



# FIREWIRE

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents/Guardians,

December 9, 2016

### Principal's Message

December is here with its cold weather and Christmas Spirit. At least the snow cover gives us that White Christmas feeling. It is always a great time of the year to be in schools where the anticipation and excitement is high from students & staff. As we enjoy concerts, participate in charitable events, and end the term with singing and dancing, we continue to learn new curriculum. The staff and students are continuing to focus on teaching and learning, but we have many special events happening as well. The Fultonvale Christmas Breakfast The, School Advisory Council's Adopt-a Family/Jacob's Wish/Food Bank project, Kindergarten to Grade 3 Christmas concert, our carol sing, and the physical education Snowflake Family Dance for Grade 4, 5 and 6 and Snow Ball dance for junior high students are all set to occur during the next three weeks. We hope you will be able to join us for these special events and support our efforts to help others in the community as well.

On behalf of the entire Fultonvale staff, I would like to wish you and yours a wonderful holiday season.  
Brad Cooksley

### Boundary Exemption Request Process

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) boundary exemption request process for the 2017-2018 school year takes place from February 1 to April 7. The boundary exemption request process is the only time of year EIPS students—in Kindergarten to Grade 12—wishing to attend a non-designated school in the upcoming school year can apply to do so. Interested families must fill out a Boundary Exemption Request Form and submit it directly to their requested school.

The Boundary Exemption Request Form—available as of Jan. 9, 2017—and additional information about the boundary exemption request process, schools with closed boundaries and frequently asked questions can be found by visiting [www.eips.ca/schools/boundaries](http://www.eips.ca/schools/boundaries).

*NOTE:* Students already accepted into a non-designated school don't need to reapply.  
Final decisions will be made by April 12, 2017.



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### Kindergarten Registration Starts Soon!

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2017? If so, it's almost time to register for Kindergarten. Kindergarten registration opens for the 2017-2018 school year on **Jan. 16, 2017**. To register, bring your completed [Student Registration Form](#) to the school you're enrolling your child in along with proof of your child's name, residence, date of birth and citizenship. If you're planning to register for Kindergarten at SouthPointe School, the new school in Fort Saskatchewan opening in the 2017-2018 school year, you can submit a registration form to any elementary school in Fort Saskatchewan. The school will make sure your registration package is delivered to the principal at SouthPointe School.

To help families prepare, Elk Island Public Schools has put together an online toolkit 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. Find it by visiting [www.eips.ca/programs-services/kindergarten](http://www.eips.ca/programs-services/kindergarten).

Additional information regarding **Fultonvale Elementary Junior High School's** Kindergarten program, can be found on our school website at [www.fultonvale.ca](http://www.fultonvale.ca).

*NOTE:* To be eligible for Kindergarten in the 2017-2018 school year, children must be five years old on, or before, Dec. 31, 2017.

### Attendance Boundaries: New School in Sherwood Park

Thank you to all the parents, students, staff and community members who took the time to complete the online survey concerning the first phase of the boundary-update process for northeast Sherwood Park. The Division is currently reviewing the information collected to help inform its process as it develops attendance-boundary options for the new school in Davidson Creek and surrounding area. In the new year, the Division will again ask for your feedback regarding the proposed boundary options. Stay tuned to [www.eips.ca](http://www.eips.ca) for updates.

### Thank you to Bookmobile

The administration, the teachers, students, and parents of our community would like to sincerely thank you for your wonderful work, extended services, and most of all the warm reception we always received upon entering the Bookmobile. The Bookmobile and its kind staff have become part of our family. Thank you!!!

### Character Education - Diligence

Fultonvale students used our new report card format to help track progress and set goals for term two. Diligence is "focusing effort on the work at hand". Practicing diligence is like an investment because what you put into something often determines what you will get out of it. A diligent person works hard because anything worth doing is worth doing right the first time. Join Fultonvale staff and students to make a commitment to 1. Concentrate on the job at hand. 2. Follow instructions. 3. Do every job right. 4. Finish projects. 5. Ask questions when unsure. These five steps help us all become more diligent!

### Modernization

The work is continuing and we are now back into the Learning Common and the students and staff are loving the big open spaces. Learning is happening in so many different places and spaces. We are also back in to the Music Room. Mrs. Grau is already practicing Christmas Concert songs in her "own" room.

