



# Shark Bites Weekly Update

Every Day, Every Student, A Success.



southpointeschool.ca

## Principal's Message

Enjoy the beautiful weather!



## WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday, Jan. 29	Grades 7 – 9 Ski Trip
Tuesday, Jan. 30	
Wednesday, Jan. 31	Professional Learning Day – no school for students
Thursday, Feb. 1	Semester 2 begins
Friday, Feb. 2	Grade 9 Immunizations

## COMING UP

Wednesday, February 7	Early Dismissal @ 1:51pm
Thursday, February 8	Teacher's Convention – no school
Friday, February 9	Teacher's Convention – no school
Wednesday, February 14	Spirit Day – Wear Red, Pink & White

### Inside this Issue:

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# **Fundraising Association Update**

## **HOT LUNCH**

**February's Hot Lunch will be from the Canadian Brewhouse.**

The Hot Lunch Dates for the rest of the year have been added to the School Calendar and the Hot Lunch Calendar. **February to May is all now LIVE!**

**\*\* Please ensure you complete your payment when ordering**

In June we will be doing a Hot Dog Lunch again for all students.



Hot Lunches Online ordering and payment processing for schools  
[spschool.hotlunches.net](http://spschool.hotlunches.net)

**\*\*Please remember if your child is away on their hot lunch day, plan to either pick it up from the school office or donate it. Unfortunately, if we are not aware, the lunch will be donated to another person, refunds will not be given. We ask that you please contact the school if your child is away.**

Should you have any comments, suggestions, or questions you can reach out via email at [spschoolhotlunchadmin@gmail.com](mailto:spschoolhotlunchadmin@gmail.com)

## **\*\*BEAR TRACKS\*\***

There are still some buckets of bear tracks left, please text Laelia 403-612-9580 or email [president.fass@gmail.com](mailto:president.fass@gmail.com) to arrange an order. \$30/pail

## **SILENT AUCTION**

School Council is having a dance on Friday, February 16!

We are once again looking for silent auction donations to help raise funds for the school. If you have anything you'd like to donate, please contact Tracy @ [vicepresident.fass@gmail.com](mailto:vicepresident.fass@gmail.com) or text 780-298-6295. Thank you in advance.

## **FASS Secretary**

We are looking for a volunteer to join the FASS team! If interested, please contact Laelia [president.fass@gmail.com](mailto:president.fass@gmail.com) This is a great way to get involved with the school and help with fundraising for the kids.

### **ONGOING FUNDRAISERS**

#### **COBS (Fort Saskatchewan location only):**

- Just mention SouthPointe School when you are making a purchase.
- Cobs gives back 5% of what we spend! Last year \$350.00 was given back to the school from this fundraiser!

#### **BOSTON PIZZA (all locations)**

- Collect your receipts and drop them off at the school
- Boston Pizza donates 5% back

#### **FLIPGIVE**

- Perfect timing to start Christmas shopping!
- For online shopping! (Old Navy, Indigo, Canadian Tire, Walmart, Home Depot, Starbucks and more!)
- You can even get/reload your gift cards here!

## Fort High Honours Program



# FORT HIGH GRADE 10 HONOURS PROGRAM

The Honours program at Fort High is an enriched program designed for high achieving students who are motivated, responsible, and serious about their academic success. This program encourages students to extend themselves beyond the minimal requirements of the regular academic course program. Students enrolling in this program should possess a strong passion for the course content and demonstrate exemplary behaviour and work habits.

The Grade 10 Honours program offers a well-rounded education that satisfies the Grade 10 curriculum, while offering more complexity and deeper discussion to prepare students for Grade 11 and 12 academic successes. Assessment for the Grade 10 Honours courses will be the same as the regular grade 10 academic courses (Math 10C, Science 10, English Language Arts 10-1, Social Studies 10-1)

Students will enjoy the benefits of stimulating intellectual and social interaction in a supportive, stimulating, and inviting school community. With distinction and commitment, the Honours program horizontally extends the regular curricular objectives with a focus on higher-level reasoning, critical thinking skills, inquiry-based learning, links to other disciplines, and optional subject matter.

**Prerequisite:** Students who are thinking of applying to the FHS Honours program for Grade 10 should have their core average in Grade 9 at 80% or higher at the time of application. The top 30 applicants in the program receive enrichment course content in all the core subjects: Math, Science, English Language Arts, and Social Studies. The actual admission average may fluctuate depending on the number of applicants.

