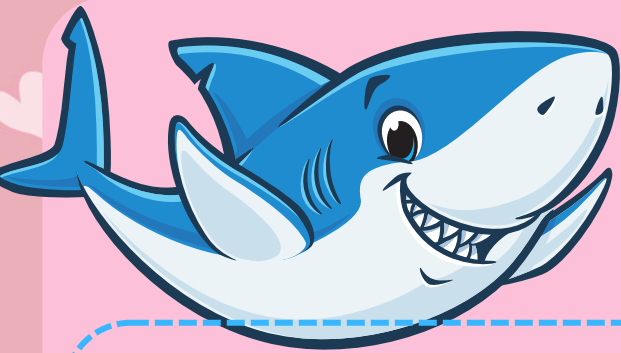


# Shark Bites NEWSLETTER



SouthPointe School

## Principal's Message

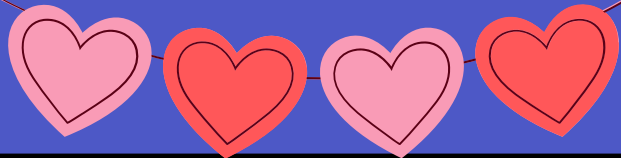
As we wrap up another week, I wanted to take a moment to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who has contributed to making this week special. **A huge shoutout to our amazing School Council and FASS for organizing a memorable Family Valentine's Dance** for us to all enjoy tonight. A BIG thank you as well to all the parents who are volunteering their time and energy to ensure that this night will be filled with fun, treats, and lasting memories for our students and their families. Your support plays a vital role in bringing our school together, and we are so grateful for all of you!

It was so great to see so many out to our Junior High Open House on Monday. Thank you so much for coming out to meet staff, see classrooms, and ask questions about our Junior High programming.

Thank you to all the parents who have completed the returning student registration via Permission Click. This process is essential as it helps us understand if your child will be returning to SouthPointe School next year or if you are considering another school within Elk Island Public. The information provided helps us with important planning decisions, such as determining the number of classes we will need at each grade level and staffing. **If you haven't yet completed the form, please do so by February 24, 2025.** If you have any questions, feel free to contact the school office.

Lastly, I hope you all have a wonderful Family Day long weekend, filled with relaxation and time spent with loved ones. Laurie Caines, Principal

## NEXT WEEK

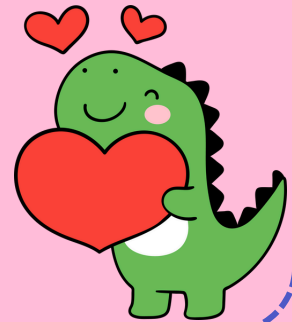


Monday (17)	No School <i>Happy Family Day</i>
Tuesday (18)	Choir @ Lunch Recess Jr High Band @ 3:00-4:00PM Jr Girls Basketball Practice @ 3:00-4:15PM Jr Boys Basketball Practice @ 4:15-5:30PM
Wednesday (19)	Recorder Club @ First Recess Sr Boys Basketball Practice @ 3:00-4:15PM Jr Girls Basketball Game @ 4:00PM @ JP II School Council Meeting @ 4:00PM @ ASCA Online Sr Girls Basketball Practice @ 4:15-5:30PM Jr Boys Basketball Game @ 5:15PM @ JP II
Thursday (20)	Gr 6 Hand Chimes @ Lunch Recess Jr Girls Basketball Practice @ Lunch Sr Girls Basketball Game @ 4:00PM @ SPS vs LAM Sr Boys Basketball Game @ 5:15PM @ SPS vs LAM
Friday (21)	Jr Boys & Girls Warriors Tournament @ FSC

# FEBRUARY

## Coming Up this Month

February 14	Family Valentine's Day Dance & Silent Auction @ 6:00PM
February 17	NO SCHOOL! (Family Day)
February 19	School Council/FASS Meeting @ 4:00PM in Large Flex Space
February 20	Deadline to Order February Hot Lunch
February 24	Returning Student Registration Closes
February 26	Pink Shirt Day
February 26	Hot Lunch for Gr 1-3 and Mon/Wed Kindergarten
February 27	Gr 4-6 Ski Trip
February 27	No Hot Lunch Due to Ski Trip
February 28	Hot Lunch for Gr 7-9
March 3-8	Fort Saskatchewan Music Festival
March 4	Pancake Breakfast for All School
March 5	Early Dismissal
March 6	Deadline to Order March Hot Lunch
March 7	No School (Professional Learning Day)
March 12	Hot Lunch for Gr 1-3 and Mon/Wed Kindergarten



