

Jan 9, 2023

36367 Stephen Leacock Way, Abbotsford, BC V3G 2Z6 604.557.0422  
[auguston.abbyschools.ca](http://auguston.abbyschools.ca)

## Acting Principal's Message

Happy New Year everyone and welcome back! Here's to an amazing year of fun and excitement coming up!

We hope that you have had a restful and relaxing break and are as excited to get back to it as we are here at Auguston Traditional. It was great to get back into the rhythm last week and catch up with everyone on the exciting things they did on their time off. We've got a lot to look forward to in the coming months and in the year ahead!

January is typically a quieter month in terms of events and happenings, which allows us to get down to some great focused learning time and growth. Students are into their routines and know the expectations of their classrooms and so we've been able to jump in and get right back at it already. It's great to walk into classrooms and see our students eagerly exploring new content and learning new skills.

Just a couple things to get us started this year:

## Pink Shirt Day

We recently held a competition to design Auguston's very own Pink Shirt to wear on Pink Shirt Day in February. Our winning design came from **Nimrit Brar in Gr. 4** and she gets a free shirt for winning. Her 'Be a Buddy not a Bully' shirt will be available for all other staff and students to purchase for the next week. Orders will be open soon in Munchalunch. Sorry for the quick turnaround – we've just been able to find a company to make them, but the **deadline for orders is next Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup>**, so that we can get the order through.

## Sickness

We are still experiencing a high level of sickness here at our school. Please remember that if your child has a fever or is showing symptoms of COVID, a cold or the flu, the best place for them is at home. We are doing what we can to prevent the spread of sickness here at school, which includes hand washing, respiratory etiquette, being mindful of keeping space between us and maintaining our cleaning protocols. Please help us out by keeping your child at home if they are sick and making every effort to pick them up if we call.



Be a  
♥ Buddy ♥  
Not a  
Bully

## Dress for the weather

Our winter weather continues, though we've had a milder start to January. Please ensure that your children have warm weather gear and rainproof jackets as we will be heading outside as much as possible. Those fresh air breaks do wonders for our growing brains – keeping them clear and ready for learning - so we will continue to go outside for recess and lunch unless it is heavy rain or extremely cold.



## 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

Just a reminder of our sledding guidelines in case we get more snow. We want to ensure that the students are having fun out there but of course safety is our number one priority. 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.
- One at a time on this hill and make sure that the coast is clear before sliding.
- Grade's 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 dugout, 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 product 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.

## Expansion Project

You may have seen the funding sign out front of our school – and it is true – we are getting a new wing added to our school! Based on the growth and projected future growth of our neighbourhood, the School District, in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Child Care, have approved an 8-classroom expansion for Auguston Traditional Elementary. Our new wing will be between the existing gym and portable area and will include 4 new Kindergarten classrooms downstairs and 4 more new classrooms upstairs. There are a few other things included in the plans, including a full-size elevator, an additional stairwell, new storage areas, an upgrade to our existing HVAC system and PA system, as well as additional parking spaces to be added off our parking lot. The space originally designated as a daycare will be converted back into daycare space and our existing washrooms will be converted into gender neutral washrooms.

The project will be started this summer and should be completed by June of 2024. Stay tuned for more information, as well as an opportunity to meet and see the proposed plans, in the near future.

## Behaviour Forms

We are starting a new way of tracking behaviour incidences here at Auguston. We are trying to gather data on when most of our incidents are happening, as well as where (playground, hallways, classrooms, etc). Gathering this data will help us to be able to plan a proactive approach and focus whole group sessions on areas of concern during our Friday Friends gatherings.

As we are keeping track in this way, you may see a behaviour form come home. This is just to update you that something has happened at

school and how it was dealt with by the teacher or principal. Typically, if there was a concern during the day, you will still get a quick check in, in the form of an email or phone call, as we like to connect on a more personal level as well. In this respect, the behaviour form should not come as a surprise to you or be something that is appearing out of nowhere. You should still have the background on the incident prior to that coming home.


