



The Lion's Roar



Fort Saskatchewan Elementary
School
www.fortelem.ca

November, 2017

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TRANSITIONS AT FSES

November is a transition month. The end of autumn is upon us, the Christmas season is beginning, conferences are completed and our first term report cards go home. It's a time to reflect, not only about school, but about the world around us. With Remembrance Day early in the month, we are given the wonderful opportunity to take time to be thankful for our comfortable, safe, prosperous country, and to extend our gratitude to those who work to keep it that way. And speaking of prosperity, special thanks needs to be extended to our school community. We gathered three large boxes full of food to donate to the Food Bank for Thanksgiving and in doing so, supported those who struggle to provide for their growing families.

Our Spirit Singers, grade two students and the choir dazzled us with their Halloween performances. Thanks to Mrs. Mikulecky and all our staff members for their tireless performance efforts!

Please join us for our Remembrance Day Assembly on Thursday, November 9 at 10:45 a.m. We are celebrating with Fort Saskatchewan Christian School this year and we welcome you to join us in their gymnasium.

Enjoy the upcoming November break. Come back to school on November 20 ready to celebrate learning, get our Christmas activities up and running, and wind up 2017 in fine style.





November Fundraiser—Whoville Trees and Cookie Dough!

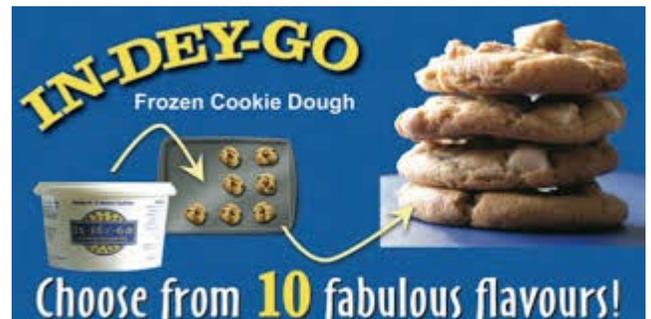
The Fort Saskatchewan Elementary Parent Society presents two fabulous, pre-Christmas fundraisers. We have partnered with IN-DEY-GO Cookie Dough (gourmet cookie dough, cinnamon buns, muffin mix) and Funky Petals, in the Fort, for Whoville Trees.

Funds raised will help with the stage rental for our upcoming Christmas concert. Funds will also help provide opportunities for the students of our school, including fine arts performances, field trip subsidies and Sportball workshops.

All orders are due on **November 8**. The orders can be placed on line at www.fse.parentcouncil.net or by order form. Cheques are to be made payable to Fort Saskatchewan Elementary School Parent Society or FSESPS.

If you order a Whoville Tree, you will need to pick it up on December 1 between 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. OR on December 2 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Funky Petals.

Thank you for considering these fund raisers. Please know that we do not expect all families to participate in all fundraisers—it is your choice.





PLAY IS THE WAY

Play is the Way is the character education program that we use at Fort Elementary. It is a program of cooperative, physically interactive games that serve as the back bone for a process that builds a sustainable whole school culture of:

- Continuous self-improvement
- Safety and non-violence
- Peer support, trust, respect and understanding
- Self-regulation and socially responsible behaviour
- Openness acceptance and belonging

The program teaches social and emotional competencies that help all children learn to the best of their ability and lead emotionally rich and rewarding lives.

Every month the staff teach each other an activity and then they teach it to their classes. It also emphasizes the Golden Rule “ Treat others the way you would want them to treat you.”

School Fees



Families are invoiced for school fees at the beginning of every school year. Fee are now available on PowerSchool and a copy was sent home September 20. **Fees are now overdue.** The simplest, and most convenient, way to pay schools fees is using [ACORN](#) by logging into the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#). If circumstances exist where you are unable to pay your students fees you can apply to have fees waived by submitting an [Application for a Waiver of Fees](#).



Inclement Weather

With the winter season already here, we want to remind parents to dress children appropriately for the weather when getting ready for school or the bus. The weather often changes unexpectedly throughout the day, so please select suitable outerwear and ensure your child is prepared for changing conditions.

If inclement weather conditions occur, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) will advise parents of any bus cancellations using various communications tools including: automated-telephone messages, alerts posted on www.eips.ca and school websites, Twitter, Facebook, local radio stations and on Versatrans My Stop. All morning bus cancellations will be posted on www.eips.ca by 6:30 a.m.

