



John Allison Elementary School

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Updates

June 2026

National Indigenous Peoples Day at JAE was celebrated with a variety of engaging, hands-on activities that highlighted culture, creativity, and community. Students rotated through stations led by our ISA and supported by PAC volunteers, including hoop jumping, bannock tasting, and jigging with music and videos.

We were honoured to welcome special guests, including Dawn and Rachel, who shared a story and provided coloring activities, as well as Paul Joe from Merritt, who led an interactive drumming session. Bannock, provided by Kekuli Café, was enjoyed by all.

Students also explored an art station, creating pieces that were collected to take home. The day offered a meaningful opportunity for learning, participation, and celebration of Indigenous culture.



Thank You for a Fantastic Fun Field Day! A big thank you to our JAE PAC for organizing our luncheon during our Fun Field Day—it was truly appreciated by everyone! We also extend our gratitude to Save-On-Foods for generously supplying the delicious food that helped make the day extra special. Your support helped create a fun and memorable experience for our school community!



Grade 2 Art Show Success

The halls of John Allison Elementary were transformed into a vibrant art studio as Ms. Draude and Ms. Ransome proudly showcased their Grade 2 students' incredible artwork. It was wonderful to see such creativity and effort on display!

Thank you to all the parents and community members who joined us to celebrate our students' talents—your support made the event extra special.

*** PLAY * JOY * LEARN ***



Learning in Nature: Grade 3s Explore Manning Park

Our Grade 3 field trip to Manning Park brought BC's science curriculum to life in a meaningful and memorable way. As part of their studies on ecosystems and biodiversity, students explored firsthand how plants, animals, and their environments are interconnected. A guided nature walk along Lightning Lake and a hands-on pond study, allowed students to explore a variety of local species in their natural habitat, and observe how living things depend on one another for survival.



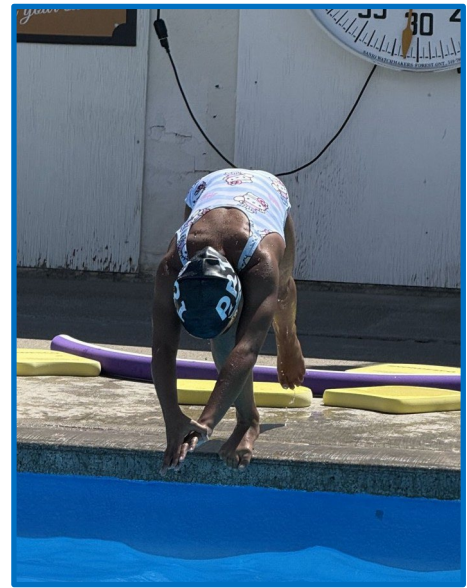
Building Water Safety Skills

Living in Princeton, where the Similkameen and Tulameen Rivers converge, our students are uniquely connected to the outdoors—and often to the water. At John Allison Elementary, we recognize the importance of ensuring students feel confident and safe in these environments.



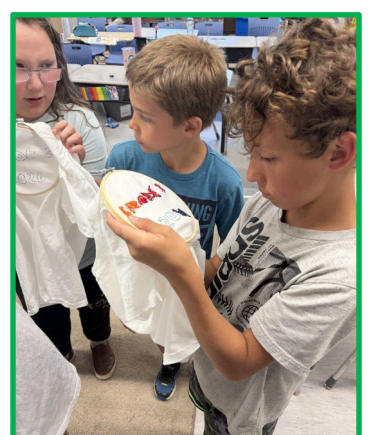
That's why water safety is a key priority for our school. Each June, all of our Grade 2 and 3 students take part in swimming lessons at the Princeton Centennial Pool.

Through these sessions, students build essential skills such as water confidence, basic swimming techniques, and safety awareness. We are proud of our students for their enthusiasm and engagement as they learn skills that will help keep them safe while enjoying the natural beauty of our community.





As the final days of June drew to a close, our school was filled with extra hugs, smiles, and heartfelt farewells. We wrapped up the year with a whole-school field trip to RockRidge Canyon, generously sponsored by our JAE PAC. Students enjoyed a day full of fun and adventure—swimming, playing games, boating on the barge, and creating a special craft to remember it all. Thank you, JAE PAC, and parent volunteers, for making this memorable experience possible! We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to our PAC for supporting Ms. Schneider, Ms. Hodder, and Ms. Wilschek as they organized a beautiful Grade 3 Leaving Ceremony. To our Grade 3 students: we will miss you and wish you all the best as you head off to VFE!



Class Placements for the 2026–2027 School Year

As we prepare for the upcoming school year, we would like to share some information about how class placements are developed. Please note that, similar to last year, our initial plans may need to be adjusted. Final teaching assignments and class lists will not be confirmed until September, once our enrolment numbers are finalized.

Creating classes is a thoughtful and detailed process. Our team considers a wide range of factors to ensure balanced and supportive learning environments for all students, including:

- teacher recommendations
- gender balance
- prudent pairings and non-pairings of students
- considerations for students who may need additional support with self-regulation
- the creation of heterogeneous, well-rounded classes
- whether a student has previously been in a split class (particularly in consecutive years)

Our goal is always to create the best possible learning environment for every student. We appreciate your understanding that these decisions are made with great care and with the needs of all learners in mind.



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Back to School – First Day Information (September 8)

We are looking forward to welcoming students back to John Allison Elementary on **Tuesday, September 8!** On the first day, students will attend from **10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** During this time, they will spend the morning reconnecting with **last year's classroom teacher**. This helps provide a comfortable and familiar start to the school year while we finalize our organization for the year ahead. An **outdoor recess is planned for 11:00 a.m.**

As we work through our school start-up processes, some temporary adjustments may be necessary:

- If our Kindergarten teachers are conducting interviews, some classes will be regrouped for the morning.
- **New students** will be placed in classrooms appropriate to their grade level for the morning.

Throughout the first day, our goal is to ensure we have accurately accounted for all students so that we can confirm our class organization. Once this process is complete, we will verify whether our pre-established class lists can remain in place. We are aiming to have **final class placements confirmed as soon as possible—hopefully by Wednesday, September 9.**

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work to ensure a smooth and positive start for all students.