

Shark Bites

NEWSLETTER



SouthPointe School

Principal's Message

Happy October!
 Congratulations to our Senior Boys Volleyball Team who won GOLD in our SouthPointe Invitational Tournament and to our Senior Girls who placed 4th after a tight bronze medal game going to 3 sets this past weekend. A big THANK YOU to Mr. & Mrs. Nyznyk, Mr. Kokotailo & Ms. McKee for all the work and time they put in this weekend coaching and hosting our Tournament. Thank you to our Junior Girls team who helped score-keep too! We will be hosting a tournament for our Junior Teams at the end of this month. We had 48 Junior High students participate in EIPS' Cross Country race this week and many placed in the top 20! A big CONGRATS to Erin Z. who won third in Senior Girls, Will S. who finished first in Junior Boys and Scarlett M. who finished first in Junior Girls. Great job to everyone who participated in running the 2-3 km race. October is a full month with lots of fun events for our staff and students. This Friday there is no school for students as our staff will be participating in their Professional Learning Day and collaborating with other teachers from our Division. Next week is Read-In-Week and photo re-takes. For Read-In Week, Ms. Gauchier has some exciting ways for our students to engage with reading. I'd encourage our families to read a book together or for parents to share what their favorite books to read in Elementary and Junior High school were. One of my favorite books to read is, "The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse" by Charlie Mackesy. This book is a new favorite. I love all kinds of books, but picture books with simple words and rich meanings are by far the best kind. Read this book and get to know yourself, and those around you. It is about kindness, love, and compassion. Happy reading!

Also coming up this month, we have our School Council meeting on October 16th. It will be our Annual General Meeting. We also have Parent Teacher interviews on October 22nd and 23rd, Book Fair, Hot Lunch and Halloween! I'd encourage our families to read our newsletter to keep up to date with everything happening in our school.

Have a great weekend! Laurie Caines, Principal



NEXT WEEK

READ IN WEEK

Monday (7)	Senior Boys & Girls Volleyball Practice @ 3:00-4:30PM Photo Re-Take Day for M/W Kinders and Grades 1-4 & 4/5E
Tuesday (8)	Junior Boys & Girls Volleyball Practice @ 3:00-4:30PM Photo Re-Take Day for T/Th Kinders and Grades 5-9 Grade 4/5/6 Choir at Lunch Recess Jr High Band Session 3:00-4:00PM
Wednesday (9)	Senior Boys & Girls Volleyball Practice @ 3:00-4:30PM
Thursday (10)	Junior Boys & Girls Game @ 4:00PM vs FSC @ SPS Grade 6 Hand Chimes at Lunch Recess
Friday (11)	<div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; border: 2px solid white; border-radius: 15px;"> ● Have a great day ● </div>



Coming Up this Month

October 4	Professional Learning Day *No School
October 7-11	Read-In Week
October 7	Photo Re-take Day for M/W Kindergarten & Grades 1-4 & 4/5E
October 8	Photo Re-take Day for T/Th Kindergarten & Grades 5-9
October 14	Thanksgiving *NO SCHOOL
October 16	School Council Meeting at 5:00PM in Flex Space
October 17	Deadline to Order Hot Lunch
October 22	Parent Teacher Interviews & Book Fair @ 4:00PM-7:00PM
October 23	Hot Lunch for Grades 1-3 & M/W Kindergarten
October 23	Parent Teacher Interviews & Book Fair @ 4:00PM-7:00PM
October 24	Hot Lunch for Grades 4-6 & T/Th Kindergarten
October 25	Hot Lunch for Grades 7-9
October 28	SYNC/Coding/Multi-Cultural Association (Gr. 5)
October 30	Wear Orange & Black
October 31	Halloween *Wear Costumes



School Start & End Times

8:10AM - School Begins

11:08AM to 11:48AM - Lunch

2:46PM - School Dismissed

(1:46PM - School Dismissed on Early Dismissal Days)



TO DO LIST



Pay School Fees Online

School fee information for the 2024-25 school year is now posted on the PowerSchool Parent Portal. **All fees are due within 30 days of being posted.** To access your fee information, simply log in to the PowerSchool Parent Portal and go to "Student Fees." There you can view your fees and pay them online. If you're unable to pay your school fees, you can apply to have certain fees waived. The application deadline is Dec. 16, 2024.

