



FIREWIRE

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents/Guardians,

February 3, 2017

Principal's Message

February is the shortest month but it comes packed with lots of activities and learning. Junior High midterms and Semester 1 are behind us and we look forward to new units in core subjects and new options. Elementary students will continue to skate and ski as well as participate in the Hair Massacure, Valentine's Day, and for the grade 1 & 2 classes, the infamous 100 Days celebration. The elementary & junior high French classes will enjoy the Carnavale on Feb. 23rd. The month wraps up with Parent/Student/Teacher conferences and the piece de resistance - our Artist in Residence starts on February 27 and ends on March 2. Finally, the furniture has arrived for the student gathering area (chairs will be here next week) and the outside building envelop continues to see completion.

Enjoy a great month of red, pink, kindness, and happiness.
Brad Cooksley

Changes to Sharing Information via Email

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) appreciates the opportunity to stay connected with parents and one of the ways it does so is through email. However, federal law—Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL)—requires that the Division must be given direct consent to continue to email its families, because occasionally, emails may contain what could be "commercial content."

On February 15, you will receive a message from the Division that will give you the option to either subscribe or unsubscribe from school- and Division-generated emails. The same message is being sent to every email address you have provided to the Division. To remain on EIPS' distribution list, you will have to make a choice as to whether or not you wish to continue receiving email for each of those addresses.

If you unsubscribe, or do not respond, you will no longer receive school- and Division-generated emails such as school newsletters, information about upcoming school and Division events, parent and community engagement opportunities and others. That's because these messages may contain advertising or promotional content from time to time—for example, school fundraisers; lunch programs; field trips; the sale of yearbooks; purchasing of student photos, books, graduation, school productions or dance tickets; athletic events with an entry fee; options for purchasing third-party supplies or products or similar events and offers—and will therefore no longer be sent out.



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NOTE: Even if you unsubscribe, you will continue to receive emails regarding emergency situations and financial matters. Those who received notifications about high school attendance will also still receive those messages.

We appreciate your co-operation in ensuring the Division's distribution lists are compliant with the CASL requirements and you continue to receive only the information you feel is important.

Character Education - Forgiveness

As we head into the season of love and Valentines, Fultonvale students and staff are practicing forgiveness. Forgiveness is not forgetting. In order to forgive sometimes we need to look beyond the action and explore the person. When we understand others' motives we have more compassion and forgiveness. Identifying our feelings and sharing these feelings help us move to forgiveness. Practice saying, "I feel angry when you ... Next time please ... I forgive you." Anger plus anger equals more anger. Visualizing, writing/journaling and time can also help us find forgiveness. Join Fultonvale in trying to forgive and share loving kindness.

Kindergarten Registration Now Open!

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2017? If so, it's now time to register for kindergarten. To register, bring your completed [Student Registration Form](#) to the school you're enrolling your child at along with proof of your child's name, residence, date of birth and citizenship. 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 <http://www.eips.ca/programs-services/kindergarten>.

Additional information regarding **Fultonvale's** kindergarten program, can be found on our school website at 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.

Boundary Exemption Request Process is now open for 2017-2018

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) boundary exemption request process for the 2017-2018 school year is now open.

EIPS students—in kindergarten to Grade 12—wanting to attend a non-designated school in the upcoming school year can now apply to do so. All interested families must fill out a Boundary Exemption Request Form and submit it directly to their requested school. The application deadline is April 7, 2017. Boundary exemption requests received after April 7, 2017 will be declined. There is no late or secondary process. The [Boundary Exemption Request Form](#) 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/boundary-exemption-request-process.

Final decisions will be made by April 12, 2017.

Accountability Pillar Survey

The survey continues to be focused on parents of students in grades 4, 7 and 10.

Information for parents:

As an annual check-up on the education system, the Accountability Pillar provides an opportunity for Alberta Education and school authorities to ensure that we are equipping students for success.

The Accountability Pillar uses a set of 16 indicators. Data on these indicators consists of surveys of students, parents and teachers on various aspects of education quality, student outcomes such as dropout and high school completion rates, and provincial assessments of student learning.

