



The Lion's Roar



April 2017

Fort Saskatchewan Elementary School
www.fortelem.ca

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Fort Saskatchewan, AB
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Mrs. S. Sorochan
Principal

Mr. J. Gerwing
Assistant Principal



APRIL SHOWERS...

April showers bring May flowers.... I wonder what April snow will bring us in May?

We continue to take registrations for all grades K—6. Our Kindergarten Information Night is on Tuesday, **May 23**. All parents are invited to attend this event from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. We ask that you do not bring your children as they will have their orientation in September.

April is also Volunteer Appreciation month. We could not do the things we do in this school without the support of our wonderful volunteers; snack

program, hot lunches, reading, spelling, math—the list is enormous and very impressive. Much of what we do here is in the spirit of community and family and we are so very grateful for those individuals who help us out. YOU absolutely make a difference at FSE. Please stop by the office during the week of April 24 for a small token of our appreciation.



2016-17 Yearbooks.....

Work has begun on the FSE 2016 - 2017 Yearbook. The yearbook will provide lasting memories of your child's year at FSE. Not only will each class have the students' photos but also their names.

The cost of a yearbook is \$15.00 and the orders **must be prepaid**. We will be accepting orders until April 21, 2017, with delivery of the yearbook at the end of June. If you would like to order a yearbook for your child you may do so on-line. Some students have already paid for their yearbooks with the school fees; if you have any questions, please call the school at 780-998-7771.



April's Jump-a-thon

We are gearing up for our Annual “A-Thon” which happens to be “Skipping” this year. You should have received a package of information before Spring Break. The students are encouraged to only ask family and friends to sponsor them. The funds raised will be put towards more chromebooks and fine arts performances. Please join us on April 21 for our Celebration Assembly where over 150 fabulous prizes will be given out to some lucky students!!



Congratulations to our “Good Citizens of the Month” for March;

McKenna H., Ryder L., Bentley M., Ainsley B., Levee R., Maddison I., Azlynn M., Jayden W., Carson S., Brooklyn B., Nathan K., Chase J., Kemper M., Hayley B., Landon S., Nicholas K., Kayden S., Carson N., Tori R.



Staff Changes

Welcome to Mrs. O'Hara. She will be helping out in Mrs. Streigler's class and Mr. Schell's class for the remainder of the year. Starting on Monday, April 7, Miss Jessica Smith will be stepping in, temporarily, for Mrs. Sorochan.

Mrs. Sorochan will be moving to EIPS Central Office to assist in the HR department during their busiest time of year— hiring season. She is looking forward to this new and challenging opportunity but will still be keeping close tabs on FSE. She will be returning to Fort Elementary at the end of June.





Let's Talk About: School Boundaries and Name

Planning is almost complete on establishing the attendance boundaries for the new K-6 school in the Davidson Creek area. The new boundaries will affect both elementary schools and junior high schools in the northeast quadrant of Sherwood Park.

Based on feedback from parents, students, staff and the community, EIPS has revised its proposed school boundaries for the area. Now, it wants to share those recommendations with you. EIPS is holding two information sessions where community members will have the opportunity to view the attendance areas being proposed, ask questions, share comments and speak with the representatives from Elk Island Public Schools.

Also, the naming process for the new school starts on April 10! And, EIPS wants your help. Submissions can be made by visiting www.eips.ca from April 10-30.

Public Information Sessions:

Date: April 19 & April 25

Time: 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

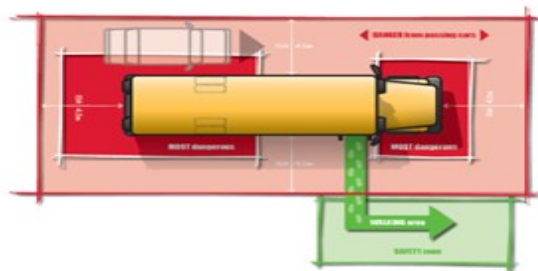
Location: Lakeland Ridge

*free child care provided.

Unable to attend the information sessions? No problem. The proposed boundaries and a comment form are also posted online, as of April 19, at www.eips.ca/schools/newschoolsandmodernizations/sherwoodpark.

