



# Shark Bites Weekly Update

Every Day, Every Student, A Success.



southpointeschool.ca

## Principal's Message

Thank you to all parents that were able to join us last week for Parent Teacher Student conferences. The information that was shared will hopefully help guide students as they continue in their learning before the next report card is released in March.

A big thank you to our families that supported our school by purchasing books at the book fair. It was a great success!

A reminder to families that with the nice weather, our playground has started to melt and there is quite a bit of standing water. Parents may want to consider packing extra clothes and socks for our youngest students in case they need extras after recess.

Just a reminder that next Wednesday is early dismissal and Thursday and Friday there is no school as Teachers Convention is occurring. I hope everyone has a great weekend and has an opportunity to get outside and enjoy the nice weather.



## WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday, Feb. 5	
Tuesday, Feb. 6	
Wednesday, Feb. 7	Early Dismissal @ 1:51pm EIPS Ribbon Day
Thursday, Feb. 8	Returning Student Registration Opens Teacher's Convention – no school
Friday, Feb. 9	Teacher's Convention – no school

### Inside this Issue:

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- Week at a Glance
- Coming Up
- Fundraising Update (Hot Lunch)
  - Grade 10 Honours Program
- Food Drive
- Kindergarten Registration
- Returning Student Registration

FCSS

## COMING UP

Wednesday, February 14	Spirit Day – Wear Red, Pink & White
Saturday, February 17	<a href="#">Random Acts of Kindness Day</a>
Monday, February 19	Family Day – no school
Wednesday, February 21	Returning Student Registration Closes

## **Fundraising Association Update**

### HOT LUNCH



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

Deadline for orders is Friday, February 16 at 3:00pm.

**Wednesday, February 21** – Grades 1-3 & Mon/Wed Kindergarten

**Thursday, February 22** – Grades 4-6 & Tues/Thurs Kindergarten

**Friday, February 23** – Grades 7-9

The Hot Lunch for the rest of the year is LIVE!

**\*\* Please ensure you double-check what month you are ordering for and that you complete your payment\*\***

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**

## **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!

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.

The Grade 4-6 ski trip to Sunridge Ski Hill has been rescheduled to **Friday, March 15**. Updated permission forms will be sent out in early March. If you have any questions, contact our office at 780-998-2747.



## 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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# 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 is Now 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](https://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 SouthPointe School's kindergarten program is available at <https://www.southpointeschool.ca/>

## Complete your Returning Student Registration: February 8-21

Elk Island Public Schools' (EIPS) [returning student registration](#) process is now open. All current students, except Grade 12, must complete the online Returning Student Registration Form to confirm their enrolment in a school for the upcoming 2024-25 school year. 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. **All current EIPS students are required to complete the form by Feb. 21, 2024.**

To complete your child's returning student registration, refer to the Returning Student Registration Form email you received from Elk Island Public Schools via Permission Click on February 8. Families will receive one email for each student. No log in is required to complete the form.

For more information, contact the school directly.

### RELATED INFORMATION:

[Returning Student Registration Process](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[EIPS School Boundary Maps](#)

[Closed Boundaries 2024-25](#)

[Find my designated school](#)

[Applying to a non-designated school](#)



### **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.

### **Did you know?**

Within EIPS, schools consistently offer a broad range of educational choices for students of varied backgrounds and interests—from specialized language and faith-based programs to advanced academic opportunities and competitive sports to specialized supports and continuing education. Through this, students are then able push their limits and find meaningful ways to contribute to and enhance their communities. Learn more about Division programs and services on the [EIPS website](#).

### **Complete the Alberta Education Assurance Survey**

Once again, Alberta Education is surveying teachers, students, and families through its annual Alberta Education Assurance (AEA) Survey. The survey gathers feedback on the quality of education provided by school authorities and their schools, which they then use to help understand how they're doing and plan for the future.

Throughout February, Grades 4 & 7 students at SouthPointe School are completing the survey online at the school. Student participation is voluntary and completely anonymous. Students are assigned a random username and password to ensure survey responses aren't linked to any individual student. The survey doesn't take long to complete and is done within the school day during regular class time.

Additionally, parents and guardians of students in these grades are also asked to take a survey online. Alberta Education has mailed families information about the survey directly. As with the student and teacher survey, it's anonymous and asks questions about your school experiences. If you have a child in these grades, we encourage you to participate. The survey deadline is March 1, 2024.

Results from the AEA Survey are provided to Elk Island Public Schools each spring. The Division then uses the data to inform its four-year education plan, school education plans and strategies for continuous improvement. Each fall, the results are also shared with EIPS families and school communities in the Division's *Annual Education Results Report*.

### **RELATED INFORMATION**

[AEA Survey: Information for parents and guardians](#)

[AEA Survey](#)

[Assurance and Accountability: Alberta's K-12 education system](#)

## **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 the most recent [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.

### **February 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-identify as First Nations, Métis or 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](#)

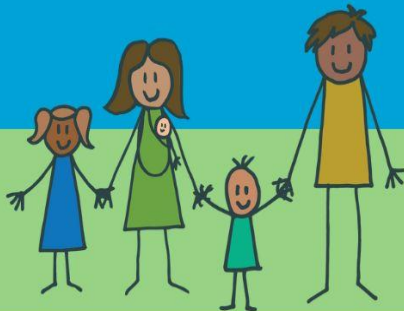


Families First Society  
FORT SASKATCHEWAN

# 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



#### 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



# 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)





# 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**

Cyberbworld 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



*Confidence Courses*

# BABYSITTER TRAINING

Open to kids age 12 (or turning 12 within 6 months)

Gain the skills needed to take care of others.

**Fri, Feb 9: 9-4pm or  
Mon, Mar 26: 9-4pm**

**Heartland Alliance Church, Sh Pk**

Cost \$75 GST included

Register online: [confidencecourses.ca](http://confidencecourses.ca)





*Confidence Courses*

# HOME ALONE SAFETY

Designed for kids age 9+ new to staying home alone.

**Thurs, Feb 8: 9-12pm or 1-4pm**

**Tues, Mar 26: 9-12pm or 1-4pm**

**Heartland Alliance Church, Sh Pk**

Cost \$65 GST included

Register online: [confidencecourses.ca](https://confidencecourses.ca)