

Apr 9, 2025

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Principal's Message

Welcome back – and happy Spring everyone! We trust that you had a relaxing and rejuvenating Spring Break and are ready for a fun filled third term here at Auguston Traditional. All of our flowers are blooming at the school, and things are starting to turn green again. We are excited to enjoy the sunshine, warm weather and longer days that are on the horizon. Spring is such a beautiful time of year, full of change and growth, and it is exciting to be able to experience it all around us!



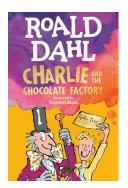
Time will go quickly now as we find ourselves in the last term of our year. There are a lot of events to look forward to in third term, from field trips to the fun fair, to planetarium and science workshop visits, to our one book one school event. June will be here before we know it! We will do our best to keep you updated on all of the fun events and happenings going on at the school through newsletters and regular updates.

Spring also means that outside we will see rain and sunshine, cold and heat, as well as everything in between – and sometimes all on the same day! Please ensure that your child(ren) have jackets, waterproof shoes and proper weather gear in case an unexpected downpour comes our way.

Looking forward to a great third term ahead full of learning and fun!

One Book One School

We are very excited to bring this amazing program back to Auguston this year! In our first year of OBOS we read Charlotte's Web together. Last year, we read The One and Only Ivan. This year, continuing on with our list of great stories, we will be reading Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl. Many thanks to our amazing PAC for purchasing a book for every family to read along with us. More information, as well as a copy of the book, will be coming home in the next week or so, and we will be reading the book together from April 22 to May 13. We look forward to enjoying this amazing story with you!



On May 23rd we will celebrate our reading with a Wonka Day where we will be able to dress up like a character from the book, watch one of the movie adaptations and – of course – win fun prizes!

More information and a reading calendar will be shared soon!!!



Volunteer tea

Have you volunteered with us this year? Perhaps you joined us on a field trip, helped make pancakes or delivered hot lunches to classes, or maybe you've worked with reading groups in your child's class? If so — we would like to recognize and celebrate you!

If you are one of those very special people, look out for an email coming soon inviting you to our event that will be held on April 24th this year. Volunteers will be able to enjoy some tea, coffee and homemade goodies, as well as some class presentations, as our way of saying thank you!



Ready, Set, Learn

Do you have a child ready to start Kindergarten with us in September of 2025? We will be holding our annual Ready Set Learn event for new Kindergarten students on May 22nd. Details coming soon.



After School Programs

Our spring sessions of after school programs start up soon! This term our Kindergartens and grade 1s will get a chance to be Soccer Stars on Tuesdays, on Wednesdays our grade 2 and 3 students will be able to take part in Arts and Crafts and on Mondays our grade 4s and 5s will have a chance to write in Flash Fiction. Thanks to the Abby Community School Society for putting these amazing after school adventures on for our students!

Details can be found on the website: <u>ACSS</u> <u>Spring Programs</u>

- Soccer Stars Program Grade K/1 FULL!
- Arts & Crafts Program Grade 2/3 5
 SPOTS LEFT!
- Flash Fiction Program Grade 4/5 *Note Date Change - 10 SPOTS LEFT!

Abby Canucks

The Abbotsford Canucks are once again sponsoring Auguston Traditional at one of their home games. Tickets are on sale for this Saturday, April 12th, where the Canucks will take on Calgary at 7pm. Tickets are at a reduced rate for our school and students can win prizes for attending the game. There is also a free popcorn with every ticket sold! See the attached flyer for more details.

ABBOTSFORD CANUCKS



ABBOTSFORD.CANUCKS.COM

ABBOTSFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT

Expansion Project

Our expansion project is almost complete (I feel like I keep saying that!). Over Spring Break, the blacktop area was paved and a number of other spaces in the school were finished up. Our old elevator has almost been converted into a storage room upstairs and down, and our gym floor was refinished. Furniture arrived and classes moved in to the new addition. The daycare renovation is almost complete and we are all just about ready to have our school back!

There is still a bit of work still to be done to finish up but that should be completed this month. It has been an amazing journey filled with ups and downs, and we've almost made it to the finish line! And we've got a beautiful new school out of it.



Gaga Ball

We are also very excited to open a couple

of gaga pits in the near future! Just before the construction started, our PAC purchased two gaga pit kits for us, and they've been hidden away waiting for the project to be done for almost two years! It's now time to dust them off and get them installed! This is a very high paced game that is also so much fun (videos about how to play are available on youtube)! We will be learning all about the rules and how to play in PE over the next little bit and expect to have lots of fun playing with our friends for the rest of the year.

ATTENDANCE



Attendance

Please remember – attendance matters! We have seen a bit of an increase in absences over our second term and are hoping that we can settle back into routines as we head towards the end of the year. A missed day here and there might not seem like much, but they add up quickly and leave gaps in your child's learning about topics covered during the days they miss. Please help us to promote great habits and ensure your child is here at school on time every day.



