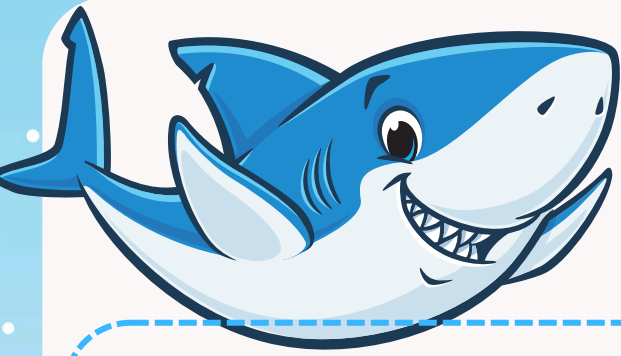


# Shark Bites NEWSLETTER



SouthPointe School

## Principal's Message

After school today, report cards will be available on your child's PowerSchool account. Parents can view these through the PowerSchool Parent Portal. If you haven't set up your account or need help with your login, please contact the front office for assistance. We encourage all parents and guardians to take some time to review the report card with your child. It's a great way to celebrate their accomplishments and discuss areas where they can continue to grow.

We've been lucky with the weather this November, but it looks like winter has arrived! Please remind your child to dress warmly in mittens, toques, snow pants, and jackets to stay comfortable as the temperatures drop.

December is shaping up to be a busy and exciting month! Our staff & FASS have been busy planning many special events for our students and families to enjoy and participate in. We're kicking off with our Holiday Food Drive, where we are collecting new unwrapped toys, non-perishable food, and personal care items. Mark your calendars for our Winter Concert on December 11 with both matinee and evening performances (keep reading for more details). Just a reminder that **this Wednesday, December 4th is Early Dismissal**.

Our SPS school community would like to wish Mrs. Jefferis all the best. She will finish on Friday, November 29, as she begins her maternity leave. We would like to thank Mrs. Jefferis for her commitment and dedication to her students at SPS and wish her well. Ms. Elizabeth Haddow will be replacing Mrs. Jefferies in Grade 1 starting on December 2, 2024. Welcome, Ms. Haddow!

I wish everyone a wonderful weekend and encourage you to stay warm!

Laurie Caines, Principal

## NEXT WEEK

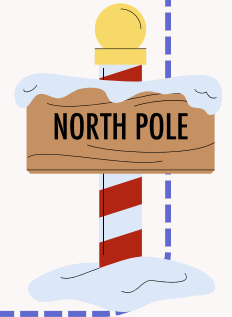
HOLIDAY FOOD & TOY  
DRIVE \* DEC. 2-13



|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| Monday (2)    | Invite Only Girls Basketball Tryout @ 3:00-4:15PM  |
| Tuesday (3)   | Grade 4/5/6 Choir at Lunch Recess *LAST ONE for 2024<br>Jr High Band Session 3:00-4:00PM<br>All Boys Basketball Tryout @ 3:00-4:15PM                                   |
| Wednesday (4) | Early Dismissal @ 1:46PM   |
| Thursday (5)  | Grade 6 Hand Chimes at Lunch Recess *LAST ONE for 2024<br>All Boys Basketball Tryout @ 3:00-4:15PM<br>Dungeons & Dragons @ 3:00-4:30PM<br>Deadline to Order Hot Lunch! |
| Friday (6)    | FASS Pizza Day *Cash Only<br><b>It's December</b>  |

## Coming Up this Month

- November 29 Report Cards Issued
- December 2 Invite Only Girls Basketball Tryout @ 3:00PM-4:15PM
- December 3 All Boys Basketball Tryouts @ 3:00PM-4:15PM
- December 4 Early Dismissal @ 1:46PM
- December 5 Deadline to Order Hot Lunch
- December 6 FASS Pizza Day \*CashOnly
- December 9-13 Class Gingerbread Decorating Contest
- December 10 FASS Christmas Plant Fundraiser Pick Up @ 2:30PM-3:30PM
- December 11 Christmas Concert Matinee @ 12:30PM/1:15PM/2:00PM
- December 11 Christmas Concert Evening @ 6:00PM/6:45PM/7:30PM
- December 11 Hot Lunch for Grades 1-3 and M/W Kindergarten
- December 12 Hot Lunch for Grades 4-6 and T/TH Kindergarten
- December 13 Hot Lunch for Grades 7-9
- December 16 Festive Dress Up Day (Hats, Headbands)
- December 16 SYNC/Coding/Multicultural Session (Gr. 5 Only)
- December 17 Festive Socks Day



## School Start & End Times

8:10AM - School Begins

11:08AM to 11:48AM - Lunch

2:46PM - School Dismissed

**THIS WEEK**

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



## Pay School Fees Online

School fee information for the 2024-25 school year is now posted on the PowerSchool Parent Portal.

