



ASPENGROVE
SCHOOL

Back
to
School
2026-2027



Strong Roots, Bright Futures



WELCOME TO THE 2026–2027 SCHOOL YEAR AT ASPENGROVE SCHOOL: OUR 23RD YEAR.

We are excited for the year ahead and all that it will bring: meaningful learning, new opportunities, strong friendships, and a vibrant sense of community. Aspengrove continues to grow as a school focused on personalized academic excellence, exceptional experiences, and global leadership, and this year promises to continue our momentum.

As our community grows, so too does the energy and vibrancy of daily school life. We are committed to creating an environment where students feel known, challenged, and supported, and where they are encouraged to care deeply, aim high, and grow together.

Our academic program continues to evolve with a clear focus on high standards, strong instruction, and preparation for post-secondary pathways, including the expansion of Advanced Placement opportunities in the Senior School. At the same time, students will benefit from a wide range of co-curricular and experiential learning opportunities, from athletics and the High Performance Programs, to the arts, global exchanges, and leadership experiences, ensuring a well-rounded and engaging school experience.

We look forward to welcoming our students, families, and staff back to campus and beginning the year together.

The information that follows is designed to answer common questions as you prepare for the year ahead. For more detailed information, please refer to the [Family Handbook](#). If you require any additional support, please do not hesitate to contact us at info@aspengroveschool.com or 250.390.2201.

Yours in learning,

Dr. Gary Kern
Head of School





OVER THE SUMMER

Over the summer months, our campus remained active with a variety of programs that brought energy and life to Aspengrove. From youth camps and athletic training sessions to arts and dance programming, students had the opportunity to continue learning, developing skills, and building connections in a dynamic summer environment. At the same time, our maintenance team has worked diligently behind the scenes to prepare the school for the year ahead. From deep cleaning classrooms and refreshing learning spaces to completing repairs and ongoing campus improvements. The maintenance team has worked hard to ensure that our facilities are safe, welcoming, and ready to support an outstanding student experience from the very first day.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL: School for all students starts **September 3rd** (a reminder that JK and KG students follow gradual entry schedules). Students are asked to wear their formal uniform for the first day of school and to meet in their homeroom classes. A reminder that Fridays are half days. Please watch for more information coming from your child's principals/teachers about the first day of school.



NEW STUDENTS: We would like to welcome all new Grade 1 - 12 students and parents to come to Aspengrove and see their new school on September 2nd. Dress comfortably – students do not need to wear their uniform. Please join us at the Ravens Nest Gym with your student at 2:30 pm. Parents will then stay in the Ravens Nest for an information session to help prepare you and your children for the new school year. You will meet our Head of School, Principals, and Aspengrove Parents Association members and have the opportunity to connect with each other! Students will be brought to the Ravens Nest by 4 pm for closing.

WELCOME BACK “HOUSE” BBQ: Our new tradition invites all families to our Welcome Back BBQ on Friday, September 11th, from 12:30 - 2:30 pm. We invite you and your families to join us to connect with friends, both old and new, and celebrate a new school year. Please wear your new House Colour and represent Team Digney, Ciammaichella, Ferg or Saunders!

DROP OFF AND PICK UP: The safety of our students remains our highest priority, and we ask all parents to follow our drop-off and pick-up procedures. The arrival and departure drive-thru asks parents to cautiously drive to one of the 8 drop off locations in the upper parking lot. If you must come into the school or leave the car, please park in the lower parking lot and walk to your final destination. As a reminder, students in Middle and Senior School should not arrive until the scheduled pick up time (3:20pm/12:45pm on Fridays) to allow for our youngest students to depart safely. [Watch video here.](#)

MYSCHOOL & SCHOOL FORMS: Aspengrove uses a Student Information System called MySchool to manage student, family, and school information. All families are asked to complete annual forms (ex. medical information, media consent, code of conduct, etc.) which we ask families to promptly complete each school year. These forms will be sent the week of August 31st.

UNIFORM DETAILS: We ask all of our students to come to school wearing their uniform with pride. Our Formal Uniform Day is every Monday. From Tuesday through Friday, students may choose from a variety of uniform options. Please visit the [Uniform Handbook](#) for more information.

For the first day of school on Thursday, September 3, students are required to wear their formal uniforms. Formal uniforms are also required on special occasions (ex. Whole School Opening Assembly on Tuesday, September 8, Remembrance Day assembly).

