



Mundare School Newsletter

May 2023

BE BRAVE - BE BOLD

Principal's Message



Spring is a time of new beginnings and fresh starts, and it's no different here at Mundare School. As we head into the final two months of the school year, I want to take a moment to thank our amazing students, staff, and families for their hard work and dedication throughout the year. As the weather warms up and the days get longer, I encourage everyone to take a moment to appreciate all that we've accomplished and look forward to what's to come.

As we head into the spring season, I want to remind everyone of the importance of staying focused and motivated in our academic pursuits. With final exams and end-of-year projects just around the corner, it's important that we all stay on top of our work and continue to push ourselves to reach our full potential. I also want to remind everyone to take care of themselves and prioritize their mental health during this busy time. Whether it's taking a walk outside, practicing mindfulness, or simply taking a break to recharge, it's important that we all find ways to stay healthy and balanced as we finish out the year. May is a month of growth and renewal. As we welcome warmer weather and blooming flowers, let's also cultivate a renewed focus on our goals and aspirations. Let's make this month one of progress and positivity!

I would like all families to save the date, for **Friday, June 2**, as we are planning our Special Persons Lunch. An RSVP will be coming with specific details, but we'd like you to hold the date if you can. We will be hosting this lunch for students to celebrate the special people in their lives. This can be mom or dad, grandma or grandpa, an uncle or aunt, or a special person that means a lot to one of our students'.

We will be hosting our next School Council meeting on Monday, May 15 at 5:30pm, with our Mundare Parent Society (fundraising group) at 6:30pm. All parents and guardians are invited to attend. This is an important opportunity to stay connected to the goals of Mundare School. To see previous meetings and agendas, be sure to check our school website. Please regularly visit our school website www.mundareschool.ca to see all school related information.

Ms. Melissa Kerr

Upcoming events and important dates:

- **May 1:** Bus Driver Appreciation Day
 - **May 1:** Alberta Opera presentation
 - **May 1-7:** Education Week
 - **May 1-7:** Mental Health Week
 - **May 3:** Early dismissal at 2:36
 - **May 5:** Professional Learning Day (schools closed to students)
 - **May 17:** Grade 6 Language Arts PAT Part A
 - **May 19:** School Closure Day (schools closed to students and staff)
 - **May 22:** Victoria Day (schools closed to students and staff; Central Services closed)
 - **May 26:** Community Clean Up
 - **June 2:** Special Persons Lunch
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Absence Check

Parents/guardians are asked to inform the school, whenever possible, if their child is going to be absent. Messages may be left on the school's main number 24 hours a day, or by a note. If a child is absent and no reason has been received in the office by **9:30 AM**, then the office staff will attempt to contact parents/guardians or emergency contacts.

Bell Schedule

- [Mundare School Bell Schedule 2022-23](#)

Division Calendar 2022-23

- [EIPS Division Calendar](#)
- [EIPS Kindergarten Calendar](#)

To view the 2023-24 calendar, visit www.eips.ca.

Did you know you can sync the Division calendar to your personal calendar? You can. Simply, visit www.eips.ca/calendar and click "subscribe to calendar." It's that easy.

THANK YOU! Bus Driver Appreciation Day is May 1

Join us on May 1 as we recognize and thank our school bus operators for keeping the safety of our students their first priority. We encourage you, and your children, to take a moment to say thanks to our bus operators—who go above and beyond to provide safe and timely transportation to our students.

On behalf of Mundare School, THANK YOU to all of our school bus operators for a job well done.

Education Week 2023: May 1-5

Education Week takes place May 1-5. Throughout the week, students and staff from Mundare School, are showcasing and celebrating the role education plays in shaping the future of our province. Led by the Alberta Teachers' Association and Alberta School Councils' Association, the annual event is celebrated by school communities provincewide with activities focused on the importance of education.

The theme of Education Week this year is Learning Uplifts All, which celebrates working toward an inspired future for public education. This includes optimal learning conditions for every child, students who enjoy learning and achieve their goals, opportunities for teachers to continue developing their professional skills, and parents and communities involved and supportive of learning.

EIPS Annual Education Results Report

Every year, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) publishes an Annual Education Results Report, which outlines the Division's Four-Year Education Plan, opportunities for growth and how it's supporting students to achieve the best possible outcomes. Read through this year's [EIPS Annual Education Results Report 2021-2022](#) and discover how EIPS fosters learning environments for all students to learn, grow and thrive—and why it matters.

