

Oct 6, 2023

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auguston.abbyschools.ca

Principal's Message

Fall has arrived in all of its colourful glory, and we are enjoying seeing how beautiful things are here in Auguston as the leaves change. With the cooler weather comes rainy days and we will continue to find joy in splashing in puddles, searching for rainbows and finding the fun in every day.

September was a busy start up for us, but we are now getting comfortably settled into our routines. It is great to see students finding their place in their classrooms and doing all sorts of fun activities as they learn and grow together. As I step into classes it's awesome to see amazing things happening and happy students working away. Auguston Traditional is truly a great place to be!

A few facts about us this year:

- we currently have 350 students enrolled at our school
- we have 15 divisions grades K-5
- we have 5 EAs to support learning in our classrooms and too many great teachers to count – a few that share teaching duties and a few that support the whole school through library, gym and learning commons blocks
- We also have an extra cohort of itinerant teachers that support our students in other ways like speech and language, Indigenous teachings, English Language Learning and counselling supports, as well as other District specialists assigned to our school
- We are lucky to have our very own St. John's Ambulance certified Therapy Dog team. Tess comes on Tuesdays to listen to students read and enjoy a few treats as payment.

Overall, we have an amazing group of adults that are dedicated to working together to support all of our students in finding success in their own way. We are pretty proud of the school we have and love that you are here with us on our learning journey this year.

From all of the staff here at Auguston, we wish all of our families a wonderful long weekend, a happy Thanksgiving, and a great month ahead – we have a lot to look forward to!

Parking concerns

Once again, we are having some struggles with our 'no parking' zones along Stephen Leacock Drive out front of the school. Please be mindful of our students' safety by not parking near marked crosswalks or in any of our 'no parking' areas. These spots are part of the engineered planning of our community and are in place to allow for open sight lines as cars approach the crosswalk. This allows all drivers to see if students or families are about to cross and gives them enough time to safely stop for them. Student safety is a priority for us, and we need your help to ensure that students are able to cross safely.



We have had a few concerns with people parking 'just for a minute' or stopping where they shouldn't and have had numerous complaints to our City Bylaw Enforcement. Officers will be onsite regularly and will hand out tickets to cars parked in those areas. We will also try to put out cones to deter people from parking near to our crosswalks. We appreciate your continued support in this and your kindness in dealing with all of our community safety needs.

Parent Teacher Conferences

Coming up on October 18th and 19th we have two half days at Auguston. Our parent teacher conferences will be held during that week, with the bulk of them scheduled for the afternoon and early evening on October 19th – from 1-3pm and 4-7pm. Information will be coming home next week about signing up for a conference for a chance to check in on your child(ren)'s early growth and learning this year. We will also be holding IEP meetings that week with families of students who have their own educational plans.

Please note that school will be dismissed at 12:05 on October 18th and 19th and there is a Pro-D day on October 20th.

Cops for Cancer

Together, we're changing the lives of children with cancer and their families.



Fundraising updates

We are very proud to share that as a school we collected \$500 for [Cops for Cancer](#) and \$500 for the [Terry Fox Foundation](#) this September. What a great show of support for two amazing causes. Way to go Auguston!





Terry Fox School Run

Thank you for your support of our school Terry Fox Run Auguston! A donation of \$500 will be made from our No Uni fund.

[Read more](#)



Costumes



It's almost Hallowe'en and that means we have some fun and festive

happenings planned around our school! We will have a costume day on October 31st and students are encouraged to dress up for the day. Please be mindful of our younger students and ensure that costumes are school appropriate and don't include weapons, blood, gore or scary masks. We look forward to seeing all of the fun ideas you come up with for costumes this year!

Costume Day is our second No Uni Day:

<https://auguston.abbyschools.ca/blog/no-uni-days>

Concert

As we look forward, we are also aware of how quickly other yearly events are coming. As a staff we have agreed to do an online format to our Christmas concert again this year. Starting in mid-November, classes will practice their concert songs and they will be recorded early in December. A link to our concert presentation will be shared with families on December 15th. This has been our practice since COVID and works for a number of reasons. Mostly it allows you to watch all or parts of the concert from front row seats in the comfort of your own home with friends and family there with you whenever it is convenient in your busy December schedules. You can also watch parts of it over and over as your children love to share their shining moments. We look forward to sharing our concert with you soon!

Drills



We have already completed one of our Fire Drills this year, with many

more practices to come. As a staff, we feel student safety is a top priority, and part of that means students need to be prepared and know what to do in the event of an emergency. Over the course of the year, we practice 6 Fire Drills, 2 Earthquake Drills and 2 Lockdown Drills. We post the dates of our drills on our PAC Facebook page as well as on our website and always give students and staff a heads up before the drill starts. Students and staff did a great job of evacuating our school in just over 7 minutes during our first Fire Drill of the year.



Upcoming Dates in Oct

Thanksgiving Day Stat. Holiday

Mon, Oct 9



Tues, Oct 10

[Cross Country Meet](#)

Wed, Oct 11

[Parent Series Session #2: The Welcome Project](#)

Thurs, Oct 12

[Popcorn Day](#)

Tues, Oct 17

[Pizza/Sushi Orders Close Oct 17 at 3pm](#)

Wed, Oct 18

Early Dismissal Day at 12:05pm

Thurs, Oct 19

Earthquake Drill 11:30am
Early Dismissal Day at 12:05pm
Parent-Teacher Conferences 1-3pm & 4-7pm

Fri, Oct 20

[Non-Instructional Day](#) – NO CLASSES

Tues, Oct 24

[Auguston PAC Meeting](#) 7pm in LLC

Wed, Oct 25

[Pizza/Sushi Day](#)

Fri, Oct 27

[PAC Movie Night](#) with costumes - Doors open 5:30pm

Mon, Oct 30

Lockdown Drill

Tues, Oct 31

Hallowe'en – [Costume Day!!!](#)



Pay for School Activities and Give Consent Online



Planner costs will be added in schoolcash next week for participating classes.

Kindergarten School Supplies Payments are NOW DUE.

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 98.29% who have signed up. Let's make it 99 or even 100% Auguston and **PLEASE USE the online option every time!**

**** Email Consent * Off Grounds Consent * Photo/Media Consent * Extracurricular Athletics Consent***

**** Field Trips * Damaged or Lost Library Books * Fruit & Veggie Consent * No Uni for a Toonie***

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