## 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)*

## EIPS Summer School

Registration opens March 17

Mark your calendars! Registration for EIPS Summer School opens March 17. For more information, see the Summer School page on Next Step's website.



## Note:

Grades 4-6 & T/TH Kinder Hot Lunch has been cancelled due to the Gr 4-6 Ski Trip. All orders will be credited back to your account.

## February Hot Lunch

☀️ Grades 1-3 and Mon/Wed K	26 Feb
☀️ Grades 4-6 and Tues/Thur K	<b>CANCELLED</b>
☀️ Grades 7-9	28 Feb

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



## SHARKS ATHLETICS

**Monday (17)**

**Tuesday (18)**

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

**Wednesday (19)**

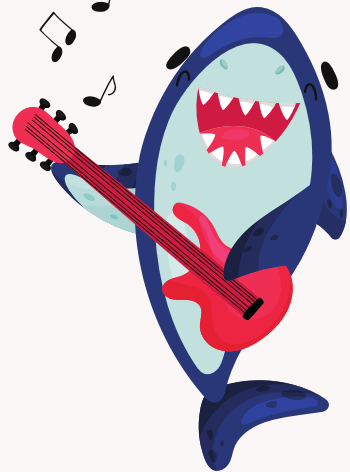
Sr Boys Basketball Practice @ 3:00-4:15PM  
Jr Girls Basketball Game @ 4:00PM @ JP II  
Sr Girls Basketball Practice @ 4:15-5:30PM  
Jr Boys Basketball Game @ 5:15PM @ JP II

**Thursday (20)**

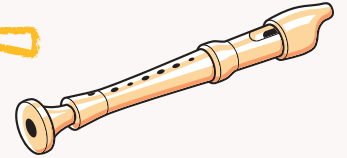
Jr Girls Basketball Practice @ Lunch  
Sr Girls Basketball Game @ 4:00PM @ SPS vs LAM  
Sr Boys Basketball Game @ 5:15PM @ SPS vs LAM

**Friday (21)**

Jr Boys & Girls Warriors Tournament @ FSC



# MUSIC



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

**Fort Saskatchewan's Music Festival is coming up on March 3-8**

## DID YOU KNOW?

The next municipal election is on Oct. 20, 2025—an important component of this is the election of school trustees. Trustees are elected representatives who are knowledgeable about the communities they serve, and are accountable to students, families, staff and community members of a school division. Once sworn in, these individuals work diligently to promote and advocate for a strong public education system. [Learn more](#)

# Counsellor's Corner...

## February is Black History Month

### BLACK HISTORY MONTH

*Experience A Taste of Africa & Caribbean!*



**FEBRUARY, 22 2025**  
**3:30 PM - 5:30 PM**

**Dow Centennial Centre- Lion Mane Room**

**FREE ENTRY | FOOD TASTINGS | MUSIC | ART**

**BOOK LAUNCH BY LOCAL AUTHOR  
AJIBOLA ABITOYE**

**TO LEARN MORE: FORTBLACKCOMMUNITY@GMAIL.COM**

Supported by:



Supported by:



### "I AM HERE"

**ART COMPETITION & CELEBRATION  
OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

Are you a youth age 12-18 and would like to participate in an Art Competition in celebration of **Black History Month**?



Submission Deadline:

**FEBRUARY, 22 2025**

**THEME:**

**THE POWER OF US: BUILDING BRIDGES  
THROUGH ART**

Exhibit Location:

**Dow Centennial Centre  
Lion's Mane - 3:30-5:30pm**

**PRIZES TO BE WON**

For Submission Details and More Information:  
**FORTBLACKCOMMUNITY@GMAIL.COM**



Thank you Tololwa for visiting our school and sharing your gift of storytelling with our staff and students.



