

Family Welcome Letter 2026-27



Auguston Traditional
Elementary School

September 4, 2026

Dear Students and Families,

Welcome to the start of a new school year at Auguston Traditional! Whether you are returning for another wonderful year or joining our school community for the first time, we are excited to welcome you. I hope your summer provided opportunities to rest, recharge, and enjoy time with family and friends. We cannot wait to hear about your summer adventures!

This year is especially exciting for me as I begin my first year as Principal of Auguston Traditional. I am honoured to join this incredible community and look forward to getting to know the students, families, and staff who make this school such a special place.

As a principal with experience in Traditional schools, I strongly believe that education is about developing both the *Head and the Heart*. Academic excellence is important, but so too is kindness, social responsibility, and compassion for others.

At Auguston Traditional, I believe you can see this philosophy lived out each day. It guides our goals, shapes classroom experiences, and influences how we treat one another. Our classrooms are places where effort is valued, curiosity is nurtured, and students are encouraged to care for both their learning and one another.

As we begin this new school year together, I look forward to seeing how our learning community can work together in the service of our children.

Tyler Horner
Principal of Auguston Traditional Elementary

Below is some important information to help you get ready for the first week back:

First Day of School

Our first day back is Tuesday, September 8th. This will be a half day for students in Grades 1 to 5. The welcome bell rings at 8:35 am. with classes officially starting 8:40 am (our regular time). We will dismiss the first day at 11:35 a.m., which is exactly 3 hours earlier than usual. The Transportation department has let us know that their bus schedule will also be 3 hours early (so also picking up at 11:35).

Where to Go on the First Day

On the first day, teachers will be outside gathering their classes on and around our field. We will be meeting by grade, and there will be signs showing students where each grade is lining up. Don't worry, there will be lots of staff around outside to help make sure that everyone knows just where

to meet. When its time to go home, we will also return to the same places so its nice and easy for everyone to reconnect! Parents can pick their students up from these areas the first day at 11:35.

After that, staff will advise you of where your child should line up and be picked up for the remainder of the first week.

Here is where our teachers will be waiting for you (but you could also just look for the signs)!

- Grade 1's will meet on the blacktop by the foursquare courts
- Grade 2's will meet on the blacktop by the hopscotch
- Grade 3's will meet on the basketball court
- Grade 4's and grade 5's will meet on the field

Kindergarten

Kindergarten students/families have their own special schedule which was emailed out at the beginning of the summer. They follow a [gradual entry schedule](#) designed to help them ease into school life. Details about the transition meetings, length of school visits and more are all contained in the gradual entry schedules. If you have questions, please feel free to check our website, or contact our office.

Class placements at Auguston

We work hard to create balanced and equitable learning environments for all students. Although a lot of thoughtful planning goes into making classroom placement decisions prior to summer, during the break we often see families move both in and out of our catchment. This changes our numbers. For this reason, we need a day or two at the start of the year to carefully determine final numbers and work together to ensure our placements are still the best they possibly can be for our learners. Please know that a lot of time and effort is put in by our staff to ensure students have support systems in place, know other students in their classes and are placed where we think they will find great success this year. Class lists are usually finalized and shared at the end of the first week and will be emailed to families.

Bell schedule

On Wednesday, September 9th, we will move to our [regular bell schedule](#) for the year:



Auguston Traditional Elementary School 2026-2027 Schedule

8:30 am	Supervision Begins
8:35 am	Welcome bell
8:40 am - 10:40 am	Classroom Instruction
10:40 am - 11:00 am	Recess Break
11:00 am - 12:14 pm	Classroom Instruction
12:14 pm - 12:25 pm	Lunch Break: Eating Period
12:25 pm - 12:55 pm	Lunch Break: Outside Period
12:55 pm - 2:35 pm	Classroom Instruction
2:35 pm	Dismissal
2:45 pm	End of Supervision

Supplies

On the first day of school students have a recess break which means they should bring a snack, and a water bottle. Please do not bring all of your child's school supplies until classrooms are determined. Teachers may ask students to bring a small amount of supplies (such as a pencil case and writing tools) as the week progresses. Please ensure your child wears their school uniform clothing, and dresses for the weather. If you have any questions about our dress code or uniform requirements, please don't hesitate to contact the office or look up dress code details on our website: [Dress Code | Auguston Traditional Elementary](#)

Attendance

If your child will be absent on Tuesday but still plans to attend our school this year, please let the office know by using the [safe arrival](#) app online. Our website has a very informative page explaining how this process works. If you need a hand, feel free to call our office. Accurate attendance records are especially important during our first weeks back as they help us determine our numbers and classroom composition.

