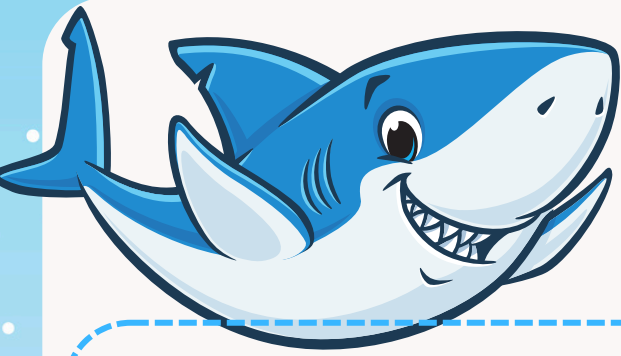


# Shark Bites

# NEWSLETTER



SouthPointe School

## Principal's Message

Happy New Year and Welcome Back!

I hope everyone had a restful and enjoyable Christmas Break! As we kick off the new year, I am excited to announce a special event for ALL our families: **Numeracy Night on January 15**. Join us for a fun evening where you'll have the chance to explore activities and resources to support your child's math skills; this is for all students in Junior High & Elementary. We look forward to seeing you there!

January is shaping up to be all about numbers! In accordance with Alberta Education's School Fee Regulation, schools are required to consult with parents before setting school fees for the upcoming school year. To gather your feedback, we'll be holding **our next School Council Meeting on Wednesday, January 22 at 4:00 PM in the Large Flex Space**. During this meeting, we'll discuss school fees and invite your input as we plan for the 2025-26 school year. Your thoughts are important to us and will help guide decisions about next year's fees. We hope to see many of you there!

Lastly, Junior High Honors: All current Grades 7-8 families will receive a Permission Click form for the 2025-26 Junior High Honors program on January 13. Applications are due January 26, so please be sure to review and submit by the deadline if you are interested in EIPS' Junior High Honors program.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to a great year ahead!

Laurie Caines, Principal

## NEXT WEEK

Monday (13)	Registration for Jr High Honors Opens Recorder Club @ First Recess Jr Girls Basketball Practice @ 3:00-4:15PM Jr Boys Basketball Practice @ 4:15-5:30PM
Tuesday (14)	Sr Boys Basketball Practice @ 3:00-4:15PM Sr Girls Basketball Practice @ 4:15-5:30PM Choir @ Lunch Recess Jr High Band @ 3:00-4:00PM
Wednesday (15)	Recorder Club @ First Recess Jr Girls Basketball Practice @ 3:00-4:15PM Jr Boys Basketball Practice @ 4:15-5:30PM Numeracy Night @ 5:30-6:30PM
Thursday (16)	Gr 6 Hand Chimes @ Lunch Recess Deadline to Order Hot Lunch @ 12:00PM Sr Boys Basketball Game @ 4:00PM @ StM Sr Girls Basketball Game @ 5:15PM @ StM
Friday (17)	Jr Girls EIAA Basketball Tournament @ FTV Jr Boys EIAA Basketball Tournament @ HR

## Coming Up this Month

January 10 & 11	Sr Boys & Girls EIAA Basketball Tournament
January 13	Registration for Junior High Honors Opens
January 15	Numeracy Night @ 5:30PM
January 16	Deadline to Order Hot Lunch @ 12:00PM
January 17 & 18	Jr Boys & Girls EIAA Basketball Tournament
January 20	EIPS Fort Sask Indigenous Winter Family Gathering @ 6:00PM
January 22	Hot Lunch for Grades 1-3 & Mon/Wed Kinder
January 22	School Council & FASS Meeting @ 4:00PM
January 23	Hot Lunch for Grades 4-6 & Tues/Thurs Kinder
January 24	Twin Dress Up Day
January 24	Hot Lunch for Grades 7-9
January 26	Registration for Junior High Honors Closes
January 29	No School! *Professional Learning Day
January 30	Second Semester for Jr High *Only Options Change
January 30	Digital Wellness Workshop @ Wes Hosford @ 6:00PM



## 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)*

## Junior High Honours Program: 2025-26 Applications

Is your child considering the Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) Junior High Honours program for the coming school year? The program is designed for students in grades 8 and 9 with high achievement in their core courses and who enjoy a challenging academic environment.

