



# ABERDEEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2191 Van Horne Drive Kamloops BC V1S 1L9

Phone: 250-372-5844

Fax: 250-377-2253

School Website: <https://aberdeen.sd73.bc.ca>

Principal: Mrs. Carol DeFehr

Vice Principal: Ms. Kristen Crawford

## APRIL 2023

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:



April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023 will mark the 10th Annual Day of Sucwentwecw in School District No 73.

An initiative that recognizes and celebrates the Secwepemc People (Secwepemcul'ecw) and other Aboriginal People residing within the Secwepemc Territory.

The theme for this year is "Courage to Explore and Embrace Your Identity which involves connection to family, community and culture." The First People's Principles of Learning is now incorporated into the content of the BC Curriculum and so is the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action which calls to "integrate Indigenous knowledge and teaching methods into classrooms.

Aberdeen students will celebrate the day by participating in a number of different activities including: gathering to sing Secwépmc traditional songs with drumming led by our Aboriginal Education Worker, Mr. Michel; reading to the Day of Sucwentwécw book "Fox's Coming of Age" by author Trudi Neilson; playing lahal or other traditional Indigenous games; and learning about the Secwépmc people.

Also, the intent of the Day of Sucwentwecw is to 'acknowledge one another', and whenever possible acknowledging the land and context we reside in, Secwepemcul'ewc. We will be acknowledging different world views through the lens of reconciliation, relationships and respect.

~Kukwstsetsemc (Thank you)



Mrs. Carol DeFehr

#youbelonghere

Follow us on Twitter @AberdeenElem

Follow us on Instagram @aberdeen\_elementary

### WE ALL BELONG.



2022-2023	
Bell Schedule	
8:20	Welcoming Bell
8:30	School Starts
9:55	Recess begins
10:10	Recess ends
12:10	Lunch
	Primary Eat
	Intermediate Play
12:30	All outside together
12:45	Intermediate Eat
	Primary Play
1:05	Warning Bell to end Lunch
1:10	Classes begin
2:41	Dismissal

## **KINDERGARTEN SPARK 2023**

OUR WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN EVENT THIS YEAR is called **SPARK** (Strong, Prepared, and Ready for Kindergarten) Parents will be asked to come to four sessions.

We will be holding four sessions total that will guide parents and students through the resources inside the SPARK bags as well as an opportunity to explore the school and meet our team. The first two sessions we will start in the gym, then move to our classrooms.

### **Session 1 - LITERACY THEME - Tuesday April 4 at 4:00-5:00pm**

SPARK bag pickup and meet the teachers!



### **Session 2 - NUMERACY THEME - Tuesday April 18 at 4:00pm-5:00 pm**

**Session 3 - PACIFIC SPORT - Tuesday May 2 – Please come to the session you registered for 3:30 to 4:30 or 4:30 to 5:30.** New students will also get a tour of their new school (45 mins in the gym, 15 mins tour)

**Session 4- PARENT ONLY Session - Tuesday May 23 at 4:00pm-5:00 pm** Join us in the library to learn more about Aberdeen. Please call Stacey Flynn at the school to register if you have not done so yet.

## **PARENT INPUT REQUEST FOR STUDENT PLACEMENTS FOR 2023-2024:**

Each May and June teachers meet to organize classes with considerations given to gender balance, learning needs, teaching styles, social dynamics, academic groupings, class size limits and where possible, parental requests. Moreover, tentative class lists are made through staff conversations first before parental requests are looked at. However, for those families who have significant concerns about their child's educational placement, we invite you to come to the school and pick up a PINK PARENT INPUT form and return it by May 18, 2023 indicating the educational reasons for your request. While this simply gives parents a chance to advocate for their child and their educational needs, it by no means guarantees that your request will be honoured so please keep this in mind. Ultimately, the SCHOOL ACT, gives the principal the final say on any child's placement in their school. Ms. Flynn will have these in the office for pick up starting Monday April 3rd, 2023. Please fill out one per child and **please note that name requesting a particular teacher you want or do not want is not the intent of this process.** Please also note this system is in place to save parents seeking placement changes in September.

