



# FIREWIRE

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents/Guardians,

May 5, 2017

## Principal's Message

The month of May & June often appear as one month in a school setting. Staff continue to work through the curriculum, prepare students for exams, go on field trips, attend the many school activities that occur in June - all the while looking at September and planning ahead. It was great to host the Ministik students and staff over the past 2 days! Students from both schools quickly made friends, shared supplies and had fun as they worked through some material. The Div. I playground was a huge hit! Next up, is the *Ministik-Fultonvale family evening on May 24 from 7:00-8:00 p.m.* We hope to see many of you out to meet and chat with families from Ministik. It is an informal event for getting to know each other, tour the school and provide answers to any questions one may have.

## Final Assessments and Exams

May brings the first part of final assessments with the written component of Language Arts for our students in grade 4 through 9. **Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, grade 7 to 9** and **Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, grade 4 to 6** students will be composing their best ideas onto paper. We look forward to their creativity and writing!

June is fast approaching and final assessments and exams are just around the corner. The key to success is preparation as students should be reviewing daily to help solidify their learning.

**Regular periods will be in effect after each exam.** An alternate schedule will be in place so that core subject areas can be focused on in order to prepare for the remaining exams. We hope that students will take advantage of this time with teachers to strengthen their learning. Please note the final assessment schedule in the calendar and in the Study Tips.

## Study [www.exambank.com](http://www.exambank.com) Online

As exam season quickly approaches, you are probably looking for resources to help your children prepare. You may wish to consider visiting [www.exambank.com](http://www.exambank.com) - an online study tool designed specifically for Alberta students writing their government achievement tests and diploma exams in Grades 6, 9 and 12. No special software is required - you can use the service from any computer with an Internet connection.

On Exam Bank, students can practice sample tests in the subject area they choose. When a test is completed, it is automatically marked for the student so they can immediately see where their strengths and weaknesses lie. The tests



FEEL THE HEAT

heart  
excellence  
attitude  
teamwork

are randomly generated from a large selection of questions, so students can write an exam multiple times to become better prepared.

### **2017-2018 Registration at Fultonvale Elementary/Jr High School**

As this school year comes to an end at Fultonvale, we are also eagerly anticipating the start of our 2017-2018 school year! Our staff have begun diligently preparing for next year, and we will continue working on the details throughout June and when we return in August.

For those students who need to register for specific classes or programs, or for those families new to our school, please stop by the school office or please contact the office.

### **2017-2018 School Planning and Budget**

We will be submitting our initial budget for the 2017-2018 school year to EIPS by mid May. In the budget we must use the information we have about our school community, the needs of our students, the funding available, and the priorities listed in our School Education Plan to make predictions and plan for the coming year. Funding to schools is based on a number of factors. Fultonvale provides excellent programming through strong support of our students, staff and community. If you have any suggestions, questions or comments about the budget or planning process, please feel free to give us a call or come in to discuss your ideas. We welcome your input.

### **Fultonvale School Council/Fultonvale School Advisory Council**

Please note that the next School Council meeting will be the Annual General Meeting and will be combined with the FSAC (fundraising) which will also be the AGM. Please join us on **Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>** at 7 p.m. in the Learning Common. Hope to see you there.

### **Student Transportation: 2017-18 registration is now open**

Planning to use EIPS Student Transportation in the 2017-18 school year? If so, make sure to register your child as soon as possible.

Families currently using student transportation services will receive tentative route schedules and invoices later this month. All transportation fees are due by June 30, 2017.

If you have any questions about registration, invoicing or accessing transportation for the 2017-18 school year, contact EIPS Student Transportation at 780-417-8151 or email [st@eips.ca](mailto:st@eips.ca).

*NOTE:* Student Transportation will remain open during the summer months and operate during the same hours as Central Office. Student Transportation can't accept in-person transportation payments on the days it's closed.

### **Character Education - Enthusiasm**

Fultonvale will take the last two months of the year to explore enthusiasm. This can be described as eagerness, passion, zeal, spirit or fire. Our school motto of HEAT - heart, excellence, attitude and teamwork is symbolized in our fire bird mascot. Students and staff regularly bring "the heat" to everything we do. Join our school in recognizing and displaying enthusiasm.

## Counsellors' Corner

### Promoting the positive

Often times we as parents and teachers focus on what could be better, improved or developed in our children. We can be very specific about what seems to be wrong. But when it comes to seeing the positive in our kids we are pretty vague. 'Good job' or 'Wow, you are smart' or 'Awesome' is pretty standard.

