

THIS WEEK @ DOROTHY PEACOCK



www.sd35.bc.ca/dorothypeacock

August 31, 2026

~The office is open this week from 9 am to 2 pm.~

Welcome Back DPE Families!

We are delighted to welcome our students and families back for another exciting school year. The beginning of a new year always brings a sense of anticipation, possibility, and renewed energy, and we look forward to all the learning, discovery, and growth that lies ahead.

We are so excited to kick off the new year with a shortened school day on **Tuesday, September 8 from 8:30 am to 10 am.**

Kindergarten students do not attend on Tuesday. Students in grades 1 – 7 will return to their last year's classroom and new

students will report to the library on this first morning. A detailed schedule of the first week is included below.

September Dates	
8	First Day of School Gr 1-7
9	First Day of Kindergarten Gradual Entry
10	Motivational Magic Presentation 9 am
14	Move to New Classes
18	Terry Fox Run 1pm
21	First Full Day of Kindergarten
24	Welcome Back BBQ
25	School Improvement Day (Students not in attendance)
29	Truth & Reconciliation/Orange Shirt Day Assembly
30	Truth & Reconciliation Day (Students not in attendance)

Mrs. K. Cline (Principal)
Mrs. F. Choboter (Vice Principal)
Mrs. L. Lipp (Administrative Assistant)

The PAC will be hosting a parent coffee/meet and greet on Tuesday and Wednesday morning at drop off time. Please join other parents outside the East door (Primary) blacktop area.

2026 - 2027 Staff: We are excited to welcome many new staff members to the DPE Community. Most will be introduced the first week of school. I would like to take this

opportunity to welcome Freya Choboter, our new Vice Principal who is joining us from Learning Support Services. Please read the attached letter to learn more about her!

School Supplies: for students in grades 4-7 information and lists can be found [HERE](#).

Supplies for Kindergarten through grade 3 are bulk ordered and information regarding payment will be sent out the first week.

Student Agendas: Once again, students in grades 1 through 7 will be asked to use an agenda. These are available for purchase on School Cash Online. The cost is **\$8.00**. Click [HERE](#).

Attendance: If your child is going to be away next week, please either call the school directly (604-513-8000) or email dpeattendance@sd35.bc.ca. Your support and cooperation with this are greatly appreciated as we secure final enrollment numbers.

District/School Cell Phone (Smart Watch) Policy: Once again, beginning on the first day of school, the following policy will be in place at Dorothy Peacock.

Cell phones: are not permitted to be out (visible), turned on, or used during the school day by students between 8:30 am and 2:22 pm. To assist with this, teachers of intermediate students will collect cell phones at the beginning of the day and place them in a locked box and store them in a secure location. The box will be opened at the end of the day, and cell phones will then be returned to the students.

Smart watches: are considered an electronic device and are subject to the same expectations and guidelines as phones and other electronics. As we discovered last year, they are a distraction in the classroom.

Imagine your child is deep in a math lesson, finally wrapping their head around a tricky concept. Just as they have their "Aha!" moment, their wrist decides it's showtime. Ding! A text arrives. Buzz! A reminder pops up. Flash! Apparently, a game urgently needs their attention.

Suddenly, fractions have been replaced by notifications, and your child is no longer solving equations but contemplating whether they should answer a text. A few nearby classmates are now equally

intrigued. The teacher, meanwhile, has gone from teaching math to starring in an unexpected episode of "Who Interrupted My Lesson?"

Please ensure that your child is aware of the expectations. The watch must function as a time piece only during the school day. Notifications must be silenced, the cellular/text feature must be turned off. If you cannot adjust the settings, please leave it at home. Refrain from texting your child during the day.

We kindly ask parents to support our Cell Phone/Smart Watch Policy by contacting the school directly if you need to connect with your child during the day. We are always happy to deliver a message! All students can call home from the office. For your information, please read the latest research on children and smartphones [HERE](#) and [HERE](#).

Communication With Families:

[School Messenger](#) - This is our main format for sharing information including our weekly DPE Newsletter (sent out on Fridays). Please read the weekly newsletter for up-to-date information.

[DPE Website](#) - We work to update our website on a regular basis throughout the school year. www.sd35.bc.ca/dorothypeacock

[PAC Website](#) – DPE PAC has created a website for information. You can find it [HERE](#) and on our school website.

[Social Media](#) – Some changes to our Socials will be coming soon as we work to update accounts and streamline the process.

