



February 3, 2021



WESTBORO ELEMENTARY

Weekly Newsletter

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

February 4 & 5: Teachers' Convention - **No school for students**

February 12: **Red** and White Day - Students are encouraged to wear **red** and white to celebrate Valentine's Day

QUARTER 3 SCHOOL FEES ARE NOW POSTED

Quarter 3 fees are now posted and payment is due within 14 days. If any credits were present on the account, they have been applied and any outstanding balance will show as due. Please log into your PowerSchool Parent Portal account to see credits, fees, and make payment. If you any questions, please contact the school at 780-467-7751.

SCHOOL AND TRANSPORTATION FEE WAIVER APPLICATIONS: DEADLINE EXTENDED

Elk Island Public Schools recognizes the global pandemic has put a strain on some families' finances and available income can change quickly in the current situation. As such, the Division has extended the deadline for requesting a waiver of your 2020-21 school and transportation fees. If you encounter circumstances where you're unable to pay your fees, you can apply to have fees waived by submitting an [Application for a Waiver of Fees](#). Because of the pandemic, the new deadline is Feb. 15, 2021—if you're new to EIPS, the deadline is the latter of Feb. 15, 2021, or 45 days after registration. Each quarter—or trimester, as applicable—you'll receive an email notification letting you know fees are posted on the PowerSchool Parent Portal. To access your fee information, go to "Student Fees" on PowerSchool. There you can view your fees and pay online using Visa, MasterCard or INTERAC Online—when available from your financial institution. All fees are due within 14 days of being posted. **NOTE:** School fees apply to in-school learners only. For more information about school fees, transportation fees, waivers and payment deadlines, visit eips.ca or westboroelementary.ca. Alternatively, contact the school at 780-467-7751.

VALENTINE'S DAY

As you've no doubt experienced in your own homes, COVID-19 has changed the way we celebrate holidays and special occasions.

One of the measures EIPS put into place to mitigate the spread of the virus was to reduce, as much as possible, the number of high-touch items in our classrooms. In terms of class celebrations, this has meant eliminating the passing out of treats and other items traditionally shared among students.

As such, students will not be able to bring Valentine's cards, gifts or treats to school for distribution this month. Many of you may be disappointed in this change of approach but please rest assured, your child's teacher will still find creative ways to mark the occasion, and make the day fun for students.

Thank you for your kind understanding and cooperation as we strive to keep our staff and students safe and healthy.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Kindergarten registration has begun! Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2021? If so, it's time to register for kindergarten. Kindergarten registration opened for the 2021-22 school year on Feb. 1, 2021. To help families prepare, Elk Island Public Schools has put together an online [EIPS Kindergarten 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. Additional information regarding Westboro Elementary's kindergarten program is available at westboroelementary.ca.

RETURNING STUDENT REGISTRATION

Returning student registration for 2021-22 Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) will once again conduct an online returning student registration process to confirm student registrations for the 2021-22 school year. Families of all returning students must complete the process to confirm the school their child plans to attend in the 2021-22 school year. Additionally, students who want to attend a non-designated school need to make that request through the returning student registration process—acceptance is based on available space. The 2021-22 returning student registration takes place between Feb. 1-28, 2021. Access to the Returning Student Registration Form is provided through the PowerSchool Parent Portal. If you don't have a PowerSchool Parent Portal account, please take the time to set one up. [Create a PowerSchool Parent Portal account](#). For more information contact the school directly.

PRIVACY EDUCATION RESOURCES

Young Canadians are communicating online more than ever, but they face increasing risks—from cyberbullying and email scams to businesses finding ways to profit from personal information. You can empower students with the knowledge to navigate the online world while protecting their privacy. The [privacy quiz](#) for youth—from the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada—helps kids learn about their privacy rights while discovering how to stay safe online. New questions come up each time students take the quiz, so they can keep learning more. Additional [privacy discussion topics](#) get the conversation going with young people. They contain information about the impact of online tools and taking control of your online reputation.

CAREGIVER EDUCATION SERIES

Alberta Health Services is hosting a series of caregiver information sessions focused on ways to support students' mental health. The sessions are free and geared toward parents, caregivers, teachers and community members who want to learn more about challenges impacting children and adolescents. This year, session topics include anxiety, ADHD, depression, self-harm, technology, teens and teaching leadership skills, and more. Visit [Caregiver Education for the Edmonton Zone](#) for more information and session dates.

FIRST NATION, MÉTIS AND INUIT PARENT ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS

The First Nations, Métis and Inuit education team has planned a three-part series—Developing Foundational Knowledge of First Nations, Métis and Inuit cultures, histories and contemporary contexts—designed for all EIPS parents and families who are curious to learn about First Nations, Métis and Inuit cultures, perspectives and histories. The sessions are designed as entry points to understanding as we work toward learning our collective truth on the path of reconciliation. [Join the session.](#)

Session 2: February 23; 7-7:30 p.m.

