



September 1/2026

Ey Swayel Prince Charles Families:

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer filled with opportunities to relax, recharge, explore new adventures, and create lasting memories with family and friends. Whether you are returning to Prince Charles Elementary or joining our school community for the first time, I am excited to welcome you and begin another year of learning and growth.

My name is Paul Allanson, and I am honored to serve as the principal of Prince Charles Elementary School. As I begin my third year at PC, I continue to feel incredibly grateful to be part of such a caring, supportive, and dedicated school community. With over 23 years of experience in elementary and middle school, I remain passionate about helping students grow both academically and personally. My journey into education began through my love of coaching, and you will often find me in the gym, on the playground, or out on the field connecting with students through sports and physical activity.

At Prince Charles, we are committed to creating a safe, inclusive, and welcoming environment where every student feels valued, respected, and supported. We believe that when children feel a sense of belonging, they are empowered to take risks, embrace challenges, and discover their strengths.

This year, our school theme is *"We Can Do Hard Things."* It is a simple but powerful reminder that growth often comes from stepping outside our comfort zones, persevering through challenges, and learning from mistakes. Throughout the year, we will encourage our students to develop resilience, confidence, and a growth mindset as they tackle new learning experiences, build friendships, and work toward their goals.

I also strongly believe that education is a shared responsibility. Strong partnerships between home, school, and community are essential to student success. When families and educators work together, students thrive. I encourage you to stay connected by attending school events, communicating with staff, and sharing your ideas, questions, and feedback throughout the year.

I look forward to getting to know each of you and working alongside our students, staff, and families to ensure that Prince Charles Elementary continues to be a place where every child feels safe, supported, and inspired to reach their full potential. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions. My door is always open, and I am here to support you and your child(ren) in any way I can.

Welcome back, Royals! Let's make it an incredible year of learning, growth, and proving to ourselves that we can do hard things.

Warm regards,

Mr. Paul Allanson
Principal of Prince Charles Elementary School

Here are some things for you to know as we head into **Week #1** at **Prince Charles Elementary**:

1. First Week of School:

Tuesday, September 8: The first day of school is Tuesday, September 8, 2025. This day will be a half day, **8:35 - 11:29**. To help Prince Charles' staff safely, warmly and effectively greet your child, take attendance and dismiss we ask that you are timely in dropping your child off as well as picking them up.

As per practice, students will not know who their teacher is until the end of the week. As you imagine there are many moving parts that must come together prior to creating classes. Therefore, we ask for your patience throughout the first week while we ensure that every child registered has a seat and that we have created an equitable and inclusive learning environment.

In addition, please walk your child to the designated posted signs that align with their grade. For example, if your child is in grade 1, please walk your child to Ms. Macdonald's Class (room 30) and wait with them until teachers collect the students. Grade group locations and maps will be posted on the front entrance doors of the school. **All Royals will be dismissed from their grade grouping locations.**

Grade Grouping Areas:

Grade 5's	Gym
Grade 4's	Gym
Grade 3's	Gym
Grade 2's	Room 31 (Ms. Reitsema's Room)
Grade 1's	Room 30 (Ms. MacDonald's Room)

All staff will be present outside on the first day of school to help guide parents and students to their designated areas.

Wednesday, September 9th to Friday, September 11th

On September 9th, students will attend the full day. The welcome bell will be at 8:32 and the start bell will ring at 8:35, and we will dismiss at 2:29. Students (gr. 1 - 5) will begin school in random grade groupings that will allow them to participate in rotating learning activities and get to know all the teachers in their grade group. They will arrive and be dismissed from one common grade group entry that will be clearly marked. This will continue until the end of the week, and hopefully by Friday students will bring home their permanent class assignment, and instructions about which door they will be using on Monday, September 14.

Kindergarten Students

Kindergarten students will attend their 15 minute 1:1 meeting on either September 8, 9 or 10. All kindergarten students should have been informed of their meeting time. Gradual entry begins on Friday, September 11 for kindergarten students. ***Ms. Smith will resend all Kindergarten families their schedules in the first week of September.***

2. Bell Schedule 2026-2027:

CLASSES START

8:32 am - Welcome Bell

8:35 am - Instruction Begins

RECESS

10:35 am - Recess Starts

10:50 am - Recess Ends (bell)

LUNCH

12:10 pm - Lunch Eating Begins

12:25 pm - Lunch Play Begins (bell)

12:55 pm - Lunch Play Ends (bell)

CLASSES DISMISS

2:29 pm - Dismissal

3. Dropping Off/Picking Up Children:

The school side of McKee Road is a combination of bike lanes and two-hour parking. To ensure the safety of your children, please adhere to posted road signs. We encourage families to use our drive-through drop off located at the top of the parking lot. Simply pull up to the top and allow one of our “Highlighters” to escort your child from the car to the school safely. We have found that this reduces congestion and inconvenience for families in the morning and afternoon. ***Please do not drop your child off at any locations in our parking lot.***

Please note where our parent parking lots are located and what areas are designated as No Parking Zones and Staff Parking.