NOTE: Don't forget to also log in to the PowerSchool Parent Portal regularly throughout the year. Fees are often added to your child's account to cover the cost of various school activities such as field trips, class projects, extracurricular activities fees and more.

For more information, visit <https://www.southpointeschool.ca/about/fees>. Alternatively, contact Chantelle Grieve, Business Manager at SouthPointe School at 780-998-2747.

Instagram

Elk Island Public Schools is on Instagram!

Want reminders and news about EIPS?

You can now follow the Division on Instagram [@elkispubliicschools](https://www.instagram.com/elkispubliicschools). Stay in the know about what's going on, from divisionwide celebrations to reminders about important dates and deadlines. You can also connect with EIPS on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [YouTube](#) and the [EIPS website](#).

October Hot Lunch

☀️ Grades 1-3 and Mon/Wed K	23 Oct
☀️ Grades 4-6 and Tues/Thur K	24 Oct
☀️ Grades 7-9	25 Oct

To order next month's hot lunch, go to <https://spschool.hotlunches.net/admin/>

****Deadline to order is OCTOBER 17****



PHOTO RE-TAKE DAY

If your child is getting photo re-takes, please email your teacher so they are aware.

Photo re-take days are:

Oct. 7 for M/W Kindergarten and Grades 1-4 & 4/5E

Oct. 8 for T/Th Kindergarten and Grades 5-9

To order photos, visit [Lifetouch](#) website and under "Student ID" input your parent email. You will need your students' ASN (Student ID number found in PowerSchool) to view your photos.



Read In Week

Hello SPS families!

We are excited to share our love of reading with students during Read-in-Week! During the week of October 7th-11th, we will have various activities to celebrate reading with students. Throughout the week, we will have guest readers coming in to read to students including staff from the Fort Saskatchewan Public Library, our excellent administrative team, EIPS First Nation, Métis and Inuit Cultural Consultant Danielle Booker and former principal Carol Brown. Students will be encouraged to stop by the "We Read Too, Can You Guess Who?" bulletin board to see the different types of reading we do each day, and try to guess which staff member reads what! Students will have the opportunity to celebrate Read-in-Week with their buddy class to share the joy of reading with their school community.

We encourage you to take the time to enjoy reading one of your favourite books with your SPS child this week!

Thank you!

Read-in-Week Team



Read In Week is a division wide initiative held annually to encourage a lifelong love of reading and to enhance literacy awareness among students, staff, families and community members. This year's theme: "Reading is for everyone." SouthPointe invites all families to participate in Read In Week by reading yourself, with your child or with someone in the community. For more information, visit the [Read In Week website](#).

-Elk Island Public Schools-

Meet Our Staff

for 2024-2025



Elementary

Mrs. Henderson (ECS)
Ms. Salkeld (ECS)
Mrs. Jefferis (1J)
Ms. Sheridan (1S)
Ms. Foster (2F)
Mrs. Gacek (2G)
Mrs. Gulseth (2G)
Mrs. Lechelt (2L)
Mrs. Olsen (2/30)
Ms. Germaine (3G)
Ms. Oram (3O)
Mrs. Beasley (4B)
Mrs. Estey (4E)
Ms. Hartwick (4H)
Mr. Epp (4/5E)
Ms. Bossert (5B)
Ms. Wright (5W)
Mrs. Henry (6H)
Mr. Henderson (6H)
Mrs. Percy (6P)
Ms. Yule (Music)
Ms. Gauchier (Library)

Admin Team

Mrs. Caines (Principal)
Mr. Giesbrecht (Assistant Principal)
Mrs. Nelson (Assistant Principal)
Mr. Krause (Counsellor)
Ms. LaValley (Mental Health Lead)

Junior High

Ms. Connors
Mrs. Dallyn
Mr. Kokotailo
Ms. Lichak
Ms. Louma
Ms. McKee
Mr. Nyznyk
Mr. Sudyk