### Events Around the Community:

**Stories, Riddles, & Family Connections - February 16 @ West Rivers Edge @ 5:00PM to 7:00PM**

**African Drumming @ Calypso Singing Workshop - February 23 @ West River's Edge @ 5:30PM to 7:30PM**

# What's Happening

## AROUND SOUTHPOINTE...



*I had fun  
creating  
beautiful  
Valentine art  
and yarn hearts.*



SouthPointe Families we need your help...

Here are a few simple ways we can all keep our library books in great shape:

- Handle books gently (no dog-ears or bending please!)
- Keep books away from water & food to prevent any damage
- Store them safely when not in use
- Bring them back on time for others to enjoy

If a book gets damaged, no worries—just let us know!

Thanks so much for your help in keeping our library awesome!

Warmly, Ms. Gauchier

# What's Happening AROUND SOUTHPOINTE...

## Grades 4-6 Ski Trip!

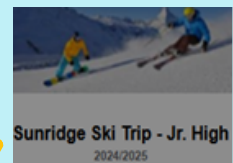


February 27th  
@ Sunridge

Sunridge Ski Trip Grades 4-6	Total cost
Lift ticket, lesson, rentals and bus	\$52.00
Lift Ticket, lesson, bus (own equipment and helmet)	\$39.00
Season Passholder - discounted lift ticket, lesson, rentals and bus	\$42.00
Season Passholder - discounted lift ticket, lesson and bus (own equipment and helmet)	\$29.00

If your Grade 4-6 student would like to participate on the Ski Trip, please do the following:

- Fill out the Grade 4-6 Sunridge Ski Trip Permission Form
- Log on to the PowerSchool Parent Portal and click on this icon:
- Add it to your cart and enter your payment method
- Don't forget to press SUBMIT



**Deadline to Submit Payment & Permission Form  
is February 25**

# What's Happening AROUND SOUTHPOINTE...

## Grades 7-9 Ski Trip RESCHEDULED!

**March 17th  
@ Sunridge**

**Check your email  
next week for the  
new permission  
click form!**



Many of SouthPointe's classes partner with the Paper Bag Fairies by providing beautiful, handmade cards for seniors in Fort Saskatchewan. We participated at Christmas time and just sent off a basket full of cards for Valentine's Day. We are looking forward to making more for them at Easter time!

# What's Happening AROUND SOUTHPOINTE...

We're excited to share that United Way is offering the opportunity to participate in the 'Blessing Bags' initiative at SouthPointe School once again this year! Let's join forces to make this initiative a success and showcase the generosity and caring spirit of our school and community.

The Grade 6 Community Building Club and class 5B are collecting the following items:

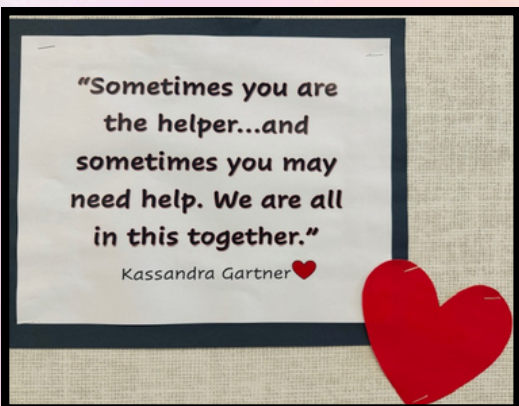
**Granola Bars - Lip Balm - Shampoo - Conditioner - Toothpaste - Toothbrushes  
Candy - Gum - Socks - Small First Aid Kits**

Your contributions will make a real difference, and together, we can spread kindness and support those in need. Thank you for your support!

**Grade 6 Community Building Club & Class 5B**



**In Need Of:  
Granola Bars  
Lip Balm  
Shampoo  
Conditioner  
Toothpaste  
Toothbrushes  
Candy  
Gum  
Socks  
Small First Aid Kits**





# What's Happening

## AROUND SOUTHPOINTE...

### FASS/School Council Info



## Family Valentine's Day Dance!

**TONIGHT! (Friday, Feb. 14)**

SouthPointe's School Council is excited to host a Family Valentine's Dance from **6:00PM - 8:00PM** in the gym, and everyone is invited!

