



# The Lion's Roar



Fort Saskatchewan Elementary School  
www.fortelem.ca  
February 2017

9802-101 Street  
Fort Saskatchewan,  
AB  
T8L1V4  
Phone: 780 998-  
7771

Mrs. S. Sorochan  
Principal  
Mr. J. Gerwing  
Assistant Principal  
Mrs. M. Smith  
School Counsellor

We are pleased to be celebrating Valentine's Day with compassion this year! We have asked that families not send in loot bags and commercially created Valentine's Day cards. Instead, students will participate in a "Hearts and Hands" carnival, and have classroom parties. We will gladly accept any monetary donations, in lieu of purchased cards and goodies, and donate those funds to those students who are participating in the Hair Massacre.

We are looking forward to seeing parents at our conferences on February 15 and 16 from 4:30—7:20 pm. We will once again be using the on-line booking which will be open February 1.



Parents will need to go to <http://www.schoolinterviews.ca> and enter the code 666un.

The Book Fair will also be available the week of February 13, **during the day only**, to browse and/or purchase books. Please see more information about this on page 2.



## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Do you have a child who will start Kindergarten in fall 2017? Registration for the 2017/18 school year is underway. 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.

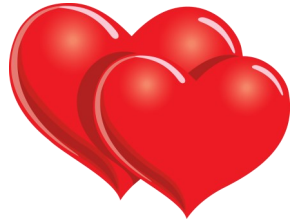
registration details, and system information. Our school website, [www.fortelem.ca](http://www.fortelem.ca) also provides details about our school-specific Kindergarten program.

Register today and join us on Tuesday, May 23 at 6:30 pm for our Kindergarten Information Night. **This meeting is for parents only.**



**FAMILY DAY IS  
ON FEBRUARY  
20.**

Check out the Elk Island Public Schools' (EIPS) website at [www/eips.ca/kindergarten](http://www/eips.ca/kindergarten) for information about Kindergarten programs,



## **PINK SHIRT DAY**

February 22

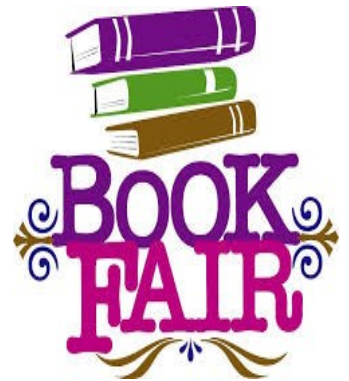
Wear pink  
to show that you are  
against  
bullying!



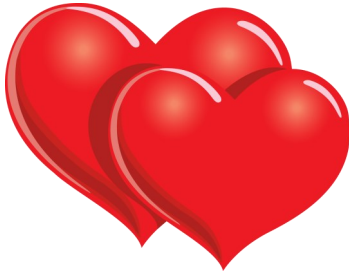
## **Book Fair News February 13—16**

This time around we are going to be opening the Book Fair **only** during the day. The hours will be;

Monday, February 13	8:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
Tuesday, February 14	8:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
Wednesday, February 15	8:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
Thursday, February 16	8:30 a.m.—10:30 a.m.



The students will be able to preview and purchase their books during their regular library periods, recesses and after school. Parents are welcome to come shopping at any time during the Fair hours.



## Activity of the Month “Puzzles”



### HOTLUNCH ORDERS, FEBRUARY—JUNE

Hot lunch orders can now be ordered, on-line, for the rest of the year. Please go to the front page of our school website ([www.fortelem.ca](http://www.fortelem.ca)) and click on the link provided.

**HOT LUNCH**  
*info & forms*



## NEXT PARENT COUNCIL MEETING

February 23 at 6:30 p.m.  
in the school staff room  
Everyone is Welcome!

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### INCLEMENT WEATHER REMINDER

Although the temperatures have warmed up in the past week, we do live in Alberta and the weather can change in a matter of minutes. Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) reminds parents to please dress children appropriately for the weather when getting them ready for school or the bus.

In the event of inclement weather conditions, your best source of information regarding bus route cancellations is the division website. The *Bus Status* section ([www.eips.ca/bus-status](http://www.eips.ca/bus-status)) is updated in real time whenever bus cancellations or delays occur. Please make note of your



children's bus number(s) so you can quickly and easily check the bus status using this valuable tool.





## Accountability Pillar Survey

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) has partnered with Alberta Education and The Learning Bar ([www.thelearningbar.com](http://www.thelearningbar.com)) to survey students regarding their level of engagement in learning, student wellness, classroom(s) and school climate. Gathering student feedback through the survey will support our school and Division plans for continuous improvement. In addition to student feedback, we will also be seeking teacher and parent feedback from select grades.

Grade 4 students will complete Alberta Education's Accountability Pillar survey and grades 7 through 12 students will complete a longer survey, entitled OurSCHOOL|TTFM, which has the Accountability Pillar survey questions included in it. As an annual check up on the education system, Alberta Education conducts surveys of students to gather information on the quality of education provided by Alberta school authorities and their schools. The results are provided to school authorities to inform the development of their three-year education plans, Annual Education Results Report, and to evaluate the performance on Accountability Pillar survey measures.

Throughout the month of February, students and teachers will be completing the survey online at school. Student participation is voluntary and completely anonymous. Students are assigned a random username and password to ensure survey responses aren't linked any individual student. Students in Fort Saskatchewan Elementary will be surveyed between February 1 and February 26. The online survey takes about 40 minutes and will be completed within the school day during regular class time.

Parents and guardians of students in grades 4, 7, and 10 will also be receiving a survey in the mail. The surveys are anonymous and we highly encourage you to participate. The results of the survey will be provided to EIPS in May 2017 which will then be shared with our families and school communities next fall in the Division's Annual Education Results Report.