From January to the end of February, Alberta Education will be conducting the annual Accountability Pillar Survey.

- In January, parents of students in grades 4, 7 and 10 will receive a survey from Alberta Education.
- In February, students in grades 4, 7 and 10 and all teachers will be completing their surveys online at school.

All surveys are anonymous and ask questions about experiences with your school. In addition to English and French, the parent survey is available in Chinese, Punjabi, Arabic, Blackfoot, Cree, Korean, Spanish, Tagalog and Urdu.

Your participation in the survey helps provide important information on the quality of education your child is receiving, so we encourage you to return your survey promptly.

Survey results will be available to school authorities in May 2017, and will be reported publicly as part of their 3-Year Education Plans and Annual Education Results Reports.

S/P/T Conferences - www.schoolinterviews.ca

Student/Parent/Teacher conferences are fast approaching. **Your child(ren) will be coming home with information on February 8th to book conferences online.** You can book online starting on February 8th after 4:00 p.m.

ECS KM & KT Students

Conferences will be held on Tuesday, February 28th from 4:30 - 7:30 p.m. and Thursday, March 2nd from 8:30 a.m. - 1:45 p.m. and 4:30 - 7:30 p.m. Please book your appointment times through the schoolinterviews.ca website starting on February 8th after 4:00 p.m. using Event Code **hpnar**

BOOKINGS CLOSE Tuesday, February 21st at NOON.

For Gr 1-6 Students

Conferences will be held on the evenings of Tuesday, February 28th and Thursday, March 2nd from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Please book your appointment times through the schoolinterviews.ca website starting February 8th after 4:00 p.m. using Event Code **hpnar**

BOOKINGS CLOSE Tuesday, February 21st at NOON.

For Gr 7-9 Students

Conferences will be held in the school gymnasium from 4:30 - 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 21st and Thursday, March 2nd on a walk in basis. No appointment is necessary. We ask that you keep conversations with each teacher to a maximum of 10 minutes.

NOTE: Ms. Roy will be available Tues, Feb 28 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. in the gym.

Babysitting will be available for younger siblings during the evening conference times.

Please don't forget to stop by the Learning Commons to visit our Book Fair!

Are You Planning an Extended Holiday?

We know there are families planning extended vacations during the winter months. While we encourage and expect all students to be in school every day, we recognize the value of family time as well. Parents often request homework for their children to take with them on vacation, but then they find it is very difficult to actually get the work completed when students are in "holiday mode". It is also often difficult for teachers to predict exactly how much the class will cover during a specific time period. If your child is going to be absent for a number of days the teachers will be happy to gather the work they miss and provide it to the student upon his/her return. During this time, please access the www.fultonvale.ca website and the e-teacher pages. Aloha!

Inclement Weather Reminder

Although the temperatures have warmed up in the past week, we do live in Alberta and the weather can change in a matter of minutes. Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) reminds parents to please dress children appropriately for the weather when getting them ready for school or the bus.

In the event of inclement weather conditions, your best source of information regarding bus route cancellations is the division website. The Bus Status section (www.eips.ca/bus-status) is updated in real time whenever bus cancellations or delays occur. Please make note of your children's bus number(s) so you can quickly and easily check the bus status using this valuable tool. When all bus routes within a large geographic region of EIPS are cancelled, we also post this information in the home page article. For more information or to determine your children's bus number(s), contact EIPS' Student Transportation department at 780-417-8151.

Counsellor's Corner

There is a lot of pink around Fultonvale this month: Valentine's Day, Pink Shirt Day and, of course, the Hair Massacure!

I, along with staff members Mr. Bresden, Mr. Buchert, Mr. Jefferies and Mr. Brzezicki, as well as lots of our students, are all going bald to raise money for the Stollery Hospital and Make a Wish Northern Alberta. Please consider donating, if you haven't already done so. You can donate to the whole team or to individual team members. Check out our Hair Massacure site: <https://www.registrationlogic.com/secure/Fundraiser.aspx?F=17409>

100th Day Learning Celebration

Grades one and two are celebrating 100 days of learning on the morning of February 14th in the school's front foyer. We will enjoy several centers focused on language arts, building and movement and the number 100. We need parent helpers to help run centers. Please contact Mrs. Tammy Kihn if you are available to help.