We also recommend labelling all of your child's belongings. Need labels? By ordering through [Mabel's Labels](#), you can support Aspengrove School at no additional cost. Simply select “Aspengrove School (Lantzville)” under the “Support a Fundraiser” option (located in the top right corner of the website) before placing your order. Aspengrove receives 20% of every purchase, helping support our school community. ****PLEASE LABEL ALL OF YOUR CHILD'S CLOTHING ITEMS.**

SCHOOL SUPPLIES: School supplies are provided to students in Junior Kindergarten to Grade 5. Detailed supply lists can be found here for [Kindergarten to Grade 5](#) and here for [Grades 6 to 12](#). “MuddyBuddies” are needed in JK to Grade 2, as the students play outside, rain or shine!



BUS: Our Bus Schedule is developed to provide a wide range of locations for families throughout the region. If you are interested in signing your child up for the bus, please contact Ms. Casey at cmcnamara@aspengroveschool.com directly for information.



COMMUNICATION FROM THE SCHOOL: At Aspengrove, we value strong communication between home and school. Throughout the year, you can expect to receive updates, reminders, and celebrations from the school. We encourage all parents and guardians to read these communications carefully to stay informed about important news and events.

EMAILS FROM CLASSROOM TEACHERS: Junior School families can expect to receive a weekly email from their classroom teacher every Friday, outlining important information for the week ahead. Families in other grades will receive communication from teachers as needed.

A WEEK AHEAD AT ASPENGROVE: (NEW FOR 2026-27) Every Friday, all families will receive a Week Ahead email. This weekly communication will provide a concise overview of important dates, events, deadlines, and reminders for the upcoming week. We encourage all families to review this email carefully, as it will serve as the primary source for important dates and upcoming school events.

CELEBRATING OUR COMMUNITY: (NEW FOR 2026-27) On the last Friday of each month, families will receive a Celebrating Our Community email, which is an expanded edition of our eNewsletter. In addition to the Week Ahead content, it will also share stories from our community, including student achievements, school events, and memorable moments.

COMMUNICATING WITH THE SCHOOL: We value open communication between home and school. Parents and guardians are encouraged to contact their child's teacher by email. Teachers aim to respond to emails within 48 hours.

If you'd like to speak with any of our non-teaching staff or members of the leadership team, please email or call the front office at (250) 390-2201.

FAMILY HANDBOOK: The [Family Handbook](#) is our central location for all things Aspengrove, including various contact information, policies, and procedures. The Code of Conduct, in particular, is the foundation of how we come together as a school community. Please take some time to review it with your children and discuss how they can uphold these shared expectations throughout the school year.

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP: Aspengrove's Global Leadership Program provides students with opportunities to deepen their understanding of the world, develop intercultural awareness, and engage meaningfully with diverse perspectives and communities. Global leadership encompasses the knowledge, skills, and dispositions needed to think critically, act responsibly, and collaborate effectively across cultures. Through carefully scaffolded experiences, students are encouraged to step beyond the familiar, embrace new challenges, and develop a strong sense of agency and purpose. In an increasingly interconnected and complex world, these experiences help prepare our graduates to navigate uncertainty, build meaningful relationships, and contribute positively to their local and global communities.

*To learn more about our Global Leadership opportunities, [please visit our website here.](#)



THE ASPENGROVE WAY

What We Live By

WE INCLUDE EVERYONE

Every Raven belongs.

WE LIFT EACH OTHER UP

We celebrate wins and help when it's hard.

WE OWN OUR ACTIONS

We admit mistakes and make it right.

WE AIM HIGH

We give our best in class, on the field, and on the stage.

WE RESPECT OUR SPACE

We care for our school, our community, and our world.



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JUNIOR SCHOOL IMPORTANT INFORMATION

We are excited to share some key details about our weekly routines and extracurricular opportunities. Community connections and student involvement are central to our school culture, and we want to ensure your family can plan ahead for these regular events.