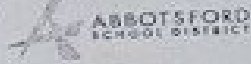
Staff have had a chance to review the form and provide input and it is still a document that can be tweaked as we use it and get comfortable with it. The PAC also had a sneak peek at it at their November meeting. Though a few students may have seen it as we experimented with it in December, it will be introduced to all students during a Friday Friends session this month. Following this will be a 'thinking sheet' that is currently in development. This sheet will have some guiding questions that will help students process through their actions or reactions to an incident and help us to dig deep to see what was happening before, during and after an incident, as well as what we can do to fix the situation or make it better for next time.

## Noon Hour Supervisors

We are continuing our search for casual noon-hour supervisors. This is a paid position (\$19/hour) and shifts are between 12:15 and 1:15pm Mondays to Fridays. There are also some spots for after-school bus duty available between 2:30 and 3:00pm. We are looking for on call availability at this point and may need coverage for regular shifts in the future.

Please see the [Noon Hour Supervision Application form](#) to begin the application process if you are interested in helping us out.

## Behaviour Form:

 <b>Auguston Traditional Elementary School</b>		<b>Occurrence:</b> <input type="radio"/> 1 <sup>st</sup> time <input type="radio"/> Repeated _____ times	 <b>ABBOTSFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT</b>
<b>Student Name:</b> _____ <b>Date:</b> _____ <b>Classroom Teacher:</b> _____ <b>Time:</b> _____ <b>Grade:</b> _____ <b>Div:</b> _____ <b>Form completed by:</b> _____ <b>Day of the week:</b> M T W Th F <b>Before School Recess Lunch After school In Class</b> <b>Others involved: (initials)</b> _____		<b>Location:</b> <input type="radio"/> Classroom * <input type="radio"/> Gym <input type="radio"/> Playground <input type="radio"/> Library <input type="radio"/> Hallway <input type="radio"/> Line-Up <input type="radio"/> Washroom <input type="radio"/> Bus <input type="radio"/> Other _____	
<b>Minor:</b> <input type="radio"/> Dishonesty/Disrespect <input type="radio"/> Disruption <input type="radio"/> Inappropriate language <input type="radio"/> Physical contact <input type="radio"/> Property misuse <input type="radio"/> Technology misuse <input type="radio"/> Other _____		<b>Major:</b> <input type="radio"/> Bullying/harassment <input type="radio"/> Inappropriate language <input type="radio"/> Physical aggression <input type="radio"/> Repeated defiance <input type="radio"/> Repeated disrespect <input type="radio"/> Off-campus <input type="radio"/> Technology misuse <input type="radio"/> Theft <input type="radio"/> Threatening <input type="radio"/> Vandalism <input type="radio"/> Weapons <input type="radio"/> Other: _____	
<b>Details of behaviour:</b> _____ _____ _____			
<b>Possible Motivation:</b> <input type="radio"/> Obtain peer attention <input type="radio"/> Avoid peers <input type="radio"/> Obtain adult attention <input type="radio"/> Avoid adults <input type="radio"/> Obtain items / activities <input type="radio"/> Self regulation / big emotions <input type="radio"/> Avoid tasks / activities <input type="radio"/> Don't know <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> Other _____			
<b>Immediate Response:</b> <input type="radio"/> Room clear <input type="radio"/> De-escalate verbally <input type="radio"/> Direct student to move <input type="radio"/> Distract student <input type="radio"/> Redirect student <input type="radio"/> Other: _____		<b>Follow Up:</b> <input type="radio"/> Conference with student <input type="radio"/> Restorative piece <input type="radio"/> Warning <input type="radio"/> Loss of privileges <input type="radio"/> Break <input type="radio"/> Suspension: in school _____ days out of school _____ days <input type="radio"/> Other: _____	
<b>Home communication:</b> <input type="radio"/> None required <input type="radio"/> Email <input type="radio"/> Phone call <input type="radio"/> Conference <input type="radio"/> Parent connected with: _____			
<b>Principal Signature:</b> _____ <b>Date:</b> _____ <b>Parent Signature:</b> _____ <b>Date:</b> _____			
36357 Stephen Leacock Drive      Tel 604.557.0422 Abbotsford BC V3G 2Z6      Fax 604.557.0423 <a href="http://www.auguston.abbysschools.ca">www.auguston.abbysschools.ca</a>			

## Traffic and Parking



Hopefully you've been reading along with the Facebook posts that were up last week about some of our parking and traffic concerns that we continually deal with.