Uniforms

We are also asking for your help with our uniform check ins! As of late we've been seeing

more colour and less formal uniforms at school. We are tightening up on this and appreciate your support and buy in. Please check out our guidelines for school attire and let's finish the year strong.

https://auguston.abbyschools.ca/parentsstudent s/dresscode/auguston



Vaisakhi Celebrations

We were excited to welcome the energetic Abbotsford Traditional School dance team to our school on Tuesday, April 8th. As part of our Traditional team of schools we are working to increase opportunities for students from each Traditional school to connect with each other. As a further part of our learning and celebrations around Vaisakhi, students and staff are welcome and encouraged to wear traditional clothing on Monday, April 14th for Vaisakhi. Our next Traditional Advisory Committee meeting is after school on April 30th.



Earth Day

Earth Day is on April 22nd and we have some big plans to celebrate! We will recognize Earth Day here at Auguston by:

- Encouraging students and staff to wear earth colours (greens, blues and browns).
- Aiming to have a litter free lunch –
 please use compostable wraps or
 reusable containers to pack lunch
 items that day (and every day if you
 can!)
- Participating in the Community Clean
 Up School Challenge. Students will be
 picking up garbage on our school
 property and in our local community
 on Tuesday afternoon in an attempt
 to beautify our surroundings and be
 kind to our earth.



StrongStartBC

Strong Start

Did you know that we have a Strong Start at our school? Parents with kids aged 0-5 are able to join us for some learning and exploration time that will help prepare kids for coming to school. Miss Louise runs a fantastic program from 8:45-11:45 each day. Please join us when you have a chance!

See Strong Start on the website under Programs: https://auguston.abbyschools.ca/strong-start





Traffic concerns

A quick update about traffic safety:

We appreciate your kindness and patience as we navigate our busiest times of the day - drop off and pickup. In order to move everyone through these busy times safely and efficiently, we ask that everyone continue to follow a few simple traffic rules around our school:

- 1) We have 'no parking' zones along Stephen Leacock Drive that run from just before the fire hydrant above our parking lot to our crosswalk and bus loop entrance, and then again from just in front of the school drop off area to just past the school property line. These areas are typically blocked off by cones, but we ask that you respect those no parking zones at all times. These areas of no parking are designated as they lead up to our crosswalks and it gives drivers clear sight lines that allow them enough time to stop safely at each crossing. Student safety is a priority for us and we appreciate your help out there.
- 2) There is also a 'no stopping' rule in both of our bus loops. A number of people will say 'I'm not stopping' or that they are

- there 'just for a minute'. If you have to stop longer than the time it takes your child to get in or out of the vehicle, we ask that you do another loop to allow those behind you to get through. If your child needs your help to get in or out of your vehicle, we ask that you find a parking space in the lot. If your child is not there ready for you at pickup, please circle around to allow others to get through and out as well.
- 3) The busses can slow us down as they take a bit longer to load or off-load, but they usually come a bit before or after the bell to avoid backing things up in our bus loops. Thank you for allowing them a bit of extra grace as they safely pickup or deliver our students.

We appreciate your continued support in this and your kindness in dealing with all of our community safety needs. Bylaw Officers may visit at any time and will hand out tickets to cars parked in the 'no parking' areas.





Smart Watches

The following is an excerpt from our school's Code of Conduct pertaining to smart watches:

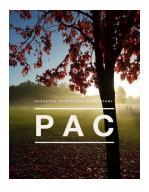
Student Use of Personal Digital Devices in School:

We believe in promoting online safety and a focused learning environment. Students are expected to:

- Refrain from inappropriate computer usage and/or multi-media devices
- Refrain from using personal digital devices during school hours unless given the expressed permission of the school administrator or their teacher

A personal digital device is any personal digital device that can be used to communicate or to access the internet, such as a **cell phone**, **smart watch or tablet**.

We ask that students not wear smart watches as they have been being used to text or take pictures on school property.



PAC News

The next PAC meeting is on **April 23 at 7pm**.

PAC Facebook Page:
Auguston Traditional

Elementary School PAC

Have questions? See the <u>PAC page</u> on the website or email the PAC at augustonpac@gmail.com.



Hot Lunch Orders Open

Hot Lunch orders are OPEN for April & May! Order on Munchalunch TODAY!