This fun-filled evening is **FREE to attend**, so bring the whole family for an unforgettable night of music, dancing, & community spirit! A special request: We're encouraging families to bring non-perishable donation items for the Food Bank. As a thank-you, every family who donates will be entered into a prize draw!

Plus, **don't forget to bring cash** for the Canteen (hotdogs, ring pops, etc and glo-sticks!) and the **Silent Auction**—great items up for grabs!

We can't wait to see you there for a night of love, laughter, and giving back!

We will need volunteers to help with set-up, take down, Canteen and at the door. Please email: [southpointeschool.schoolcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:southpointeschool.schoolcouncil@gmail.com) if you are able to help.



## UPCOMING FUNDRAISERS

### MARCH

Stay tuned for our upcoming Purdys Fundraiser coming in March! Orders will be due by March 30, with the order being submitted on March 31 for pickup locally on April 16.

A flyer will be sent home during the week of March 3 to provide further details.

The FASS is planning a **BOTTLE DRIVE** for later in April. Start saving your bottles, and we'll provide more details as the date approaches.

These fundraisers will help support the purchase of **40 Chromebooks** and a charging cart for our students, which will greatly enhance their learning experience.

### APRIL

# FASS/School Council Info

Please  
register  
your student  
HERE

The more students  
we have registered,  
the more money we  
can fundraise as  
reading at school  
counts too!



Prizes to be  
won!

**Our Read-A-Thon has begun and runs for the whole month of February! This fun event will help raise money for 40 new Chromebooks & a charging cart for our school!**

**Students will have the opportunity to win great prizes too!**

**Please make sure to register each child so that all their reading minutes, even those completed at school, are recorded.**

School Council Meeting is **THIS WEDNESDAY** (Feb. 19) at 4:00PM in the Large Flex Space. Hope to see YOU there!

## HOT LUNCH

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

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

**Deadline to order for FEBRUARY is Feb. 20th 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).

**No Hot Lunch  
on Feb. 27!  
(due to ski trip)  
All orders will be credited back to your  
account**

# News from EIPS

## Complete your Returning Student Registration: February 10-24 Elk Island Public Schools'

EIPS returning student registration process is now open. All current students, except Grade 12, must complete the online Returning Student Registration Form to confirm their enrolment in a school and program for the upcoming 2025-26 school year. Additionally, students who want to attend a non-designated school or program need to make that request through the returning student registration process—acceptance is based on available space. All current EIPS students are required to complete the form by Feb. 24, 2025.

To complete your child's returning student registration, refer to the Returning Student Registration Form email you received from Elk Island Public Schools through Permission Click on February 10. Families will receive one email for each student. No log in is required to complete the form.

For more information, contact the school directly.

### RELATED INFORMATION:

[Returning Student Registration Process](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[EIPS School Boundary Maps](#)

[Closed Boundaries 2025-26](#)

[Find My Designated School](#)

[Applying to a Non-Designated School](#)



## Kindergarten Registration NOW OPEN

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2025? If so, it's now time to register for kindergarten. To register, simply complete the online registration form at [eips.ca/kindergarten](https://eips.ca/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.

New for the 2025-26 school year, EIPS is piloting three full-day, every-day kindergarten programs. If interested, families can register their children for these programs until February 28. [Learn more](#)

Additional information regarding SouthPointe's kindergarten program is available at <https://www.southpointeschool.ca/>



# News from EIPS



## 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.

**Bev Facey Community High**  
99 Colwill Blvd, Sherwood Park

### **4-WEEK SESSIONS**

**JULY 7-31** 8:30 AM to 1 PM

### **2-WEEK SESSIONS**

**JULY 7-18** 8:30 AM to 1 PM

**JULY 15-26** 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM

### **Courses include:**

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

*Plus, online options for English and Social Studies, as well as other complementary courses*



