



# Shark Bites Weekly Update

Every Day, Every Student, A Success.



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

## Principal's Message

March has been a busy month so far. The junior high and elementary students have been finishing up their basketball seasons. Playoffs for the junior high teams start tonight and continue next week. We wish all the teams the best of luck during their playoff games!

We have had several groups of students competing in the Music Festival this week. The band, hand chimes ensemble and the recorder groups competed on Tuesday. The choir was back competing on Thursday against other choirs.

Second term report cards will be available for parents to access through the parent portal on Friday, March 15 after 3pm. I encourage all parents and students to review the report cards. The information provided gives some great information on where students are doing well and where they may be struggling. If you are having troubles logging into the Parent Portal on PowerSchool, please contact the front office and someone will be happy to help.

I am hoping that we have some warmer weather move in over the next few days as the students are looking forward to having the opportunity to spend recess outside again.

*Carol Brown*

Principal



## WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday, Mar. 11	
Tuesday, Mar. 12	
Wednesday, Mar. 13	Hot Lunch – Gr. 1-3 & Mon/Wed Kindergarten
Thursday, Mar. 14	Hot Lunch – Gr. 4-6 & Tues/Thurs Kindergarten
Friday, Mar. 15	Hot Lunch – Gr. 7-9 Grades 4-6 Ski Trip Sunridge Report Cards Published

### Inside this Issue:

[Principal's Message](#)

[Week at a Glance](#)

[Coming Up](#)

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

[Jump Rope for Heart](#)

[Kindergarten  
Registration](#)

[FCSS](#)

## COMING UP

Thursday, March 21	Spirit Day – Beach Day/Tacky Tourist Day
Thursday, March 21	Pancake Breakfast
Friday, March 22	School Closure – No school
March 25 – 29	Spring Break
Friday, March 29	Good Friday – Statutory Holiday - No school
Monday, April 1	Easter Monday – No school
Tuesday, April 2	Classes Resume

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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](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

## **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**

#### **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!

## Jump Rope for Heart - March 4<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>, 2024

Jump Rope for Heart has begun at SouthPointe School for the month of March. We will be raising money for the Heart and Stroke Foundation. All donations will need to be made online; we will NOT be accepting cash or cheque donations. Below is the link to make online donations:

<https://jumpropeforheart.crowdchange.ca/51322>

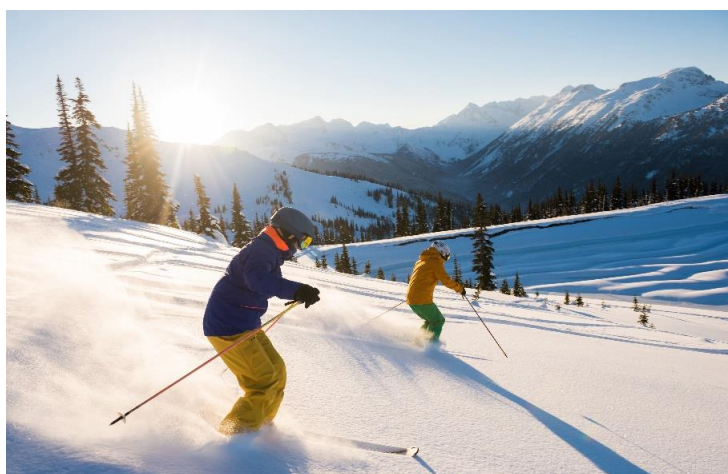
A newsletter containing information regarding online donations and prizes has been sent home with your child.

You can also watch the Jump Rope for Heart Virtual Kick-Off Assembly to find out more about this amazing organization:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1jwDUD\\_qedg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1jwDUD_qedg)



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.



### **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.

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



**EIPS CAREER  
PATHWAYS**

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)

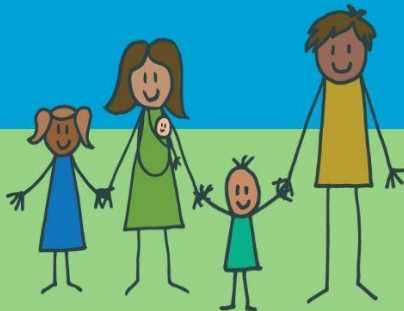


Families First Society  
FORT SASKATCHEWAN

# 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



## 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.

Program of the Fort Saskatchewan  
and Sturgeon Region Family Resource Network

Alberta Provincial Family  
Resource Networks

# 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)