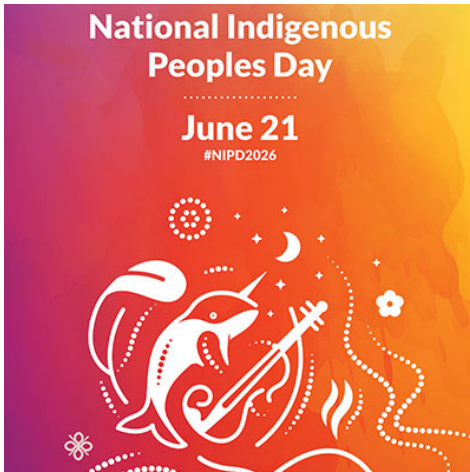


WE MADE IT!

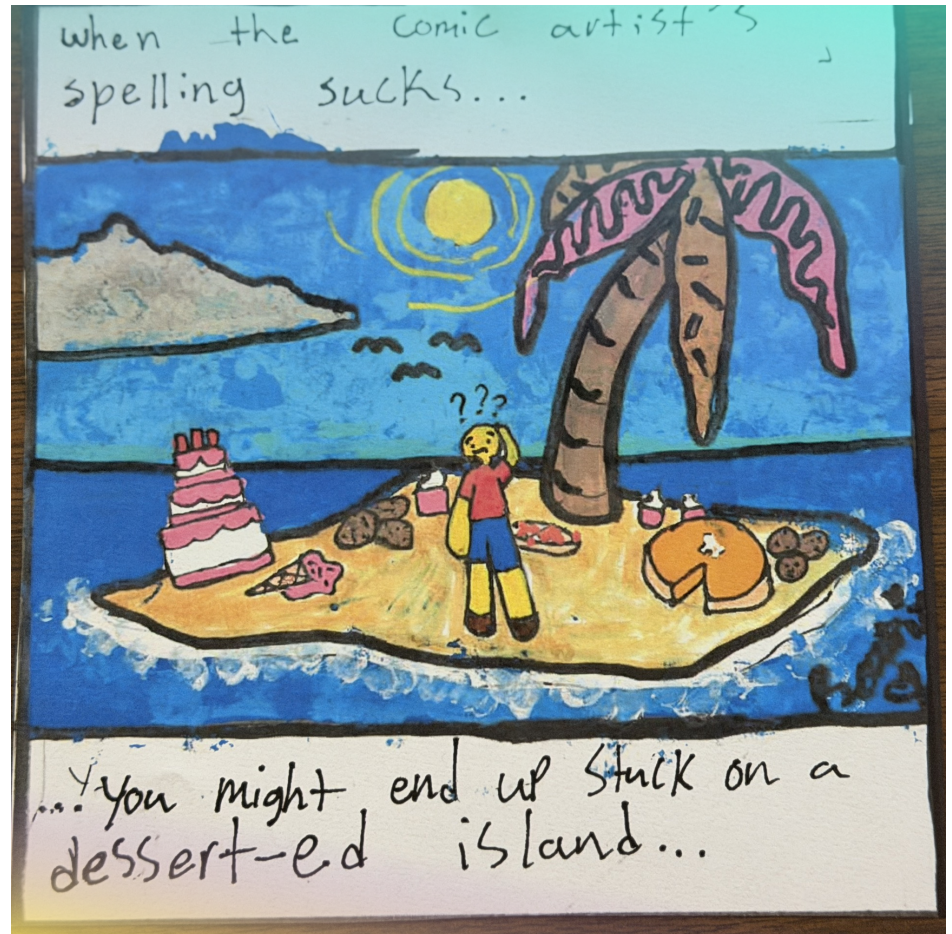
MAY/JUNE NEWS



Indigenous Peoples Day

National Indigenous Peoples Day is celebrated on June 21st and honours the First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples of Canada. There are many ways to celebrate this important day, including attending local or virtual events such as cultural festivals and powwows. People can also learn more about Indigenous cultures and histories by reading books, watching documentaries, or speaking with Indigenous people in their communities.

National Indigenous Peoples Day has been celebrated since 1996,



Dessert Island Comic by Beatrix

when the Government of Canada officially recognized the day. June 21st was chosen because it is the summer solstice, a date that has special cultural and spiritual significance for many Indigenous peoples.