In the first four

months of our school year, we had a near miss at a crosswalk, some speeding in front of the school in the school zone, a couple incidences of parents going the wrong way through our bus loops and lots of concerns with parking in no parking zones.

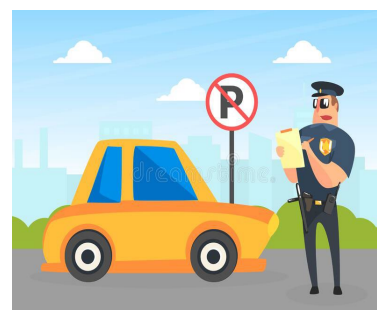
In an effort to curb this (pun intended), our amazing PAC has been posting traffic tidbits and safety notes on Facebook as part of our Traffic Safety Blitz last week. We also had Bylaw Officers attend to provide information and to help us keep all of our kids safe.

Of course, our busiest times are at drop-off and pick-up times. And one of the biggest challenges during those times is finding parking. The reason we have no parking zones out front (and usually green cones blocking you from parking in them) is to maintain sightlines approaching our crosswalks. Kids can dart out quickly and without looking and if there are cars parked along the approach to the crosswalks, it is hard to see it happening and have enough time to react and stop. Keeping those areas clear is imperative to keeping our kids safe and we appreciate your help in not clogging those areas.

Another issue we have is in our bus loops – a reminder that these areas need to be kept moving at all times. There is absolutely no parking in our bus loops and if you have to stop

longer than it takes for a child to get into the vehicle, then you need to either park your vehicle in a parking area or do a second loop to let those people behind you through. Again – we appreciate your help with keeping traffic flowing to make our pickup and drop off times safe and convenient for everyone.

Feel free to jump on the [PAC Facebook page](#) for more important information on traffic and parking safety around our school. Our Bylaw Officers will be doing random checks throughout the year and are going to start handing out tickets and fines to those who are parking in 'no parking' areas. We don't want you getting tickets out there so we hope that you will make yourself aware of where the no parking zones are.



## Crosswalk duty



We are also still looking for an afternoon crosswalk volunteer. Last week during our traffic safety blitz, it was

great to have extra helpers come and help out. If you have time and would like to volunteer to help our students safely cross the road out front before and/or after school, please connect with us at the office (Ph: 604-557-0422 or email: [auguston@abbyschools.ca](mailto:auguston@abbyschools.ca)) and we can forward your name for training by district staff.





## Upcoming events

- **Fire Truck visit** – as part of Fire Safety Week earlier this fall, our grade 2 and 3 classes won a visit from a Fire Truck. Due to various factors this visit had to be rescheduled a few times. They are going to be coming January 11<sup>th</sup> rain or shine to share some safety tips and let the kids get to see more about the trucks.
- **Film Production** – please note that **from Jan. 16-19 the parking lot across the road will NOT be available** for student drop off and pick up due to a film production taking place at the “Auguston Station” property (this will be a closed set).
- **Skating Field trip** – as you may remember, half of our students missed out on their skating trip on the last day before the break due to a bussing mix up. We have rebooked this trip, too, and are excited to be able to take them skating on January 19<sup>th</sup>. Permission forms are available on [school cash online](#).
- **Food Drive winners** – We are happy to announce that **Mrs. Preiss’ class** and **Mrs. Elford/Mrs. Vandermeer’s class** are our food drive winners. Those two classes brought in the most items for our December Food Drive (222 and 122 items respectively out of a total school item count of 1164!!!) These classes have won a pizza party and we are currently getting a date organized for this.
- **We are organizing another whole school field trip in February.** Auguston will be heading to the Abby Arts Centre on February 13th to enjoy Yale Secondary’s presentation of **Disney’s Moana Jr.** *More information about permission forms will be coming soon!*