**FEES ARE PAST DUE.**

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.**

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, extracurricular activities fees & more.

For more information, visit <https://www.southpointeschool.ca/about/fees>.

Alternatively, contact Chantelle Grieve, Business Manager at SouthPointe School at 780-998-2747.



**yummm!**

Check out some of December's Hot Lunch options:

Chicken Quesadillas, Sliders, Chicken Nuggets or Fingers, Pasta, Beef Dip, Chicken Fettucine Alfredo, Chicken Wrap, and Gluten Free options like Taco Salad, etc

**ALL MONEY RAISED GOES BACK TO OUR SCHOOL**

## December Hot Lunch

- ☀ Grades 1-3 and Mon/Wed K 11 Dec
- ☀ Grades 4-6 and Tues/Thur K 12 Dec
- ☀ Grades 7-9 13 Dec

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

**\*\*Deadline to order is DECEMBER 5\*\***

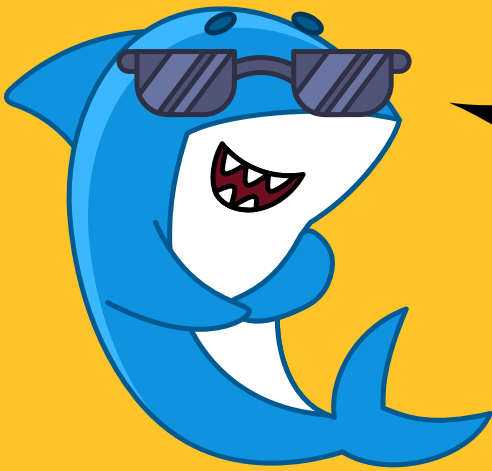


# Reporting Attendance

Thank you so much for calling in or emailing the OFFICE when your child is absent or late. We are not able to reply to all of the attendance messages, but please know we appreciate every one of them.

To report absences or lates: E-mail [general.sps@eips.ca](mailto:general.sps@eips.ca) or call 780-998-2747.

you are  
**AMAZING**



A special  
"Shark Shout Out" to:

**all the Grade 9 boys that  
helped unload paper with  
Mrs. Grieve**

Your help was greatly appreciated!  
Thanks for showing Shark Pride and lending  
a hand!

## Incident Weather

With the winter season almost here, we have a few reminders for families:

- Ensure students have clothing appropriate for expected weather conditions
  - If weather conditions are bad enough to impact student transportation, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) advises families directly, as well as posting on social media and [eips.ca](http://eips.ca) as early as possible
  - Decisions regarding bus cancellations are guided by an EIPS administrative procedure that states, "school bus service may be suspended...when there is a forecast or current temperature of -40 C, including wind chill factor, in one or more regions."
  - Other reasons for suspending or delaying school bus services include adverse weather and poor road conditions
  - When school bus services are suspended, schools remain open to students
- For more information, contact EIPS Student Transportation at 780-417-8151.

## **Did you know?**

Research shows sustained, collaborative and job-embedded professional learning significantly enhances teacher efficacy and student achievement. Simply put, the more times teachers get to learn from one another during the year, the better it is for student success. Professional learning doesn't mean a day off for staff—they improve upon their knowledge using time dedicated for collaboration, growth and relationship-building. This ensures students continue to receive high-quality education throughout the school year.

# Counsellor's Corner...

Thanks to Mr. Krause & our Jr High Students, we are pleased to share that SPS' CANTEEN is OPEN!

Students in Grades 5 to 9 are able to go down to the CANTEEN in the large flex space during the first half of lunch.

The CANTEEN will be open every day except on Hot Lunch days.

Please note the CANTEEN is Cash Only.

## CANTEEN



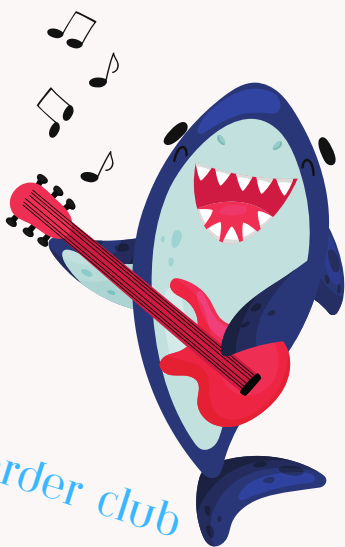
### Dungeons and Dragons:

If your child is interested in joining a D & D group, ask them to sign up with Mr. Krause. New & experienced players are welcome!

