

Dec 5, 2022

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## Acting Principal's Message

Welcome to December! We have had a great Fall here at Auguston Traditional, full of events and fun happenings that have kept us busy all year. We had many things to celebrate last month, from our first in person assembly in many years with our Remembrance Day ceremony, to Book Fair fun, to an awesome and well attended Craft and Entrepreneur Fair. Our last day of November was a snow day for staff and students as winter weather found its way to us early this year. Things continue to keep us moving heading into our last month of 2022 and though there are only two weeks left of school before our winter break, there are a lot of fun things to look forward to still! Report cards will be heading home today, we have an author visit booked this week, our Christmas concert will be shared with families next week, we will enjoy a cozy pajama day next week, too, and then our last day will be filled with fun as we take our whole school ice skating and then feed them pancakes for lunch. What a fun filled couple of weeks we have ahead!



During this season of giving, we have a couple of worthy causes that we are gathering donations for in order to be able to

share some joy and warmth with those in need. Our food drive runs until December 15<sup>th</sup>. Students can bring in canned and non-perishable goods to be donated to the Archway Abbotsford Food Bank. We are trying to fill the bin in our front lobby and are holding a contest to see which class can bring in the most donations.

Grade 5 helpers are tallying class totals on a daily basis, so check your cupboards to see if you have anything to spare as we support this worthy cause. Thanks to our PAC for treating our top two classes to a pizza lunch on a date to be determined in January.



We are also collecting warm hats and toques, gloves and socks on our Mitten Tree in the office. New and gently used items in good condition can be added to (or under) our tree as we will donate these as well

to families in need in our community. If you have gently used winter coats for kids, we can also find a home for them as well. We appreciate your help in looking after our friends and neighbours in need.

We look forward to a wonderful December as we work towards a well-earned break in a couple of weeks. Schools will be closed between December 17 and January 2<sup>nd</sup>, making our first day back from the break Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>. From our families to yours, we wish you a season filled with magic and joy! No matter how you celebrate this season, stay safe, enjoy time with family and friends and take time for you!



~ Mrs. Sward  
and all the  
staff at  
Auguston  
Traditional  
Elementary  
School

## Report cards



We are sending our term 1 report cards home with students on Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup>. If your child is away that day, we will keep those not picked up at the office for you. If you didn't

receive your child's report card, please contact their teacher and we can get another copy to you.

## Inclement weather guidelines



As we head into our snowy and icy season, please be aware of our [winter weather procedures](#) found on the district website.

If schools are closed, emails (and text messages if you have signed up for them) are sent out by the School District office. School closure information will also be posted on our website, on social media and broadcasted by local radio stations. If you wake up to snow, please check there first to see if a snow day has been called.

## Sledding rules



Yes – we do allow students to bring sleds to school, and yes, we have already had some injuries.

Our rules around sledding on school grounds are as follows:

- Grade 5's only on the hillside beside the gym and ONLY with helmets on.
- Grades K-5 are able to slide on the hill above our school field – helmets are preferred. The grade 4/5 area is closest to the backstop, with grades 2 and 3 between the trees and K/1s farthest from the school on the smallest slope.
- Only students with sleds are allowed on the hills. As some families will choose not to send their kids with sleds for safety reasons, sharing of sleds is not allowed unless it is between siblings.
- Students are to sled down alone (no doubling up) and one at a time, giving the previous sledder time to move away from the bottom of the hill before going.
- Students at the bottom are to move to the side of the hill to make their way back up. By the school field, students are able to move to where they are in line with one of the trees bordering the track and move up to the top safely from there.
- No standing at the bottom of the hill unless you are out of the slide zone.
- It can get icy and slippery out there, so caution while around the sledding areas is important!
- No skis or snowboards please, just sleds.
- There is no sledding allowed on the hillside above our Kindergarten rooms (beside our garden area) during school hours or within the duty times before and after school.
- If conditions become too icy, sledding will be closed. This closure will be decided on depending on conditions on a daily basis.

- Students are also asked not to eat the snow in and around the school pavement areas as we use rock salt and chemical products to reduce the ice and make our surfaces less slippery.
- We also have a no throwing snow rule – not at each other, not at trees or buildings, not up in the air as there are rocks and ice chunks mixed in.

## Christmas Concert



Classes are busy practicing and recording their Christmas concert performances for you! We are doing everything online this year

and we hope to be able to share our concert file with you in the last week of school before the break (our goal is to release it on December 14<sup>th</sup>). Our online format will allow you to watch the concert when it is convenient for you and your family, watch it many times over if you like, share it with loved ones over the holiday and enjoy it all from the comfort of your own living room – no fighting for front row seats as everyone gets one! We look forward to spreading some joy and Christmas cheer with you!