## **STUDENT TRANSFER REQUESTS ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE:**

Parents who are not in our catchment area, but would like their child to attend Aberdeen Elementary, must register at their home school. Once registered there, a parent can fill out a STUDENT TRANSFER FORM and have the principal of the home school sign it so that he/she is aware that they would like to be enrolled elsewhere. For September 2023, parents would not find out if their child had been granted a transfer until the Friday of the first week of school.

For more information about this procedure, parents can go to the School District #73 website and follow the links to our public Administrative Procedures. AP 305 SCHOOL BOUNDARIES AND STUDENT TRANSFER REQUESTS is clearly written and gives a detailed explanation.

## **ARE YOU MOVING for 2023-2024?**



Parents of Aberdeen Elementary that plan to move for September 2023 should contact Ms. Flynn as soon as possible and let her know your plans to relocate. Our classes are extremely full so knowing we potentially have spots in K-7 would be extremely helpful as we plan for the upcoming school year.

## **SPRING BREAK**

Just a reminder Spring Break is March 20-April 2, 2023. Enjoy your TWO weeks and we will see everyone back to school on April 3rd, 2023.

### **EASTER BREAK**

Enjoy your Easter together. There is no school on Friday APRIL 7th or Monday APRIL 10, 2023. EASTER IS SUNDAY APRIL 9th, 2023. Have a fantastic time collecting Easter eggs!

### **FLAG FOOTBALL COACH**

Thanks to Ms. Tracy Clarke who will be our Flag Football coach. The team of Gr. 7's will have their league games on Tuesdays afterschool.

### **STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE**

For your convenience, we have provided a link for families on the School District website to voluntarily purchase optional student accident insurance through the Family Accident Reimbursement Insurance program, underwritten by Industrial Alliance and Financial Services Inc. This is one option of several to choose from in the Province.

The accident policy that is issued is for "Family Coverage" and benefits an adult, spouse and any number of dependent children under eligibility definitions stated per the attached coverage details and limits. This is blanket coverage and is not restricted or limited to school activities. This insurance is available for any and all family activities.

The cost of the coverage is \$39.95 monthly (for all family members). The product is annually renewed and can be purchased any time of the year for the monthly fee of \$39.95.

[Family Accident Reimbursement Plan](#)

[Family Accident Reimbursement Insurance Benefits Summary](#)

To arrange optional coverage: Call toll free: 1.800.266.5667 during these business hours, Monday to Friday 6:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. PST

### **YOUNG ARTISTS' CONFERENCE**

The Young Artists Conference is an annual event for aspiring artists in elementary school to showcase their artwork and take part in a series of workshops. The school district has offered this unique opportunity to our students since 1987. The 2023 Young Artists Competition was a highlight this month here at ABERDEEN! With more than 35 contestants, the judges had difficult decisions to make, but ultimately found 5 fantastic candidates to represent ABERDEEN at the district level competition! Let's congratulate this year's winners:

Deveena Poovaneswaran, Gr. 4 (Elliott); Hannah Vieira, Gr. 5 (Hindle); Shae Selver, Gr. 6 (Chretien); Shanzay Shehzad, Gr. 6 (Chretien); Hadley Salewich, Gr. 6 (Woodley).

They will attend art workshops from local artists hosted at Thompson Rivers University, will have their winning pieces displayed in a district-wide art exhibition at the Old Courthouse downtown and will have the chance to win as the overall, Young-Artist Champion, earning their artwork a space in the SD73 Board Office for the year. Well done students and thank you for sharing your talent with us!

### **CRIMINAL RECORD CHECKS**

ALL PARENTS/GRANDPARENTS/ADULTS that are going on ANY trip with your class, are driving as volunteers or are coming into support with class special events must have a CRIMINAL RECORD CHECK. This is posted on our website as well under Volunteer/Get Involved for how to complete a Criminal Record Check and I have put the document below with the access code for our school. I would suggest that ANY parents that want to be considered to help us please get this in place immediately. An adult cannot attend or come into the classroom until Stacey Flynn receives your cleared Criminal Record Check. Please know your check is in place for three years and is of no cost to parents.

