



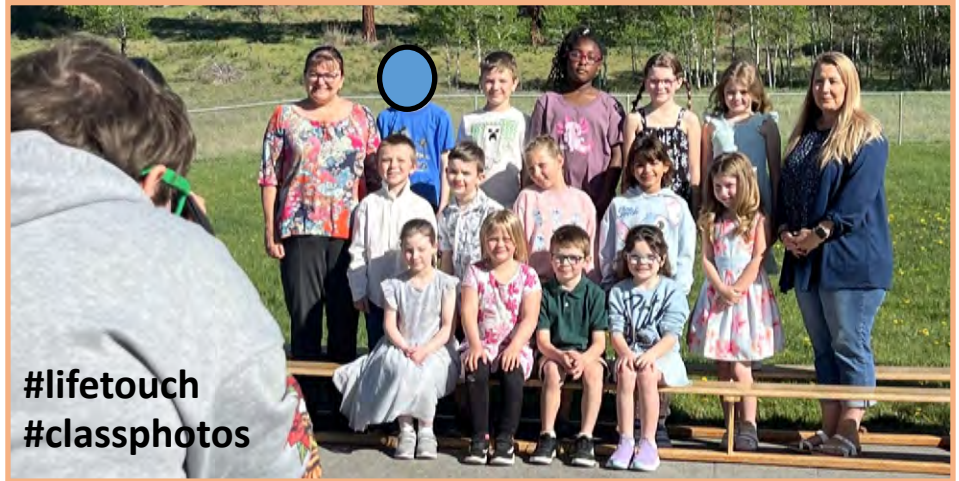
# John Allison Elementary School

PO Box 40 - 499 Corina Avenue Princeton BC, V0X 1W0  
P 250-295-6727 F 250-295-6920

## Updates May 2026

**Our JAE school garden** gives students hands-on experiences that build skills in science, nutrition, and caring for the environment. They help children practice responsibility and teamwork while learning how plants grow.

**Gardening** also encourages healthy eating by connecting students with the fresh vegetables they've grown themselves. Time in the garden supports well-being too, offering a calm, welcoming space for all learners. We're excited for another productive year in the garden with our students.

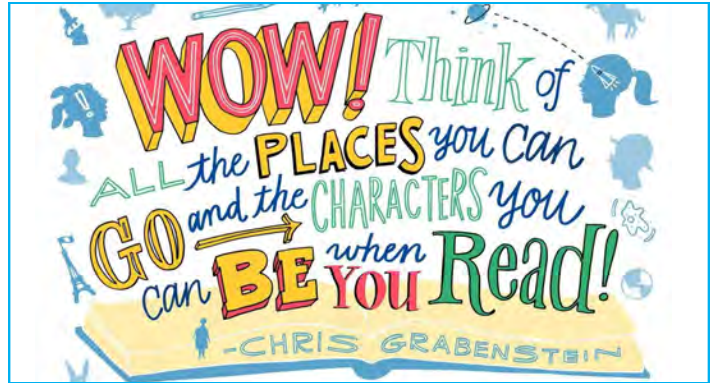


#lifetouch  
#classphotos





Our Kindergarten and Grade 1 students have been busy building the foundations of reading, and it's been wonderful to watch their confidence grow. Our students have explored alphabet sounds and they are blending these sounds together to read simple words, and discover the joy of decoding their very first books. From playful phonics games to shared reading time, every activity helps strengthen early literacy skills and fosters a love of stories.

