

Good afternoon, Royston EI community!

Here is your week ahead for Jan 19-23, 2026.

And for those wanting the "quick hits" for the upcoming week:

School News

· **Reminder- the Royston drop-off / pick-up area is an Idle Free zone. Please turn off your vehicles while you wait. Thank you.**

· **Basketball news-** Royston will have one team each for the grade 5/6 boys and girls' leagues.

o **Game Days - Mondays** 3:00-4:00pm (beginning Jan 26)

§ **Jan 26th** -Boys at Aspen / Girls at home vs Huband

§ **Feb 2nd** – Boys at Gaglardi / Girls at home vs Robb Rd

§ **Feb 9th** – Boys at Huband / Girls at home vs NIDES

§ **Feb 23rd** – Boys at home vs Cumberland / Girls Bye week

· **Kindergarten Registration:** Comox Valley Schools will begin enrolling Kindergarten students starting on **Tuesday, January 20, 2026**. To be eligible for enrolment in September 2026, a student **MUST** turn five (5) years of age by December 31, 2026.

To ensure you live in the Royston Elementary catchment area, check here: [School Locator](#)

o Please complete the form at this link: [School Registration](#)

o For registration to go forward, please attach the following to the registration form:

- o Your child's birth certificate, any applicable immigration documents, and/or proof of Canadian citizenship. A current Passport/Landed Immigrant documentation may be used instead of a birth certificate. A Health Care Card may not be used as proof of age.
- o Proof of your residence address (a document such as your current year property tax receipt, current month rental receipt, or a purchase/rental agreement)
- o Your child's Health Care Card – front and back.

Note: You must use a computer to register. It will not work on either a phone or tablet.

If you would like more information on other programs offered by the school district, you will find it here: [Kindergarten Registration](#)

To register for the school bus, the information can be found here: [Student Transportation](#)

PAC News

- **Next PAC Meeting - Wednesday Feb 11th at 6:30PM**
- o All parents are welcome! We offer free childcare.
- **Parent Workshop** - We are excited to announce our second parenting workshop in the series with Vice Principal and Social Emotional Learning expert, Char Siddon.
- o **Topic: Internet Safety & Technology Tips**
- o Date: Jan 28
- o Time: 6-8PM
- o Location: Royston El Library
- o RSVP here [Jan 28th -Royston Parent Workshop](#)

District News

- Kindergarten Registration
- o Kindergarten Registration for most students opens on January 20 for the 2026-2027 school year. To be eligible for enrolment in September 2026, a student must turn five (5) years of age by December 31, 2026.

- o The Expression of Interest for the Late French Immersion Program (Grade 6/7) at Ecole Puntledge Park is open January 26-30.
- o Registration for Navigate NIDES online learning and Heartwood programs open February 24.
- o Register here: <https://www.comoxvalleyschools.ca/student-registration/>

Non-Instructional Day Scheduled for Friday, May 15

- o Comox Valley Schools is advising families and staff that a **Non-Instructional Day will take place on Friday, May 15, 2026**, following a decision of the Board of Education.
- o At the December Board meeting, the Board passed a motion confirming this Non-Instructional Day, which will be dedicated to **Indigenous learning for all staff**. On this day, **students will not attend school**, and staff will participate in professional learning activities.
- o This Non-Instructional Day aligns with provincial requirements under the **School Calendar Regulation**, which requires all school districts in British Columbia to include at least one non-instructional day each year focused on Indigenous student achievement and learning. The day is intended to provide dedicated time for staff to deepen understanding of Indigenous histories, cultures, and perspectives, and to support ongoing Truth and Reconciliation efforts within public education.
- o This learning also aligns with the **Comox Valley Schools Strategic Plan**, including commitments related to equity, relationships, and Indigenous education.

The updated school calendar with the May 15 non-instructional day now added is here on the district website: [District Calendars - Comox Valley Schools](#)

Community News

Social Emotional Learning

Social Emotional

Learning at Royston

A Note to Families: The information shared in this Social Emotional Learning Newsletter is offered in the spirit of support and care and is part of our Royston commitment to student well-being. While we aim to share helpful

ideas and general strategies, this content is not intended to replace professional mental health care or individualized support. Our school team remains committed to supporting students within the school setting, and we value working in partnership with families to ensure children feel safe, supported, and cared for.

In British Columbia, social emotional learning (SEL) is thoughtfully built into the curriculum through the **BC Core Competencies**. These competencies describe the skills children need to succeed in school and in life—academically, socially, and emotionally. The BC Core Competencies include Personal and Social Competency, Communication Competency, and the Thinking Competency. SEL fits naturally within all three. When children learn to manage emotions, reflect on their choices, listen to others, and try new strategies, they are developing both SEL skills and Core Competencies at the same time.

Currently in C.O.R.E. education, we are intentionally supporting students' social emotional growth through the "Thinking" Competency. Through this competency, students are learning to think critically by:

- Learning to ask good questions
- Reflecting on their learning and choices
- Understanding the difference between fact, opinion, and bias
- Using observations to understand different perspectives

These skills help children build confidence, perseverance, and problem-solving abilities—important parts of SEL.

For example, when a student pauses to think through a conflict, tries a new approach to a task, or reflects on how they handled a tricky situation, they are strengthening both their **thinking skills** and their **emotional awareness**. We recognize that every child develops social emotional skills at their own pace, which is why our approach focuses on growth rather than perfection and why safety, belonging, and connection are the foundations of our focus. Students are supported with patience, encouragement, and opportunities to practice these skills in meaningful ways.

You can support this learning at home by:

- Asking your child what strategies they used when something felt hard
- Talking about mistakes as opportunities to learn

- Encouraging reflection with questions like, "What helped you today?" or "What might you try next time?"

Thank you for partnering with us to support your child's social and emotional growth.

Resources for Families

- Family Smart Peer mentors. They also have lots of workshops online and in person

[Family Peer Support - FamilySmart](#)

- This list through Pathways:

[Pathways | Parent Support Groups](#)

- Healthy Families Program through Comox Valley Services

[Healthy Families Program - Comox Valley Family Services Association](#)

- Child and Youth Mental Health clinicians can work with parents as well

[Child and Youth Mental Health Intake Clinics - Province of British Columbia](#)

- Supports through the Foundry for parents of children aged 12 and up

[Foundry Comox Valley | Courtenay BC | Facebook](#)



Lee McKillican and Char Siddon 😊

