



Shark Bites Weekly Update

Every Day, Every Student, A Success.



southpointeschool.ca

Principal's Message

March just seems to be flying by!

A reminder to parents and students that Term Two Report Cards are available this Friday at 3:00pm for all K-9 students. Parents will need to log on to the Parent Portal to view the progress reports. If you require any assistance with the Parent Portal, please contact the front office staff for assistance.

With the weather turning warmer, elementary parents, it would be wonderful if you could send extra socks and an extra pair of pants with your child that they could keep at school. We have had several students that have fallen in puddles and required a change of clothes this past week.

We hope that our grade 4-6 students enjoy their ski trip to Sunridge tomorrow. Have a wonderful weekend!

Carol Brown
Principal



WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday, Mar. 18	
Tuesday, Mar. 19	
Wednesday, Mar. 20	
Thursday, Mar. 21	Pancake Breakfast Spirit Day – Beach/Tacky Tourist Dress up
Friday, Mar. 22	School Closure – no classes

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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

Fundraising Association Update

PANCAKE BREAKFAST HOSTED BY FASS/SCHOOL COUNCIL – On Thursday, March 21st, there will be a FREE Pancake Breakfast for all students (approximately 2-3 pancakes each, so plan accordingly).



HOT LUNCH

April's Hot Lunch will be from **Boston Pizza**.

Wednesday, April 24 – Grades 1-3 & Mon/Wed Kindergarten

Thursday, April 25 – Grades 4-6 & Tues/Thurs Kindergarten

Friday, April 26 – 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!

Jump Rope for Heart - March 4th-21st, 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



Get ready for Kindergarten!

Do you have a child registered in kindergarten next year? If so, make sure to attend SouthPointe School's upcoming Kindergarten Information Night on Wednesday April 24 from 5:30-6:30 pm.

- Short presentation on what to expect for Kindergarten
- meet the teachers
- see the classroom
- gain insight on play-based learning
- see what a typical day looks like



Kindergarten Information Night 2024:

Date: April 24, 2024

Time: 5:30 pm

Location: SouthPointe School

To make the transition to school as smooth as possible, Elk Island Public Schools has put together an online toolkit for families. This includes information about registration, important dates, programming options, what to expect, eligibility, finding your designated school, transportation and more. [Kindergarten | Elk Island Public Schools | EIPS](#)

Additional information about SouthPointe School's kindergarten program is available on the school [website](#).

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.

PARENT CORNER

Executive function and self-regulation are the skills that children need to learn in order to be successful in many areas. Imagine your brain is like a busy airport and executive function is the air traffic control tower that helps planes take off and land safely. Without executive function, students may struggle with things like decoding words or organizing their ideas when writing. While we're not born with executive function skills, our brains are ready to learn these skills. Some are modeled to us and we pick them up. Others need more explicit instruction and practice. [Check out this article](#) for some great activities that help children from infancy to adolescence develop their executive function skills.



Make the most of your summer with EIPS Summer School

With more than 40 senior high courses, students can earn credits, upgrade marks, lighten their workloads or finish needed prerequisites.

4-WEEK SESSIONS

JULY 2-26

2-WEEK SESSIONS

JULY 2-12 & JULY 15-26

Bev Facey Community High
8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Courses include:

- Core Senior High Courses
- CALM
- Physical Education
- Work Experience & RAP
- Land-Based Learning
- Aboriginal Studies
- Workplace Safety
- First Aid

Plus, online complementary courses



Registration opens March 15

eipsnextstep.ca/summer-school

Do more this summer!

EIPS Summer School: Register opens MARCH 15, 2024

July 2-26

Registration for EIPS Summer School is now open. The program, organized through Next Step, offers more than 40 senior high courses. Students can earn credits, upgrade marks, lighten workloads or finish pre-requisite courses.

Courses include:

Open to EIPS students entering grades 10 to 12 next fall, and students in their Grade 12 year.

- English Language Arts 10-1, 20-1, 20-2, 30-1 and 30-2
- Social Studies 10-1, 20-1, 20-2, 30-1 and 30-2
- Mathematics 10-3, 10C, 20-1, 20-2, 20-3, 30-1 and 30-2
- Science 10, 14, 24 and 30
- Biology 20 and 30
- Chemistry 20 and 30
- Physics 20 and 30
- Physical Education 10
- Traditional Land-based Learning 25
- Aboriginal Studies 10, 20, and 30
- Career and Life Management (CALM 20)
- Foundations in Industry Workplace Safety
- Work Experience and RAP

Plus, choose from a variety of complementary courses—offered online.

Learn more about [EIPS Summer School 2024](#)—including 2024 course offerings, registration, important dates and more.

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.



**EIPS CAREER
PATHWAYS**

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)

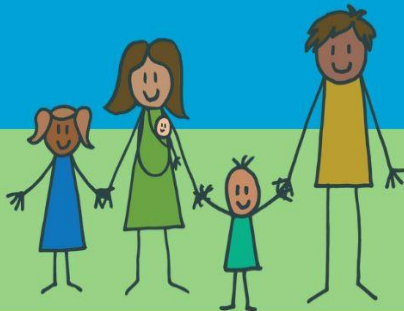


Families First Society
FORT SASKATCHEWAN

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



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.

BGC, Families First and Restorative Justice along with FCSS have been working hard to create an event that is coming up Monday, April 8th 6:30-8:30pm for caregivers. BGC is graciously hosting the event. This is an opportunity to come together and meet other caregivers and participate in a couple of learning sessions. Childcare and a light supper will be provided.

There will be Four sessions offered with the chance to participate in Two.

Sessions are:

Cyberworld **OR** 4th R

AND

Love Languages **OR** Brain Architecture

To register: [Community Connections Evening](#)

Space and childcare is limited so early registration is encouraged.

Kristi Wahl (She/Her)
Youth and Family Coordinator
Family and Community Support Services
City of Fort Saskatchewan
780-992-6265

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