfer
- Fees will be due September 30th

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***

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 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.

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.

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](#).

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.

Student-Parent Handbook

As we begin the new school year, we encourage all families to take a few minutes to review our Aspen Park Elementary Student & Parent Handbook. The handbook is a helpful reference for important information about school routines, expectations, procedures, communication, attendance, safety, and much more.

[Student Parent Handbook](#)

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 8. Have a great rest of your summer!

Respectfully,

Zale Darnel

Principal, Aspen Park Elementary