## Dates to Note

Wed, Jan 11	Fire Trucks here for Gr. 2 & 3
Mon, Jan 16	<a href="#">2023/24 Kindergarten Registration</a> begins Fire Drill
Thurs, Jan 19	<a href="#">Ice Skating for Div. 1-6</a> (Rescheduled Date)
Fri, Jan 20	<a href="#">Twins Day – No Uni for a Toonie</a> - find some friends & dress alike!
Tues, Jan 24	<a href="#">Auguston PAC Meeting at 7pm</a>
Fri, Jan 27	Proposed Hot Lunch Date (TBD)
Mon, Feb 13	<a href="#">Moana Jr. Musical</a>
Tues, Feb 14	<a href="#">Valentine’s Day –</a> No Uni for a Toonie
Wed, Feb 15	Parent-Teacher Conferences (1/2 Day Dismissal)
Thurs, Feb 16	2-hour Early Dismissal
Fri, Feb 17	Non-Instructional Day
Mon, Feb 20	Family Day Holiday
Wed, Feb 22	Pink Shirt Day



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

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

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

## Skittle Ball



Students in Grade 4 and 5 will be able to participate in Skittle Ball.

Parents are responsible for bringing and picking up their child to and from games which will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays from January 17 to February 2.

Practices will be at Auguston at lunchtime (after the eating period) 2 times a week on Mondays and Tuesdays starting Tuesday, January 10.

Games Location(s) are to be determined at a later date, and a schedule will be sent as soon as it is available. Game times are from 3:15 to 4:15pm.

### *Skittle Ball Game Dates*

Tuesday Jan 17    Thursday Jan 19  
Tuesday Jan 24    Thursday Jan 26  
Tuesday Jan 31    Thursday Feb 2

Please come in appropriate clothing for playing.

Mr. Marchioro, PE Teacher & Skittle Ball Coach, [David.Marchioro@abbyschools.ca](mailto:David.Marchioro@abbyschools.ca)

Skittle Ball consent is now available in [schoolcash](#). Consent is due before the first game on Jan. 17.



Chess Club is starting this week for Grades 1 & 2 on Wednesdays & Grades 3, 4 & 5 on Thursdays at lunch (after the eating period). Thank you Mr. Ketelaar, Div. 11, Gr. 1 teacher, for co-ordinating Chess Club for our students.

## Kindergarten Registration at Auguston

Families residing in Auguston's catchment have priority for registration. If you reside in Auguston's catchment, registration begins the third week of January of the year your child turns 5 years old (born in 2018).

**Registration for the 2023-24 School Year begins on Monday, January 16, 2023, at 8:30 a.m.**

### *Additional information:*

- Registration can be done online! See the District website for how to register: [Kindergarten Registration](#)  
*Note that Auguston is a catchment school and is NOT part of the lottery draw for district programs for Kindergarten*
- See [Documentation needed to register](#) - Please provide all necessary documentation **EVEN IF you have a currently enrolled older sibling at Auguston**. In addition, please provide your child's immunization records.
- Registration will not be complete until all necessary forms and documentation are received.

### *How do I apply to attend Auguston for Kindergarten from Out of Catchment?*

If you reside outside of Auguston's catchment, please register at your catchment school, and make a non-catchment request\* starting Feb. 1 for the following September, **EVEN IF** you have an older sibling currently enrolled at Auguston. Click here for a fillable [In-District Non-Catchment Request form](#) to be signed by your catchment school's principal, then forward the non-catchment request to Auguston (scan & email or drop off at the school office) starting Feb. 1. Please email your request to: [auguston@abbyschools.ca](mailto:auguston@abbyschools.ca). Click here for more information on [catchments](#).

*\*Out-of-catchment applications will only be considered once all catchment students have been accommodated. An application does not guarantee acceptance.*





## GR 1-3 ICE SKATING





## Ice Skating for Gr. 3-5 Div. 1-6 (*Rescheduled Date*)

Div. 1-6 students are going Ice Skating on Thursday, January 19 (*rescheduled from Dec. 16*).