Campaigns run on THURSDAYS from 3:00PM-4:30PM



Always feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns: [Blake.Krause@eips.ca](mailto:Blake.Krause@eips.ca)



recorder club

Grade 4/5/6  
Choir

Jr High Band

# MUSIC

HAND  
CHIMES

Grades 4, 5 & 6 Choir: **TUESDAYS** at lunch recess

\*Last one for 2024 is Dec. 3

Gr. 6 Hand Chime Club: **THURSDAYS** at lunch recess

\*Last one for 2024 is Dec. 5

Junior High Band: **TUESDAYS** after school until 4:00PM

\*Last one for 2024 is Dec. 17

Gr 4-6 Choir, Gr. 6 Hand Chime Club & Jr High Band will start the week of January 13-17 after the Christmas Break.



# SHARKS ATHLETICS

- Monday (2)** Girls Invite Only Basketball Tryout @ 3:00PM-4:15PM
- Tuesday (3)** All Boys Basketball Tryout @ 3:00PM-4:15PM
- Wednesday (4)**
- Thursday (5)** All Boys Basketball Tryout @ 3:00PM-4:15PM
- Friday (6)** Gym Closed for Winter Concert



**CONGRATS** to our **Juniors Girls Volleyball Team** on their hard earned **EIAA SILVER MEDAL!** They played their best match of the season! Way to finish strong girls! Thank you to Ms. McKee for giving her time and energy to coach a fantastic group of girls!



**Our Senior Boys Volleyball Team** are **EIAA CHAMPIONS** after winning the **GOLD MEDAL** game in 3 straight sets! Well done Mr. Kokotailo & team!



# BASKETBALL TRYOUTS...



**GIRLS** invite only tryout on December 2 from 3:00PM-4:15PM

**ALL GUYS** are invited to tryout on December 3rd & 6th from 3:00PM-4:15PM.



# What's Happening

## AROUND SPS

Tessa & Emmett were able to enjoy their first experience at Roger's Place for the Oil Kings game this month, thanks to MLC Group of the South Pointe Community!

We still have more Oil Kings tickets to giveaway. If you have not yet emailed to enter your family in the draw, please email Mrs. Ferris at [carla.ferris@eips.ca](mailto:carla.ferris@eips.ca)



# SHARK Island

**Starts December  
4th....**

SPS is excited to have SHARK ISLAND Back this December!

It's a reverse draw style competition with each class entered and the remaining 3 classes on the Island will get an Ice Cream treat the last week of school! Watch the bulletin board in front of the office to see where the sharks are!

## Christmas Plant Pick Up

Thursday, December 10

between 2:30PM-3:30PM @ the office



# Holiday

# FOOD

# DRIVE



**Holiday Food Drive** will take place between **Monday, December 2** and **Friday, December 13**.

Southpointe School is collecting for the Food Bank. We'll gratefully accept any unwrapped toy, non-perishable food, or personal care items you can donate. We will collect donations during the matinee and evening Christmas Winter Concert Performance as well. Your generosity is much appreciated!

**All non-perishable food** and toiletries are gratefully accepted but the following is a list of the most urgently needed items.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nut-free school snacks (granola bars, fruit cups)</li><li>• Jam – small jars</li><li>• Instant oatmeal</li><li>• Sugar</li><li>• Coffee</li><li>• Ready-to-eat soup</li><li>• Pasta Sauce</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1 L Juice</li><li>• Rice</li><li>• Kraft Dinner</li><li>• Canned meat (ham, chicken, turkey)</li><li>• Mr. Noodle or ramen noodle</li><li>• Cookies</li></ul> |
|---|---|

Thank you for your generous support of our community!

# FASS/School Council Info

## Grab your BEAR TRACKS (Ice Melt)

FASS has a few pails of Bear Tracks left to sell for \$30 each.

To purchase, text: 403-612-9580

**CHRISTMAS PLANT PICK UP**  
Thursday, December 10 between  
2:30PM-3:30PM at the office



## Canteen Coordinator Needed!

FASS is looking for a Canteen Coordinator; if you are interested, email the FASS president at [president.fass@gmail.com](mailto:president.fass@gmail.com)

# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Thank you for your continued support and for making a positive impact in our community! If you have questions about the available positions or want to learn more about how you can contribute, please email us at [president.fass@gmail.com](mailto:president.fass@gmail.com)



## PIZZA DAY!

**\*For JUNIOR HIGH Students Only**

Friday, December 6

\$5 for 2 slices of pizza and a pop

\$2 per slice

\$1 for pop

## POPCORN DAY!

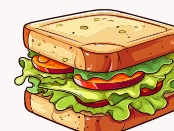
**\*For ALL SCHOOL**

Friday, December 20

\$1 per bag



## HOT LUNCH



To order hot lunches, we use the [spschool.hotlunches.net](http://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](mailto:spschoolhotlunch@gmail.com).