Hot Lunch/Treat Days - April to May 2025

Sushi & Pizza on Friday, April 25 - *Orders due Friday, April 18, by 6pm*

Booster Juice on Friday, May 9 - *Orders due Friday, May 2, by 6pm*

White Spot on Friday, May 30 - *Orders due Wednesday, May 21, by 6pm*

See https://auguston.abbyschools.ca/parentsstudents/hotlunch/auguston

| Upcoming April Events | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Wed, Apr 9 | Boys Basketball after school (all games are at Auguston) |
| Fri, Apr 11 | Colours Day (dress in all your brightest and favourite colours), our whole school goes bowling thanks to our amazing PAC! |
| Sat, Apr 12 | <u>Chess Tournament</u> at Howe Middle <u>Abby Canucks</u> sponsor us at their game |
| Mon, Apr 14 | Happy Vaisakhi, <u>Fire drill</u> in afternoon, <u>Scholastic Book Fair</u> this week |
| Wed, Apr 16 | Girls Basketball after school |
| Thurs, Apr 17 | Pro-D Day - no school |
| Fri, Apr 18 | PAC Hot Lunch orders due by 6pm for Sushi & Pizza Day |
| Apr 18-21 | Easter long weekend Happy Easter! |
| Tues, Apr 22 | Earth Day! Litterless lunch, wear earth colours, community clean up in afternoon, One Book One School readings begin |
| Wed, Apr 23 | Boys Basketball after school, 7pm PAC meeting |
| Thurs, Apr 24 | <u>Volunteer Tea</u> - <i>details coming soon!</i> <u>Leadership Club</u> at lunch |
| Fri, Apr 25 | PAC hot lunch – <u>Sushi & Pizza Day</u> |
| Mon, Apr 28 | Our school is used as a polling station in the Federal election ACSS Spring Afterschool Programs begin |
| Wed, Apr 30 | Girls Basketball after school, <u>Traditional</u> Advisory Committee meeting |

Other upcoming events include **High Tech**, **High Touch science workshops May 13-15** and 20-21, our PAC spring fair June 6, and the mobile planetarium June 17-19.

School Calendar



See the school calendar and yearly Local School Calendars on the website:

https://auguston.abbyschools.ca/events/calendar

- 2024-2025 Local School Calendar -Month-by-Month
- <u>2024-2025 Local School Calendar -</u> Chronological
- 2025-2026 Local School Calendar -Month-by-Month
- <u>2025-2026 Local School Calendar -</u> <u>Chronological</u>
- 2026-2027 Local School Calendar Month-by-Month
- 2026-2027 Local School Calendar -Chronological

Weekly Events

(taking place at lunch, after the eating period)



<u>Basketball Practice</u> for Gr. 4/5 on Thursdays





District Reading Link Challenge

The District Reading Link Challenge took place on Thursday, March 13, at Clearbrook Elementary. Way to go Auguston Participants: Chichi, Saleena, Elizabeth, Mira & Sarah! Thank you parents for driving students to this event and thank you, Mrs. Deol (Div. 4 Teacher), for coordinating this activity for our students!

Reading Olympics

For the month of February we tracked our home reading minutes as part of our Reading Olympics challenge. We had a chance to celebrate our achievements in March with a Drop Everything And Read (DEAR) Day.



We read with friends, had a few times throughout the day where we stopped everything to read individually, and we gave out some cool prizes of movie passes and books. Our prize winners were Arav in Div. 8, Emmie in Div. 11 & Garrett in Div. 3. Congratulations to these 3 and all who participated in our Reading Olympics Challenge! Thank you, Mrs. McAllister (Div. 14 Teacher), for coordinating this activity for our students!





Spring Book Fair

The book fair has been postponed to April 14-16, Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday, at lunch (after the eating time) and Tuesday after school.

Note that the Book Fair will take place in **Room 218** (Div. 2 Dirom/Chow's classroom prior to the move), not in the Library Learning Commons.

Thanks for your support! **Questions?** Please email the **PAC**.





Parents Student Learning Survey

Parents, please see the <u>2025 Ministry of</u> <u>Education and Childcare Letter for Parents</u> <u>Student Learning Survey</u>.

Your input is appreciated!





"Flood drill" -April Fools'

"Flood drill" on the second floor!?

April Fools' day in Div. 7 Mrs. Small/Mrs. Matty's class

Pay for School Activities and Give Consent Online



Consent forms are ONLINE in <u>SchoolCash</u>. Consent includes Request for Email Address Consent, Photograph/Video and Media, Permission off Grounds and for Field Trips.

We would like to encourage <u>ALL families</u> at our school to utilize the online option for consent & payments <u>EVERY</u> time! We are currently at <u>99.41</u>% who have signed up. Let's make it 100% Auguston and <u>PLEASE USE the online option every time</u>!

*Bowling Consent is NOW Due! *No Uni for a Toonie *Damaged or Lost Library Books *Email Consent

*Extracurricular School Sports *Kindergarten school supplies *Off Grounds *Photo/Media *School

Planners

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

Click Here!

SchoolCashOnline

Easy registration