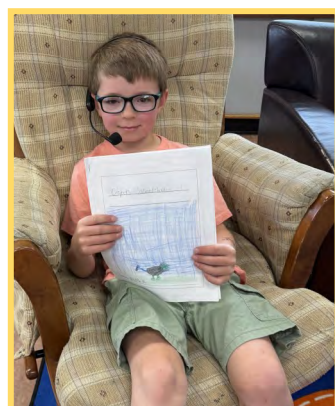


**BC Wildfire Service** fire fighters class presentations #MerrittFire Zone





**GRADE 2: BIRD PUPPET CREATION, CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT, STORY WRITING & PRESENTATION**

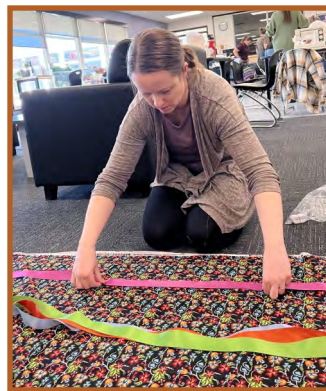


With the grade 2 imaginations at work, their bird puppets came to life. Students named, created personalities, and wrote about the nests where their birds were born. The puppets can dance and sing, and each of them has their own favourite song.

Students wrote a story about their bird and shared it with class. They participated in drama, creative writing, imaginary play, problem solving, creative and logical thinking, and oral language skill development all while having fun and making a new friend.



Our birds got to go for a walk & play on the JAE playground.



Princeton teachers learned about traditional #indigenous #ribbonskirts & #ribbonshirts in **Professional development**. Thank you Renee Goreas for being a key leader in this authentic indigenous learning. \* Teachers then collaborated with Mrs. Unrau, our Indigenous Student Advocate, to share this learning with our students.



**Stepping into Kindergarten**

Ms. Ross and Ms. Francis welcomed our 2026-2027 Kindergarten students to John Allison Elementary.

**\* PLAY \* JOY \* LEARN \***



**Question: Do you know the difference between a fiddle and a violin?** In her program “Celtic Traditions Across Canada” Kierah explained that the fiddle and the violin are physically the exact same four-stringed instrument. The difference lies in the style of the music played and techniques used. Kierah demonstrated different styles of playing and explained what to listen for.



**BUTTERFLY RELEASE:** Our grade 2 students witnessed **metamorphosis** as caterpillar larva gained their chrysalis and adult butterflies finally emerged.



**HANDS-ON SCIENCE:** Ms. Schneider's grade 3 class has been busy growing beans, peas, jewel mix flowers, and radishes! Students have been observing and recording changes as their plants grow and they learn about plant life cycles. Through this hands-on activity, they also explored how plants support humans, animals, and the environment. The students have shown great curiosity and responsibility while caring for their plants, and they have loved watching their hard work grow a little more each day!



**We've Got Spirit – Yes We Do!** JAE students showed their school spirit in a big way as they arrived in style for Wacky Hair Day! From sticky uppy hair to colourful creations to birds nest designs, it was a fun-filled day full of laughter and personality.

## WACKY HAIR DAY



**Our Lost and Found is Growing!** Our days often start off cool and warm up by the afternoon. As a result, many students arrive at school bundled up in extra layers, which are sometimes forgotten later in the day. Our Lost and Found is quickly filling up! We encourage families to stop by and take a look to see if any items belong to your child. Thank you for helping us reunite these belongings with their owners.



### Grade 3 Students Demonstrate Leadership

The coin jar, the pink cash box, and those bright, proud smiles say it all! Knowing they would soon be moving on from JAE, these girls wanted to give back and support classrooms in a meaningful way. The students began planning their initiative back in September. They brought their ideas to life by selling gently used toys, creating and selling handmade bracelets, and even setting up a table in Tulameen. Community members supported their efforts by donating to their cause. Our Grade 3 students have truly shown what it means to be leaders in our school community! Together, they raised \$430 to be shared amongst our teachers to help them purchase extras for their classroom. Thank you for your initiative and generosity!

### Strong Start Butterfly Project:

This spring, our Strong Start students engaged in a hands-on learning experience as they raised and released butterflies. It was a joy to watch our youngest learners observe the life cycle up close and celebrate this special moment of growth and change. A big thank you to Teacher Erin for creating this meaningful opportunity and helping our littles connect with nature in such an engaging way!



Thank you JAE PAC for hosting *A Birdy Told Me So*, a musical ventriloquist production that told the story of how **Kellie** met her bird puppet **Magrau** and their adventures growing up and learning together. Kellie and Magrau find the true meaning of the motto "**Never give up!**" & shared this with our students.