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### Share your Thoughts: Report card survey

Elk Island Public Schools is asking all of our families to complete a brief survey regarding the new CSL elementary report cards currently being piloted at our school. The Division wants to fully understand:

- how well the achievement-level categories are defined in the report card
- if users find the digital report card easy to access and navigate
- what aspects of the report card users like
- what aspects of the report card can be improved

Please take a moment to complete the five-minute survey. Your feedback will help the Division as it moves forward with the implementation of the new CLS elementary report card. **The survey closes Jan. 8, 2016.**

[TAKE THE SURVEY NOW](#)

### Junior High Midterm Exams

Junior high students will be writing midterm exams at the end of January in all four of the core subjects of language arts, science, mathematics and social studies. It is extremely important that all junior high students prepare ahead of time for these exams by re-reading all notes and reviewing subject materials and assignments. Please note the exam dates in the "Sneak Peek" section of this newsletter. In preparation for these summative assessments, we are asking that parents go online to the Parent Portal (if you are in need of your username and password-please contact the office) and discuss the assessments with your student.

### Inclement Weather and Dressing for the Weather

As the winter season will soon be upon us, we would like to take this opportunity to remind parents to dress children appropriately for the weather when getting ready for school or the bus. The weather often changes unexpectedly throughout the day, so please select suitable outerwear and ensure your child is prepared for changing conditions.

Should inclement weather conditions occur, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) will advise parents of any bus cancellations using various communications tools including: automated-telephone messages, alerts posted on [www.eips.ca](http://www.eips.ca) and school websites, Twitter, local radio stations, and on Versatrans My Stop.

Any morning bus cancellations will be posted on [www.eips.ca](http://www.eips.ca) by 6:30 a.m.

Decisions regarding bus cancellations are guided by EIPS administrative procedures, which says: School bus service may be suspended when Environment Canada reports a temperature of -40 C including wind chill factor, in one or more regions. School bus services may also be suspended or delayed due to adverse weather or road condition and on a region-by-region or route-by-route basis.

When school bus services are suspended, schools will remain open to students. EIPS believes parents have the right and responsibility to make choices for their children based on their beliefs and perceptions of safety during times of inclement weather. Parents must use discretion when sending children to school during inclement weather, even when buses are running and schools are open.

For more information, contact Student Transportation at 780-417-8151.

### Head Lice Awareness for All Grades

In the interest of promoting and maintaining a healthy learning environment for our students, head lice infestations are common in school children but are not associated with serious disease and are not a sign of poor hygiene. In fact, head lice really like clean hair. Head lice do not spread disease and children may have head lice but go weeks before showing symptoms.

At Fultonvale, we have offered a personal hygiene lesson to all students, discussing hand washing, oral care, hair and nails and bathing and body care. We have also asked all students to refrain from sharing hats, toques and combs.

We have also asked students in elementary to place toques and mitts inside of their coat sleeves and have encouraged students with long hair to put into a ponytail or to wear it up.

Families of children in a classroom where a case of active head lice has been detected will be notified as such. The school will also provide information about the diagnosis, misdiagnosis, and management of head lice.

### Parent Contact/Emergency Information

While we endeavor to keep our school as safe as possible for students and staff, with over 405 active students, accidents and injuries do occur. We are fortunate that most playground injuries are minor but in the event of a more serious matter we need to contact parents/guardians as soon as possible, especially when urgent medical treatment is required. If you change contact numbers (residence, work, cellular), please contact the school to alert us about the new information. As well, we really appreciate having accurate alternate emergency contact information in the event we can't reach a parent or guardian. Thank you for your cooperation.

### Commendable Achievement Jr. High at November 25<sup>th</sup>

The Student/Parent/Teacher Interviews and the PowerSchool Parent Portal on November 25<sup>th</sup> provided students with a snapshot of learning to this point in time. Keep up the hard work and keep asking questions. We have many more months of learning together.

