



August 28, 2025.

Ey Swayel East Chilliwack Families,

Welcome to the 2025/2026 school year! We are looking forward to seeing everyone back at school on Tuesday, September 2nd. My name is Carolyn Ingham, and I am the principal at East Chilliwack Elementary School! It is a privilege to be a member of the ECE family, and I am excited to meet our new students and welcome back our returning students! Please reach out to the school if you have any questions.

The first week of school is quickly approaching and the staff have been busy preparing for the students to return next week. Please find below some helpful information that outlines our week of school.

First Week of School:

Tuesday, September 2: First day of school (8:06-10:04)

Students in grades 1-5 will be in attendance until 10:04 am for the first day. Students do not need to bring anything for the first day. Busses will be running when we dismiss at 10:04 for those students who have registered for bussing.

Where do students go on the first day?

- All returning East Chilliwack students will return to their **last year's class** and line up at their classroom line up spots.
- **New Student Line-Up Location:** Newly registered students at East Chilliwack Elementary will go to the back of the school. A cone will be set up between the playgrounds, where new students will line up. A teacher will meet them there and walk them to the library.
- Students will be dismissed to the front of the school to take the bus or car home.

Please talk with your child if they will be riding the bus home on Tuesday, September 5 to confirm that with them.

September 3 – September 5: Full Days (8:06-2:04)

- Students in grades 1-5 will be in attendance the entire day. Please send your student with snacks and lunch. Returning ECE students will line up outside on the field at their grade sign and teachers will take attendance. New students to ECE will also be directed to line up at grade cones.

Bus Registration

Please make sure you register for bussing at <https://www.sd33.bc.ca/transportation-department>



When will my student find out who their teacher is?

During the first week of school, students will be with their grade group peers and will spend time with all teachers teaching that grade level or levels (combined grades). Schools must wait for direction from the district office before finalizing class lists. Late registrations and enrollment changes at the district level can cause delays for the entire district finalizing classes. We are usually able to finalize our lists by Friday of the first week.

2025-2025 Bell Schedule:

8:06	Warning Bell
8:11	Morning instruction begins
10:15 – 10:30	Recess
10:30	Mid-morning class begins
11:55 – 12:10	Lunch (eating time)
12:10 - 12:35	Lunch playtime
12:35	Afternoon instruction begins
2:04	Dismissal
2:09	Busses depart

School Supplies:

The cost for school supplies is \$60.00 for all grades. Classroom teachers will be distributing school supplies to the students. Families will be able to pay for school supplies online and the school district will be emailing parents a student account statement for the school supplies in September. Classroom teachers will not be collecting any money. If you are unable to pay online, please pay directly at the office with cash or credit card.

Parking Lot:

We have a small, one-way parking lot. Drop off and pickup time is extremely busy. Student safety is our prime concern. If you are making the choice to pick up or drop off, please be mindful of student safety. Watch for students crossing the parking lot, exercise patience, and **expect it to be congested**. A couple of guidelines will help keep the parking lot moving:

- The drive through lanes in the middle of the parking lot are for pickup/drop off only. **Do not leave your car unattended in these lanes**. If you need to leave your vehicle, please park in a perimeter parking stall.
- We have three lanes in the parking lot:
 - a. Lane 1 is closest to the school and is the bus lane.
 - b. Lane 2 is the Pickup and Drop-off Lane.
 - c. Lane 3 is the Thru lane. In the morning when traffic is at its busiest, staff may direct you into the through lane (lane 3) to drop off. We do this so that traffic doesn't back out onto the road. Remind your child each day before they exit your vehicle to look both ways before crossing to the school.



- d. At dismissal time, parents can park their vehicles in the dedicated parking spots on the east side of the parking lot by our school street sign (back in only) or in both the pickup/drop-off lane and the thru lane (**but not leave your vehicle**). We do this once again so that traffic doesn't back out onto the road.
- At dismissal time, please make sure you are not blocking our entrance to the parking lot. We must fit 4-5 busses into the parking lot, and they need a wide area to turn into the parking lot. They will honk their horns to have you move if you're blocking access.

ATTENDANCE

Being at school regularly helps children feel connected, build routines, and make the most of their learning. We understand that sometimes illness or emergencies keep students at home, but on regular school days, the best place for them to be is in the classroom, learning and growing with their classmates. Thank you for supporting your child's learning by helping them arrive at school each day!

To enter an absence, use the Safe Arrival App. Please follow the link for more information at <https://www.sd33.bc.ca/safe-arrival> This is the preferred way to log a student's absence, late arrival or early dismissal. You can also call the school at (604) 794-7533, or email Ms. Deputan at lisa_deputan@sd33.bc.ca if your child is going to be absent, arrive late or for an early dismissal time.

Kindergarten

***Busing will start for Kindergarten students on Monday, September 16th, 2025 (if you have registered).**

Please see the gradual entry schedule below for Kindergarten students.

Kindergarten parents were all emailed important start up information which included the gradual entry schedule and an interview time during the first week of school. If you do not know your interview time or need further information, please contact Ms. Deputan at the school office at 604-794-7533.



Date	Hours of Attendance
Wednesday, September 3, 2025	Kindergarten teachers begin student/parent/teacher interviews
Thursday, September 4, 2025	Kindergarten teachers at District Training
Friday, September 5, 2025	Kindergarten interviews
Monday, September 8, 2025	Gradual Entry All K students attend 8:30 AM – 11:00 AM Students will need a recess snack
Tuesday, September 9, 2025	Gradual Entry All K students attend 8:30 AM – 11:00 AM Students will need a recess snack
Wednesday, September 10, 2025	Gradual Entry All K students attend 8:30 AM – 11:00 AM Students will need a recess snack
Thursday, September 11, 2025	Gradual Entry All K students attend 8:30 AM – 12:35 PM Students will need a recess snack and a lunch
Friday, September 12, 2025	Gradual Entry All K students attend 8:30 AM – 12:35 PM Students will need a recess snack and a lunch
Monday, September 15, 2025	All K students attend all day 8:06 AM – 2:04 PM Students will need a recess snack and a lunch

We look forward to seeing our students in Grades 1 to 5 on
Tuesday, September 2nd!

Kw'as Hoy (thank you)

Warmly,
Carolyn Ingham
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