**Note the change to location: [Abbotsford Recreation Centre \(ARC\)](#) at 2499 McMillan Rd, Abbotsford**

**Thank you to the PAC** who sponsored the original 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 OR had previously paid online, but [we do NEED consent](#) for the rescheduled date.**

Please ensure your **child is dressed appropriately** for skating. **All students are expected to attend with their classes** as teachers and staff will all be at the rink with us and there won't be coverage at the school for students who don't want to go. They can choose to sit in the team boxes if they need a break from skating, but we would love them to try. There are bars to skate with if needed and there will be a lot of us just starting out with a new set of skills. We can do it – together!

Please complete consent (& request to volunteer, if appropriate) in [schoolcash](#) for your child to participate in ice skating for the January 19 date.

### Skating Time (3 busses)

Gr. 3-5 students in Div. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 will leave Auguston at 10:00am to travel by school bus to ARC, skate from 10:30 to 11:30am, then return to Auguston by 12:00pm.

### Skate & Helmet Rentals

**If possible, please have your child bring a helmet from home** as there was a shortage of helmets at the skating that occurred in December (if you paid previously, but will be bringing a helmet, please let the school office know at [auguston@abbyschools.ca](mailto:auguston@abbyschools.ca) and you will be refunded). Due to this being a school event, helmets are required for all students on the ice.

### 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.**





## Twins Day – No Uni

Students are invited to participate in Twins Day "No Uni for a Toonie" by dressing alike as twins (or triplets, quadruplets, etc.) on Friday, January 20. If students are not participating in our No Uni fundraiser, they are expected to be in their usual uniform attire.

### *Show Your School Spirit*

Twins day is our 4th No Uni for a Toonie Day! Previously we've had Pajama Day, Jersey Day and Costume Day. We had **76%** sign up for the year for our first 3 "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 6 No Uni days = **\$12**. 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](#).*

## 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.

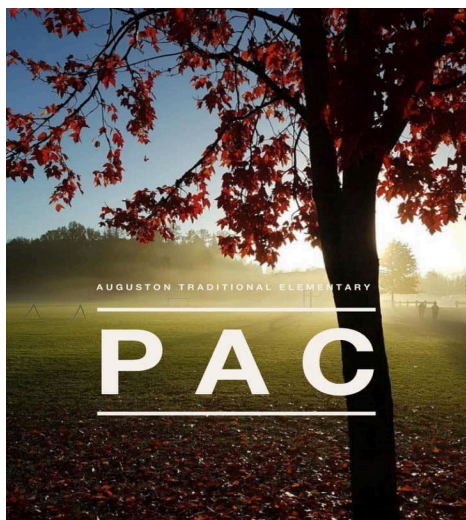


## School Photos for the Yearbook/Website

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>



## January PAC Meeting

Auguston Parents/Guardians are invited to join the [General PAC Meeting](#) on Tuesday, January 24, at 7:00pm in the library.

### 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).

## Community Information

Please click here for more information on the [Community Partners Database](#). The Community Partner Database is a search tool that is designed to provide relevant information regarding many specific organizations and community resources we have access to in Abbotsford.



## Winners for Yearbook Cover Art Contest

- **Neil** in Mrs. Matty/Dhaliwal's class
- **Kaleb** in Mrs. Ward's class
- **Lincoln** in Mrs. Howe/Smith's class
- **Britton** in Mrs. Charest's class

Congratulations to the winners of the Yearbook Cover Art Contest and thank you to all students who participated.

## Grade 5 Yearbook Write-ups



The Grade 5 Committee is working on a few projects for our Grade 5 students, one of which is compiling their yearbook write-ups.

Grade 5 students will receive an 'All About Me' form to fill out if they wish.

Forms are due **by January 19th**.

## 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 Div. 1-6** (due Jan. 17)

\* **No Uni for a Toonie** (due Jan. 20) - Round 4 for those who haven't signed up yet – 76% 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