#### Grade 7 Honour

Julia B, Natasha C, Kendall C, Daxton C, Alexis D, Alexis F, Owen G, Kate H, Kaylie J, Tait J, Stephanie K, Gabriella K, Amy K, Carson L, Page M, Ava P, Spencer R, Cole S, Zhengwu T, Kadence V, and Brooklyn W

#### Grade 7 Merit

Joseph B, Alanna B, James B, Haley C, Abigail C, Hannah G, Kayley H, Pieter J, Tyler K, Thorsten L, Matis M, Chloe M, and Nolan N

#### Grade 8 Honour

Tristan C, Paige C, Parveen K, Selena K, Jessica L, Tyler L, Jack M, Brooklyn M, Levi M, Gabriella N, Erica N, Cole P, Mitchell P, Kennedy R, Jessica S, Nathan S, Claudia T, and Taylor Y

#### Grade 8 Merit

Daniel C, Logan D, Cierra D, Sarah H, Scott H, Joshua H, Faith H, Alyssa J, Kerah-Lee K, Talia L, Rebecca L, Baylee M, James P, and Breah S

#### Grade 9 Honour

Isaac Ball, Alyssa C, Antonio C, Ryan C, Olivia d, Jordan D, Lucy G, Hunter M, Nyal M, Cole S, Austin S, Jacob V, and Zakhill W

#### Grade 9 Merit

Victor B, Isabela C, Anika H, Matthew S and Kyle W

### Counsellor's Corner

Merry December!

Some mental health presents during this busy month...

Parent Connect is running a ten week program for parents of pre-teens (8 to 12 years old) to teach them how to build a strong relationship with their soon-to-be adolescent. The group is called Connect and parents will meet in small groups of 10 to 12 with two trained group leaders to focus on the core components of secure attachment to promote children's social, emotional and behavioural adjustment. The group starts on January 18 at the county building. Contact Brea (780) 449-6448 or Jacelyn (780) 449-6453 to learn more.

Some children are more anxious than others (the flip side of this is that often kids who worry a lot are also sensitive and caring individuals). But we adults also have to take some care that we are not inadvertently exacerbating a child's anxiety, by trying to shield our children from stress. Some stress is good for your child to experience and learn how to manage. This is a great article some childmind.org...

<http://childmind.org/article/how-to-avoid-passing-anxiety-on-to-your-kids/>

And speaking of managing anxiety, one of the best sites for resources is AnxietyBC.com. It even has an app for teens and youth to help them manage their stress. It's called MindShift and helps kids learn to relax and develop more helpful ways of thinking. It has specific tools to tackle worry, test anxiety, social anxiety, perfectionism even sleeplessness. <https://www.anxietybc.com/resources/mindshift-app> And finally, one more free app developed by the U of A and delivered by Alberta Health Service. Text4Mood sends mood elevating messages to subscribers. The app will text you a little message every day (for 180 days) at about 10 a.m. to encourage and inspire you.

It's super easy to subscribe to...just text 'mood' to the number 760-670-3130 and you are in.

<https://www.ualberta.ca/news-and-events/newsarticles/2016/november/get-by-with-a-little-help-from-a-text>

Enjoy the best of season this month: great food, wonderful music and warm relationships!

### Learning Commons

All students can access the library catalogue by following the instructions posted on our school website: <http://fultonvale.ca/lc/learning-commons-faqs>

Students can also see which items they have currently checked out, when they are due and if any of those items are overdue. This process of accessing student circulation information online will help greatly reduce the need for printing notices.

Please ensure all library materials are returned on time. Students make requests for materials regularly and overdue items affect their ability to borrow. Thank you for your cooperation.

Please feel free to stop by or email (Michael.Papineau-Couture@eips.ca) if you have any questions regarding the library, our borrowing policies or volunteering.

### Music Notes

Division 1 students are excitedly preparing to delight you, so mark your calendar for our Annual Christmas Concert "*Christmas for the Snowmen*"! Performed by our Kindergarten to Grade 3 students, there will be two performances: Tuesday Dec. 20 at 1 pm, and Wednesday Dec. 21 at 6:30 pm. in our gymnasium. **Please note students are asked to arrive at the school at 6 pm for the evening performance.**

Information, costuming requests and lyrics will be regularly updated on **my eTeacher page** and through **homeroom teachers**. If your child will not be in attendance for either of those performances please let classroom teachers know so that I can plan accordingly.