[Online application for Volunteer's Criminal Record Checks](#)

[Please use access code: 4TXH9C6NSB](#)

## UPDATE FROM THE LIBRARY

Hello Spring Aberdeen Families, Battle of the Books teams have been confirmed! Josie MacKenzie, Coen Friend, and Rebecca Abate, along with Kellien Patterson as the alternate, will be representing Aberdeen at the Grade 3/4 Battle of the Books Zones competition. Thank you to Mrs. Elliott for leading the Grade 3 / 4 team. Shae Selver, Elise Percy, and Ayden Mackenzie, along with Tavia Laycraft as the alternate, will be representing Aberdeen at the Grade 6/7 Battle of the Books Zones competition. Congratulations to the to all Battle of the Books participants. Awesome reading everyone! Zones are taking place April 20<sup>th</sup> and Districts are April 27<sup>th</sup>.

*From the Aberdeen LLC Staff, Mrs. T-Rex and Ms. Cachelin*

## NOON HOUR SUPERVISORS

We are always looking for parents who would be interested in becoming volunteers for the 2022-2023 school year on a regular or on-call basis. If you are interested please visit us at the office or email Ms. Crawford [kcrawford@sd73.bc.ca](mailto:kcrawford@sd73.bc.ca) We really need parental or grandparent support in order to keep our children safe both on the playground and while eating. Noon hour supervision duties do receive a small honorarium pay. Please know that a Criminal Record check is required. We could really use more help now that sunny days are approaching.

## GROWTH MINDSET

This month our GROWTH MINDSET THEME IS:  
THE GROWTH MINDSET SELF TALK ABC'S! Review this with your child to help build resiliency!

## SEL (Social Emotional Learning) SCHOOL

Aberdeen continues to be a SEL School. We also believe in the PBIS (Positive Behaviour Intervention and Supports) mindset. Our goal is to promote our CODE OF CONDUCT and emphasize

- R- RESPECTFUL
- R- RESPONSIBLE
- S- SAFE

The goal is to always remind children to use RRS *so that they make great choices.*

## **WITS BLITZ April 11 to May 11- 23 DAYS FOR 23 DIVISIONS**

WITS Blitz - Review of WITS in classes after Spring break.

\*23 days for 23 divisions is how long the Blitz will last.

April 3-6 the teachers will review WITS expected behaviours.

\*Start the actual WITS Blitz on April 11th (#lovemyschoolday) and run until May 11th. We will announce on May 11 how we did with the WITS BLITZ.

EACH WEEK IS A NEW LETTER TO FOCUS ON:

- W- April 11-14**
- I- April 17-21**
- T- April 25-28**
- S- May 1-5**

## **WITS REVIEW- May 8-11**

\*Goal is for the school to achieve 20 good days of following their WITS. We are hoping in the office to see an overall improvement with walking away vs. solving our problems physically.

\*Reward for the whole school if 20 good days are earned on the afternoon of Friday May 12<sup>th</sup>. The kids are going to love it!





**April 11 is #LOVEMYSCHOOLDAY!** On TUESDAY April 11<sup>th</sup> at ABERDEEN Elementary we will celebrate the wonderful school we get to learn, play and grow at. We are THE PEOPLE OF THE HIGHLANDS and each and every day we need to celebrate this wonderful institution we call 'our community school.' It is indeed a SCHOOL WE ALL LOVE!

### **ABERDEEN OPEN HOUSE**

Staff and Students are inviting parents, grandparents and caring adults to come to school with your child to see all the amazing learning they are doing! This open house gives our community a chance to come celebrate all the presentations of learning. Please know each classroom could lead this Open House in a way that works for the age and grade level of the class. Due to congestion and parking we are dividing the school into two dates so that we can be more accommodating. We hope to see you! The kids are going to be so excited! Students remain in their classrooms and parents with two or more children move to visit each child.



PRIMARY OPEN HOUSE Friday April 14 8:30-9:00 am  
INTERMEDIATE OPEN HOUSE Friday April 28 8:30-9:00

### **KACZUR's KORNER: APRIL FOCUS:**

#### **Five to Thrive: Strategies for Positive Mental Health**



SD No. 73 SEL & Wellbeing Coordinators, Alex Inglis and Jenna Ewert, put together a valuable teaching slide deck called *Five to Thrive* for classroom use. When I read through it, I KNEW I had to pass the information along to our parents too. It was just too good not to!