In order to build resilience in kids - that ability to handle change, disappointment and fears - we have to learn to praise our children's competence by noticing their effort, their process and their ability to solve problems. This is a wonderful article with some 20 suggestions to help build your children's confidence in themselves: <http://www.heysigmund.com/building-resilience-children/>. I particularly like Step #17 that coaches parents with some ways of helping your child solve his or her own problems.

Resilience is an important part of mental health, as we wear our most jaunty chapeaus on Wednesday May 3, as our way of raising awareness of mental health, for province wide Hats On for Mental Health day.

And then right after Hats On for Mental Health day, Fultonvale staff and students are looking forward to welcoming Ministik students for their visit to Fultonvale on Thursday May 4 (K-Grade 2) and Friday May 5 (Grade 3-5). It looks like a morning of fun and friendship!

Our Grade 6 and 9 students, confident in their abilities, skills and knowledge, write their first PATs the week after (May 9 for the Grade 9s and May 11 for the Grade 6s). This is the Language Arts written portion of the PAT. The LA reading comprehension (Part B) and the other PAT exams are scheduled for the third week of June.

Enjoy the good weather! (Which is just around the corner. Really.)

### Drama Production

DO NOT miss this year's production of *"Baskerville - A Sherlock Holmes Mystery!"* The rehearsal process has been extensive, and everyone has been working hard to produce a wonderful play for our Fultonvale community. We have an amazing set, an incredible cast, and a great group of students who have, and who will be working behind the scenes to put it all together. Now, we just need the support of our community to provide us with an enthusiastic audience for this large undertaking. It would be lovely to see your familiar faces at one, or all of our performances! I sincerely hope all of you can find the time to support of all of the hard work that has gone into producing this show. We still have tickets available for Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm and Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup> 2:00 pm performances. Tickets are \$10.00 at the door.

Here is a brief description of this year's play:

Get your deerstalker cap on—the play's afoot! Comedic genius Ken Ludwig (*Lend Me a Tenor*, *Moon Over Buffalo*) transforms Arthur Conan Doyle's classic *The Hound of the Baskervilles* into a murderously funny adventure. Sherlock Holmes is on the case. The male heirs of the Baskerville line are being dispatched one by one. To find their ingenious killer, Holmes and Watson must brave the desolate moors before a family curse dooms its newest heir. Watch as our intrepid investigators try to escape a dizzying web of clues, silly accents, disguises, and deceit as five actors deftly portray more than 40 characters. Does a wild hellhound prowl the moors of Devonshire? Can our heroes discover the truth in time? Join the fun and see how far from elementary the truth can be!

### Elementary Celebration of Learning

Our annual elementary Celebration of Learning will be held this year on **Thursday, June 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m.** in the school gymnasium. Mark your calendars so that you are able to join us that day to celebrate the learning and accomplishments of our students in grades 1 to 6. Kindergarten students will have previously participated in a classroom celebration. All grade 1 to 6 students will participate in the event. **A reminder that June 29<sup>th</sup> is the last day for elementary students.**



FEEL THE HEAT

heart  
excellence  
attitude  
teamwork

## **Jr. High Awards and Grade 9 Farewell**

### **Jr. High Awards Celebration**

The awards ceremony for students in grades 7, 8 and 9 will be held this year on **Thursday, June 15th at 6:30 pm in the Gym**. Please mark your calendars, and join us for this special event! All students in junior high who will be receiving an award will get a special letter of invitation during the first week of June, but all students and their families are welcome to join us. No tickets are required. Come and join us as we celebrate the accomplishments of our junior high students. Immediately following the Jr. High Awards will be the Grade 9 Farewell celebration.

### **Grade 9 Farewell Celebration**

Each year, we reluctantly say goodbye to our grade nine students, and wish them well as they move on to high school. This year will be no exception. We are beginning to plan our Grade Nine Farewell which will take place on **Thursday, June 15<sup>th</sup> following the Awards Celebration at approximately 7:30 pm**. A Jr. High Farewell Dance for all Jr. High students will commence from 8:45-10:15 pm.

*Note:* Parents of grade 9 students will be receiving a package on Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup> with details of the event. If you require additional information, please contact Mrs. Engel.

## **Volunteer Week Celebrations**

Fultonvale hosted an afternoon tea for volunteer appreciation. Volunteers enjoyed homemade goodies and some special entertainment in the gathering space. Whether you were able to attend or not, please know the students and staff appreciate all who share their time and energy with us! Congratulations to 5 of our parent volunteers whose names were drawn at the Tea for a gift card to Salisbury Greenhouse!