Pride Month

June is Pride Month. It is meant to celebrate people who are from different cultures, have different skin colours, and are 2SLGBTQ+, which stands for Two-Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Intersex. It originates from the first Pride marches held in 1970,

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which marked the one-year anniversary of the riots outside of the Stonewall Inn in New York City. Police and LGBTQ rights activists were arguing for equal rights for the 2SLGBTQ+ community. It lasted for six days. Pride Month was first celebrated on June 28, 1970. Ways that you can celebrate Pride Month include attending local parades, supporting queer-owned businesses, educating yourself on queer history, and advocating for inclusive policies. Aspen's Diversity Club put together Pride Month celebrations. They are making posters and fun learning games. It is important to not make fun of or tease people who are supporting 2SLGBTQ+ people.

Track and Field

Track and Field was on May 8th. All grades from 4s to 7s had the chance to participate in the events held at Vanier. Aspen Park competed against Brooklyn and Airport.

Summer Solstice

The summer solstice is the longest day of the year and marks the day with the most hours of daylight. It occurs when one of Earth's poles is tilted closest toward the sun. In North America, the summer solstice is usually around the 21st or 20th. People around the world have celebrated the summer solstice for thousands of years with festivals, ceremonies, and gatherings. The summer solstice marks the beginning of summer in Canada and is an important event in many cultures.

ENTER program

There will be 2 new Enter divisions at Aspen next year. In addition to the grade 6/7 class we will now have K/1 and grade 4/5 classes



Summer Fun!

Summer officially begins on June 21st at 1:24am, and school ends on June 24th. You are probably all very excited to spend two whole months not having to wake up at 6:30-7:15, and not having to be forced to sit in a chair for 6 whole hours. So, let's dive into another great SUMMER BREAK!

Some people might be going away on holidays, others might be planning fun staycations. You might be seeing your relatives, participating in summer camps, or hanging out with friends!

Here are some fun local places to visit during summer break!

Free places to go in the summer:

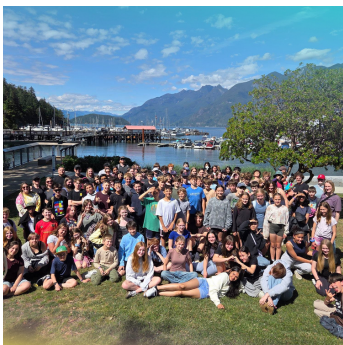
There are a lot of beaches you can go to in the summer, such as: Kye Bay for soft sand and warm water, Goose Spit Regional Park for driftwood and shell collecting, and Point Holmes for excellent tide pools. At Nymph Falls Nature Park, you can hike to the falls, which are about 5 to 10 minutes down the trail.

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It is also a great place to go swimming and have a picnic. Comox Marina Park is an amazing place to go in the summer. There are three fun parks, one of which is a water park. If you decide that you don't want to play, you can take a stroll down the boardwalk and look at the boats. Comox Lake is about a half-hour drive away. The lake is about 200 feet of fresh water. Comox Lake is a great place to go freshwater fishing. At Lewis Park you can swim in the river or play at the park or water park, and if you have a few dollars, you can also swim at the outdoor pool.

Make sure to check out some of these great local places this summer and we'll see you back in September.



Goodbye Grade 7s

Every year we have to say goodbye to our grade 7 cohort. Over the last few weeks, we have had the opportunity to connect with these students through interviews. We wanted to get some of their thoughts and memories about Aspen, as well as their thoughts on the future.

The students' response to their favourite memory was unanimous that it was the amazing people and community they built. We hope they can take this feeling with them to high school next year.

When asked about their favourite part of grade 7, even though it hadn't happened yet, the majority of the students we interviewed said the trip to Playland.

In our interviews we asked students, "What was your favourite year at Aspen Park?" Kenzie said, "Grade 6 because everyone was so kind, and overall, it was a fantastic experience." Ava said, "Grade 7 because of all the opportunities that were available."

We hope that in high school every year can be a favourite year.

When asked "What do you think was the most important thing you learned in your time at Aspen Park?" Maci said, "To include everyone so we can all have a great time." Odin said, "Working more efficiently in a group." We thought both answers were great, and we hope they bring these ideas to high school.