**REMINDER:**  
Please still send  
SNACKS on Hot  
Lunch Day

### Hot Lunch Volunteer Opportunity:

We're looking for volunteers to assist with our hot lunch program! As a thank-you, each volunteer will receive a \$5 discount on one child's hot lunch account for their help.

If you are able to volunteer, please email [spschoolhotlunch@gmail.com](mailto:spschoolhotlunch@gmail.com).

December's Hot Lunch is from Canadian Brewhouse



# Christmas at SouthPointe

SouthPointe School is excited to host our Winter Concert in person in the gym.

With the growth of our school, we will be splitting the concert into three separate concerts as follows:

## Wednesday, December 11

Matinee:

12:30PM Grades 1 & 2

1:15PM Grades 3 & 4 (with 2/30)

2:00PM Grades 5 & 6 (with 4/5E)

Evening:

6:00PM Grades 1 & 2

6:45PM Grades 3 & 4 (with 2/30)

7:30PM Grades 5 & 6 (with 4/5E)

Each concert will be about 20 minutes long.

Doors will be open 15 minutes prior to the concert's start time.

**Admission:** We have space to accommodate three audience members per family at each concert and request that families respect these seating limitations.

*(Additional young children who will be sitting on laps can also be accommodated)*

**Arrival:** Please use the bus lane doors (junior high entrance) located on SouthPointe Blvd and proceed to the gymnasium. Students will head to their homerooms upon arrival. **DO NOT park in the bus lanes for the matinee performance as the buses will be arriving to pick up students at the end of the day.**

**What Students Wear:** For all performances, students should wear something nice & festive. There is no required dress code but please remember students will be on stage and some will be playing instruments on the ground.

**When to Show Up:** For evening performances, **students should arrive 15 minutes early** for their performance and head to their homerooms upon arrival. If you have students in multiple age groups, there will be an intermission between the concerts to allow for the audience to change out.

**After the Concert:** If you have students in multiple age groups, they will remain in their classroom for the evening. **Please pick up students from their classrooms at the end of the performance.**

## JR HIGH BAND CONCERT

**SouthPointe Junior High Band is excited to join with the Fort Saskatchewan Community Band again for a Christmas Concert on Thursday, December 19. The concert will be from 6:30PM- 7:30PM at the hall of the Royal Canadian Legion. This concert is open to the public and a very festive night. Everyone is welcome to come out and support the band!**

## Dress Up Days

- December 16 Festive Dress Up Day (Hats, Headbands)
- December 17 Festive Socks Dress Up Day
- December 18 Holiday Sweater Dress Up Day
- December 19 Red & Green Dress Up Day
- December 20 Pyjama Day



# Community RESOURCES

## Caregiver Education Team Newsletter November/December 2024



Alberta Health Services is proud to offer FREE online programming to caregivers of school-age children and youth as well as adults in the community who want to learn more about addiction and mental health topics. Sessions are offered online through the Zoom conferencing application. A link to access the online session will be sent by email to those who have registered for the session.

### Caregiver Education Sessions

#### Parenting Teens in the 21st Century *Respectful Limit Setting for Adolescents*

For parents and caregivers supporting teens in grades 7-12

Part 1:  
Wednesday, November 13  
12:00 – 1:00 pm

Part 2:  
Wednesday, November 20  
12:00 – 1:00 pm

#### Building Executive Functioning Skills *Supporting Success in Learning*

For parents and caregivers of

children in grades K-6

Part 1:  
Monday, December 2  
12:00 – 1:00 pm

Part 2:  
Monday, December 9  
12:00 – 1:00 pm

### Adult Education Sessions

#### Wellness Exchange Series

For adults supporting their own wellness or the wellness of a loved one.

Part 5 - Healthy Connections:  
Wednesday, November 6  
6:00 – 7:30 pm

#### More than Just a Bad Day *Understanding Depression*

For adults supporting their own wellness or the wellness of youth (grades 7-12)

Tuesday, November 26  
12:00 – 1:00 pm

### Adult Education Sessions

#### Silver Linings

For adults supporting their own wellness or the wellness of a loved one

Part 1:  
Thursday, December 5  
12:00 – 1:00 pm

Part 2:  
Thursday, December 12  
12:00 – 1:00 pm

#### Participant Feedback

"Thank you for a well-structured, informative session. It was a great reflection."

"Great information on an important topic!"



Professional Practice & Education Services  
Addiction & Mental Health  
Edmonton Zone

For more information, visit [www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca](http://www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca)



# CRAM-A-THON

January 10, 2025

Fort Saskatchewan

Public Library

6:00PM - 10:00PM

\*For Student Studiers ONLY; Grade 7-12\*

- Drop-in event
- snacks & drinks!
- quiet study spaces
- tutors available
- study with friends
- or by yourself!

