



# Shark Bites Weekly Update

Every Day, Every Student, A Success.



[southpointeschool.ca](http://southpointeschool.ca)

## Principal's Message

Thank you to all parents who have completed the returning student registration via Permission Click. This allows families to indicate if they are returning to SouthPointe School for next year or if they are looking to attend another school within Elk Island Public. This information is very helpful for us as we start to look at planning for next year. This information is used to help us determine how many classes of each grade that we might need. It also helps us with determining how many junior high elective classes we will need to offer. If you have not yet completed this form, we ask that you complete it by February 21, 2024. If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

Congratulations to Mrs. Lindsey Arnason, our school counsellor. Mrs. Arnason has accepted a position as a Support for Students Consultant with Elk Island Public Schools. We wish Mrs. Arnason all the best in her new position and thank her for all of her incredible work with SouthPointe. We would like to welcome Mrs. Tracy Russell to SouthPointe School. She will be starting as the school counsellor on Tuesday, February 20. Mrs. Russell joins us from Brentwood Elementary and we are looking forward to having her as part of our team.

Thank you to our School Council and Fundraising Association for organizing the Family Dance taking place on February 16, 2024, at 6:30. We are looking forward to seeing families at the dance. I hope that everyone has a nice Family Day long weekend.



Carol Brown  
Principal

## WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday, Feb. 19	Family Day – No school
Tuesday, Feb. 20	
Wednesday, Feb. 21	Hot Lunch – Gr. 1-3 & Mon/Wed Kindergarten Returning Student Registration CLOSES
Thursday, Feb. 22	Hot Lunch – Gr. 4-6 & Tues/Thurs Kindergarten
Friday, Feb. 23	Hot Lunch – Gr. 7-9

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## COMING UP

Wednesday, February 28      Pink Shirt Day / Anti-Bullying Awareness  
Friday, March 1              PD Day – No school for students

## **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.

Orders that have not been paid for by this time will be deleted.

**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.

## 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!



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



## SCHOOL DANCE & SILENT AUCTION

School Council is having a dance on Friday, February 16 from 6:30pm – 8:30pm!

**Free Admission**, however, if you bring a **Food Bank Donation**, your name will be entered for a Door Prize. We will have a DJ, Canteen & Silent Auction.

The Canteen will be run by volunteers, so if anyone would like to help, please reach out to Tracy 780-298-6295. Everything that is sold at the Canteen will be **\$1 or \$2 and CASH ONLY**.

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.



## 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](#)

# JOB FAIR



FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 2024  
9:30 AM - 7:00 PM  
9964 93 AVE  
FORT SASKATCHEWAN

Are you an employer looking for people to join your team? Do you have current vacancies that you would like filled?

*Join us for a day of networking, job opportunities, and career growth as we connect jobseekers with employers in the area.*



Career Pathways  
Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS)  
P 780.417.8114

[www.eips.ca](http://www.eips.ca) | [Twitter: eipspathways](https://twitter.com/eipspathways) | [Instagram: eipscareerpathways](https://www.instagram.com/eipscareerpathways)





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**

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



*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)