Parent Code of Conduct: The Langley School District is committed to fostering safe and caring schools that promote mutual respect, cooperation, social responsibility, and support optimal learning. Trauma Informed Practices and Procedures promote the creation and maintenance of safe, inclusive, equitable, welcoming, and nurturing school environments.

Families play an important role in helping students achieve success as well as helping create a compassionate learning community. Just as students are expected to follow the District's Student Code of Conduct, there is an expectation for parents/guardians to uphold

the District's Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct. The District's Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct can be viewed on the District's website [here](#).

Communicating with Staff: Parent communication is very important to the staff at DPE. We appreciate the ease and accessibility that email provides. We welcome messages that share concerns, highlight student needs, or bring attention to school-related issues. We also truly value hearing good news and celebrating positive moments together. With this in mind, we offer a few reminders when emailing staff:

Please allow time for a response. Staff are focused on teaching and student supervision during the school day. They will reply as soon as they are able, typically within 48 hours on school days, or on the next school day following a weekend or holiday. Please note that part-time staff and non-enrolling staff will respond on their scheduled days of work.

Urgent matters should not be sent by email. If there is an immediate safety concern, change in end-of-day plans, or time-sensitive issue, please call the school office. This ensures the message is received promptly.

Use respectful and solution-focused language. Email is a helpful tool, but tone can be easily misunderstood. Approaching concerns with curiosity and care helps us work together effectively.

Avoid sending confidential or sensitive information electronically. For topics requiring privacy or depth, such as complex behavioural or learning concerns, staff may request a phone call or meeting instead.

Consider the length and purpose of the email. Short updates or questions are best. If the conversation becomes lengthy or requires back-and-forth, a meeting or call is often more productive and preferred.

CC only those who need the information. This helps reduce email volume and ensures communication stays clear and purposeful.

Celebrate the good, too! We genuinely appreciate hearing about positive experiences, student successes, and moments you'd like to share.

PAC Executive Team: Your executive for the 2026-2027 school year is:

President: Shelby Calvert

Member-at-Large: Rebecca Jackson

Vice President: Jenn Coppendale

Member-at-Large: Kelly Claassen

Secretary: Melissa Withers

Member-at-Large: Mike Withers

Treasurer: Melissa Pereman

Member-at-Large: Kelly Thomas

Hot Lunch Coordinator: Heather Rodland

Member-at-Large (Grade 7 Farewell): Samira Nickel

DPAC Representative: Crystal Thai

Member-at-Large: Ian Giroday

Class Placements: Class placements will be finalized during the first week of school in accordance with district policy. As shared previously, we are unable to consider placement requests submitted after June 1.

Our classes are currently very full across most grade levels, and staff have devoted considerable time and care to creating balanced learning environments that support the needs of all students. Feedback received in the spring was thoughtfully reviewed and considered as part of this process.

We recognize that families may have questions about class placements. Given the complexity of the placement process and our commitment to maintaining balanced classes, placements will remain as assigned once finalized. We appreciate your understanding and partnership as we work to provide the best possible learning experience for every student.

Schedule for the First Week: The first week back can be a bit overwhelming for students and families trying to get into the swing of things. To help clarify the first week, please see the full schedule below. Please note that our bell schedule has changed slightly. Warning bell is now **8:30 am** and dismissal is at **2:22 pm**. Reach out directly if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's first week. Our goal is to make things as smooth as possible. Email KCline@sd35.bc.ca or call the school. We are always happy to help.

Students	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Returning Students in grades 2-6	Report to last year's classroom for drop off and pick up. Watch for room changes at the bottom.			
New Students	Report to library. Students will be assigned to a classroom for the week. Pick up from library.	Report to assigned room. (Location and details will be provided). Pick up from assigned room.		
Grade 1 Students Birth Year 2020	Report to last year's classroom for drop off and pick up.	Ms. Buttolph's class report to Room W9 Miss MacDonald's room (Back of School by the gym on west side) for drop off and pick up. Mrs. Layfield's class report to Room W8 Miss Rochford's room (Front of School next to Staff room) for drop off and pick up.		
Grade 7 Students	Report to last year's classroom for drop off and pick up.	Report to last year's classroom for drop off and pick up.	Grade 7 Leadership Day Report to the gym for drop off and pick up.	

Please note the following room changes:

- Ms. Bailey's class will report to **portable 2** (formerly Mrs. Enns's room)
- Mrs. Besuschko's class will report to room **E10** (formerly Ms. Bailey's room front of school)
- Mrs. Enns's class will report to room **W13** (formerly Mrs. Besuschko's class)