

September Newsletter



DR. D.A. PERLEY
ELEMENTARY

5 SEPTEMBER, 2025



Welcome back to school!

This September marks the 5th year that we have been part of the fabulous Perley community! We are so excited to reconnect with students and families this fall - it feels like coming home after a couple of months away!

Please keep in mind that this is a big transition time and you may find your child is tired or emotional at home at the beginning of the school year. Keeping strong routines around sleeping, eating, and drinking water are great ways to help everyone (adults and kids) regulate. Movement and time in nature help, too!

Another great way to help support your child's transition back to school is to help them focus on the positives in each day. Ask them specific questions about what went right or felt good at school today while also giving space if they have something to share that was a challenge. The hard moments in a day can become our whole story if we don't train our brains to see the good with the bad. As we all know, life is all about balance!

Please feel free to reach out if you have questions or concerns as we get this new school year started. Your child's teacher is also a great source of information about our school and classrooms - you don't need to wait for parent-teacher conferences or Open House to connect so feel free to reach out via email or call the office to book a time to come chat.

Thank you for being an active partner in your child's education - it's going to be a great year!

Kirsten & Shawn

Upcoming Events

Sept. 8 - PAC Meeting at 5:00 in the Library

Sept. 11 - First full day for Kindergarten Students!

Sept. 18 - Terry Fox Run and Pancake Day (tentative - volunteers needed)

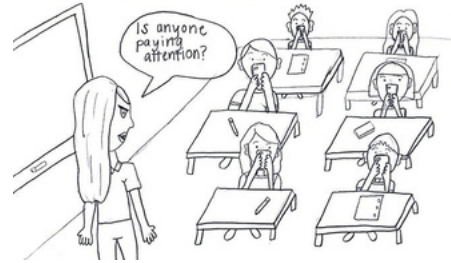
Sept. 23 - Student Photo Day

Sept. 29 - Orange Shirt Day and Truth and Reconciliation Assembly

Sept. 30.- Truth and Reconciliation Day (No School)

Personal Device Policy

As per Government of British Columbia Guidelines, students may not use their personal devices at school. Please remind them to leave them at home or turn them off and leave them in their backpack during the school day. This is part of our **Code of Conduct**, which aims to keep school a calm, welcoming, and safe place with a focus on learning.



School-wide Social Emotional Learning



This year our school growth plan is focusing on social emotional learning. This includes things like regulation strategies, friendship skills, goal-setting, growing independence, and recognizing growth with the goal of helping students regulate, connect, and build resilience.

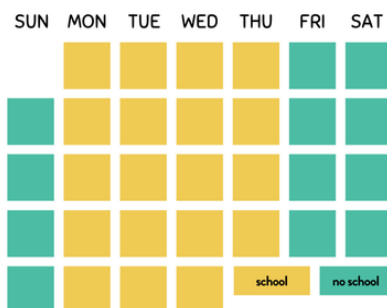
We are exploring these topics within the Circle of Courage framework, so the year will be divided into the quadrants We Belong; We Learn; We Grow; and We Care and each week will focus on a different skill or idea. Your child should be able to tell you the theme of each week but we will also have information for families so you can support this project from home!

September is all about building community - friendship skills, listening, being welcoming, and honouring our unique stories.

Staff Changes 2025-26

We want to say a big welcome back to Ms. Legere, who was out of district for a year but has come home to Perley this fall! We also want to welcome back Jade, who will continue to be our clerical on Days 3 and 4 (usually Wed/Thur) while Sharon will still be in the office Day 1 and 2 (usually Mon/Tue).

A big Perley Welcome to Ms. Edwards, who has joined us and is taking on the Aspen class this year!



How does the 4 Day Week work?

For those who are new to the district, please note that every week of school is 4 days, which means normally we are not in session on Fridays...unless there is a holiday on the Monday or another weekday. For example, because of labour day, we are in session Tuesday to Friday this week. We've got a couple of strange ones this fall where we are in session Monday and then Wed-Fri! Check the **district calendar** for a list of the Fridays we are in session.

Update Contact Information

Please check in with the office to make sure we have your current contact information on file. We use email to communicate lots of important information from the office and from classrooms. We also phone if your child doesn't arrive at school or if they become ill during the day.

If your child has Indigenous Ancestry, please complete the yearly Ancestry form and return it to their teacher. Thank you!



Save Arrival

This year we will continue to have a safe arrival program. This means that if we haven't heard from you that your child will not be at school, you'll get a phone call from the office once attendance is completed. It's no problem if your child is sick or has an appointment - just please remember to email or phone the office to let us know!

Lunch Time at Perley

Like last year, our lunch break is 12:00-12:50pm. We have 6 fabulous supervisors who are assigned specific classrooms during the beginning of lunch, where they supervise students handwashing and eating, help open packages, and make sure things are cleaned up before heading outside. One of our CYCs opens the kitchen during this time so those who need a lunch or a few extra snacks are able to come and get them.

Between 12:10 and 12:20 students finish up eating and head out to play (although we have a supervised spot inside if they need more time to eat!). Each of the supervisors is assigned a zone, plus we have CYCs, ECEs, EAs, and our admin team outside to help coach students as they grow their social skills. Kindergarten students stick to the playground but Grades 1-7 are able to explore anywhere on our beautiful grounds - it's getting close to leaf pile season, which is always a favourite!




Perley PAC

You are a member of the Perley Parent Advisory Council. If you are interested in what that means, please come to the first meeting on Monday, September 8 at 5pm in the library. You can hear more about what's happening at Perley and in SD51, plus you get a say in the kinds of events and activities the PAC hosts. The PAC helps fund field trips, special activities, resources and all kinds of other things and we are so, so grateful for their generosity and support! For more information, come to the meeting or email perleypac@gmail.com.

See you at the PAC meeting on Monday!

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