Applications for the 2025-26 EIPS Junior High Honours program are open Jan. 13-26, 2025.

When applications open, the parent/guardian on file in PowerSchool identified as the Permission Click contact for all current grades 7 and 8 students will receive an email through Permission Click outlining the application process for the program—including a link to an application form. Refer to the [EIPS Junior High Honours program information page](#) for details about specific courses within the program and eligibility requirements.

## Coming Soon!

We are pleased to share that in the next few weeks, parents will have the option to receive text message notifications from Message Sender.

## January Hot Lunch

☀️ Grades 1-3 and Mon/Wed K	22 Jan
☀️ Grades 4-6 and Tues/Thur K	23 Jan
☀️ Grades 7-9	24 Jan

To order next month's hot lunch, go to <https://spschool.hotlunches.net/admin/>  
**\*\*Deadline to order is JANUARY 16 \*\***



# JANUARY

## SHARKS ATHLETICS

Congrats to our Sr Boys  
& Girls teams on both  
winning their first game  
of the season!



### Monday (13)

Jr Girls Basketball Practice @ 3:00-4:15PM  
Jr Boys Basketball Practice @ 4:15-5:30PM

### Tuesday (14)

Sr Boys Basketball Practice @ 3:00-4:15PM  
Sr Girls Basketball Practice @ 4:15-5:30PM

### Wednesday (15)

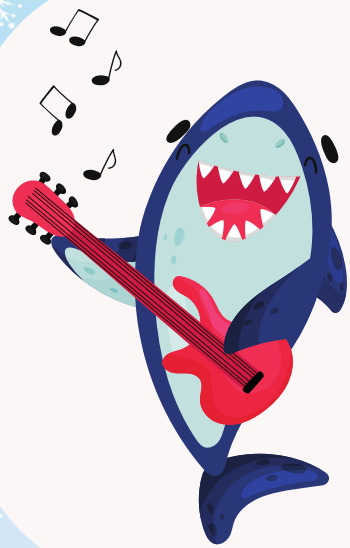
Jr Girls Basketball Practice @ 3:00-4:15PM  
Jr Boys Basketball Practice @ 4:15-5:30PM

### Thursday (16)

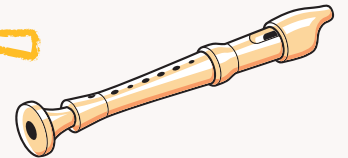
Sr Boys Basketball Game @ 4:00PM @ StM  
Sr Girls Basketball Game @ 5:15PM @ StM

### Friday (17)

Jr Girls EIAA Basketball Tournament @ FTV  
Jr Boys EIAA Basketball Tournament @ HR



## MUSIC



### Extracurriculars Start Up Next Week

**\*NEW\*** Gr 4-6 Recorder Club on Mondays & Wednesdays at  
First Recess

Gr 4-6 Choir on Tuesdays at Lunch Recess

Gr. 6 Hand Chime Club on Thursdays at Lunch Recess

Jr High Band on Tuesdays from 3:00-4:00PM

## DID YOU KNOW?

**If your child misses just TWO DAYS a month for any reason  
for TEN of their school years, they'll have missed the  
equivalent of one entire year of school.**

**Students who frequently miss school, even as early as  
kindergarten, are also more likely to have difficulty in school,  
at post-secondary and in their career. As every family has  
unique circumstances, EIPS uses a multi-tiered approach to  
re-engage students with chronic absenteeism. In addition, the  
Division promotes strategies to support and encourage  
regular attendance for all students. If you're concerned about  
consistent student attendance for your child or youth, contact  
the school for support. An informative video is also available.**



# Counsellor's Corner...

## Sharks Welcome Mr. Frimpong

We are excited to welcome Kofi Frimpong as our new school counselor.