Decisions regarding bus cancellations are guided by EIPS administrative procedures that states: "school bus service may be suspended...[when] Environment Canada reports a temperature of -40 C. Other reasons for suspending or delaying school bus services include adverse weather and poor road conditions.

When school bus services are suspended, schools will remain open to students. EIPS believes parents have the right and responsibility to make choices for their children based on their beliefs and perceptions of safety during times of inclement weather. When the temperature is -20 C or lower, the students may come inside and it will be inside recesses. However, until it reaches -20" C they will be expected to stay outside so it is important that they be dressed properly.

For more information, contact EIPS Student Transportation at 780-417-8151.

No CHILD WITHOUT

Fort Saskatchewan Elementary School is registered in *No Child Without*, a joint program of the Canadian MedicAlert Foundation and the Lions Club of Canada. Through this program, registered children receive 24-hour MedicAlert coverage free of charge between their 4th and 14th birthdays. *No Child Without* waives all initial registration fees and ongoing membership costs during these years.

If your child is between the ages of 4 and 14, has a serious medical condition or allergy, and would benefit from MedicAlert services, please contact the school to obtain program registration information. You can use this information to enrol in *No Child Without* by telephone at 1-877-282-5378 or online at www.nochildwithout.ca. If your child is already registered with MedicAlert and you would like to enrol specifically in the *No Child Without* program, you must sign up by telephone at the number above.

More information about *No Child Without* is available at www.nochildwithout.ca, from EIPS' Communication Services department at 780-417-8225, or by contacting the school office at (780) 998-7771.



From Library Land

Wham! Bam! Boom! Our very first Happy Harbor Comic Book Fair was a blast garnering \$200.95 worth of amazing comics, graphic novels, and manga for our library. Thank you to all the super students, parents, and staff who helped make it fun and successful! Popular series like: Phoebe and her Unicorn, Narwhal and Jelly, and Science Comics will be arriving early-mid November.

The YRCA (Young Reader's Choice Awards) books are here! Grades 4-6 may choose to read all 8 nominated titles (or just a few) and then vote for their favorite online at: <http://www.pnla.org/yrca-voting>. We have a limited amount of copies to share, however you can always check them out at the Fort Saskatchewan Public Library through their free library card program.

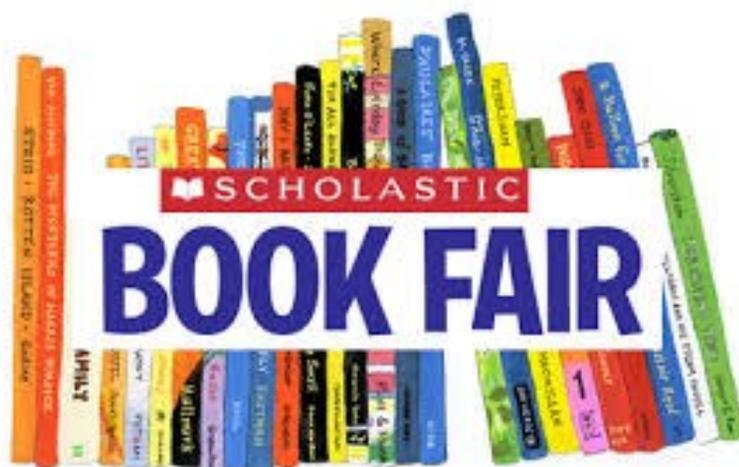
The library would like to thank the FSES Parent Council for granting \$530.00 worth of books for our library. Awesome! A big shipment of shiny, new books is on the way! Keep an eye out for new titles on the shelves soon.

Yes, the Scholastic Book Fair is Coming.....

Brrrrr, baby it's cold outside! Christmas is just around the corner and so is our first Scholastic Book Fair of the year. Mark your calendars -- the Scholastic Book Fair will run from **Monday, November 27** to **Thursday, November 30**. Hours of operation **8:30 am – 3:30 pm**. Get something for every book lover on your list this year!

Remember to return your library books on time and keep on reading.

Mrs. Blouin





NEED A GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEA?

