

Newsletter



Augoston Traditional
Elementary School

January 8, 2026

36367 Stephen Leacock Way, Abbotsford, BC V3G 2Z6 604.557.0422
augoston.abbyschools.ca

Principal's Message

Welcome back everyone! And Happy New Year to you all!

We are excited to be back at it and ready for a great month ahead. December was VERY busy and – with our concert, Festive Fridays, and lots of special events and activities – we sure made the most out of that month! January is typically a quieter time in terms of school events and activities so it's a great time to focus on our learning and growth in the classroom.

Our weather so far this year hasn't been too cold, but January is also when we tend to get a few snow days thrown in for fun. Keep an eye on your texts and emails if you wake up to a winter wonderland to check if schools are open or closed and keep in mind that warm weather gear is a necessity on these colder days. Some students are still coming to school in shorts and with no jackets on! It's definitely time to bundle up to stay warm out there, especially as we like to get outside for our every break that we can.

We are also, once again, trying to do a check in on our uniform expectations as we are still seeing colourful leggings, sometimes no leggings at all with very short skirts, branded hoodies and items that don't follow our guidelines (<https://augoston.abbyschools.ca/parentsstudents/dresscode/augoston>) We appreciate your help in keeping these in mind moving forward into second term.

We are looking forward to an amazing January ahead!

Pink Shirt Winner!

Congratulations to **Radhika Pillay** who designed our winning entry for our Pink Shirt Contest this year. Her 'It's Cool to be Kind' design got top votes from staff and students, and we look forward to wearing her design on our upcoming Pink Shirt Day on February 25th. Order information will be available on Munchalunch soon.



Kindergarten Registration

Do you have a child that is turning 5 in 2026? If so our Kindergarten registration starts on Monday, January 19!

Families residing in Augoston's catchment have priority for registration.

Kindergarten registration will commence on **Monday, January 19, 2026, at 8:30 am**. **Parents can Register Online!** [Online Registration](#) (requires a computer, not a cell phone) - *link opens Monday, January 19th, 2026, at 8:30 am*. A Parent Guide is available for [new families](#) or [returning families](#) using this software.

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



Afterschool Programs

We continue to partner with the Abby Community School Society to bring some awesome after school programs to students here at Auguston Traditional. With the recent break and the busy-ness of December there has been a bit of a lag in our registrations, but we don't want to miss out on these amazing opportunities for our students! For second term, our offerings are: Mondays – Arts and Crafts for grade 1/2; Tuesdays – Flash Fiction for grade 4/5; and Thursdays – Gym Jamboree for grades 2, 3, and 4.

These programs will only take place if there is sufficient enrolment. Register today!

Please see below for information on how to sign up:

- Arts & Crafts Program - Kindergarten & Grade 1
- Gym Jamboree Program - Grades 2, 3 & 4
- Flash Fiction Program - Grades 4 & 5

<https://augoston.abbyschools.ca/announcements/acss-winter-programs-augoston>

MDI and Student Learning Surveys coming up



In January and February, some students at our school will be completing these important surveys.

Students in Grade 4 will have the chance in class to fill out our Student Learning Survey over the coming months. Completed by schools across BC, the Student Learning Survey provides the Ministry of Education and Child Care with valuable information on student satisfaction with their school experiences.

Grade 5 students will be completing the Middle Years Development Instrument survey between January 13 and March 13. This is a self-report questionnaire that asks students about their thoughts, feelings and experiences around school and is done in collaboration with the Human Early Learning Partnership through UBC. More information was sent to parents of grade 5 students in December.

Food Drive and Toy Drive



Many thanks to everyone in our Auguston Traditional community for your donations of non-perishable food items during our December food drive. We were able to fill 5 bins of food for the Salvation Army this year to help those in need in our community. In addition, our Auguston community also gathered multiple boxes of toys for our toy drive to support the UBC Seva Club and BC Children's Hospital. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all of your help and support!

Sickness



The break and some great rest and relaxation was just what our bodies needed to beat the sick bugs floating around, but unfortunately many are still hanging on.

We've also had symptoms of Fifth's Disease circling many of our classrooms with rosy cheeks and fevers present. Please remember that if your child has a fever or is showing symptoms of sickness, the best place for them to get the rest they need is at home. We are doing what we can to prevent the spread of sickness here at school, including lots of hand washing and keeping our spaces clean and disinfected. Please help us out by keeping your child home if they are sick and making every effort to pick them up if we call.

See [Winter Health](#) & [Student Health Policy](#)

Dress for the weather



With our cold weather coming, please ensure that your children have warm weather gear, rain-proof jackets and water-proof boots as we will be heading outside as much as possible at recess and lunch times. Those fresh air breaks do wonders for our growing brains – keeping them clear and ready for learning - so we will continue to go outside every day unless it is really heavy rain or wind or the temperatures are extremely cold. A change of clothes is also helpful to have here at the school and will avoid us calling for some dry clothes to be dropped off on those rainy, wet days.