Mr. Frimpong brings with him a wealth of experience in supporting students' emotional and mental well-being, and we are thrilled to have him join our school community. His approach is both caring and professional, and we know he will make a positive impact on our students and families. At the same time, we say a fond farewell to Mr. Blake Krause, who has been with us for the past 3.5 months. While his time here was short, Blake's contributions were nothing short of amazing. His dedication and support made a significant impact on our students, and we are so appreciative of the care and commitment he brought during his time with us. We will certainly miss him and are deeply grateful for all he has done. We wish Mr. Krause all the best as he starts another position at another school.



## A Note from Mr. Frimpong

Hello parents and students,

My name is Kofi Frimpong and I am extremely excited to be joining the SouthPointe community as a guidance counsellor. I have been in the field of education for seventeen years. I have spent twelve years as a social studies teacher and five years as a guidance counsellor. As a guidance counsellor, my role is to support the social, emotional, and academic growth of all students. I intend to work closely with teachers, parents, and administrators to create a safe and respectful learning environment that is conducive to student success. Throughout the year, I will be engaging students and staff to ensure that student needs are consistently met. I am looking forward to an amazing school year and being part of something special here at SouthPointe. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out.

All the best, Kofi

## YOU'RE INVITED

Wes Hosford invites you to a workshop on Digital Wellness on January 30 in partnership with the Strathcona Family Resource Network. Learn how to help your teen with the social & technological pressures they face in the world today. Together we will go through research-based ways we can support teens when they are feeling the pressure of their digital lives. Issues addressed include interacting with strangers online, understanding their digital identity, and healthy relationships.

The content of this workshop is geared for parents and caregivers with children between 9-14 years of age.

**WHEN: THURSDAY, JANUARY 30 @ 6:00-7:30PM**

**WHERE: WES HOSFORD SCHOOL**

**WHO FOR: PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS OF YOUTH**

**AGES 9 -14 YEARS** For more info click [HERE](#)



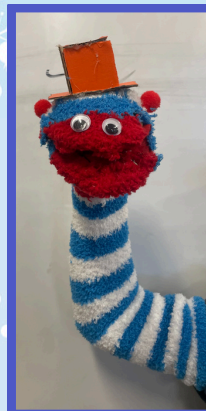
# What's Happening

## AROUND SOUTHPOINTE...



Welcome to the Shark family!

Congratulations to Mrs. Jefferis (1J) and her family on the arrival of their precious baby girl Nora!



Mrs. Dallyn's Creative Design 8 class created sock puppets and practiced hand sewing! Their sock puppets are awesome!! Great creativity!

**JAN. 15**  
**5:30PM-6:30PM**

**NUMERACY**  
**NIGHT**



We're excited to invite you to a fun, game-based evening where you can spend quality time with your child while supporting their numeracy skills! Join us for as much or as little time as you'd like, and don't forget to complete a quick feedback form for a chance to win prizes.

We can't wait to see you there!

(Please use the main entrance for this evening)

# What's Happening

## AROUND SOUTHPOINTE...



Ms. Bossert's Class kicked off 2025 with discussing ways they can promote kindness as inspired by "The Boy, The Mole, The Fox & The Horse"

