



Mundare School Newsletter

March 2024

BE BRAVE – BE BOLD

Principal's Message



March has arrived, bringing with it the promise of warmer days and the spirit of renewal. I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all the parents who participated in our recent parent/teacher interviews in February. Your involvement in your child's education is truly appreciated, and these conversations provide valuable insights that help us ensure a successful and enriching learning journey for each student.

As we move forward into March, I am thrilled to announce that spring break is just around the corner. This well-deserved break, scheduled at the end of the month, will provide students and staff with an opportunity to recharge, relax, and spend quality time with loved ones. I encourage you all to make the most of this time and return to school rejuvenated and ready for the exciting opportunities that lie ahead.

In addition to spring break preparations, our classrooms continue to buzz with engagement and enthusiasm. The dedication of our students and the tireless efforts of our teachers are truly commendable. It's heartwarming to witness the progress and growth each student is making. With spring on the horizon, we look forward to nurturing these seeds of learning, watching them bloom and flourish throughout the coming months.

Online kindergarten to grade 8 report cards will be available this month, on Friday, March 15 at 3:30pm, for all parents and guardians to view on PowerSchool. If you need any assistance with PowerSchool, please contact Mrs. Bartsch in our office.

Parents and guardians of students from grade 4 -8 should have received some important mail from Alberta Education in the past few weeks. Every year, Alberta Education collects information from families in their Assurance Survey. This is an important survey to complete as it helps Mundare School identify the things we are doing really well and the areas we need to enhance. Data collected from this survey is also shared with our Board of Trustees in the fall.

We will be hosting our next School Council meeting on Thursday, April 18 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. We are hoping to get parent volunteers to help us start a Hot Lunch Committee. If you are interested in helping please email me or come to this meeting!

Please regularly visit our school website www.mundareschool.ca to see all school related information.

Ms. Melissa Kerr

Upcoming events and important dates:

- **February 28:** [Pink Shirt Day](#)
- **March 1:** Professional learning day (schools closed to students)
- **March 1:** Last day for parents to complete the Alberta Education Assurance Surveys for parents of students in grade 4-8.
- **March 6:** Early dismissal, Hat Day, Hot lunch
- **March 13:** Hot lunch
- **March 14:** St. Patrick's Day activities
- **March 11-15:** Substitute Appreciation Week
- **March 15:** Report cards (K-8) available online through PowerSchool
- **March 15:** EIPS Summer School registration opens
- **March 19 and 20:** Pysanka making
- **March 20:** Hot lunch
- **March 22:** School closure day (schools closed to staff and students)
- **March 25-29:** Spring break (schools closed to staff and students)
- **March 29:** Good Friday (Central services closed)
- **April 1:** Easter Monday (schools closed to staff and students; Central Services closed)
- **April 2:** Classes resume
- **April 3:** Early dismissal, Hat Day

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 2023-24

- [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.

Counseling Corner

I am excited to announce the start of the Mundare Youth Centre, which has been kickstarted by Lamont County FCSS. The purpose of this initiative is to provide a safe and fun place for youth in the community to gather. All children and youth aged seven and older are welcome to gather at the upstairs of the arena from 3:30-6:30 every Thursday after school. If you are interested please sign the permission form. If you have any questions please contact Kristy Giebelhaus at the school, or the program coordinator Dayna Jacobs.

February was filled with kindness, generosity and fun! Mundare students participated in many activities to deepen their understanding of how they can show kindness to themselves and others. The ripple effect of Kindness Week and Pink T Shirt Day was palpable, extending beyond the scheduled activities. There was a heightened sense of belonging, empathy, and connection with their peers. Teachers observed a more positive and inclusive atmosphere in classrooms, highlighting the enduring impact of fostering kindness within our school community.

As spring approaches, our bodies are ready to get outside and get moving! Did you know that our bodies need movement to release the stress hormone called cortisol? Creating time for movement and rest is so important for our ability to focus on tasks, our heart health, our brain development, and our mental health. This month students will recognize the link between physical health and mental health and how short movement breaks can improve overall wellness. This month I challenge you to enjoy a movement activity as a family. Do you enjoy swimming, skiing, playing catch, or taking a walk outside?

Have your say! EIPS' 2023-24 Annual Feedback Survey Opens March 1-21

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) wants to hear from you. Make sure to complete the 2023-24 EIPS Annual Feedback Survey: For parents and caregivers—open from March 1-21.

Every year, EIPS conducts the feedback survey to gauge its progress toward meeting the goals and priorities outlined in its [Four-Year Education Plan](#). Families are asked a series of questions about:

- their experiences with EIPS and the specific school their child attends;
- the quality of education being provided to students;
- areas for improvement; and
- new this year, the survey includes an additional series of questions—focused on stakeholder confidence in EIPS' priorities and strategic direction as a whole.

Collectively, the Division uses the survey feedback to help guide future planning, decision-making and strategies—all aimed at enhancing student learning and better serving the wider community.

- [**TAKE THE SURVEY NOW!**](#)
 - Open March 1-21 To preview the questions before completing the survey, see Question Preview - 2023-24 EIPS Annual Feedback Survey: For parents and caregivers.
 - NOTE: To share the experiences of more than one child, or if you have a child who attends classes at more than one EIPS school—such as Next Step and an EIPS senior high school—simply complete the survey again.