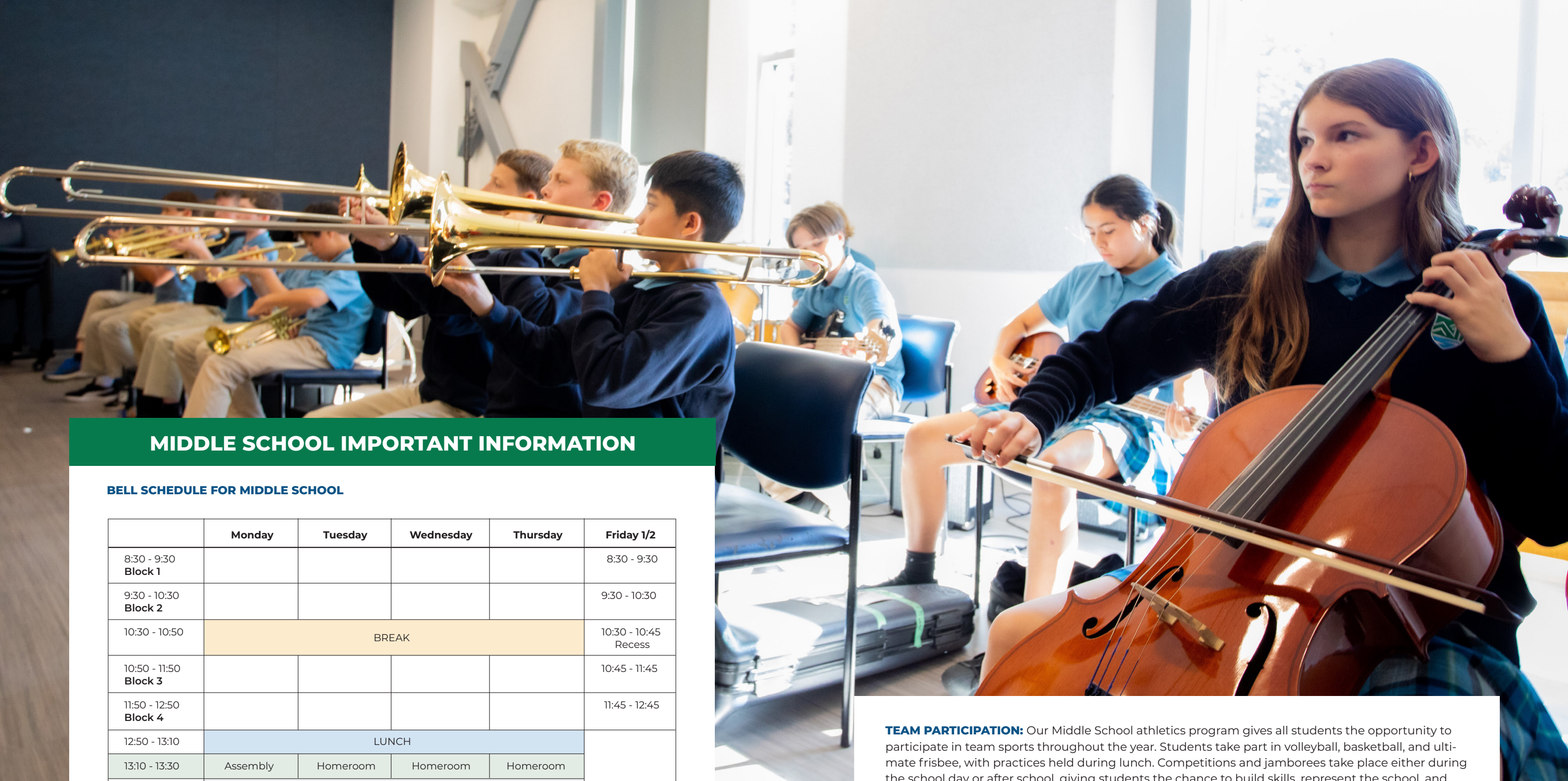
Please take note of the following important schedules and registration procedures:

■ **WEEKLY ASSEMBLIES:** Our school assemblies take place every Monday afternoon at 2:30 pm in the Sprung Gym. These gatherings are a wonderful time for our community to come together, celebrate student achievements, and share learning highlights. A link will be shared in the weekly emails from teachers so you can join virtually if that is your preference.

■ **CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES:** Co-curricular sign-ups are managed on a term-by-term basis. A dedicated sign-up email will be sent directly to families at the start of each term, allowing you to select and secure your child's activities for the months ahead.

■ **DROP OFF IN THE MORNING:** Students may be dropped off at school starting at 7:45 am. Active supervision will be provided on the playground at this time, so we kindly ask that children do not arrive before 7:45 am to ensure their safety.

■ **PICK UP:** At the end of the school day, Junior School students will be walked by a teacher to OSC or a club/activity (if they are signed up), to the bus, or to the parking lot to be picked up in the drive-thru lane. Junior School pick up is at 3:15 pm Monday-Thursday and 12:35 pm on Fridays.



MIDDLE SCHOOL IMPORTANT INFORMATION

BELL SCHEDULE FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday 1/2
8:30 - 9:30 Block 1					8:30 - 9:30
9:30 - 10:30 Block 2					9:30 - 10:30
10:30 - 10:50	BREAK				10:30 - 10:45 Recess
10:50 - 11:50 Block 3					10:45 - 11:45
11:50 - 12:50 Block 4					11:45 - 12:45
12:50 - 13:10	LUNCH				
13:10 - 13:30	Assembly	Homeroom	Homeroom	Homeroom	
13:30 - 14:00	Recess/Co-curriculars				
14:00 - 15:15 Block 5					
15:15 - 15:20	Homeroom	Homeroom	Homeroom	Homeroom	

Designed specifically for the “age and stage” of our Middle Schoolers, our schedule differs slightly from the Senior School to best support our students. This year’s schedule ensures:

- More contact time with core teachers.
- More break time to rest and recharge.
- Shorter class periods tailored to keeping students engaged.