### **Proposed Schedule:**

**Semester 1 courses:** Math 10C / Science 10 / CALM & Physical Education / Option

**Semester 2 courses:** English Language Arts 10-1 / Social Studies 10-1 / Biology 20 / Option

**Rationale:** By taking Biology 20 in Grade 10, it allows more flexibility to take all three sciences throughout high school. Physics 20 and Chemistry 20 are recommended to take in Grade 11; this will then open the possibility of taking Biology 30 in Grade 11. Taking the accelerated approach will allow the students to fit Math 31 into their schedules in Grade 12.



**Feeding Hearts Food Drive** will take place between Thursday, **February 1** and Wednesday, **February 14**.

SouthPointe School is hosting this food drive to support our local food bank. The class that shows the most kindness by donating the most items will win a Valentine's treat. Thank you for showing your support!

**All non-perishable food** and toiletries are gratefully accepted but the following is a list of the most urgently needed items.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nut-free school snacks (granola bars, fruit cups)</li><li>• Jam – small jars</li><li>• Instant oatmeal</li><li>• Sugar</li><li>• Coffee</li><li>• Ready-to-eat soup</li><li>• Pasta Sauce</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1 L Juice</li><li>• Rice</li><li>• Kraft Dinner</li><li>• Canned meat (ham, chicken, turkey)</li><li>• Mr. Noodle or ramen noodle</li><li>• Cookies</li></ul>
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## **Inclement Weather**



With the winter season almost here, we want to remind families 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) advises families of any bus cancellations using various communications tools—automated-telephone messages, alerts posted on [www.eips.ca](http://www.eips.ca) and school websites, Twitter, Facebook, local radio stations, and notification through both the Bus Status and the Ride 360 apps. Morning bus cancellations are posted on [www.eips.ca](http://www.eips.ca) by 6:30 a.m.

Decisions regarding bus cancellations are guided by EIPS administrative procedures that state, “school bus service may be suspended...when there is a forecast or current temperature of -40 C, including wind chill factor, in one or more regions.” Other reasons for suspending or delaying school bus services include adverse weather and poor road conditions. When school bus services are suspended, schools remain open to students. EIPS believes families have the right and responsibility to make choices for their children based on their beliefs and perceptions of safety during times of inclement weather.

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

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# Make Your Mark on Poverty

An Initiative of United Way of the Alberta Capital Region

This year, SouthPointe School has been awarded a grant from Denton's Make Your Mark on Poverty and the United Way. Our initiative this year is *Blankets and Basics*. According to Families First, 1 in 20 people living in Fort Saskatchewan are experiencing poverty, and the Food Bank has reported that there were over 360 Christmas hampers delivered this year. Those are some incredible numbers! We all have experienced the impacts of rising costs of food and sundries, and the colder than normal temperatures this winter have NOT helped!

Grade Five students will be collecting some much needed items for the Fort Sask Food Bank and Families First. Baby items such as diapers, wipes, and formula are in high demand, along with blankets, mittens, and \$5 gift cards. Please help us make a difference in our community by donating new or gently used items. Even larger items such as sleeping bags are much welcomed! The last day for collection will be February 7<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your support!

**Grade 5 Team**

Be EPPIC!



### **Kindergarten Registration Starts Soon!**

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2024? If so, it's almost time to register for kindergarten.

Kindergarten registration opens for the 2024-25 school year on Feb. 1, 2024. 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 SouthPointe School's kindergarten program is available at [www.southpointeschool.ca](http://www.southpointeschool.ca)

### **Returning Student Registration: 2024-25**

Mark your calendars! Returning student registration for the 2024-25 school year will take place Feb. 8-21, 2024.

Families of all current students—with the exception of graduating Grade 12 students—must complete the process to confirm the school their child plans to attend in the 2024-25 school year or advise the Division of their plans not to return to EIPS.

Additionally, students who want to attend a non-designated school need to make that request through the returning student registration process—acceptance is based on available space. Watch for more details in the new year.



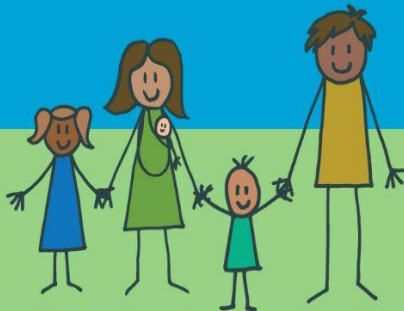


Families First Society  
FORT SASKATCHEWAN

# T.W.E.E.T

Today we engage and explore together

## IN - PERSON



## WINTER SCHEDULE 2024



### >>>>> DROP IN

Drop in with your children to this FREE play program filled with activities, songs, snacks and more. All are welcome, with activities geared for children aged 0 to 6 years.