Music Notes

Students in grades 4, 5 and 6 are heading to the Winspear on Feb. 13 in the afternoon to experience the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra perform *A Canadian Road Trip*, featuring music from across Canada in honour of our 150th birthday!

Division 2 students are also preparing for their Spring Concert *The Elders are Watching* on Tuesday March 21. All grade 4, 5 and 6 students will be performing in this concert as part of their Music program. It is a busy time of year with extracurricular events, so please make early arrangements so that your child can be here.

I will have information and lyrics for class songs on my eTeacher page updated as we get closer to the event.

Mrs. Grau

Drama Production – Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery

Rehearsals are underway for this year's theatrical production! Once again, if anyone has old sport coats or white shirts they can donate, your kindness would be much appreciated. There are over 40 roles, therefore many costumes are needed! We hope that as many people as possible can support this big undertaking, it would be lovely to see your familiar faces at one of our performances!

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

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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!

Learning Commons News

In the month of February, we continue our regular Battle of the Books meetings for the students in Grades 4, 5 and 6 that are participating. At our meetings we stage mock battles to get the students ready for the Fultonvale and District battles this spring!

Starting at the end of February and into the beginning of March we will be hosting a Scholastic book fair. Look for a letter with attached book fair flyer being sent home with students before the end of February.

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.

Young Authors' Conference

The Young Authors Conference will be celebrated on February 25, 2017 in Sherwood Park. This gives chosen students a chance to spend the day with a variety of well-known children and young adult authors, illustrators and graphic artists; working with them and learning "tricks of the trade". We wish the following students a day of fun and learning: **Zak A, Alyssa B, Cierra D, Tawfig H, Dena L, Abbey O, Maddie S, Lauren S, Taylor S, Tanner W, Slade W and Naomi W.** Thank you to Ms. Babyn for attending with our participants.

Fultonvale School is proud to participate in the 2017 Hair Massacre!

Fultonvale is proud to announce its 4th year, participating in the Hair Massacre. We have raised almost \$80 000 in the past 3 years and are hoping to top the \$100 000 mark this year! You can donate in person at the school or you can donate online at www.Hairmassacre.com. The mass shaving will commence on Thursday, February 16th at 12:45 pm in the gym. Please come out and support all the students and staff that are shaving their heads or donating their beautiful hair!

Fultonvale Elementary Relay Team

Thank you to all of the Gr 4-6 students who tried out for the Fultonvale Relay Team. We are excited to announce that the following students will be representing Fultonvale at The Running Room Indoor Games on Wednesday, February 22nd at the Butterdome from 4:00-6:30 pm.

Girls Teams

Grace D, Anaka W, Alyssa B, Emily B, Phoenix M, Mackenzie G, Kristen H, Ashley N and Kate C

Boys Team

Thomas B, Zach N, Nate H, Ryan K, Nicholas M, Seth F, Kale B, Nolan M and Reid V

Grade 4, 5, 6 Skiing Fun!!

Grades 4 - 6 students will again be swooshing down the hills at Rabbit Hill again on Tuesday, February 7th, and Friday, March 10th. Mark your calendar.

Elementary Skating

Grade 1-3 students are skating at the Strathcona Olympiette Center until March 2nd. We are looking for volunteers to skate with the students and tie up skates. Don't forget that parent volunteers need to also wear CSA approved helmets. Please note that the full schedule is on our website at www.fultonvale.ca

Curling

Once again our grade 5-9 students are headed over to the Strathcona Curling Club and learning the great Canadian game of curling. Students will be learning the basics of this lifelong sport and building on their experience from previous years. Our Junior High students will be participating in the 3rd annual Roar of the Rings of Fire, our lunch hour intramural bonspiel.