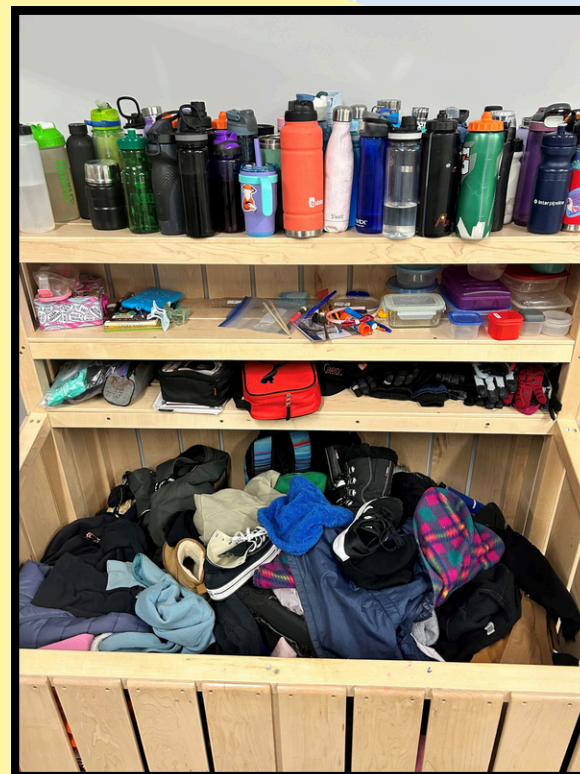


Lost and Found



Our Lost & Found bin is overflowing with snow pants, jackets, sweaters, gloves, water bottles, shoes, and more! Please stop by during school hours or during Numeracy Night on January 15th to help reunite these items with their owners.

**ALL ITEMS WILL BE DONATED AFTER JANUARY 29th!**



# FASS/School Council Info

With this thaw/freeze happening,  
**Grab your BEAR TRACKS (Ice Melt)**  
FASS has more buckets of Bear Tracks to  
sell for \$30 each.

To purchase, text: 403-612-9580



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

### 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)

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)

Next School Council Meeting is on January 22 at 4:00PM  
in the Large Flex Space. ALL Parents & Caregivers are  
invited to come out!

## HOT LUNCH

**Hot Lunch is OPEN for  
January, February & March!**



To order hot lunches, we use the [spschool.hotlunches.net](http://spschool.hotlunches.net) website.

**Deadline to order for JANUARY is Jan. 16th at NOON.**

**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 **before 10:30AM** and let them know. No refunds will be given if a student is absent on the day of their hot lunch.

**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).

# News from EIPS



## **Inclement Weather**

With the winter season in full effect, 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.



# News from EIPS

## Division High School Information Session

To help you make an informed decision about senior high, EIPS is hosting a Division high school information night. All EIPS students in grades 8 and 9 and their families are invited to attend to learn more about the senior high program. The session will provide information about senior high courses, instruction, programming and extracurricular opportunities throughout the Division, as well as details about diploma requirements and various career path options.

### **Event Details:**

**Date: Jan. 13, 2025**

**Time: 6:00PM to 8:00PM**

**Location: The Park Church (1 Brower Drive, Sherwood Park)**

## Kindergarten Registration Starts Soon!

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2025? If so, it's almost time to register for kindergarten.

**Kindergarten registration opens for the 2025-26 school year on Feb. 1, 2025.**

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 SouthPointes kindergarten program is available at

<https://www.southpointeschool.ca/>

## Returning Student Registration for 2025-26

The Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) returning student registration process for 2025-26 takes place Feb. 10-24, 2025. Through the online form, all families will confirm the school and program their child will attend next year or advise the

Division if they aren't returning. For students who want to attend a non-designated school next year, these requests must be submitted through the returning student registration process—acceptance is based on available space.

On February 10, the parent/guardian on file in PowerSchool identified as the Permission Click contact for each pre-kindergarten to Grade 11 student will receive an email through Permission Click with a link to the form. If your family hasn't received any Permission Click forms this school year, contact the school office so we can investigate any technical issues before registration season.

# Community Resources

## JANUARY NEWSLETTER

**kickstand**  
Fort Saskatchewan  
operated by:  
**THE BRIDGE**  
WELLNESS HUB FOR YOUTH

### Upcoming

- **Vision Boards with Mitch**  
January 8 - 5pm-7:30pm
- **Dungeons & Dragons**  
January 9, 23 - 5pm-7:45pm
- **Just Dance, January Birthdays Night**  
January 15 5:30pm-7:45pm
- **Clay crafts night**  
January 16 5:30pm-7:30pm
- **Make Bannock with Kiara**  
January 22 5:30pm-7:30pm
- **Bingo night**  
January 29 5:30pm-7:30pm
- **Paint night with Madilyn**  
January 29 - 5:30pm-7:30pm

### December Recap

#### Holiday Celebrations

We were so thankful to have gotten to celebrate the close of a great year at our holiday dinner! Thank you to everyone who joined!