**Registration opens March 17**  
[eipsnextstep.ca/summer-school](https://eipsnextstep.ca/summer-school)

# Community Resources

## February 2025

### The Bridge Wellness Hub for Youth



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>Hours 11-7 pm Appointment Based</p>	<p>Hours 3-7 pm Appointment Based</p>	<p>PJs, Milkshakes, &amp; Movies Night Drop-in Counselling 3-6pm Drop-in Nurse Clinic 2-6 pm Psychologists by appointment</p>	<p>Making Dreamcatchers with Creating Hope Society Youth Outreach Worker 2-7:45pm Psychologists by appointment</p>	
<p>Drop-in Counselling 3-6pm Drop-in Tutoring 3:30-4:30pm</p>	<p>Hours 3-7 pm Appointment Based</p>	<p>Self-care &amp; Valentines Day Crafts with Mitch 5:30-7:30pm Drop-in Nurse Clinic 2-6 pm Psychologists by appointment</p>	<p>Dungeons &amp; Dragons 5-7:45pm Youth Outreach Worker 2-7:45pm Psychologists by appointment</p>	
<p>Happy Family Day!</p>	<p>Hours 3-7 pm Appointment Based</p>	<p>Making Shrinky Dinks February Birthdays Night Drop-in Counselling 3-6pm Drop-in Nurse Clinic 2-6 pm Psychologists by appointment</p>	<p>DIY Language Bookmark (International Mother Language Day) Youth Outreach Worker 2-7:45pm Psychologists by appointment</p>	
<p>Kickstand Qualitative Analysis Project: Youth Session 1-2:30pm Drop-in Counselling 3-6pm Drop-in Tutoring 3:30-4:30pm</p>	<p>Kickstand Qualitative Analysis Project: Caregiver Session 5:30-7pm</p>	<p>Bingo night Drop-in Nurse Clinic 2-6 pm Psychologists by appointment</p>	<p>Dungeons &amp; Dragons 5-7:45pm Youth Advisory Meeting @7pm Youth Outreach Worker 2-7:45pm Psychologists by appointment</p>	<p>Rainbow Alliance 6-8 pm</p>

The Bridge - Kickstand Fort Saskatchewan is having an event!

Join us to Enhance Youth Mental Health Services in Alberta

You need to :

- be a youth aged 11-25
- have used Kickstand in Fort Saskatchewan in the last 12 months

Why?

We want to hear your experiences and insights on the Kickstand hubs. You will discuss your experiences in a group with other youth. The group discussion will be guided by adults who are bringing their questions. The adults attending will be researchers from the University of Calgary.

Join us on: Monday, February 24th, 1-2:30 pm  
At: The Bridge - Kickstand Fort Saskatchewan suite #2 10307 100 Ave

If you come and participate on February 24 at 1-2:30pm you will get a gift card for \$25/hour redeemable at various vendors. There will be physical gift cards given for prizes on the day.

Let us know you are coming or if you have any questions by emailing: [KickstandEval@ucalgary.ca](mailto:KickstandEval@ucalgary.ca)



Are you a parent or caregiver to a youth who has used Kickstand in Fort Saskatchewan in the last 12 months?

We are inviting you to join us to Enhance Youth Mental Health Services in Alberta

Why?

We want to hear your experiences and insights on the Kickstand hubs. You will discuss your experiences in a group with other parents or caregivers of youth. The group discussion will be guided by researchers from the University of Calgary who hope to use that information to enhance mental health services in Alberta.



Join us on: Tuesday, February 25th, 5:30-7 pm  
At: Kickstand Fort Saskatchewan Suite #2, 10307 100 AVE, Fort Saskatchewan, AB

To show you that we appreciate your time and input you will receive a gift card at the rate of \$25/hour redeemable at various vendors. Please indicate a gift card preference when sending the RSVP.

RSVP for the event by emailing: [KickstandEval@ucalgary.ca](mailto:KickstandEval@ucalgary.ca)



## Drop-In Group Tutoring

Mondays 3:30PM - 4:30PM  
In-person at the Bridge - Kickstand Fort Saskatchewan

Free tutoring!  
It's never too late to ask for help!



### Personalized Learning

- Available for all youth grades 5-12
- Experienced & qualified tutor who has experience working with students with learning differences

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



For More Information  
780-589-0224

[support@thebridgewhy.com](mailto:support@thebridgewhy.com)