Educational Assistants

Mrs. Butler
Mrs. Dykstra
Mrs. Elmore
Mrs. Hamilton
Ms. Hammel
Mrs. Kenny
Mrs. Mackey
Ms. Pawlik
Mrs. Pitters
Ms. Potts
Mrs. Scott
Ms. Townsend
Ms. Wishloff
Mrs. Zielinski

Office Staff

Mrs. Marshall (Secretary)
Mrs. Ferris (Registrar)
Mrs. Grieve (Business Manager)
Ms. Mary (Custodian)

Welcome to Mr. Krause as our new (temporary) Counsellor

Hello SouthPointe family! My name is Blake Krause and I am excited to join the SPS community. My career path has been fortunate to have me be a teacher, principal, and a variety of other roles in schools across Alberta as well as a stint in Texas. I believe building strong relationships with parents, colleagues, community agencies, and students is key to success. My role is to support our students in their growth academically, socially/emotionally, and developmentally. I've enjoyed meeting the friendly faces at SPS this first week. Never hesitate to reach out via email: Blake.Krause@eips.ca or by phone: 780-998-2747, ext: 4604. Let me know how I can help.





SHARKS ATHLETICS

Monday (7) Senior Teams Practice @ 3:00-4:30PM

Tuesday (8) Junior Teams Practice @ 3:00-4:30PM

Wednesday (9) Senior Teams Practice @ 3:00-4:30PM

THURSDAY (10) Junior Boys & Girls Game vs Fort Christian at SPS @ 4:00PM

FRIDAY (11)



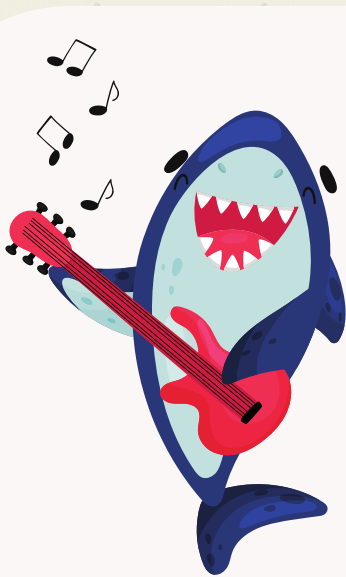
GET YOUR
BACK-TO-SCHOOL
SPIRITWEAR



Got your back-to-school Sharks wear yet?
Go to our shop to order your gear! Click
here:

<https://southpointe.entripyshops.com/>

Happy Shopping!



Grade 4/5/6
Choir

recorder club

Jr High Band

MUSIC

HAND
CHIMES

Music extracurriculars have started!

Students in Grades 4, 5, and 6 can join the choir which meets **Tuesdays at lunch recess**. Hand chime club will only be open to grade 6 students this year and it meets **Thursdays at lunch recess**.

(Neither of these will conflict with your intramurals games) Any junior high students wanting to do band are invited to join the **after school band on Tuesdays**. It will meet until 4:00 pm. This is your chance to learn to play the flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, saxophone, or tuba and have some extra performance opportunities. The first band concert will be on Friday November 29.

-Ms. Yule

School Council/FASS Info

All caregivers are invited to attend our School Council/FASS Meeting on **October 16 at 5:00PM** in the Large Flex Space.

What to Expect:

Oct 16th FASS meeting will be the *Annual General Meeting* at the school. Voting the volunteers in positions will be taking place. If you are interested in becoming involved in your student's education & fundraising this is the perfect opportunity to get involved. All positions will be open for new faces. Any questions on the details of positions please email president.fass@gmail.com.

Did you know...

EIPS is committed to a productive and collaborative relationship with parents and caregivers. As such, the Division has a Committee of School Councils (COSC) comprised of representatives from school councils across EIPS. From October to May, COSC members meet monthly with the Board of Trustees and senior EIPS administration to discuss educational issues and trends, while sharing valuable information with one another to best enhance student success. In recognition of the effort and dedication of EIPS families and staff in engaging with their school communities, the Division was honoured to receive the Division School Council Engagement Award from the Alberta School Councils' Association last April. To learn more, visit the [EIPS website](#).