## Last Day Field Trip Volunteers

On December 16<sup>th</sup>, the last day of school, our whole school will be having an adventure of epic proportions! Grades 1-5 students will be going to Matsqui Rec Centre in two groups to have a

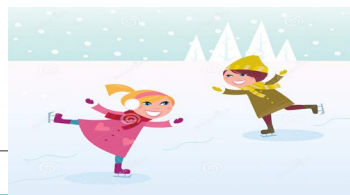
fun time ice skating with our friends and then heading back to the school where the whole school will enjoy a yummy pancake and sausage lunch, all provided for us by our amazing PAC. What a wonderful way to spend our last day of school together enjoying some fun winter exercise and a warm yummy meal.

There is no cost to students for the field trip if students have their own skates and helmets as our PAC is covering EVERYTHING! (did I say how amazing they are – oh, yes I did! And yes they are!). Both skates and helmets can be rented at MRC and information is available on the permission in [School Cash Online](#). Because this is a school event, **all skaters** are required to wear a helmet on the ice.

Volunteers are needed, both to help us tie skates at MRC and to help prepare and serve our pancake lunch. If you would like to volunteer for skating, please indicate that in schoolcash and your child's teacher will confirm as there is a limit to the number of adults we can fit on the bus. If you are hoping to help out at the school with the lunch, please email Mrs. Sward ([Kris.Sward@abbyschools.ca](mailto:Kris.Sward@abbyschools.ca)). As this is a school event [volunteer packages](#) and Criminal Record Checks must be completed if you are wanting to volunteer.

## Family Affordability Grant

Our school has received about \$2500 to help families pay for school supplies, school clothing, meals and food security, as well as school fees. If you or someone you know could use some help from this fund, please email Mrs. Sward ([Kris.Sward@abbyschools.ca](mailto:Kris.Sward@abbyschools.ca)) for more information.



## Dates to Note

Mon, Dec 5	<a href="#">Report cards home</a>
Tues, Dec 6	<a href="#">Fruit &amp; Veggie - Mandarins</a>
Wed, Dec 7	Lockdown Drill, <a href="#">Fire Trucks visit</a> for grade 2's and 3's (this has had to be rescheduled a few times)
Fri, Dec 9	<a href="#">Donut Treat Day</a> , Angela Murphy - author of Speak Up Wonder Pup - visit our school
Wed, Dec 14	We share our Christmas Concert file!
Thurs, Dec 15	<a href="#">Pajama Day – No Uni</a>
Fri, Dec 16	<a href="#">Skating field trip</a> grades 1-5, whole school <a href="#">pancake lunch</a>
Dec 19-Jan. 2	The school office is closed from Dec. 19 - Jan. 2. Our first day of school in the new year will be on TUESDAY, January 3 <sup>rd</sup> .

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**  
**2023!**



[Click here for the Abby App!](#)

[Click here for the School Calendar!](#)

[Click here for the Local School Calendar for 2022-23](#)

## Ice Skating - Gr. 1-5

Gr. 1-5 students are going Ice Skating on the last day of school before Christmas break! **Thank you to the PAC** who is sponsoring the bussing and facility costs. There is NO cost to parents for ice skating if your child has skates and a helmet they can bring from home, but we do NEED consent. Please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for skating.

**Please complete consent in [schoolcash](#) for your child to participate in ice skating.**

### *Skating Times (3 busses for each group)*

- Gr. 1-3 students in Div. 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13 (Gr. 1s only) will leave Auguston at 10am to travel by school bus to MRC (Matsqui Recreation Centre), skate from 10:45 to 11:30am, then return to Auguston by 12:15pm.
- Gr. 3-5 students in Div. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 will leave Auguston at 10:55am to travel by school bus to MRC, skate from 11:30 to 12:15pm, then return to Auguston by 1pm.

### *Skate & Helmet Rentals*

Parents are asked to pay for skate rental and/or helmet rental costs if needed. Students need to wear a **helmet** and can bring their own or rent one there for **\$2.25**. Due to this being a school event, **helmets are required for all students** on the ice. **Skates** can also be rented for **\$3.35** a pair. Please indicate your **child's shoe size**.

### *Volunteers*

We are asking for **2 Parent Volunteers per class**. Please make sure you have completed the annual [Volunteer Process](#) & have an approved Criminal Record Check. Volunteers will be contacted by their child's teacher.

## Pajama Day!



### Show Your School Spirit

Our 3rd No Uni for a Toonie Day is on Thursday, Dec. 15 - Pajama Day! Wear your pajamas on the **SECOND** last day of school before Christmas Break! Alternately, students are to be in school uniform.

Jersey Day was our second No Uni Day for the year, Costume Day the first. We had **71%** sign up for the year for our first 2 "No Uni for a Toonie" Days - thank you!

Those who did not contribute for the year previously are invited to pay online in schoolcash: <https://www.schoolcashionline.com/> for the subsequent 7 No Uni days = **\$14**. Thank you for your support!