**Learn more about how to help your children thrive**

### Saturday Mornings Fort Saskatchewan

Families First Building  
9901 90 Street

**9:30 am to 11:30 am**

- ☑ January 20
- ☑ February 10
- ☑ March 9 and 23



Families First Society  
FORT SASKATCHEWAN

# SILLY SPROUTS PLAY

WINTER SCHEDULE 2024

IN-PERSON

DROP-IN

Join us for songs, rhymes,  
stories and time to play!

Drop-in to this **FREE**,  
facilitated program for  
caregivers and their  
children aged 0 to 6 years.

*Alberta* Provincial Family  
Resource Networks

Program of the Fort Saskatchewan  
and Sturgeon Region  
Family Resource Network



## MONDAYS - CARDIFF

Cardiff Community Hall  
55320 RR 251 Sturgeon County

9:30 to 11:00 am

January 15, 22, 29  
February 5, 12, 26  
March 4, 11, 18

No program  
February 19

## MONDAYS - GIBBONS

Gibbons Cultural Centre  
5115 51 Street

9:00 to 10:30 am

January 15, 22, 29  
February 5, 12, 26  
March 4, 11, 18

No program  
February 19

## TUESDAYS - REDWATER

Pembina Place  
4944 53 Street

9:30 to 11:30 am

January 16, 23, 30  
February 6, 13, 20, 27  
March 5, 12, 19

## WEDNESDAYS - LEGAL

Citadel Centre  
4812 51 Avenue

9:30 to 11:30 am

January 17, 24, 31  
February 7, 14, 21, 28  
March 6, 13, 20

## WEDNESDAYS FORT SASKATCHEWAN

Families First Building  
9901 90 Street

9:30 to 11:30 am

January 17, 24, 31  
February 7, 14, 21, 28  
March 6, 13, 20

## THURSDAYS BON ACCORD

Town Office Basement  
5025 50 Avenue

9:30 to 11:30 am

January 18, 25  
February 1, 15, 22, 29  
March 7, 14, 21

No program  
February 8



Families First Society  
FORT SASKATCHEWAN

# FAMILY FUN NIGHT

## WINTER 2024



### DROP-IN

Open doors to an evening of family fun, nutritious snack and a bedtime story.

Activities will be geared for children aged 0 to 6 years with the invitation open for all to play.

**Come spend some special time together as a family!**

Join us in the following communities:

#### JANUARY:

- Thursday, January 18- Morinville Community Cultural Centre
- Monday, January 22- Legal Citadel Centre
- Tuesday, January 30- Gibbons Cultural Centre

#### FEBRUARY:

- Wednesday, February 7- Redwater Pembina Place
- Wednesday, February 14- Bon Accord- Arena
- Thursday, February 22 - Morinville Community Cultural Centre
- Monday, February 26- Legal Citadel Centre

#### MARCH:

- Tuesday, March 5- Gibbons Cultural Centre
- Wednesday March 13- Redwater Pembina Place
- Wednesday, March 20- Bon Accord- Arena



*Program of the Fort Saskatchewan  
and Sturgeon Region Family Resource Network*

### Time 5:30 to 7:00pm

For More Information :

780-998-5595 ext. 221

[www.familiesfirstsociety.ca](http://www.familiesfirstsociety.ca)

*Alberta* Provincial Family  
Resource Networks



## CIRCLE FOR CAREGIVERS OF YOUTH

This is a support circle for caregivers of youth aged 8 to 13 years who are struggling with intense behaviours and feelings of overwhelm. It is a safe space to connect with other caregivers who are parenting through these important years. You will have the opportunity to share your strategies, successes and difficulties in raising youth.



### Monday Night Fort Saskatchewan

Families First Building  
9901 90 Street

5:30 to 6:00pm Supper

6:00 to 7:30pm Circle

#### WINTER 2024 DATES

- January 15 + 29
- February 12 + 26
- March 4 + 25

**Children's programming is available**

Please register for any of the sessions you can attend by calling 780-998-5595 ext. 221

In a circle we are all equal.  
There is no one behind you, no one above you, and no one below you.

Are you a caregiver navigating the unique challenges and joys of raising a neurodiverse child? We warmly invite you to join our monthly support group.

This is a safe space to share your journey, learn from others, and gain valuable insights into navigating the world of neurodiversity.

*Join our Village*

Register and reserve your child spot in advance by calling (780) 998-5595 ext 221 no later than the previous Monday.