Our grocery gift card program is doing very well. We are continuing to fundraise for school performances. Each family can help by purchasing individual grocery gift cards. We are currently selling cards in denominations of \$25, \$50 and \$100 for Save On, Co-op, Safeway, and No Frills (Superstore). Stop by and purchase a few cards as excellent gifts for family members, employees, or friends and colleagues. We are happy to sell them at any time during the school week. There

is no need to have an automatic withdrawal-- one at a time is great! Stop by and pick up a few cards and save some time in busy shopping malls AND support your child's play at the same time.



Santa's Workshop

We will once again host our annual "Santa's Workshop" on December 5, 6 and 7. Students will be able to "shop" for gifts for family members. All gifts are donated items. We ask that families please send items in to school that our students would enjoy purchasing as Christmas gifts. All items will be purchased for approximately \$1.00. Last year we received a wonderful assortment of candles, soaps, books, bookmarks and so on which were happily wrapped and left under Christmas trees. We always need gifts for "Dads". We will gladly start accepting gift donations right away and will be in need of volunteers to help set up and run the workshop. During the first week of December we are in great need of parent volunteers to help with this wonderful event. Please contact the office if you can come into the school and give us a hand. Thank you!



EIPS 2017–2018 Division Calendar

The approved EIPS 2017–2018 school year calendar is now available online. The calendar includes important dates during the 2017–2018 school year including: school-closure dates; holidays; dates for the fall, winter, spring and summer breaks; the first and last day of classes; professional learning days; and early dismissal dates.

Highlights from the 2017–2018 Division calendar include:

- August 30 First day of classes
- November 13-17 Fall Break
- December 25 to January 5 Winter Break
- January 31 Second Semester begins
- February 8-9 Teachers' Convention
- March 26-30 Spring Break
- June 28 Last day of classes
- June 29 Schools close for the Summer Break

To view the 2017–2018 Division calendar, visit www.eips.ca. You can also sync the calendar to your own personal calendar for easy reference throughout the year.

**NOTE:* Start and end times for school timetables differ by school so make sure to call your school's office or visit your school's website if you need more information.





NATIONAL BULLYING AWARENESS WEEK

November 20—24



The new Alberta School Act draws attention to National Bullying Awareness Week (NBAW) on the 3rd week of November, with the purpose of promoting awareness and understanding of bullying and its consequences in the school community.

This is what Fort Saskatchewan Elementary will be doing.....

1. Mrs. Smith will be doing classroom presentations on WITS (Walk Away, Ignore, Talk It Out, Seek Help).
2. All students will be creating notes and/or drawings for their class bulletin board. They will also make bookmarks.
3. Teachers will do read-a-louds with their classes.

Websites to Check Out

<http://www.bullyingawarenessweek.org/>

<http://www.teamheroes.ca/>

<http://www.bullyfreealberta.ca/>

<http://safeandcaring.ca/>

NOT ALL PEER CONFLICT IS BULLYING!

Bullying=Intentionally aggressive behaviour, repeated over time, that involves an imbalance of power.

Rude = Inadvertently saying or doing something that hurts someone else.

Mean = Purposefully saying or doing something to hurt someone once (maybe twice).



November Music Notes FSE's Fine Arts Program

Grade 5 and 6 students are jumping into handbell lessons during music, grade 4 students are exploring their recorders further, Christmas concert rehearsing has begun, and the Senior Choir is performing with the Fort Christian Choir at our upcoming Remembrance Day Assembly, November has begun!

Mrs. Mikulecky is so excited to invite the grade 5 students to the handbell tables this year to develop an early onset of handbell ringing skills. Students will learn to play as a team, listen carefully to each other, count in 3/4 time and 4/4 as well as maintain a steady beat. Students will be playing in both treble clef and bass clef on both the handbells and hand chimes! A great big thank you to Parent Council for providing the funds to invest in a new class set of handbell gloves!



This year, our Christmas Concert is themed around how different cultures celebrate Christmas all around the world! If there are any parents/caregivers within the FSE community that know of a special Christmas tradition or song, please visit Mrs. Mikulecky to share!



Senior Choir has been working hard in rehearsal, studying a special Remembrance Day song titled "For That Tomorrow". Our upcoming Remembrance Day performance will be sung alongside Fort Christian Choir, performing a song that honours and remembers those who have served. Please consider attending our Remembrance Day Ceremony on November 9th, beginning at 10:45 a.m.