Mrs. Grau

### Family Christmas Breakfast

Please join us for the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Family Christmas Breakfast here at Fultonvale on December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Come and enjoy some yummy pancakes from 7:00-8:30. \$ Donations are welcome to cover the cost of the breakfast as we are not charging students and families this year. Santa Claus, elves from the North Pole, and Freddie the Firebird will be joining us as well. Feel free to take a picture with any of these icons. Coloring sheets will be available for the littles to pass the time as well. The staff at FTV are looking forward to sharing Christmas cheer with our Fultonvale families! Merry Christmas!

### "The Best K - Gr. 3 Christmas Concert Seats" Raffle

Don't miss out? Once again we will be raffling off the best seats at our Elementary Christmas Concert being held on Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>.

Two seats per class (ECS - Gr 3) will be awarded to the winning ticket holders. Each winner will have two prime seats reserved for them. Parents are invited to purchase tickets at the school office until **Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup>**. Ticket price \$1.00 each. If you send in monies with your child, please indicate how many tickets, which class and family name. Proceeds will be donated to Adopt a Family and Jacob's Wish.

### Fultonvale Family Christmas Sing-along

Parents, family and friends are invited to join the entire school population for an hour of Christmas singing on Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> from 8:30 - 9:30 am. Each class will be leading the first verse of a song with everyone joining in at the chorus, so come and enjoy a fun family time of singing on our last day before the holidays!

### Snowflake Family Dance

Parents, family and friends are invited to the Snowflake Family Dance for Division II students on Dec 23 from 10:30 a.m. until 11:45 a.m.

This dance is the final exam for their dance unit, and parents, family and friends are welcome to come and be amazed at what the students have learned while enjoying and participating in a morning of fun family dancing!

### Parent Volunteers Needed For the Snow Ball

"Parent volunteers are needed to help supervise and sign dance cards during the Physical Education Department's final assessment for the junior high's dance unit: the Snow Ball on Friday, Dec 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The Snow Ball starts at 12:40 and runs till 3:00. Parents are needed on the floor to help out and to enjoy an afternoon of amazing ballroom dancing in the process.

Parents who are interested and available should contact Mr. Craig Hill ([craig.hill@eips.ca](mailto:craig.hill@eips.ca)) at the school. Thank you in advance of your kind and enthusiastic participation!

### Adopt-A-Family, Jacob's Wish and Food Bank

The season of giving is upon us and we at Fultonvale want to be able to give back to our community. We will be running our annual Adopt-A-Family, Jacob's Wish and Food Bank donations campaign again in December. Each grade 1 to 6 will be given a list of ideas for their family, the Kindergarten and the junior highs will be donating to the Food Bank and Jacob's Wish.

Jacob Milonas contracted meningitis at just 12 days old. He started his tiny little life as a battle, from complications with meningitis he ended up enduring 95 surgeries in his 14 years of life. He spent many of his days and years in the hospital. Jacob had such an amazing love for the other patients in the Stollery that he wanted to make others happy, so Jacob and his mom came up with an amazing fundraiser. His wish was to bring joy to other kids who were sick and having to spend time in the hospital like him.

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So they asked friends and family to donate gift cards so that they could buy specific items for those families in need. Sadly Jacob lost his battle to his sickness in May of last year but his mom continues to carry on.

The best way to support Jacob's wish is by purchasing gift cards for a toy store, grocery store, Tim Hortons, Subway or Pressed (for families to grab a quick meal or drink.) These places are all located across from the hospital, Toys R Us and London Drugs are also great options.

We will be wrapping gifts on December 11th at the school right after the Pancake Breakfast. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help wrap please contact Melissa Lozeron @ [lozeron@telus.net](mailto:lozeron@telus.net). We will be accepting gifts and donations until Dec 16. We thank you in advance for supporting our Adopt a family and Jacob's wish campaign.

### **Athletics Update**

Volleyball has come to an end for the year, and we as a school have had a successful season. Not only did all of our teams grow and improve over the season but all four teams represent Fultonvale to the best of their ability on game days, even when we did not receive the results we were hoping for. Great Job Fultonvale!

Our Jr. Boys continued to grow with every game and finished off the season with Silver medals in the small school final.

Thank you to all of our coaches, Parent volunteers and our Drivers. Fultonvale Athletics is continually growing and developing, but none of this would be possible without all of the assistance and parent involvement we receive from you every year.