**\*\*Children's Programming is Available!\*\***

Families First Society, 9901 90 St, Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L 3T1

# DRAGONFLY SUPPORT GROUP



## Winter 2024 Dates

DATE	TOPIC	TIME
January 22	Speaker from Canada Revenue Agency	6:00 pm to 7:30 pm
February 05	Group Discussion	6:00 pm to 7:00 pm
March 18	Group Discussion	6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Drop In Is Open  
Tuesdays and Fridays  
From 3pm-6pm

# January

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 <b>CLOSED</b>	2 <b>CLOSED</b>	3 <b>CLOSED</b>	4 <b>CLOSED</b>	5 <b>CLOSED</b>
8	9 <b>GAMER TUESDAY</b> 3pm-6pm Drop-In PRIZES	10	11 <b>BASKETBALL</b> 6PM-730PM	12 Flex Fridays 3pm-6pm Drop-In BOARD GAMES Baking Cookies
	Rockwall Climbing 6pm-9pm Need a Wavier Painting			<b>NERF WAR</b> 6pm-9pm Just Dance Pizza pops
15	16 <b>GAMER TUESDAY</b> 3pm-6pm Drop-In PRIZES	17	18 <b>BASKETBALL</b> 6PM-730PM	19 Flex Fridays 3pm-6pm Drop-In BINGO Making Bracelets
	Swimming 6pm-9pm COSTS \$9			<b>Karaoke</b> 6pm-9pm <b>Dodgeball</b>
22 Snowboarding Field Trip 5pm-9pm Need a Wavier Cost 25\$	23 <b>GAMER TUESDAY</b> 3pm-6pm Drop-In PRIZES	24	25 <b>BASKETBALL</b> 6PM-730PM	26 Flex Fridays 3pm-6pm Drop-In MOVIE
	<b>CLOSED</b>			<b>Spa Day</b> Nails . Masks Watch A RomCom 6pm-9pm
29	30 <b>Tobogganing</b> 4pm-7pm FIELD TRIP TO 7 HILLS Need a Wavier Youth Center is Closed	31 <b>CLOSED</b>	bgc Fort Saskatchewan	Youth Night is on Tuesdays and Fridays 6pm - 9pm

# FINANCIAL LITERACY

WITH THE CREDIT COUNSELLING SOCIETY

All sessions are virtual and at 7 - 8pm  
Attend any or all of the sessions

Holiday Money Hangover  
January 17th

Vacations on a Budget  
February 20th

Home Ownership -Are You Ready?  
March 13th

Raising Financially Fit Kids  
April 10th

Register via [fortsask.ca/FCSSWorkshops](https://fortsask.ca/FCSSWorkshops)  
If you have questions please call  
780.992.6267 or [FCSSinfo@fortsask.ca](mailto:FCSSinfo@fortsask.ca)



## Celebrating Differences

Our differences make us stronger, more vibrant, and richer as a community. Whether it's our diverse backgrounds, unique talents or varied perspectives and abilities, embracing differences helps us to learn, grow, and connect - creating a more inclusive environment for everyone.

Talking to children about diversity can sometimes be difficult, especially as difference is often viewed negatively. They may ask us uncomfortable questions, and we may not have all the answers. However, when these questions are rooted in curiosity, it provides us an opportunity engage in meaningful conversation rather than shut it down. Diversity is what makes each one of us unique, with different perspectives. By reframing these differences positively, we provide the space to learn from one another.

Staying curious and asking questions is what leads to a better understanding and sense of belonging for all.

Amber Grant

Diversity, Inclusion and Community Development Coordinator

FCSS



# Grandparents who Parent Support Group

Connect with other grandparents who are raising their grandchildren

Meetings are 4th Monday of the Month

6:30 - 8:00pm

@BGC Fort Saskatchewan



## Meeting Dates:

January 22, 2024

February 26, 2024

March 25, 2024

April 22, 2024

May 27, 2024

June 17, 2024

To register for Childcare or  
for more info call 780-992-0103

ext. 303



# Family and Community Support Services

What's coming up?

## January

Credit Counselling: Holiday Money Hangover

**January 17th 7-8pm Virtual**

Cyberworld by SAFFRON

**January 25th 6:30 - 8:30pm @ SouthPointe School**

## February

Eating Disorders Info Session for Caregivers

**February 6th 6-7:30pm @ the Fort Sask Public Library**

Credit Counselling: Vacations on a Budget

**February 20th 7-8pm Virtual**

Co-Parenting 101

**February 22nd 6:30-7:30pm @ the Fort Sask Public Library**

Eating Healthy on a Budget with Kids

**February 27th 6:30-7:30pm @ the Fort Sask Public Library**

## March

Child Support - The Basics

**March 7th 6:30 - 7:30pm @ the Fort Sask Public Library**

Credit Counselling: Holiday Money Hangover

**March 13th 7-8pm Virtual**

Separation and Your Parenting Rights

**March 21st 6:30-7:30pm @**

**Fort Sask Public Library**



For more information: [fortsask.ca/fcss](https://fortsask.ca/fcss) or 780-992-6267