



FORT SASKATCHEWAN

• ELEMENTARY •

Dear FSE Families,

We are seven school days into this school year and our grade 1 to 6 students are settling into their new routines nicely! Our kindergarten classrooms were also a flurry of activities as students started full days this week! It is such a special and exciting time at FSE!

September Save the date! I am looking forward to seeing everyone at our 'Welcome Back BBQ' on **Thursday, September 15** from **4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.** Staff will be serving hot dogs and a bag of chips outside (weather permitting) by our outdoor learning space on a first come, first served basis. (One hot dog per person.) In the event of inclement weather, we will move into the gym. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet staff, as well as connect with other FSE families.

Our **school photos** for **Ms. Thompson's ECS** class are happening on **Tuesday, September 21**. **Ms. Wilson's ECS class and grades 1 to 6** will have their pictures taken on **Wednesday, September 22**. Information about ordering photos will be coming home on picture day.

School Council & Parent Society Our Parent Society has started the first **fundraiser** of the year! You child should have brought home a **Dielman** catalogue this week. Have a peak at all the cool items they have to offer and place your order by **October 12!**

Our first **Hot Lunch** being offered by our Parent Society will be on **Friday, September 23**. The Munch a Lunch ordering website is now open! **Orders are due by Thursday, September 15**. All families were sent an email with more details. However, here is a [link](#) to our school website just in case you missed it!

Our first **AGM** for School Council and Parent Society will be in person at the school on **Monday, September 26 @ 5:30 p.m.** Hope to see you there!

October Save the date! Elk Island Public Schools invites you to our **Community Engagement Night** at Fort Saskatchewan High School on **Thursday, October 6** from **5:00 - 7:30 p.m.** Please join us for a **hamburger** or **hot dog**, followed by an informative tradeshow style tour and information sessions showcasing the many resources our schools and community have to offer our children and families. **Please register your family here by Friday, September 16th** to ensure that we have sufficient food for everyone. We look forward to seeing you there!

Our annual **Terry Fox Run** will be held on **Friday, September 23, 2022**. Should you wish to donate a 'Toonie for Terry' please send in cash to your child's teacher by September 23 or you can donate online using this [link](#).

Alberta Health Services is proud to offer [FREE online programming](#) to caregivers of school-age children and youth, as well as adults in the community who want to learn more about addiction and mental health topics.

Sessions are offered online through the Zoom conferencing application. For more information, visit www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca.

FSE will be acknowledging the history and impact of residential schools on **September 29** through a variety of age-appropriate activities. Staff and students will be invited to wear orange in support of [Orange Shirt Day](#) on this date, as well.

School will be closed on **September 30** to mark **Orange Shirt Day** & **Canada's National Day for Truth and Reconciliation**.

Pay School fees online! School fee information for the 2022-23 school year will be posted on the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) in late September. All fees are due within 30 days of being posted. To access your fee information, simply log in to the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) and go to "Student Fees." There you can view your fees and pay online using a credit card. **For new students, portal codes were sent home to families Tuesday, September 6.*

Don't forget to log in to the PowerSchool Parent Portal regularly throughout the year. Fees are often added to your child's account to cover the cost of certain school activities such as field trips, class projects, athletic-team fees and more. Additionally, junior high and senior high fees can change as courses are added and deleted.

If you're unable to pay your school fees, you can apply to have certain [fees waived](#) by submitting an [Application for a Waiver of Fees](#). The application deadline is Dec. 15, 2022.

For more information about school fees, waivers and payment deadlines visit eips.ca. Alternatively, contact our business manager, Ms. Jones, in our school office at 780-998-7771.

Did you know each EIPS bus is equipped with video surveillance? Video surveillance and equipment help ensure the safety of all students, drivers and property and discourages destructive acts.

On a regular basis, EIPS Student Transportation reviews the video recordings, in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act. The recordings assist the department with monitoring student and driver conduct and may be used as evidence in a disciplinary matter.

For more information about the collection, use and disclosure of personal information, contact the EIPS FOIP Coordinator at 780-464-3477.

NOTE: If there is an emergency involving a missing bus student, please call 780-417-8151 for assistance.

Update your PowerSchool information The EIPS Correction and Verification Form is now available online through your PowerSchool Parent Portal. Use the form to access and update your child's records information—including address, parent and guardian information, emergency contacts and medical information. Reviewing the form and submitting updates ensures the school has the most up-to-date information regarding your child.

When reviewing the form, pay close attention to all listed phone numbers, email addresses and emergency contact information. Also, if you recently moved, now is the time to ensure the Division has your updated address. Throughout the year, the Division and school uses the listed information to communicate with families about important information, including updates, the latest news and event.

Review and update the EIPS Correction and Verification Form by Sept. 22, 2022.

For more information about the PowerSchool Correction and Verification Form, contact the school office at 780-998-7771.

Improving home-school communication To enhance communication between families and schools, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) created a how-to guide entitled, Communication Protocol for Schools.

Topics include:

- appropriate channels to use;
- standard formats and structures;
- timing and sequencing for regular and ongoing home-school communication; and
- ways to bring forward questions or concerns.

The guide also offers useful tools and resources schools, and families can use to enhance face-to-face meetings, email communication and various social media efforts. EIPS encourages all families and schools to review the guide at: [Communication Protocol for Schools](#)

Download the SchoolMessenger App

Fort Saskatchewan Elementary and the Division use the SchoolMessenger platform for communicating with families—through both phone and email. Be sure to add communications@eips.ca, general.fse@eips.ca and principal.fse@eips.ca to your safe sender list to avoid having important messages funneled into your junk mail folder.

The easiest way to stay connected is to download the SchoolMessenger app. Get the latest updates direct to your mobile device and enable push notifications to never miss a message. Families can also check back on past messages—for up to 30 days—directly in the app rather than searching to find an old message buried in your inbox. Download the SchoolMessenger app from the App Store or Google Play today.

Coming soon—the Safe Arrivals absence reporting tool will be rolled out within the SchoolMessenger app later this school year. Families will be able to quickly and easily report a child's absence directly in the app. No more phone calls or emails required. Stay tuned for updates in the coming months.

Sync the School Calendar to your calendar

Did you know you can sync the school calendar to your own calendar? You can. Simply, visit <https://www.fortelem.ca/about/calendar> and click on the applicable subscription option:

- Download to iCal
- Add to Google Calendar
- Subscribe to Calendar

NOTE: Options are located above the calendar.

Once you click on the desired subscription option, follow the instructions. Within seconds, your calendar will contain all Fort Saskatchewan's important dates including holidays, school-closure days, planned activities, events and more.

Looking ahead...

September 15 ~ 4 to 5:30 p.m. Welcome Back BBQ/Meet the Staff Event
September 21 ~ School Photos for Ms. Wilson's ECS class and grades 1 to 6
September 22 ~ School Photos for Ms. Thompson's ECS class
September 22 ~ Correction & Verification Forms Due!

September 23 ~ Terry Fox Run

September 23 ~ Hot Lunch!

September 26 ~ 5:30 p.m. School Council & Parent Society Meeting ~ All parents/guardians welcome!

September 29 ~ Wear orange in recognition of Orange Shirt Day!

September 30 ~ No School ~ Orange Shirt Day & Canada's National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

As always, if you have any questions, please email me directly at shelby.labrecque@eips.ca or call 780-998-7771, during regular business hours.

I hope everyone finds some time this weekend to enjoy the sunshine and warm temperatures while they last!

Sincerely,

Shelby Labrecque, M. Ed.

Principal

Fort Saskatchewan Elementary School