The very last question we asked was: "What are you most excited about for next year in high school?" Zack said, "I want to meet new friends and teachers," while Beatrix said, 'I will get to see some of my old friends that I haven't seen in a while and I will get to do more art.' We hope that all of the grade 7s get what they hope.

This amazing group of grade 7 students has had a lot of time to learn about the world while at Aspen, and now it is time to let them go. All of Aspen Park will miss them, and we wish them more great experiences in the future.

CLUBS, ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION

Beach Day

Beach Day was on June 19th from 9:00 to 1:30, and everyone was super excited. People had their hats, sunscreen, shovels and pails and had a great day of fun at Kye Bay.

Class Field Trips

Ms. Shelly's class went on an annual Low Tide field trip to Point Holmes to explore marine life.

Ms. Lingren's class went to track and field on May 8th, and the grade 4s went to the Big House on May 14th, as well as, to the outdoor pool on June 11th.

Ms. Roberts's class went to the Big House; they had the track meet and they went to the outdoor pool.



Hackergals

A huge congratulations goes out to Brin and Calina whose group Scratch project, Women Who Changed the Tech World, was selected by the Hackergal expert panel of judges as a winner of this year's National Hackergal Hackathon!

They were selected out of hundreds of submissions from across the country. The judging panel thought the project was so well thought out and developed, and was deserving of the special highlight!



Minecraft Winners!

Aspen Park, once again this year, had several students recognized for the projects they submitted to the district Minecraft Challenge.

Primary Winners – Grades K-3

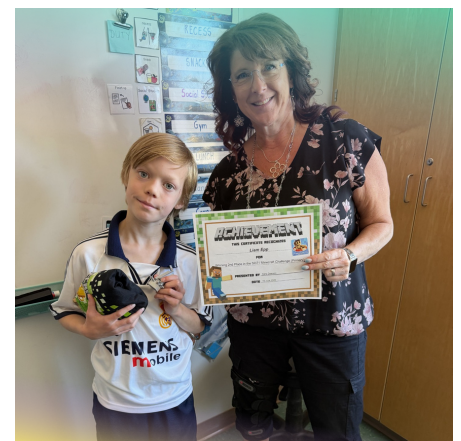
2nd Place:
Liam from Aspen Park

Junior Intermediate Winners – Grades 4-5

1st Place:
Rowan, Molly and Arietty from Aspen Park
3rd Place:
Thea from Aspen Park

Senior Intermediate Winners – Grades 6-7

2nd Place:
Odin from Aspen Park
3rd Place:
Beatrix and Anwyn from Aspen Park



THE JOURNALISM CLUB

Thank you from the Journalism Club

This year at Aspen Park, Ms. Mathew has started a journalism club. The goal was to produce a monthly newspaper to share with classes about things going on within the school, as well as the community. Students formed two teams. One team worked the first half of the year, the rest the second half, with a few continuing the whole year. Each month, students approached teachers to see if they had things they wanted include. They also did research and learned how to write articles, took pictures, conducted interviews, created cartoons, and so much more. We want to thank you for taking the time to share our work!

Hi my name is Lachlan, and this year Journalism has been amazing. I learned how to write stories, ask questions, and work with my teammates. I'm really proud of everything we created together. I'll miss this club, but I'm excited for what will come next.

Hi my name is Arietty, and this year, Journalism club was a fun, awesome, and amazing experience. I learned how to write articles and work with others. I'm very proud of what we have done together.

Hello my name is Molly. Before I joined the Journalism club, I had no idea how to interview people, write stories, and work well with others both in person and virtually. I had heard that if you wanted to join the Journalism club you could meet in the library, so I went and now here I am writing the newspaper. I am so glad I decided to join Journalism club because if I hadn't, I wouldn't have had these amazing memories to have with me forever.

Hi, my name is Archer, journalism club has been very fun, I've learned how to write articles, edit my work, and it's been great working with other people and collaborate with people to make papers and articles like this.

Hi, my name is Mary-Kate. I joined journalism club this year hoping to inspire people, and maybe find something that I might like to do when I'm older. I made friends and felt part of a team with the journalism club.

If you are going to be in grades 5-7 next year and you think journalism club might be a good fit for you, talk to Ms. Mathew in the fall :)