Bus Safety Tip: Stay Clear of the Danger Zone

Did you know there's an area around each bus called the Danger Zone? There is. It's the area around the bus—4.5 metres on all sides—where students, people, or objects are not easily seen by a bus operator. It's important all students stay outside this area at all times. An easy way to tell if you're outside the Danger Zone is to simply take five giant steps—as big as you can make them—back from the road. Staying this far away from the road, before boarding and when getting off the bus, helps keep everyone safe. — EIPS Student Transportation





Alberta Education: Students invited to sit on the Minister's Youth Council

The province's education system exists to prepare Alberta students for success and the decisions that affect them need to include their voice. That's why Alberta Education is inviting Alberta-based students to be part of its Minister's Youth Council.

The council, which consists of approximately 32 junior high and senior high students with diverse interests, identities, backgrounds and perspectives from all regions of Alberta, meets three times a year to discuss issues relating to education. Those selected will serve a 10-month term beginning in the 2017–2018 school year. Throughout the year, their input will help guide the province's education initiatives and decisions. In addition to sharing ideas with the Education Minister and Alberta Education, students selected will also have the opportunity to interact with each other outside of these meetings to discuss ideas and upcoming activities.

To learn more, or to apply, visit <https://education.alberta.ca/student-engagement/minister-s-youth-council>.

The deadline for applications is **May 5, 2017**.

2016–2017 Parent Survey: Results

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) is committed to ensuring all parents and guardians of students within the Division have a chance to share their thoughts on the overall performance of their school and the Division. One of the ways EIPS ensures its parent's voices are heard is by conducting an annual parent survey.

In January, the Division invited EIPS families to participate in the 2016–2017 Parent Survey. The survey included 15 questions regarding topics such as the quality of teaching, school leadership, parent engagement and more. The overall response rate was 16 per cent, which included close to 2,700 responses from parents and guardians across the Division.

The feedback gathered will help the Division measure its progress towards meeting the goals and priorities outlined in the EIPS 2015–2018 Three-Year Education Plan and develop strategies to better serve its students and the wider community.

Complete Parent Survey results for the Division are available by visiting www.eips.ca/about-us/planning-and-results/parent-survey.

You can also review **Fort Elementary's** Parent Survey results by visiting www.fortelem.ca



EARTH DAY BOOK EXCHANGE

On April 21 students are asked to bring in gently used books (maximum of 3) from home and they will be allowed to exchange them for different books.

All books must be here by Wednesday,
April 19.



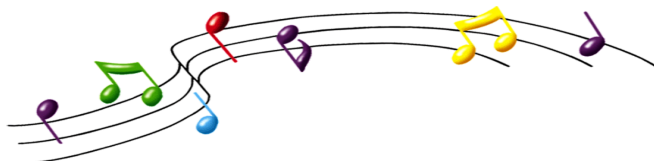
Welcome to Elder Wilson

Fort Saskatchewan Elementary's music program is honoured and excited to welcome back Elder Wilson Bearhead. This time, Elder Wilson will be headed straight to the music room! Elder Wilson has a strong musical background and he enjoys teaching and engaging students about his First Nation's culture through storytelling, singing and drumming.

Within Fort Saskatchewan Elementary's music room, students along with Elder Wilson will co-create a song inspired by the land which we live on, Treaty 6 Territory.

Students from Division I can look forward to learning more about animal and nature sounds and how these sounds can influence and inspire music creating. Many students from Division I and Division II will have had the opportunity to create and perform a song inspired by the land which we live on, Treaty 6 Territory. They may even use some words from the Lakota language. The goal is to produce a polished, unique song created with Elder Wilson's guidance. More details will be coming home soon.

“Music can be incredibly powerful, that’s what feeds our soul. It’s soul food” – Elder Wilson





NEWS & NOTES

Kindergarten Parent Information Night

Register for Kindergarten today and join us for a Kindergarten Parent Information Night on May 23 at 6:30 pm. This is an evening for parents only, to give you a chance to meet the teachers and take a tour of the school.

We're currently taking registrations for the 2017/18 school year. Your child is eligible to enroll in Kindergarten for the upcoming school year if he/she will be five years old on or before December 31, 2017. Register today!

Find more information about Kindergarten on the division website, www.eips.ca/kindergarten; on our school website, www.fortelem.ca; or give us a call, 780 998 7771.