A friendly reminder that schools are idle-free zones. Please turn off your vehicle engine when waiting for student drop-off & pick-up in our parking lots. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

4. **School Supplies:** If you have purchased your own school supplies, please keep them at home for now. Once class placements are finalized, teachers will inform families of the appropriate time to bring supplies to school. For families who ordered supplies through our website, these will be distributed once classes are set.

5. **Closed Campus**

A reminder that Prince Charles Elementary is a closed campus. No unauthorized individuals should be on school grounds during school hours.

6. **School Photos:** We're excited to let you know that school photo day is coming up on **Friday, September 18th!** This year, we will be partnering with **Lifetouch Photos** to capture these special memories.

Please ensure your child comes to school dressed appropriately for their photo. More details about photo packages and ordering options will be sent home soon.

7. **PC Swag:** Show your Prince Charles Elementary spirit with our school swag! Families and students can order a variety of items, including hoodies, zip-up hoodies, t-shirts, crewneck sweaters, toques, and hats.

Best of all, 10% of every purchase is returned directly to Prince Charles Elementary to support our school community.

To browse and place an order, please visit:

Prince Charles Elementary Apparel Store

Orders are typically ready within approximately two weeks. Once your order arrives, Ms. Smith will contact families directly with pickup information.

Thank you for supporting Prince Charles Elementary. We can't wait to see our students and families showing their Royal pride in their PC gear!

8. **Letter from Fraser Health:** Please see the Digital Consent Letter from Fraser Health regarding Immunizations (see attachment).

9. **Upcoming Dates:**

September	
Sept 8 – Tuesday	1st day of School (half day: 8:35 -11:29)
Sept 9 – Wednesday	All day (8:35 – 2:29)
Sept. 14 - Monday	PAC Meeting @ 7:00 in the Library
Sept. 18 - Friday	School Photo Day
Sept 21 - Monday	First Full Day for Kindergarten
Sept 23 – Wednesday	Welcome Back BBQ! (5:00 – 7:00)
Sept 24 – Thursday	Terry Fox Run
Sept 25 – Friday	Non-Instructional Day #1
Sept. 29 - Tuesday	Orange Shirt Day
Sept 30 - Wednesday	National Day of Truth and Reconciliation (No School)

10. **Information from the PAC:** We are thrilled to announce and warmly welcome our new Parent Advisory Council (PAC) members!

Newly Elected PAC – 2026-2027:

Election of Executive:

- **Chair: Chelsey Richards**
- **Vice-Chair: Matt Smith**
- **Secretary: Amy Koop**
- **Treasurer: Michelle Bastien**

Election of Non-Executive:

- **Members At Large:** Maray Toews, Brittany Geddert, Rosie Sandhu & Revalyn Edwards-Wallace
- **Fundraising Coordinator:** Vacant
- **Hot Lunch Coordinator:** Rosie Sandhu
- **Book Fair Coordinator:** Maray Toews
- **Parking Lot Coordinator:** Vacant
- **Family Fun Night Coordinator:** Vacant
- **Grade Five Committee Coordinator:** Vacant
- **Playground Coordinator:** Brittany Geddert
- **DPAC Representative:** Revalyn Edwards-Wallace

Next PAC Meeting is: Monday, September 14th @ 7:00 in the library.

Playground Project Fundraiser!

**Prince Charles
Elementary School**



**HELP MAKE OUR
DREAM A REALITY!**

We are aiming to raise \$100,000 to create this vision.

Our plans include:

- ✓ Installing a rope climbing structure in the upper field playground.
- ✓ Adding two small spinning play structures.
- ✓ Replacing the old wooden monkey bars with metal climbing bars and a small climbing wall.

Do you want to make a tax-deductible donation to support this cause?

1. Visit www.abbyschools.ca/donations-0 or scan the QR code.
2. Click "Donate Today."
3. Enter your donation amount.
4. Select "Prince Charles Elementary" from the "Fund Destination" drop-down menu.
5. In the message box, type "Playground Fund." You will receive a tax receipt for your donation.





WWW.ABBYSCHOOLS.CA/DONATIONS-0