



Shark Bites Weekly Update

Every Day, Every Student, A Success.



southpointeschool.ca

Principal's Message

Thank you to all the students and staff that participated in Pink Shirt Day on Wednesday. It was great to see a flood of pink in our hallways in support of safe, caring, and welcoming spaces for everyone at SouthPointe School.

We would like to congratulate Mrs. Danielle Booker on her new position with Elk Island Public Schools. Mrs. Booker will be starting as the First Nations, Metis, and Inuit cultural consultant for the division. We wish Mrs. Booker all the best in her new position. Mrs. Shari Olesn will be taking over the grade 2 classroom that Mrs. Booker currently teaches. We welcome Mrs. Olsen to our staff.

A reminder that Friday, March 1 is a professional learning day for all staff, so students will not have school.

We hope that the weather warms up over the weekend so that outside recesses can resume. Have a great weekend!

Carol Brown
Principal



WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday, Mar. 4	
Tuesday, Mar. 5	
Wednesday, Mar. 6	Early Dismissal – 1:51pm
Thursday, Mar. 7	
Friday, Mar. 8	Pizza Lunch – Grades 7-9 only

Inside this Issue:

[Principal's Message](#)

[Week at a Glance](#)

[Coming Up](#)

[Fundraising Update
\(Hot Lunch\)](#)

[Kindergarten
Registration](#)

[FCSS](#)

COMING UP

Wednesday, March 13	Hot Lunch – Gr. 1-3 & Mon/Wed Kindergarten
Thursday, March 14	Hot Lunch – Gr. 4-6 & Tues/Thurs Kindergarten
Friday, March 15	Hot Lunch – Gr. 7-9
Friday, March 15	Grades 4-6 Ski Trip - Sunridge
Friday, March 15	Report Cards Published
Thursday, March 21	Spirit Day – Beach Day/Tacky Tourist Day
Friday, March 22	School Closure – No school
March 25 – 29	Spring Break

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Fundraising Association Update



- PIZZA LUNCH** - **Friday March 8 for Grades 7-9 only** (Grades 4-6 will be a later date)
- \$2 per slice or \$5 for two slices and a drink

HOT LUNCH

March's Hot Lunch will be from **Tim Hortons & Papa John's**.

Wednesday, March 13 – Grades 1-3 & Mon/Wed Kindergarten

Thursday, March 14 – Grades 4-6 & Tues/Thurs Kindergarten

Friday, March 15 – 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

****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

****BEAR TRACKS****

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

FASS Secretary

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

ONGOING FUNDRAISERS

BOSTON PIZZA (all locations)

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

FLIPGIVE

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

Just download the app, use the code [Grab your reader's attention with a great quote from the document or use this space to emphasize a key point. To place this text box anywhere on the page, just drag it.]

- **K2TQ9X** and start shopping!

🌟 Celebrating Academic Excellence at SouthPointe School! 🌟

We are thrilled to announce that four outstanding Grade 9 students have been nominated to participate in the prestigious **2024 PASCAL Contest!** This remarkable achievement is a testament to their exceptional skills in mathematics and problem-solving.

Selected by their teacher for their dedication and prowess in the realm of mathematics, these talented individuals represented our school on the global stage through the Centre for Education in Mathematics and Computing at the University of Waterloo.

Their journey not only exemplifies academic excellence but also highlights the commitment of SouthPointe School to nurturing and empowering our students to reach new heights.

Let's congratulate our extraordinary mathematicians for taking on this exciting venture, showcasing the brilliance that makes SouthPointe School a beacon of academic achievement!

#SouthPointePride #PASCALContest2024 #MathematicalMinds



Watch for Thin Ice

Remember, be aware of thin ice this time of year. Depending on changing temperatures, ice can form and melt to varying degrees on outdoor bodies of water. Try to remind your child about the dangers of thin ice, obey all posted signs, take proper care and remain a safe distance from the ice.

For more information about ice safety, visit the [Canadian Red Cross](#).

Did you know?

The colour of ice may be an indication of its strength. Clear blue ice is the strongest. White opaque is half as strong as blue ice. And, grey ice is unsafe—greyness indicates the presence of water.

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 <https://www.eips.ca/registration/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/>

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.

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.

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](#)

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](#).

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



**DRAGONFLY
SUPPORT
GROUP**

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
If you have questions please call
780.992.6267 or FCSSinfo@fortsask.ca



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

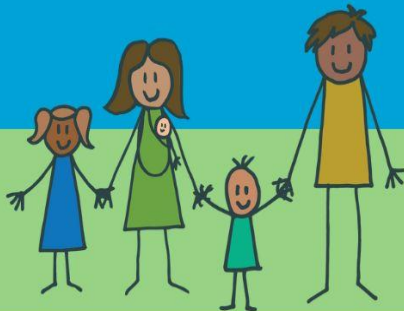


Families First Society
FORT SASKATCHEWAN

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

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.

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 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



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