Skateboards, Scooters, Rollerblades and Bikes

Love the warm weather! Love the green grass! Love the longer days! Don't love the possibilities of unsafe behavior with bikes, rollerblades, scooters and skateboards. Students are asked to leave

their skateboard, scooters and rollerblades at home, and to walk their bikes on school grounds. If students "forget" and insist on using their skateboards, rollerblades, scooters or bikes on school grounds, they will lose the privilege of bringing them to school for a set period of time. Please talk with your children and impress upon them the importance of safe and respectful behavior.

School Supplies 2017/18

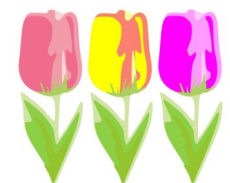
We are pleased to be able to offer a service for the upcoming year in which families will be able to preorder all or some school supplies for the upcoming school year. "Write On Stationery" is the company which provides this excellent opportunity. Participation is entirely voluntary. Order forms were sent home this week or you can purchase them online at www.write-on.ca. The beauty of the program is that supplies can be purchased early so some of those September financial

demands can be lessened. Teachers work with personnel from Write On to ensure that they are having parents buy exactly the right supplies. Prices are very competitive with big box store prices. Please consider using this great service. Orders can now be placed. The deadline for paper orders is April 21.

Watch for Thin Ice

Elk Island Public Schools, along with our community partners, reminds families about the dangers of thin ice this time of year. Depending on changing temperatures, ice can form and melt to varying degrees on outdoor bodies of water. Obey all posted signs and take the proper care to remain a safe distance from the ice.

The strength of ice on any body of water is affected by a number of factors, including





From Library Land

Spring has sprung in the library with many new titles popping up! Come on by to check them out, as well as Mrs. Blouin's top picks!

We also have the Battle of the Books competition coming up on May 1 at Glen Allan Elementary School. Here is the schedule for meetings in April: **Monday April 10, Tuesday April 18, Friday April 21, Monday April 24 and Thursday April 27.**

Keep on reading,
Mrs. Blouin



FSE Speech Tournament a Success!

The annual FSE Speech Tournament took place in March. While there were many wonderful speeches presented, only one from each Grade level can advance to the ATB/EIPS Young Speakers Speech Tournament in Sherwood Park. The gold medalist from Fort Saskatchewan Elementary School for 2017 are

Grade 4 - Sophia A.

Grade 5 - Logan H.

Grade 6 - Annabelle G.

We wish them the best of luck as they compete on Thursday, April 20 in the Agora in Sherwood Park.

All the contestants who took part are to be congratulated as they are all winners. They each represented their classroom and our school well and in return received a \$25 Gift Card to Chapters Indigo.

Thank-you, also, to all of our judges; Heather Wall (EIPS Trustee), Beth Budd, (Retired Teacher) Ed Sperling,(ATB) Blair Ching (Retired Teacher), Cst. Ahlstrom, Tori Gould (ATB) , Luke Anders (Mix 107) , Mrs. Blouin, Luke Anders (Mix 107)



National Volunteer Week: April 23 to April 29, 2017


National Volunteer Week is a time to celebrate and acknowledge volunteers for the efforts and contributions they give so generously. On behalf of Board of Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS), please accept our heartfelt thanks to all the volunteers who make our schools and programs so successful.

It's because of our cherished volunteers that our students enjoy a child-centred and vibrant place of learning. Whether it's on the sidelines assisting an athletic event, organizing a bottle drive for a school trip, or delicately cutting out hundreds of poppies for a Remembrance Day celebration, the impact our volunteers have within our school community is profound.

Volunteer work is an incredible learning opportunity for our students. By seeing people give so unselfishly of their time and gifts within our schools, our students will hopefully mirror this tremendous action within their own lives.

So, in recognition of National Volunteer Week, we extend our great thanks and celebrate the hundreds of volunteers across EIPS who provide countless hours of dedication within our schools. As Winston Churchill so eloquently stated: "We make a living by what we do, but we make a life by what we give."

Trina Boymook
Chair, Board of Trustees

A large, bright yellow starburst graphic with a black outline, containing text about a parent council meeting.

Parent Council Meeting
April 20 at 6:30 p.m. in
the library. Everyone is
welcome!