Inclement weather guidelines

As we head into our snowy and icy season, please be aware of the inclement weather guidelines found on our website: [Winter Weather](#). 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 will need them this winter. 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:

- Our former grade 5 sledding hill beside the gym is **permanently** closed. There is also no sledding on the hill above the school near the daycare and garden area. These closures are in place during school hours and within the duty times before and after school.
- Helmets are preferred for all sledders.
- The grade 4/5 area is on the hill closest to the baseball dugout, with grades 2 and 3 between the trees and K/1s farthest from the school on the smallest, shortest 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 sled 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 or in line with the trees to make their way back up.
- 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.
- If conditions become too icy, sledding will be closed. This closure will be decided on depending on conditions on a daily basis.

Also:

- Students are 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 have a no throwing snow rule – not at each other, not at trees or buildings, not up in the air – as there may be rocks and ice chunks mixed in.

Dogs on our field and playground



We share our field space with our community as a large part of our field is Mather's Park. We usually talk with members of the public that we see out there when our students are outside for breaks and ask that people try to walk or use the space when students are not present. This is to keep everyone safe and so that we don't cross paths with adults that we don't know.

We also ask that dogs are kept away from our students as everyone tries to run to meet and pet the dog, but, not knowing the animals, we don't want to cause stress or excite the dogs out on our play area as it makes it difficult to predict their reaction. Please leave pets at home when walking during school hours or when dropping off or picking up your child(ren).

A more recent concern has been the number of people who are bringing their dogs to our school but not cleaning up after them! You can imagine the worry, upset and mess on our shoes we are experiencing as students play on the field and accidentally step on or roll on it. Yuck! Please help us avoid this icky issue by cleaning up after pets, leaving them at home when coming to or around the school and sharing this info with neighbours who may not have children who go to our school. Thank you!

Grade 1 to 5 Registrations for 2026-27

Registration for Out of Catchment & NEW registrations for September 2026 for Grades 1-5 will commence on Monday February 2nd, 2026, at 8:30 am.

- Current Out of Catchment or Out of District Kindergarten to Grade 4 students will be required to follow the district non-catchment procedures, by applying starting February 2, 2026, for approval to attend next year at Auguston.
- Click here for a fillable In-District Non-Catchment Request form to be signed by your catchment school's principal, then forwarded to Auguston starting Feb. 2. Please send via email: augoston@abbyschools.ca
- Click here for the Out of District Non-Catchment Request form

*If your child is currently at Auguston in Kindergarten to Grade 4 and you are in catchment, it will be assumed your child is continuing at Auguston for the following school year unless you notify the office otherwise **IF YOU ARE MOVING next year and leaving*

*Auguston Traditional, please contact the office (augoston@abbyschools.ca) or Ph: 604-557-0422)***

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

See: <https://www.abbyschools.ca/schools/registration/grades1-12>

Auguston's Registration page:

<https://augoston.abbyschools.ca/ourschool/registration/augoston>

Skittle Ball

Grade 4/5 students are invited to participate in our skittle ball team!



On the following dates in January & February, Auguston's Co-Ed Grade 4/5 skittle ball team will have games (travelling by private vehicle if an away game).

Details

Game days will be:

- Wednesday, January 14, 2026
- Wednesday, January 21, 2026
- Wednesday, January 28, 2026
- Wednesday February 4, 2026
- Wednesday, February 11, 2026

Game Schedule & Rules

- **Time:** 3 OR 3:30pm start time (see above Game Schedule & Rules)
- **Location:** Auguston Traditional Elementary & Other Abbotsford East End School locations

We will have two teams one will play at Auguston and the other at another school each week. This will alternate weekly. Practice will be at lunchtime on Wednesdays.

For away games, students are responsible for their own transportation to and from the games, and parents are required to stay. Parents must be an approved [Volunteer](#) & have completed a [Volunteer Driver Application](#) if driving other students. See <https://www.abbyschools.ca/administrative-procedures/AP308>

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

Have Questions? Please contact Mrs. Howe, PHE Teacher at Tina.Howe@abbyschools.ca.



Ice Skating - Div. 1-5

Division 1-5 students are going Ice Skating on Wednesday, Feb. 4!

Please complete consent in [schoolcash](#) for your child to participate in ice skating. The arena rental & bussing costs will be covered by the school.

Please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for skating with a helmet & ice skates (either from home or rentals) and warm clothing.

Students will leave Auguston at 12pm and travel to ARC by school bus arriving at 12:15pm. Skating time is from 12:30-1:30pm. The bus will leave ARC at 1:45pm.

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 \$2.55. It's possible the arena could run out of helmets so if students can bring their own bike or hockey helmet, that is preferred. Due to this being a school event, helmets are REQUIRED for all students on the ice.

Skates can also be rented for \$3.80 a pair. Please indicate your child's shoe size.

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.

School Photos

See school photos on the website at:

<https://auguston.abbyschools.ca/blog>



Thank you, **Tina Howe**, (parent and teacher) for taking many of our school photos!