## **Education Week: May 1-5, 2017**

During the week of May 1-5, schools throughout Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) will be taking part in Education Week to showcase and celebrate the important role education plays in shaping the future of our province. Led by the Alberta Teachers' Association, the Alberta Schools Boards Association, and Alberta Education, school communities Alberta-wide are planning activities emphasizing the value of education.

Today, more than ever, EIPS, Fultonvale School, and our teachers are focused on providing students with optimal learning conditions. It's our belief to be lifelong learners, students must have ingenuity, creativity, critical thinking skills, and citizenship skills. To achieve this, we work hard to ensure our students hone a broad range of learning experiences that go beyond the basic subjects of math, language arts, science, and social studies.

Over the course of the week, schools throughout EIPS will be showcasing the outstanding initiatives taking place geared towards creating lifelong learners.

We encourage all of you to participate and help us celebrate Education Week at Fultonvale School!

## **Learning Common News**

The Battle of the Books district level battle was on May 1<sup>st</sup> at Glen Allen Elementary school in Sherwood Park. There is a trophy for the top scoring school (with all school teams combining their scores). I would like to again congratulate all of our participating students in the program. They have been working hard, so please keep encouraging your children as they are doing an amazing job!



How can I access the Learning Commons catalogue?

Type the following address into an internet browser:

<https://destiny.eips.ca/>

(Google Chrome is recommended. Internet Explorer may show an error. If so, it is safe to click on "Continue to this website (not recommended)").

•On the District level page, click on "Fultonvale Elementary-Junior High School" under the K-9 section on the right-hand side.

•Each student can log in at the top right of the next page with FirstnameLastname (no spaces) as their username and the last four digits of their Alberta Student ID as their password.

### Music Notes

Talents Shows are happening in May! **Grade 2** students will enjoy sharing their talents in their regular class during Music the week of May 16.

**Grades 3-6** will have a Talent Show in the gym at 1:15 pm on May 16 and parents are welcome to attend. A committee of grade 6 students are helping to organize the event. Auditions have happened and students should be practicing at home to prepare. The focus of the Talent Show is to have fun and gain confidence in performing before an audience of elementary students and parents.

Please contact me at the school if you have any questions.

Mrs. Grau

### Elementary Track & Field

Elementary Track Day will be here before we know it. It is booked for **Tuesday, June 27<sup>th</sup>**. Calling all Volunteers!! If you are available to help either in the roles of working at an event or in preparing and serving our students their complimentary hot dog lunch from the School Advisory Committee, please contact **Mrs. Brzezicki** through the "contact us" form on our school website. Please look for further information and updates as this event requires your volunteer support for the Track events, the Elementary students' outdoor lunch and of course spectator cheer support!

### Junior High Track Meet

The Junior High Track Meet will be held at Strathcona Athletic Park (SAP) in Sherwood Park on **Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup>**. Participation is mandatory for junior high students and will be used for their overall summative assessment for Physical Education. Students who qualified are eligible to participate in the EIPS Track Meet on **Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017**. We are looking for event workers as well as concession help. If you are interested please email Mr. Hill. Students are not obligated to purchase from the concession.

### Athletic Awards Banquet

Fultonvale will be hosting its annual Athletics Dinner and Awards Night on **Wednesday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017**. The casual evening will start with a catered dinner at 6:00 p.m. and awards to follow. We look forward to seeing many faces at this year's event as we celebrate and recognize our Firebirds' successes and accomplishments for 2016-2017. Invitations are being sent home on Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. RSVP's are due back to the school by Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### Young Scientists' Conference

The following students are participating in the Young Scientists' Conference on Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at the University of Alberta for a day of scientific exploration and discovery:

**Alanna B, Abigail C, Alexis D, Owen G, Kate H, Tait J, Thorsten L, Page M, and Navraj S.**

Some activities are DNA extraction, Robots, telescopes and wildlife protection. A great day of fun for all! See you at the U of A!

Mr. Hill

### Yearbooks, Yearbooks, Yearbooks

Have you ordered your 2016-2017 yearbook? We are still accepting orders online through the Parent Portal at a cost of \$35.00 each. Don't miss out!!

### Little Elk Island Adventure: Registration

Elk Island Public Schools is once again offering its Little Elk Island Adventure, a fun and informative program for *first-time school bus riders*.

Annually, Student Transportation offers the Little Elk Island Adventure to new riders and their parents. The program's aim is to help ease any anxieties a family may have about riding the bus before even starting school. Through a series of activities, riders learn about: school bus safety, danger zones, tips on boarding and how to sit properly on the bus. After that, both the children and parents hop on the bus to practice what they've learned and then adventure out on a short ride.

