



Aug. 26, 2025

Welcome Back to a New School Year at Brookside!

Dear Brookside Families,

We are so excited to welcome you to a brand new school year at Brookside School! As Principal, I am truly looking forward to seeing our students and families again very soon. Over the past few days, our amazing staff have been working hard to ensure that classrooms and common spaces are clean, safe, and ready for a year full of learning, growth, and fun. We hope that your summer was restful, rejuvenating, and filled with wonderful memories.

The first day of school is always a special and exciting time for all of us. To help make Tuesday morning as smooth and positive as possible, I've included some important information below. Please take a moment to review these details with your child(ren)—it will help ensure a safe and welcoming start for everyone.

We can't wait to see you soon and to begin another incredible year together at Brookside!

Classroom Configurations for 2025/26

At this time, I'd like to share a quick update on our plans for the year ahead. Our 2025–26 school budget is in line with the projections we shared in the spring, and supporting students continues to be our top priority. With this in mind, we are moving forward with the same class configurations that were outlined earlier. As of August 25, 2025, our enrollment stands at 231 students.

Classes for 2025/2026
Kindergarten am
Grade 1
Grade 2
Grade 2½
Grade 3
Grade 4
Grade 5
Grade 5/6
Grade 6

Planning classes involves many variables and dynamics, and it is a responsibility we take very seriously. Our staff have worked thoughtfully and collaboratively to create the most positive and successful learning environments for all students. They know their learners well—their strengths, areas for growth, peer connections, and the kinds of support that will help them thrive moving forward.

We truly value your partnership and the input you provided last spring, and this feedback was carefully considered in our planning. At the same time, we cannot guarantee specific requests, as creating balanced and supportive learning groups requires attention to many factors. For this reason, and barring any exceptional circumstances, we will not be able to make class changes after the first day of school.

Thank you for your continued trust and collaboration as we work together to support the success of every student in our school community. Final class placement information will be shared through SchoolZone on September 1.

First Day of School – Grades 1–6, Tuesday, September 2

Classroom assignments will be available on SchoolZone Monday, September 1 at 4:00 pm.

- 8:15 am – Classroom teachers will be outside, standing near their classroom signs at your child's assigned entrance/exit door.
- 8:25 am – First bell. Students will line up outside their assigned doors. Parents and caregivers are welcome to line up with their children at this time.
- Teachers will invite one class at a time into the school. Families who would like to walk their child to the classroom may do so between 8:25–8:40 am. We kindly ask that visits be kept to the first 10 minutes so teachers can begin building connections and setting the tone for the year. (A short PA announcement will signal this transition.)
- After drop-off, parents and caregivers are invited to join us on the tarmac for coffee and treats, hosted by our School Council and PAA—a wonderful chance to meet and connect with other families.
- A reminder for the rest of the school year: if parents need to enter the building, please use the front doors and complete the visitor QR code sign-in/out process.
- 3:20 pm – Dismissal. Students will exit the building through their assigned doors.

Staggered Start ~ Kindergarten and Interactions classes

- Kindergarten and Interactions students at Brookside School will return in the fall with a staggered start.
- Check with the office or classroom teacher if you are unsure of your child's first day.

School Supplies

Please send school supplies with your child on their first day of school.

Arriving at School (typical days)

Students will use their assigned doors to enter and exit the building each day. We kindly ask parents and family members to say goodbye outside and allow students to join their class line-up on their own. This helps foster independence and keeps our entry process safe and smooth for everyone.

School Times for 2025-2026

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday		Thursday	
Morning		Morning	
Morning Bell	8:25 am	Morning Bell	8:25 am
Instruction Starts	8:30 am	Instruction Starts	8:30 am
Lunch	11:40 am-12:25 pm	Lunch	11:40 am-12:25 pm
Afternoon		Afternoon	
Afternoon Bell	12:25 pm	Afternoon Bell	12:25 pm
Instruction Starts	12:30 pm	Instruction Starts	12:30 pm
Dismissal	3:20 pm	Dismissal	2:17 pm

End of the Day Dismissal

Students will exit the school through their assigned doors. Bus riders will gather in the gym before being escorted to their buses. For families picking up their children, we encourage you to set a consistent meeting spot outside to help make dismissal safe and smooth.

Parking and Traffic

- Please refer to the [Parking Map](#) for designated drop-off locations. For safety reasons, the school parking lot stalls should not be used for student pick-up and drop off.

Meet the Staff & Book Fair

We are excited to welcome families to our Meet the Staff event, held in conjunction with our annual Book Fair, on Thursday, September 11, from 4:30–6:00 pm. More details will be shared on SchoolZone next week.

School Photos

Mark your calendars—school photos will take place on Monday, September 22.

School Handbook

Our updated 2025–26 School Handbook will be available on the [school website](#) as of Friday, September 5. The

handbook provides important information about school routines, practices, and processes, and may help answer many of your questions about daily operations.

We hope you've enjoyed a restful and memorable summer. We are looking forward to welcoming students back for the 2025–26 school year and sharing another year of learning, growth, and community at Brookside!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our school office at 780-434-0646, or email at brookside@epsb.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "C. Geissler".

Carmen Geissler, Principal
Brookside School
780-434-0464