HOT LUNCH



To order hot lunches, we use the spschool.hotlunches.net website. Parents must create an account and add their children. **All parents must go in and select their child's new teacher for this year.** To pay for your order the website uses PayPal. There is an option to check out as a guest through PayPal if you do not have an account. **Failure to pay for the order by the deadline will result in the order being cancelled.**

If your child is sick on the day of their hot lunch, please call the office and let them know. No refunds will be given if a student is absent on the day of their hot lunch.

If you need to cancel or change an order, you must do so before the deadline. A refund will be processed as a credit on your account to be used for future hot lunch orders.

Once the deadline has passed orders cannot be changed or cancelled.

Should you have any comments, suggestions, or questions you can reach out via email at spschoolhotlunch@gmail.com.

We rely on our volunteers to help make hot lunch happen. This year, we are offering [a \\$5 discount to 1 student's hot lunch account only for each volunteering completion.](#)

If you are able to volunteer, please email spschoolhotlunch@gmail.com.

October's Hot Lunch is from Boston Pizza!



thank you

Community BUILDING

Last week, Ms. Bossert and her SYNC students enjoyed a to visit with the seniors at Southfort Bend Gardens where they spent time getting to know each other while reading about sunflowers and Vincent Van Gogh. Mr. Epp's students had fun and success with coding!



Community RESOURCES



Family 2 Family

Join our Glenrose clinicians and community partners for virtual presentations providing strategies and resources on topics that affect the quality of life for children and families.

From Worry to Wellness: Empowering Parents to Help Children Navigate Anxiety

Tuesday, September 24, 2024
6:00 – 7:15pm

Sleep Strategies for Neurodivergent Children and Caregivers

Wednesday, October 23, 2024
6:30 – 8:00pm

Behavior: The Tip of the Iceberg

Wednesday, November 20, 2024
6:00 – 7:30pm

[See reverse for session descriptions](#)

To register and receive upcoming Family 2 Family calendars

Please contact Charlene Prochnau
at (780) 735-7999 ext 15578 or email at PFRC@ahs.ca

From Worry to Wellness:

Empowering Parents to Help Children Navigate Anxiety

It can be hard to know how to support your child when they're experiencing anxiety. Join Kirsty Choquette for this presentation where we'll explore what anxiety is, how to talk to your child about anxiety, and how you can help them (and yourself!) move through the worry.

Sleep Strategies for Neurodivergent Children and Caregivers

This presentation led by Dr. Carole Anne Hapchyn will provide a brief review of key information about sleep and then focus on frequent causes of childhood sleep challenges and specific interventions and strategies to support improved quality and quantity of sleep.

Behavior: The Tip of the Iceberg

In this presentation, we seek to understand behaviors through a developmental and relationship-based approach, being mindful of individual differences and the social and emotional development of our children. Join Dr Jessica Zvonkovic and Dr. Anahita Shokrkon as we look at potential causes and triggers of behaviors and will talk about how to address what often underlies behaviors from the "body up to the top down." Finally, we will explore how we can build positive experiences with our children.

Community RESOURCES

Eating Healthy on a Budget

Looking for some tasty and economical meal ideas? Join PCN Registered Dietician Meghan Brooks-Goodburn as she walks us through staying on a budget and healthy meal planning for different types of households including those with kids.



When: October 24th 6:00 - 7:00pm

Where: Fort Sask Public Library

To Register: fortsask.ca/FCSSWorkshops or call 780.992.6267



FCSS Presents: Childhood ADHD

Does your child struggle with inattention, hyperactivity, distractibility, issues focusing at school, fails to complete assigned tasks, or avoidance of activities that require sustained focus?

Tania Johnson will lead this session:

- Identifying neurological and environmental factors which contribute to ADHD
- Exploring triggers which fuel impulsivity and hyperactivity
- Understanding the impact of a strong, connected relationship
- Developing strategies and tools to help your child
- Nurturing emotional intelligence and resilience

**Virtual Session that you can do at your own pace October 15 - November 15

Register at fortsask.ca/FCSSWorkshops



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.

Meeting Dates:

September 16: Group Discussion *location for this date Lang Room City Hall
October 21: Group Discussion
November 18: Group Discussion
December 16: Group Discussion

Time: 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Guest speaker announcements to come!

Families First Society
9901 90 St, Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L 3T1



Children's Programming is Available!

Register by calling (780) 998-5595 ext. 221
no later than one week prior to each session