We are also trying something new this year. On Mondays afterschool (Feb 6, 13, 27 and maybe into March), from 3:30-5:00pm we will be allowing students from grade 5-9 try some extra-curricular curling. The emphasis is on games and fun, and we will be mixing up the grades and kids. Parents that are interested can also drop in and participate -all you need are clean shoes and a positive attitude! Permission forms for students have already gone home, and extras are in the office.

Please contact Mr. Brzezicki if you have any questions regarding curling.

A "Sneak Peek"

March 2017

1	Pizza Day PJ Day Artist in Residence Early Dismissal 2:00 pm	10	Gr 4-6 Rabbit Hill Ski Trip 8:30-2:55 pm
2	Artist in Residence Gr 1-3 Skating 12:50-2:50 pm ECS - S/P/T Interviews 8:30-1:45 pm ECS - Gr 9 Interviews 4:30-7:30 pm	12	Daylight Savings Begins - Clocks Ahead 1 hr
3	Professional Learning Day - School Closed	14	School Council & FSAC Meeting 7:00 pm
4	FSAC Live & Silent Auction @ South Cooking Lake Hall	15	Pizza Day
7	Restorative Justice Parent Meeting - Tentative Basketball Quarter Finals	16	Gr 2 Telus World of Science Basketball Finals
8	Rec 8/9 Sherwood Bowl Field Trip 12:35-2:55 pm March Firewire Newsletter Online	17	St. Patricks' Day
9	Gr 4 Bennett Centre Presentation 9:30-2:30 pm Hot Lunch Basketball Semi Finals	20	Gr 4-6 Spring Concert Dress Rehearsal 1:00 pm Rec 8/9 SOC Field Trip 12:45-2:50 pm
		21	Elementary Report Cards Online Jr. High Progress Reports Online Gr 4-6 Spring Concert 7:00 pm "The Elders Are Watching"
		22	Gr 9 PARTY Program
		23	Hot Lunch Locker Cleanout
		24	Day in Lieu of S/P/T Interviews - School Closed
		27-31	Spring Break - School Closed

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April

3	First Day Back		
4	Gr 6 Legislative Bldg Field Trip 9:15-2:30 pm	6	Gr 4 Bennett Centre Field Trip
5	Pizza Day Super Hero/Villain Day Early Dismissal 2:00 pm	7	Gr 1 Muttart Conservatory Field Trip 8:30-2:55 pm April Firewire Newsletter Online

Community News**FSAC Live and Silent Auction**

The FSAC will be holding a live and silent auction at the **South Cooking Lake Hall on Saturday March 4th, 2017**. If you are interested in making a donation to the auction before then you may do so by dropping the item (unused and in original packaging) off at the office. There will be a donations binder there to fill in the information about the item. Or you may contact Tara Dawson at (780) 922-5158 or via email at tkonowalyk@hotmail.com

Cybersecurity and the Next Generation*EIPS*

For parents and educators it's becoming increasingly more difficult to understand the Internet from a young person's perspective. To help, the North Central Teachers' Convention Association is hosting a special presentation with tech expert Amber MacArthur in February. Topics being discussed include how to improve privacy, safety and citizenship; concerns around social media networks and what to watch for to prevent targeted attacks. The presentation takes place at **Festival Place on Feb. 9, 2017**. Tickets are \$10. [Learn more](#) | [Purchase tickets](#)

Public Meetings: Ministik School

As you may be aware, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) Board of Trustees approved the motion to consider the possible closure of Ministik School. To ensure a fair and transparent process and that a decision be made in the best interests of both students and the Division, a public-meeting process is being undertaken as outlined in the province's *School Act* "Alberta Regulation 238/1997: Closure of Schools Regulation."

A comprehensive information package is being provided to all Ministik School families. The package is also available online at www.eips.ca/schools/ministik-school.

As a result, two public meetings are being held to offer families and community members an opportunity to learn about what is being considered, ask questions and provide feedback. The meetings are taking place at Ministik School on **February 7 and February 15; 6:30 p.m.** Free childcare will be provided on site. [Learn more](#) | [MIN Report](#)



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