The Little Elk Island Adventure is for *first-time school bus riders* entering the 2017-18 school year. Sessions and times are available in these locations:

Location	Date	Time
EIPS Central Office	August 22	5:00 p.m.
EIPS Central Office	August 22	6:30 p.m.
EIPS Central Office	August 24	5:00 p.m.
EIPS Central Office	August 24	6:30 p.m.
EIPS Central Office	September 1	10:30 a.m.
Fort Christian/Fort Elementary	August 23	6:00 p.m.

*EIPS Central Office is located at 683 Wye Rd., Sherwood Park*

*Fort Christian School is located at 9806 101 St., Fort Saskatchewan*

**Space is limited and pre-registration is required.** To register for a Little Elk Island Adventure, visit

<https://goo.gl/forms/cqYb15mBLAspUJ1W2>.

More information regarding busing for Kindergarten students can be found at:

[www.eips.ca/transportation/kindergarten-busing-faq](http://www.eips.ca/transportation/kindergarten-busing-faq).

### Help us name the new school in Sherwood Park!

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) wants your input as it prepares to name its newest elementary school in Sherwood Park—a K-6 school in the Davidson Creek area slated to open in fall 2018.

Last month, EIPS collected name suggestions from the community for the new school. Using those suggestions, the Division now has a shortlist of possible names. Before a final decision is made, EIPS is inviting the community to participate in a brief online survey.



F E E L T H E H E A T  
 eart  
 xcellence  
 ttitude  
 eamwork

**TAKE THE SURVEY**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QRXHBBV>

Survey opens: May 8

Survey deadline: May 26

Once the survey closes, EIPS' naming committee will review the feedback from the survey and recommend a final name to the Board of Trustees. The Board is expected to approve the name in June.

**A 'SNEAK PEEK"****June 2017**

1	Zone Track Meet		
2	Gr 6 Reynolds Museum Field Trip 8:30 am-2:45 pm	16	Gr 9 BBQ Lunch & Gateway Field Trip 11:30-2:55 pm
	Gr 9 Ultimate Design Challenge 1:00-3:00 pm		Last Day for Concession
5	Gr 7 Chapters Field Trip 8:30-10:30 am	18	Fathers' Day
6	Gr 1-3 Swim Lessons @ Emerald Hills 8:30 am-12:35 pm	19	Gr 6 Language Arts PAT - Part B
	Gr 7 Ukrainian Village Field Trip 9:15 am-2:55 pm	20	Gr 1-3 Swim Lessons @ Emerald Hills 8:30 am-12:35 pm
7	Pizza Day		Gr 6 Mathematics PAT
	Beach Day (school appropriate)		Gr 6 Boys Mini-Volleyball & Basketball Camp 3-4:30 pm
	Early Dismissal 2:00 pm	21	National Aboriginal Day
8	Gr 5 Elk Island Park Field Trip 8:45 am-2:45 pm	22	ECS/KT Family Picnic 11:45 am-2:45 pm
	Gr 2 Hands on Science Presentations		Gr 6 Social Studies PAT
	Gr 9 WEM Field Trip 8:30-2:55 pm	23	ECS/KM Family Picnic 11:45 am-2:45 pm
	Firewire Newsletter Online		Gr 6 Science PAT
12	Fultonvale School Grand Opening	26	Locker Cleanout
	Elementary Playground Opening 1:00 pm		Gr 9 Social Studies PAT
13	Gr 1-3 Swim Lessons @ Emerald Hills 8:30 am-12:35 pm	27	Gr 7 & 8 Social Studies Exam
	Jr. High Service Awards 11:15 am		Elementary Track & Field/Hot Dog Day
	Gr 6 Girls Mini-Volleyball & Basketball Camp 3-4:30 pm	28	Gr 9 Language Arts PAT
14	Gr 3 Reynolds Museum Field Trip 8:30 am-2:30 pm		Gr 7 & 8 Language Arts Exam
	Hot Lunch	29	Gr 9 Mathematics PAT
	Jr. High Awards & Farewell Celebration 6:30-8:30 pm		Gr 7 & 8 Mathematics Exam
15	Jr. High Dance 8:45-10:15 pm	30	Gr 9 Science PAT
			Gr 7 & 8 Science Exam
			Elementary Celebration of Learning 10:30 - 11:45 am
			Last Day for Students
			Last Day for Staff

**To all our well deserving Mothers, we wish you a very Happy Mother's Day!**



FEEL THE HEAT

heart  
excellence  
attitude  
teamwork