May Spotlight: cultivating high-quality learning environments and experiences

- [Power of Kindness](#): Creates welcoming, inclusive, respectful, and safe learning environments in schools
- [Building Blocks](#): How effective planning, management and infrastructure is supporting learning
- [Raising the Bar](#): Evidence-based practices that are enhancing teaching and learning in EIPS

RELATED INFORMATION:

[EIPS Four-Year Education Plan: 2022-26](#)

[EIPS Three-Year Capital Plan: 2024-27](#)

Counseling Corner

As we enter a new season of spring, our mind and bodies are ready to get out and get moving. In last month's newsletter, I mentioned the importance of moving to destress our bodies and to improve our physical health. Movement outside can also increase our mindfulness to our surroundings. When you go for a walk in the warm spring air, notice the birds chirping, the mud beneath your feet, and the sun on your skin. Recognizing our surroundings centers our thoughts and bodies to a calm and ready to learn state.

Jump Rope for Heart

This year Mundare school will once again be fundraising for the Heart and Stroke Foundation. We plan to have our assembly to kick start fundraising on May 3. Fundraising will close on May 12th. A newsletter will be sent home closer to the date.

My Story: Mental Health Week runs May 1-7

Mental Health Week takes place May 1-7. To mark the week, Mundare School has a series of activities and lessons planned for students, all centered on Mental Health Week's theme, "My Story." We all have different, yet equally valuable stories which can be used to share one key message: universal mental health care is important and needed now! Some of the school activities planned include:

Collectively, students will learn about community-based mental health care champions, programs and communities while showcasing the importance of securing universal mental health care, what it can look like and how mental health care can be expressed and nurtured, such as within art, music and dance. In addition to school activities, students and staff can also share messages about their personal journey on various social media platforms using the hashtag #MyStory.

For more information: Mental Health Week Alberta Health Services: Help in Tough Times

[Mental Health Week](#)
[Alberta Health Services: Help in Tough Times](#)

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April Spotlight: Student Growth and Success

- [Early Learning](#): Ensuring early learners reach developmental milestones
- [Culture of Literacy](#): Dive deep into the data and learn how students are developing strong literacy skills
- [Math Matters](#): Enhancing reasoning, understanding and achievement through numeracy-rich classrooms
- [Boosting Educational Outcomes](#): Discover how EIPS supports the growth and achievement of students who self-identified First Nations, Metis and Inuit
- [Beyond high school](#): Supports and strategies that are creating real-life career pathways for learners

RELATED INFORMATION

- [EIPS Four-Year Education Plan: 2022-26](#)
 - [EIPS Three-Year Capital Plan: 2024-27](#)
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Get ready for Kindergarten

Do you have a child registered in kindergarten next year? To make the transition to school as smooth as possible, Elk Island Public Schools has put together a toolkit for families. The kit includes information about registration, important dates, programming options, what to expect, eligibility, finding your designated school, transportation and more. Find it at: Welcome to EIPS Kindergarten.

Additional information about Mundare's kindergarten program is available on the school website. www.mundareschool.ca.

Where to Find the Information You Need

Elk Island Public Schools and Mundare School use a handful of key systems to share information with students and families. Depending on the information you're looking for, it's important to know where to look.

PowerSchool is the primary student information system within the Division. There is an associated app, but the functionality is limited, and families don't need to download it. From the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#), you can:

- Access student grades and report cards;
- Review student absences;
- Pay school and transportation fees; and
- Submit official updates to student or family information.

The PowerSchool Student Portal provides similar access to grades and absence information for students directly.

Brightspace provides more of a day-to-day look at what's happening with your child's learning communicated directly from your child's teacher. From [Brightspace Parent & Guardian](#), you can see your child's:

- classroom activity feed,
- grade items and grade feedback from instructors,
- upcoming assignments,
- portfolio evidence and
- quizzes

depending on which of the program functions are specifically used by your child's teacher.

Brightspace for Students is where teachers share updates, calendar reminders and learning materials with students. Compatible with Google, it also allows students to submit assignments, complete quizzes, and see grades and teacher feedback. The Pulse app for students is associated with Brightspace for Students.

SchoolMessenger is the system the Division and schools use to send email and phone communication to families. The contact information in SchoolMessenger is populated from PowerSchool. Through [SchoolMessenger](#), families can:

- receive general, emergency and attendance messages by phone, email or both; and
- manage their subscription preferences for these types of messages.

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.

If you have trouble accessing any of these systems or have questions about them, contact the school at 780-764-3962.

See May's Calendar Below

May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Day 5 Alberta Opera ECS Dat	Day 6	Day 1 ECS Day Hat Day Early Dismissal	Day 2	Professional Learning Day - School Closed	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Day 3 ECS Day	Day 4	Day 5 ECS Day Bear Witness Day - Jordans Principle	Day 6	Day 1	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	Day 2 ECS Day	Day 3	Day 4 ECS Day Class Picture Day Grade 6 PAT: English Language Arts Part A 9:00AM	Day 5	School Closure Day	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	Victoria Day - Statutory Holiday	Day 6	Day 1 ECS Day	Day 2	Day 3 ECS Day	
28	29	30	31			
	Day 4 ECS Day	Day 5	Day 6 ECS Day			