**Mental health** is part of overall health. It includes our thoughts and feelings about ourselves, others, and the world. When we have positive mental health, we feel good and are able to deal with challenges.

To **THRIVE** means to be happy and joyful, healthy and strong, and to feel confident, competent and curious.

Ultimately, it means to feel like the best version of YOU. **So what are the Five to Thrive?**

1. **MOVEMENT:** Adding movement to each day can help you manage stress and can boost your mood. A little bit of movement goes a long way! Movement can be slow (stretching) or fast (jogging) or anywhere in between.
2. **SLEEP:** Your body needs 8 or more hours of sleep a night. Getting enough quality sleep can help you feel better, learn better, and tackle life's everyday challenges. Getting enough sleep also helps boost your immunity and maintain your physical health. Sleeping better = Feeling better!
3. **EATING WELL:** Eating a balanced diet can help fuel your body and mind. Many studies have shown a link between a healthy diet and positive mental health.
4. **CONNECTING:** Spending time with family, friends, and community can reduce stress and provide a sense of belonging. There are many ways you can connect with others whether it be in-person or virtually. How do you connect with others?
5. **GIVING AND HELPING:** Helping others adds to your sense of purpose, connection, and wellbeing. Explore ways to let people know you care and give back in your classroom, school, or community.

*Which one will you focus on today?*



## SAFE ARRIVAL

Aberdeen Elementary uses an automated SAFE ARRIVAL SYSTEM called SCHOOL MESSENGER. The system handles parent contact (including phone calls) when a student absence is unexpected, and will allow parents to interact directly with the system in a variety of ways:

- by phone either when the system calls, or when a parent initiates a call to notify of upcoming absence - by internet through login controlled webpage interface
- by smartphone app (iOS and Android versions available for free)
- Toll-free number to call: [1-844-350-2647](tel:1-844-350-2647)
- Website for parent access: [asp.schoolmessenger.ca/ktsd73](http://asp.schoolmessenger.ca/ktsd73)

Parents use the above methods to report student absences rather than phoning the school at Aberdeen. **We ask that parents please report student absences before 8:20 am on the day of the absence**, although the system also allows for reporting of student absences long in advance for holidays, trips, etc. For tech-savvy parents, we encourage you to download the iOS or Android apps for free from their respective app stores. To find the app, search for SCHOOL MESSENGER and install the free app.

## PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

The April PAC Meeting is Tuesday April 4, 2023 at 6 pm in the library. ALL PARENTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME. Hot lunches - each Friday with a few Thursdays due to non school days. Orders must be in and paid for one week prior. Join Aberdeen Elementary Kamloops Events Facebook page for all the information and updates.



**FUN FAIR** - April 20<sup>th</sup> 5-7:30pm

Bouncy castles, Chris the clown, games, pizza, candy and more!  
Watch for information letter coming soon.

Upcoming Fundraisers....

Phil's Fudge and Dips

Order on Munchalunch April 24<sup>th</sup> - May 5th

## IMPORTANT APRIL and MAY DATES

Mon. April 3- Return to class at 8:30 for first day back!

Mon. April 3- PINK PARENT INPUT FORMS available for pick up

Mon. April 3- PURDY's ORDERS available for pick up

Tues. April 4- SPARK Session #1 4-5 pm for our NEW KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS

Thurs. April 6- PAC HOT LUNCH Pizza Now

Thurs. April 6- DAY OF SUCWENTWECW

Fri. April 7- Good Friday- NO SCHOOL

Sun. April 9- HAPPY EASTER!

Mon. April 10- Easter Monday- NO SCHOOL

Tues. April 11- #LOVEMYSCOOLDAY

Fri. April 14- OPEN HOUSE PRIMARY DAY 8:30-9:00 am

Fri. April 14- Firedrill #4 1:45 pm

Fri. April 14- PAC Hot Lunch Senor Froggies Mexican

Fri. April 14- Raffle Basket items for FUNFAIR due to classrooms

Mon. April 17- FVP Delivery Cheese Sticks

Mon. April 17- ART STARTS Performance Gr. 4-7 How the Raven Stole the Sun 1:00

Tues. April 18- SPARK Session #2 4-5 pm for our new KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS

Thurs. April 20- EARTH DAY – send litterless lunches/lights low today at school and home.