A huge shoutout to the Fort Sask Nourishment Centre for contributing to the dinner!



### Resource Spotlight

January can be a hard month on individuals mental health. This months resource spotlight aims to highlight mental health and wellness. Kickstand aims to help provide mental health supports for all young people in Alberta. Scan the QR code to learn more about Mental wellness & balance as well as mental health concerns

Scan to take a look at the Kickstand resource library regarding mental health



### Hours of Operation

- Monday:** Appointments 11am - 7pm
- Tuesday:** Appointments and workshops 3pm-7pm
- Wednesday:** drop-in 2pm-7:45pm  
Nurse Clinic Wed 2pm-6pm
- Thursday:** drop-in 2pm-7:45pm  
Youth Outreach Worker 2-7:45pm

## JAYME-LEE K-12 Individual Tutoring

Free tutoring available

It's never too late to ask for help!

In-person at the Bridge - Kickstand Fort Sask. Book your first session today!



### Personalized Learning

- Available for All Youth Ages 11-25
- Experienced & Qualified Tutor
- Tutors All Subjects and Grades
- Experience working with students with learning disabilities

Location: 10307 100 Ave  
Suite #2, Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L 1Y9

**kickstand**  
Fort Saskatchewan  
Operated by:  
**THE BRIDGE**  
WELLNESS HUB FOR YOUTH

For More Information  
780-589-0224

programcoordinator@thebridgewhy.com

# January 2025

**kickstand** Operated by:  
Fort Saskatchewan

## The Bridge Wellness Hub for Youth

**THE BRIDGE**  
WELLNESS HUB FOR YOUTH

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		We are Closed! Happy New Year! 	Board games night Youth Outreach Worker 2pm-7:45pm 	
6 Hours 11am-7 pm Appointment Based	7 Youth Employment Workshop 4:30pm-6pm Appointments 3pm-7pm	Vision boards with Mitch 5pm-7:30pm Nurse Clinic 2om-6 pm Psychologists by appointment 	9 Dungeons & Dragons 5pm-7:45pm Youth Outreach Worker 2pm-7:45pm	10
13 Hours 11am-7 pm Appointment Based	14 Youth Employment Workshop 4:30pm-6pm ADHD Support Group 6-7:30pm Appointments 3pm-7pm	15 Just Dance January Birthdays Night Nurse Clinic 2pm-6 pm Psychologists by appointment 	16 Clay crafts night Youth Outreach Worker 2pm-7:45pm 	17
20 Hours 11am-7 pm Appointment Based	21 ADHD Support Group 6pm-7:30 pm Appointments 3pm-7pm	22 Making Bannock with Kiara 5:30pm-7:30pm Nurse Clinic 2pm-6 pm Psychologists by appointment 	23 Dungeons & Dragons 5pm-7:45pm Youth Outreach Worker 2pm-7:45pm 	24
27 Hours 11am-7 pm Appointment Based	28 Hours 3pm-7 pm Appointment Based	29 Bingo night 5:30pm-7:30pm Nurse Clinic 2pm-6 pm Psychologists by appointment 	30 Paint night with Madilyn 5:30pm-7:30pm Youth Outreach Worker 2pm-7:45pm Youth Advisory Meeting 7pm 	31  Rainbow Alliance 6pm-8 pm

### Contact Information

780-589-0224

info@thebridgewhy.com

Linktree: @thebridgewellnesshubforyouth

Scan for website



### Ages 11+ All Welcome

Youth nights are free to all youth ages 11-25.

### Hours of Operation

We are open 2-7:45pm on Wednesday and Thursday. We provide supper and snacks.