If you have any questions about the Fort Elementary survey, please contact Sandra Sorochan or Jim Gerwing at 780-998-7771. For more information about Alberta Education's Accountability Pillar survey, please contact Keith Bowen, the director at Alberta Education's System Assurance Branch, at [keith.bowen@gov.ab.ca](mailto:keith.bowen@gov.ab.ca) or 780-422-4750 (or toll-free at 310-000).





## Boundary Exemption Request Process: Now open

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) boundary exemption request process for the 2017–2018 school year is now open.

EIPS students—in kindergarten to Grade 12—wanting to attend a non-designated school in the upcoming school year can now apply to do so. All interested families must fill out a Boundary Exemption Request Form and submit it directly to their requested school. The application deadline is April 7, 2017. Boundary exemption requests received after April 7, 2017 will be declined. There is no late or secondary process.

For the 2017–2018 school year, boundary exemption requests are not being accepted at the following schools: Fort Saskatchewan Elementary, James Mowat Elementary, SouthPointe School and Win Ferguson Elementary. As many of you are aware, the Division has established new elementary attendance boundaries for the City of Fort Saskatchewan, which take effect when SouthPointe School opens at the start of the 2017–2018 school year. Maintaining the new attendance boundaries will help ease enrolment pressures at elementary schools in Fort Saskatchewan.

The [Boundary Exemption Request Form](#) and additional information about the boundary exemption request process, schools with closed boundaries and frequently asked questions can be found by visiting [www.eips.ca/schools/boundaries/boundary-exemption-request-process](http://www.eips.ca/schools/boundaries/boundary-exemption-request-process).

Final decisions will be made by April 12, 2017.

### Next Year

Please let us know as soon as possible if your child (ren) will not be attending our school next year (besides those moving to Southpointe). Believe it or not, we are already planning for next year and student enrollment is key to our budget decisions. Contact our office (780 998-7771) if you are intending on moving either before or during summer holidays.





## February Music Notes

Our Senior Choir is hard at work preparing for this year's Fort Saskatchewan Music Festival! The Choir will sing in the morning at the DOW Centennial Centre on Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup> (specific time yet to be determined). The Choir will meet every Wednesday and Friday at lunch recess to study two unique, cultural songs.

Our Handbell Choir, Strikepoint, will meet every Tuesday and Thursday at lunch recess to prepare their song selections at the Fort Saskatchewan Elementary Music Festival. Strikepoint's competition date is scheduled to take place during the morning of Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at the Trinity United Church in Fort Saskatchewan (specific time yet to be determined).

Expect to hear our Junior Choir bring a close to our February Community Assembly on February 6<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. We will be singing a fun filled Bucket Filler Chant that is sure to impress! All are welcome to join in on the musical fun.

As Junior/Senior Choir and Handbell Choir- Strikepoint come to an end after the Festival, new clubs and opportunities are just around the corner! Take a look at what is to come.

Yoga Club will be offered to all DIV II students beginning in April. More details to come!

Dance Club will be offered to all DIV II students beginning in April. More details to come!

Quote of the Month: "*Music will always be in my heart*" – Lizzie 3H

Mrs. Mikulecky





**Congratulations** to the following students who will be participating in the Young Author's Conference on February 25:

- 4B – Sofia A.
- 4S – Reid B.
- 4/5F – Hannah C.
- 5C – Nick K.
- 5FG – Abigail M.
- 6N – Jade B.
- 6S – Annabelle G.



**Reminders.....**

Pease phone the office and let us know if your child is going to be late or absent. You can leave a message or go to our website and send us an email.

**The** High School parking lot is off limits to FSE and FSC. Please do not drop off or pick your children up in the High School lot.

**The** school is not allowed to administer medication to any student without the proper forms being filled in by parents and/or a physician. This applies to any over-the-counter drug as well. Parents can either bring the medication to the office and fill out the forms or they can go to our website to download the forms. They are located under the Parents tab.

**If** the school buses are not running and your child rides on a bus, you do not have to contact the school, as we know that they are home. However, if your child does not ride a bus and you choose to keep them home, then you need to contact the school so that we know that your child is safe





## Very Important—Changes to Sharing Information via Email

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) appreciates the opportunity to stay connected with parents and one of the ways it does so is through email. However, federal law—Canada’s Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL)—requires that the Division must be given direct consent to continue to email its families, because occasionally, emails may contain what could be “commercial content.”

On February 15, you will receive a message from the Division that will give you the option to either subscribe or unsubscribe from school- and Division-generated emails. The same message is being sent to every email address you have provided to the Division. To remain on EIPS’ distribution list, you will have to make a choice as to whether or not you wish to continue receiving email for each of those addresses.

If you unsubscribe, or do not respond, you will no longer receive school- and Division-generated emails such as school newsletters, information about upcoming school and Division events, parent and community engagement opportunities and others. That’s because these messages may contain advertising or promotional content from time to time—for example, school fundraisers; lunch programs; field trips; the sale of yearbooks; purchasing of student photos, books, graduation, school productions or dance tickets; athletic events with an entry fee; options for purchasing third-party supplies or products or similar events and offers—and will therefore no longer be sent out.

*NOTE:* Even if you unsubscribe, you will continue to receive emails regarding emergency situations and financial matters. Those who received notifications about school attendance will also still receive those messages.

We appreciate your co-operation in ensuring the Division’s distribution lists are compliant with the CASL requirements and you continue to receive only the information you feel is important.

## HATS OFF TO.....

Gavin M., Reid B., Calvin P., Max M., Chase M., Tristan W., and others who have dyed their hair pink in support of the **15th Annual Hair Massacure!** At the end of February they will be shaving their heads! If you would like to support this awesome cause, we have set up a donation container in the office. Way to go, boys!