Thurs. April 20- Battle of the Books Zones

Thurs. April 20- PAC FUN FAIR – 5:00 – 7:30

Fri. April 21- PAC Hot Lunch Moon Wok

Fri. April 21- Firedrill #5 1:45 pm

Fri. April 21- SPIRIT DAY- FANCY DAY

Mon. April 24- Non Instructional Day- No SCHOOL for students- Teachers will be learning!

Tues. April 25- Young Artist's District Reception  
Wed. April 26- Young Artist's Conference  
Thurs. April 27- Kindergarten Dental Screening  
Thurs. April 27- Battle of the Books Districts  
Fri. April 28- PAC HOT LUNCH DAY Booster Juice  
Fri. April 28- SPIRIT DAY- Rainbow/Neon Day  
Fri. April 28- KTFC Track clinics Gr. 4-7 Day 1  
Fri. April 28- OPEN HOUSE INTERMEDIATE DAY 8:30-9:00 am  
Fri. April 28- Young Author's Conference  
Mon. May 1- FVP Mini Peppers  
Tues. May 2 – KTFC Clinic Gr. 4-7 Day 2  
Wed. May 3-May 24- Let's Play Wheelchairs at Aberdeen  
Wed. May 3- ART STARTS performance K-3 Rup Loops 1:00  
Fri. May 5- PAC HOT LUNCH- Pizza Now  
Fri. May 5- SPIRIT DAY 80's Day  
Fri. May 5- Donas' Class to Kamloops Food Bank  
Mon. May 8-12- Talent Show Sign Up  
Tues. May 9- PAC MEETING 6 pm  
Thurs. May 11- Donas' Class to TCC Gymnastics  
Fri. May 12- PAC HOT LUNCH Senior Froggies Mexican  
Sun. May 14- Mother's Day  
Mon. May 15 – High Jump "Jump Off" Gr. 6/7 @ lunch  
Mon. May 15-18- Talent Show Try Outs  
Mon. May 15- FVP Ambrosia Apples  
Mon. May 15- Gr. 7 Eagle Bay forms due  
Tues. May 16- Aberdeen Track Meet Day 1  
• Gr. 4/5 Running Events & Gr. 6/7 Field Events)  
Tues. May 16- PAC Movie Night  
Wed. May 17- Aberdeen Track Meeting Day 2 Field Events  
• Gr. 6/7 Running Events & Gr. 4/5 Field Events  
Thurs. May 18- Outdoor Classroom Day  
Thurs. May 18-PINK PARENT INPUT FORMS DUE to the office  
Thurs. May 18- PAC HOT LUNCH Moon Wok  
Thurs. May 18- High Jump "Jump Off" Gr. 4/5 @ lunch  
Fri. May 19- NON INSTRUCTIONAL DAY No school for students  
Mon. May 22- VICTORIA DAY- No school for students or staff  
Tues. May 23- Montessori K's to Isobel Lake  
Tues. May 23- Talent Show Practices begin  
Fri. May 26- Zone Track Meet HILLSIDE  
Fri. May 26- Wear Orange for 215 Memorial  
Fri. May 26- PAC HOT LUNCH Senior Frogs PASTA  
Mon. May 29- DISTRICT 1000/1200 Races  
Wed. May 31- DISTRICT Track Meet HILLSIDE  
Thurs. June 1- Fortems Kindergarten Class to McQueen Lake  
Fri. June 2- Spirit Day- SUPER HERO DAY  
Fri. June 2- PAC HOT LUNCH Pizza Now  
Tues. June 6- PAC Ice Cream Day  
Wed. June 7- Talent Show – STUDENT only SCHOOL PERFORMANCE  
Thurs. June 8- SUPERINTENDENT Dr. Rhonda Nixon Visit 8:45 am  
Thurs. June 8- Talent Show- PARENTS PERFORMANCES 1:15 and 6:00 pm  
Thurs. June 29 – Last day for students, dismissed at 12:30  
Fri. June 30 – Administrative Day – Schools closed.