The survey is anonymous and only takes roughly 10-15 minutes to complete. EIPS will share the survey results in next year's Annual Education Results Report 2023-24.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

- [EIPS Annual Education Results Report 2022-23](#)
- [EIPS Annual Education Results Report 2022-23: Overview](#)
- [EIPS Four Year Education Plan: 2022-26](#)

The background links are also provided throughout the survey, which you can use to help inform your survey answers.

Pre-kindergarten Programming at EIPS

Is there a preschooler in your life experiencing developmental delays or challenges with speech-language or motor-skill development—big or small? If so, Elk Island Public School’s Play And Learn at School (PALS) program could help.

Early learning lays the foundation for success in primary grades and beyond. As such, EIPS offers the pre-kindergarten PALS program in five of its elementary school locations. Applications are now open for free speech-language assessments for those interested in registering in the PALS program this fall. The assessment helps determine if PALS is appropriate for your child.

If you know a preschooler, born in 2020 or 2021, who could benefit from pre-kindergarten programming or want to book an assessment, fill out the [PALS Program Request Form](#) or call 780-417-8219. For more information, visit [eips.ca](#).

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 2022-23](#) and discover how EIPS fosters learning environments for all students to learn, grow and thrive—and why it matters.

March 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](#)
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Did you know?

Alberta Education provides funding to EIPS. The provincial government's funding framework allocates funding directly to the Division, who then allocates funding to individual schools. Every year, EIPS prepares a budget in the spring based on projected enrolment, funding and student-focused initiatives directed by the Board of Trustees. Learn more about [K-12 Education Funding in Alberta](#) and the [EIPS Budget](#).

Kindergarten Registration is Open!

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2024? If so, it's now time to register for kindergarten. To register, simply complete the online registration form at eips.ca/kindergarten.

To help families prepare, Elk Island Public Schools has put together an online [EIPS Kindergarten Tool kit](#) to make the transition as smooth as possible. The kit includes information on registration, important dates, programming options, what to expect, eligibility, how to find your designated school, transportation and more.

Additional information regarding Mundare School's kindergarten program is available at <https://www.mundareschool.ca/>.

EIPS Summer School: Registration opens March 15

Mark your calendars! Registration for EIPS Summer School opens March 15. For more information, see the [Summer School](#) page on Next Step's website.

Kalyna Family Resource Network

Please see the attached posters for March 2024 programming being offered by the Kalyna FRN Lamont County Region. Please be sure to share the posters that are happening throughout the area and not just those taking place in your community. Programs, no matter the community they are taking place in, are open to everyone.

Please see below:

Connecting
Generations

LEPRECHAUN & THE BUNNY

PROGRAM

MARCH 15, 2024

10:00AM - 11:30AM

JOIN US FOR SOME ST. PATTY'S & EASTER FUN!
WE WILL CRAFT, SNACK,
AND MAKE CONNECTIONS WITH OUR FRIENDS
AT BEAVERHILL PIONEER LODGE IN LAMONT

This program is FREE to families with children ages 0-6 and
homeschool families but REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.

Please register by noon March 12, 2024.

Registration link: <https://signup.com/go/PiqZVmx>

Please park on the street and enter around back at the main doors.
We will be upstairs in the activity room beside the elevator.



With our
partners:



Beaverhill
Pioneer Lodge

Made with PosterMyWall.com

Free program
for families
with children ages 1-6



March 2024
We will be making:
Irish Soda Bread Muffins!



COOKING WITH YOUR LITTLES

(Because who doesn't like a little adventure)

Join us for learning, socializing, and laughter as we cook with our littles (ages 1-6). While making a tasty treat, we will focus on engaging children in the kitchen and its importance.

Chipman Hall- Wed., March 6 (1:00-2:30pm)
Lamont Meeting Room - Thurs., March 7 (10:00-11:30am)
Registration for either program due by March 4 at noon

Please sign up for one Session by link or QR code: <https://signup.com/go/saqOMuZ>
For more info follow us on Facebook or email: erin.b@lamontcounty.ca



Max 5
families
/session



FAMILY ACTIVITY NIGHT

FREE
Drop-in any time!
Join us for
St. Patty's make &
takes, activities
& a snack!

Leprechaun Magic



All families
welcome!



At Lamont Public Library
Wednesday, March 13, 2024

5:30 - 7:30pm

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with our
partners:



Lamont Public Library

MARCH 2024



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31					1 Professional Learning Day: No school	2
3	4 ECS Day	5	6 ECS Day Hot Lunch - Ham & Cheese Croissant. Hat Day Early Dismissal	7	8	9
10	11 ECS Day	12	13 ECS Day Hot Lunch- Quality Pizza	14	15 ECS Day Report Cards Live on PowerSchool	16
17	18 ECS Day	19	20 ECS Day Hot Lunch- Cheese or Chicken Quesadilla	21	22 School Closure Day	23
24	25 Spring Break	26 Spring Break	27 Spring Break	28 Spring Break	29 Good Friday Spring Break	30