TEAM PARTICIPATION: Our Middle School athletics program gives all students the opportunity to participate in team sports throughout the year. Students take part in volleyball, basketball, and ultimate frisbee, with practices held during lunch. Competitions and jamborees take place either during the school day or after school, giving students the chance to build skills, represent the school, and experience teamwork in a supportive environment.

OPENING WEEK: Middle School students begin the year with their own opening week activities designed to help them get to know one another, connect with their teachers, and settle into the year ahead. The week includes team-building activities, a hike, and time focused on building routines, relationships, and readiness for learning. A schedule will be sent out by homeroom teachers.

HOW THE TEACHING TEAM WORKS: Each Middle School class has a homeroom teacher who also teaches at least one core subject. They serve as an important point of connection for students and families. These core teachers are experienced educators who understand this age group well. Students also work with specialist teachers for Art, Music, and Design.



SENIOR SCHOOL IMPORTANT INFORMATION

We are excited to announce new additions to our Senior School curriculum! First, a combined **Art and Design** course that fosters innovation using the latest technologies. Second, a hands-on **Business and Entrepreneurship** class where students will launch and run their own on-campus businesses.

We have also expanded our **Advanced Placement (AP)** lineup to include Chemistry, Physics, Biology, English, Human Geography, and Calculus. As always, we remain dedicated to Academic Excellence, blending rigorous study with an engaging, enriching environment.

To learn more about our Graduation Program and curriculum offerings, please [click here](#).

BELL SCHEDULE FOR SENIOR SCHOOL

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday		Friday 1	Friday 2
8:30 - 9:50 Block 1	A	E	A	E	8:30 - 9:30 Block 1	A	E
9:50 - 10:20	Assembly	Advisory	Advisory	Advisory	9:30 - 10:30 Block 1	B	F
	10 MINUTE BREAK					15 MINUTE BREAK	
10:30 - 11:50 Block 2	B	F	B	F	10:45 - 11:45 Block 3	C	G
11:50 - 13:10 Block 3	C	G	C	G	11:45 - 12:45 Block 4	D	H
13:10 - 14:00	50 MIN LUNCH BREAK						
14:00 - 15:20 Block 4	D	H	D	H			
15:30 - 16:30	Co-curricular						

Aspengrove Senior school operates a linear 8 block schedule. This means Monday and Wednesday and Tuesday and Thursday repeat classes. We alternate Fridays to ensure even class time.

CO-CURRICULAR EXPECTATIONS AND SIGN UP

Co-curricular activities are an important part of the Grades 8–12 student experience at Aspengrove, giving students the opportunity to build skills, try new activities, contribute to school life, and connect with peers and teachers outside the classroom. Students are required to participate in at least two co-curricular activities throughout the school year. Co-curriculars run after school twice a week. Participation will appear on report cards, and students will sign up at the beginning of each term through a Google Form sent to their school email.

ASPENGROVE PARENTS ASSOCIATION

We encourage all parents to become involved in the Aspengrove School community. The APA is a great way to connect with each other and support your children’s education. Please [visit our website](#) to learn more.



CALENDAR | PARENT RESOURCES | FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA  

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER KEY DATES:	
September 2	New Student/family Orientation 2:30 - 4:00 pm Junior Kindergarten (JK at 5:00 pm) and Kindergarten (at 4:00 pm) Meet the Teacher Evening
September 3	Classes Begin Grades JK-12 Welcome Back Assemblies for Junior, Middle, and Senior School
September 3-8	Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten gradual entry
September 7	Labour Day (School closed)
September 8	Whole School Opening Assembly
September 11	Welcome Back BBQ Spirit Day Grade K-12 - (House Colours Day)
September 14	Session 1 Clubs and Co-Curriculars Begin
September 17	Meet the Teacher Evening
September 21-23	Grade 8 - Camp Potlatch-Howe Sound
September 23	FREE DRESS DAY
September 25	Terry Fox Run (House Colours Day)
September 28	Individual Photo Day
September 29	Orange Shirt Day
September 30	National Day for Truth & Reconciliation, (School and ELC Closed)
October 6	New Parent Evening
October 8	Alumni Reunion Event
October 14	Grandparents Day