Basketball Teams have been chosen and practice schedules are completed (they will be posted soon if your athlete is unsure as to what has been arraigned). I am glad to report that we have all of our coaching spots filled for this season but if you would like to help in any way please feel free, as always, to contact me at the school.

Sr. Teams have tournaments on the following dates, with more information to follow as we approach these dates: Dec 15-17, Jan 20-21, and Feb 16-18.

Jr. Team tournament dates are as follows: Jan 12-14, Feb 2-4, and Feb 24-25.

Thank you for any and all involvement you have in our Athletics Program.

Mr. Wever, FTV Athletics

### **Grade 4, 5, 6 Skiing Fun!!**

Grades 4 - 6 students are once again swooshing down the hills at Rabbit Hill this year starting Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup>. Future ski dates are Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, and Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup>!

### **Hair Massacure**

Fultonvale is proud to announce that they are again, partaking in the Hair Massacure. Last year, Fultonvale raised over \$25 000! The Hair Massacure helps 2 major local charities (The Stollery Children's Hospital Foundation, and The Make-A-Wish Foundation). These charities help to give hope and happiness to families dealing with cancer.

This year you are able to purchase the Manic Panic "Kali Pink" hair dye for \$13.00 at the school (Please see Mr. Bresden to purchase).

The Hair Massacure kickoff assembly will take place on January 12<sup>th</sup> @ 12:45 pm in the gym. The mass shaving will take place on February 16<sup>th</sup> at 12:45pm in the gymnasium. Everyone is welcome to come out and attend to cheer on our proud victims. Thank you for your continued support for this amazing event!

### **Marmot Basin Parent Meeting**

Parents of students attending the Fun Day Marmot Ski Trip on Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup> must attend a mandatory parent meeting on **Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-7:30 p.m.**



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### Happy Holidays from the Board of Trustees

With 2016 now winding down and the winter break just around the corner, I want to take this time to extend warm holiday wishes to all our students, staff and families. On behalf of the Elk Island Public Schools Board of Trustees, we hope you and your loved ones have a wonderful holiday season with happiness that follows you throughout the New Year.

We look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Monday, Jan. 9, 2016.

Thank you and best wishes,

Trina Boymook  
EIPS Board Chair

### Winter Break

Fultonvale Elementary Junior High School will close for the winter break at the end of the day on Dec. 23, 2016 and will reopen on Jan. 9, 2017.

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) Central Office will be open January 3-6. If you have any school-related questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Central Office during the below office hours.

#### EIPS Central Office Winter Break Hours

Closed December 26 to January 2

Open January 3-6 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

\*for location and contact information visit [www.eips.ca](http://www.eips.ca).

From everyone at Elk Island Public Schools, we wish all of you a joyful holiday season and a happy New Year.

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to All!*

### "Sneak Peek"

#### January 2017

2-6	Winter Break - School Closed	23	Social Studies Mid Term Exam
9	First Day Back for Students	24	Gr 1K/1B Reynolds Museum Field Trip 8:30-2:30 pm
10	Rec 8/9 Exist Fitness Field Trip 12:15-2:55 pm		Language Arts Mid Term Exam
	Jr. High Fun Day Permission Forms Due	25	Math Mid Term Exam
	School Council Meeting 7:00 pm	26	Hot Lunch Science Mid Term Exam
11	Early Dismissal 2:00 pm	27	Firebird Fun Day Galaxyland 9:15 - 2:45 pm
	Wear Hats for Mental Health		Jr. High Marmot Ski Trip Departure 3:45 am
12	Hot Lunch		Return 9:00 pm
	Hair Massacure Kickoff 12:45 pm		
12-14	EIPS Jr. Basketball Tournament		
13	Gr 4-6 Rabbit Hill Ski Trip	29	Winter Fun Day
	Firewire Newsletter Online	30	Semester II Begins
16	Marmot Basin Parent Meeting 6:30-7:30 pm		
17	FSAC Meeting 7:00 pm		February
18	Pizza Day	1	Pizza Day
	Gr 5 & 9 Immunizations 8:45 am		Wear Pink
20	Gr 5 ZAP Electrical Safety Presentation 10:15-11:45 am	2	Early Dismissal 2:00 pm
		3	Gr 5 Telus Field Trip 8:30-2:30 pm
			Firewire Newsletter Online

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