PJ & Pancake Day



Gingerbread Men



Leadership Club



PAC Movie Night



We're so excited to announce that our annual Movie Night is back!

January 16th -

- Doors open at 4:30 PM
- Movie starts at 5:00 PM

Join us for a fun and cozy evening with classmates and our school community, enjoying a free movie right at the school.

Dinner Info Pizza will be available by **pre-order only** through [Munchalunch](#):

- Orders open Friday, January 9, at 9 AM
- Orders close Tuesday, January 13 at 6 PM

Please note: There will be no extra pizza available at the concession stand

Concession Stand - Chips, snacks, treats, and drinks will be available for purchase.

***** movie will be decided by poll vote on the Auguston PAC Facebook Page [Auguston Traditional Elementary School PAC](#) ** To be announced on Friday, January 9.***

Don't forget to bring comfy chairs and cozy blankets and get ready for a relaxed, fun movie night together.

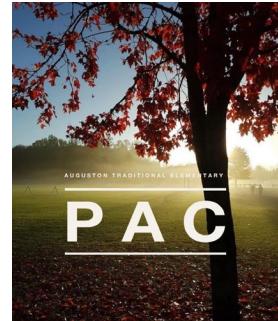
*** This is NOT a drop off event. All children must be supervised by their parents/guardians ***

We can't wait to see you there!

- Auguston PAC Team

PAC Meeting

Auguston Parents/Guardians are invited to join the PAC General Meeting on **Wednesday, January 21**, at 7:00pm in the Library Learning Commons.



Thank you to all the parents who help out in so many ways, we couldn't do it without you!!

Have questions?

Please email the PAC at augustonpac@gmail.com

Join the PAC Facebook Page for reminders & updates!

[Auguston Traditional Elementary School PAC](#)

Upcoming Dates in January



| | |
|---------------|---|
| Thurs, Jan 8 | <u>Traditional Schools Parent Information Night</u> 6pm at Abbotsford Traditional School |
| Fri, Jan 9 | <u>Orders Open for Movie Night Pizza</u> 9am |
| Mon, Jan 12 | <u>Early French Immersion Info Night</u> 6:30pm at Sandy Hill Elementary |
| Tues, Jan 13 | <u>Lockdown Drill</u> 10:15am MDI survey starts for the grade 5's <u>Orders Due for Movie Night Pizza</u> 6pm |
| Fri, Jan 16 | <u>PAC Movie Night</u> Doors open 4:30pm |
| Tues, Jan 20 | <u>Flash Fiction - Gr. 4 & 5</u> 2:35-4pm |
| Wed, Jan 21 | <u>PAC Meeting</u> 7pm |
| Thurs, Jan 22 | <u>Sun Hang Do at Augoston DPAC Meeting</u> |
| Mon Jan 26 | <u>Arts & Crafts - K/1</u> 2:35-4pm |
| Tues, Jan 27 | <u>Flash Fiction - Gr. 4 & 5</u> 2:35-4pm |
| Thurs, Jan 29 | <u>Gym Jamboree - Grades 2, 3 & 4</u> 2:35-4pm |
| Fri, Jan 30 | <u>Crazy Hair Day</u> – No Uni |

Weekly Events

(taking place at lunch, after the eating period)



BOOK CLUB

[Reading Link Challenge](#) for Grade 4/5 students on Mondays in the LLC



[Choir Practice](#) for Grade 4/5 students on Tuesdays in Room 125



[Skittle Ball practices](#) for Gr. 4/5 students on Wednesdays in the gym

[Skittle Ball Games](#) for Gr. 4/5 students on Wednesdays (see [schedule](#) for locations) from Jan 14 to Feb. 11



Come learn about supports, pathways, and next steps for students who are disengaged or struggling with regular school attendance.

- ★ **Who**: Community members from Foundry, Family Smart, and School District Mental Health Clinicians will be available to answer any questions, walk through some options, provide some psychoeducation, and receive feedback.
- ★ **What**: This Information night is a space to **connect, learn about options, and ask questions** in a supportive, non-judgmental environment.
- ★ **Where**: Colleen & Gordie Howe Middle School
Room: Library (second floor)
- ★ **When**: January 21, 2026 at 6:00 pm
- ★ **Why**: **If your child or youth is currently not attending school or struggling to attend**– and you are feeling stuck, overwhelmed, or unsure of next steps – support is available!

Pay for School Activities and Give Consent Online



Permission
Granted

Consent forms are **ONLINE** in [SchoolCash](#). Consent includes Request for Email Address Consent, Photograph/Video and Media, Permission for 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 **99.70%** who have signed up. Let's make it 100% Auguston and **PLEASE USE the online option every time!**

NEW *Skittle Ball – Gr. 4/5 Co-Ed *Ice Skating Div. 1-5 *Kindergarten Supplies *Email Consent

***Permission for Off Grounds * Photo/Media Consent *Damaged or Lost Library Books**

***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