Bussing

Auguston Traditional is one of the elementary schools in Abbotsford that uses bussing. With this comes the responsibility for students to know how to navigate the system safely and confidently. Students should be comfortable knowing how to ride the bus, the expectations associated bus use, and of course the stop they get off at!

We strongly encourage families to visit their child's bus stop together before the first day, so students can recognize landmarks and feel confident about when to exit the bus. Practicing the route helps build independence and ensures your child is ready for the ride. If students are ever unsure, they should ask the driver for assistance.

Health and Safety

As we come together as a learning community once again, it's important to remember to keep students home when they are feeling unwell in order to prevent the spread of illness. It's always a good idea to keep students home if they have a fever, are potentially contagious, vomit or feel unwell. If your child develops symptoms of such sickness at school, we will contact you to arrange to have them picked up.

Every year, schools in the Abbotsford District practice emergency drills so that we know what to do if a real emergency come our way. This includes things like fire drills, lockdown drills and earthquake drills. For these drills, we use our field as our muster station and post a 'drill in progress' sign out front of the school. If you notice a sign as you are attempting to enter the school, please be patient with us as we complete our practice. Don't worry, they usually only take a few minutes!

All exterior doors of our school will remain locked during the day with the exception of our front doors. This is to ensure that we don't have strangers walking through our halls. Please check in with the office if you are coming to our site for any reason.

Traffic Safety

Traffic safety and drop-off procedures are always something that needs to be carefully considered, especially as we begin a new school year together. School zones are back in play, so please watch your speed.

The area around our school can sometimes become quite busy and challenging to navigate. To help out, please do not park in front of the school, and be extra mindful of our crosswalks and the large number of people who walk to and from school.

Please also be aware of the following safety tips:

- The area around our school has posted speed limits of 30km/h. There are also two very busy crosswalks out front of the school on either side of our front bus loop. Please drive slowly, watch for kids and be mindful of the busy areas, particularly at pick up and drop off times.
- There is absolutely NO STOPPING or parking in our two bus loops – if you need to stop longer than it takes for a child to climb into or out of your vehicle or if a student needs assistance climbing into your vehicle, then we ask you find a parking spot.
- Both bus loops are one-way loops and need to keep moving for efficient traffic flow.
- Please, if at all possible, walk with your children to or from school to ease up on our traffic congestion.
- Please be patient with us and each other: if you are asked to move or do a loop of the bus loop. Our aim is to keep everyone safely moving towards their destinations in the most efficient ways possible.

All these rules boil down to one thing: which is the importance of keeping everyone safe. Please be kind and courteous to one another, and drive with patience and care. We appreciate your support in keeping everyone safe.

Noon Hour Supervisors



- Regular, paid noon hour supervisors needed for 1 hour a day
- Keep our students safe while they eat (in the classroom) and play outside
- help support children with everything from band aids to peer mediation when conflict arises.
- Criminal record check needed
- You can help out for a certain day of the week that works for you, or a range of days!
- Back ups needed to! Why not help out by being on call?

Interested in Being a Noon Hour Supervisor or Volunteer?

Parents as educational partners is a central tenet of our Traditional model. We love working with you! Are you interested in being a Noon Hour Supervisor or [volunteer](#)? Please contact our office and we can get the process started for you. You can also email us at Auguston@abbyschools.ca. That said, we have strict procedures in place to ensure our students remain safe. If you are interested in starting the volunteer or supervisor process and getting your criminal record check underway, please connect with our office or read about how to get involved on our website. Start early! Thanks again for the time you invest in our students. It is by working together that we multiply the educational opportunities and experiences we are able to offer our little ones!

A few dates to consider:

September 8: First day back (half day for grades 1 to 5)

September 8: Gradual Entry begins for Kindergarten students (see mailed schedule)

September 17: Cops for Cancer tour stop at Auguston 12:10-12:30

September 21: First full day for Kindergartens

Early in September, our school is also planning a school-wide 'meet the teacher' evening so that we can begin to share stories and build connections. More information on this to come!

Once again, on behalf of the entire staff at Auguston Traditional School, we hope you've had a fantastic summer. We're looking forward to welcoming you back on the first day of school. If you have any questions in the meantime, please don't hesitate to reach out to chat.

See you soon!

Tyler Horner

Principal of Auguston Traditional Elementary School