Money collected from these days is donated to charities (ie. Terry Fox/Cops for Cancer/Remembrance Day (Veterans), etc.) as well as helping with Gr. 5 activities, school enhancement and to benefit overall student experience. *Click here for [No Uni - School Spirit Days](#).*



## School Photos for the Yearbook/Website

We are looking for some parent volunteers to take photos at school events, recess, assemblies, activities, etc. for the yearbook/website. Please ensure you have completed the [Volunteer Process](#).

If this interests you, please reach out so we can get you started! Please contact the PAC at [augustonpac@gmail.com](mailto:augustonpac@gmail.com) or the school office at [auguston@abbyschools.ca](mailto:auguston@abbyschools.ca).

See **school photos** on the website at: <https://auguston.abbyschools.ca/blog>

## Extended Absences



A reminder to please let your child's teacher AND the school office

([auguston@abbyschools.ca](mailto:auguston@abbyschools.ca)) know if your child/ren will

be away on an extended absence from school. ***Safe Arrival is limited to 5 days maximum.***

There is an **Extended Absence form** to be filled out for absences of more than 2 weeks. Please contact your child's [teacher](#) if your child will be absent for an extended time.



## Pancake Hot Lunch

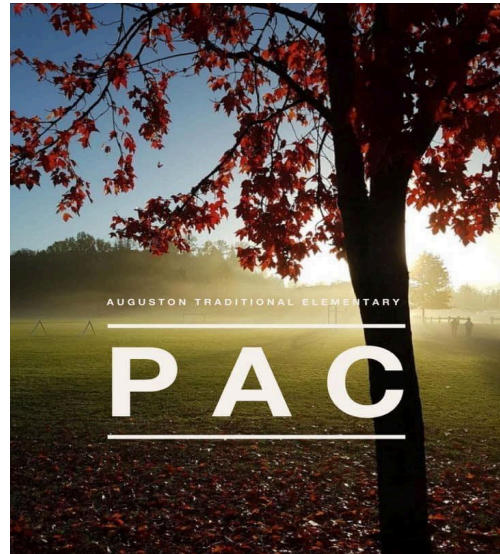
As the students return from ice skating, classes will be called to file past tables set up with pancakes, sausages and syrup by the PAC kitchen (and students can carry their plates back to class to eat). Juice boxes, cutlery and napkins will be delivered to classes before they are back at school. **Every student gets a lunch and staff do as well – all thanks to our amazing PAC and volunteers!**

## Pancake Volunteers

Parents who are approved to [volunteer](#) will be invited to help out with the pancake lunch. If you are hoping to help out at the school with the lunch, please email Mrs. Sward ([Kris.Sward@abbyschools.ca](mailto:Kris.Sward@abbyschools.ca)). Thank you for your support!

## Reverse Consent for Pancake Lunch

Parents/Guardians, if you do **NOT** want your child to participate in the Pancake lunch, please let the school office know at [auguston@abbyschools.ca](mailto:auguston@abbyschools.ca) (or if your child has a dietary restriction that we need to be aware of).



## PAC Facebook Page:

[Auguston Traditional Elementary School PAC](#)

## Have questions?

See the [PAC page](#) on the website or email the PAC at [augustonpac@gmail.com](mailto:augustonpac@gmail.com).



# Grade 5 Hoodies



## Pay for School Activities and Give Consent Online



Consent forms are **ONLINE** in SchoolCash. Consent includes Request for Email Address Consent, Google for Education, Photograph/Video and Media, Permission off Grounds and for Field Trips.

We would like to encourage **ALL families** at our school to utilize the online option for consent & payments **EVERY** time! We are currently at **99.71%** who have signed up. Let's make it even 100% Auguston and **PLEASE USE the online option every time!**

Open in [schoolcash](#):

**\*Ice Skating for Gr. 1-5** (due Dec. 14)

**\*No Uni for a Toonie for the Year** (due Dec. 15) - Round 3 for those who haven't signed up yet – 72% have contributed so far – thank you!!

**\*Email Consent \* Google Consent \* Permission for Off Grounds \* Photo/Media Consent**

**\*Field Trips \* Damaged or Lost Library Books \* Fruit & Veggie Consent**

Thank you to parents who have set up your schoolcash account and utilize this option. You will be receiving reminders and messages about new items being added to your child's 'cart' when field trips and other items arise. A suggestion is to purchase a **prepaid credit card** to make purchases if you are concerned about online shopping. The district site is a secure site which does not hold account information.

**SchoolCashOnline** limits the amount of cash/cheques handled in schools, reduces paperwork, and results in more focused instructional time in the classroom. The Abbotsford School District now uses SchoolCashOnline for all schools. With SchoolCashOnline, parents have the convenient and secure option of paying for school items using their credit card online, 24/7. You can pay for school items such as trips, club/athletic fees, and spirit wear. It will save you time too! **Register for Schoolcashonline in 4 simple steps! If you haven't yet done so, please click on the link below to sign up TODAY!**

## Pay School Fees Online

Secure credit card payment

24/7 convenience

Easy registration

[Click Here!](#)

SchoolCashOnline