- Addressing common roadblocks to understanding and relationship
- Terminology; bridging the gap between what language parents may be used to hearing and what children are learning in schools

Session 3: March 16; 7-7:30 p.m.

- Language of this land: The importance of highlighting Indigenous languages; deepening understanding of relationship to land through language; what exploration of Indigenous languages can look like in schools

Strathcona County Information

CURRENT RESTRICTIONS

The Government of Alberta announced [limited changes to their restrictions](#). Effective February 8, there will be a potential easing of restrictions if hospitalizations stay below 600:

- Restaurants, pubs, bars, lounges and cafes can open for in-person service, with health measures, limited capacity and opening hour restrictions.
- Children's sport and performance activities are permitted if related to school activities, such as physical education classes.
- K-12 schools and post-secondary institutions are allowed to use off-site facilities to support curriculum-related educational activities.
- Only one-on-one training is permitted for indoor fitness activities (e.g. fitness in dance studios, training figure skating on ice, one-on-one lessons). Sessions have to be scheduled or by appointment. No drop-in or groups allowed.

All other provincial restrictions remain in place. For full details and more information, visit <https://www.alberta.ca/enhanced-public-health-measures.aspx>

EXPLORE YOUR WINTER

Good news! You can now enjoy the winter lights at Broadmoor Lake Park until February 22. Looking for more activity ideas? Check out our Free Recreation webpage here:

<https://www.strathcona.ca/.../free-recreation-opportunities/>

FREE FAMILY GLOWSHOEING

Tuesday, February 9, 5-9:45 p.m. ***Registration required!***

Enjoy a guided glowshoe experience for families at the Broadmoor Public Golf Course. Each participant will receive their own glowsticks and a guide will take you through the scenic course and illuminated trail. Remember: you must maintain a physical distance of 2 metres (6 feet) from anyone outside of your household and wear a mask or face covering while inside any indoor facility for washroom access. Parents or legal guardians must accompany minors to the registration point, complete a waiver and assist their child while putting on snowshoes as needed. Pre-registration is required and is non-transferable, each participant's name must be entered to secure their spot. All sessions are free courtesy of Strathcona County's Everybody Gets to Play program. Register here:

<https://reonline.strathcona.ca/STRATHCONA/public/category/browse/PROGOUTDOORX90>

THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF
STRATHCONA COUNTY IS NOW

**ACCEPTING REGISTRATIONS
IN OUR BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL
CARE PROGRAM LOCATIONS:
KINDERGARTEN - GRADE 6**

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN AT OUR: HERITAGE HILLS, ARDROSSAN,
WOODBIDGE FARMS & SPRUCE CLUB LOCATIONS

PICK UP AVAILABLE FROM: PINE STREET, MILLS HAVEN
& FULTONVALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

SERVICES OFFERED: HOMEWORK HELP, RECREATION PROGRAMS, PART TIME FEE FOR
KINDERGARTEN, SUBSIDY AVAILABLE, PRIORITY SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION (AND ONCE
RESTRICTIONS ALLOW, HOT BREAKFAST AND NUTRITION PROGRAMS, SPORTS LEAGUES,
EVENING PROGRAMS AND LOW COST NON-SCHOOL DAYS)

PROGRAM FEES: \$175.00 PER MONTH FOR
BEFORE OR AFTER SCHOOL, \$325 FOR BOTH

REGISTER TODAY! PLEASE CALL 780.416.1500

#123, 2016 SHERWOOD DRIVE, SHERWOOD PARK, AB T8A 3X3

MORE INFO PLEASE VISIT WWW.SCBGC.COM



THROUGHOUT FEBRUARY,
CHOOSE KIND
FOR YOURSELF AND OTHERS.

We all have a choice to be kind. Kindness has been proven to reduce stress and anxiety as well as boost health and happiness.

Learn more strathcona.ca/choosekind

#SCchooseKind



**February
is kindness
month**



CAN YOU CRACK THE
**KINDNESS
CODE?**

For the month of February, you will find interactive signs with fun code cracking activities around Strathcona County. Do you have what it takes?

Go to strathcona.ca/choosekind to find out.

#SCchooseKind



**EDUCATIONAL
WORKSHOP SERIES**

Self-Compassion: Re-filling your emotional cup
February 3 | 12 noon - 1 p.m.

Self-compassion can improve our mental health and well-being, quality of life, and relationships. Join us to learn simple ways to care for yourself and practice self-compassion.

Presented by: Strathcona County Mental Health Capacity Building and Social Supports Team

Cyberworld: What happens when youth press send?
February 9 | 12 noon - 1 p.m.

Join us to learn about popular websites, games, and apps commonly used by children and youth. We will discuss legal consequences and the potential dangers online as well as helpful tips to start a conversation with children and youth.

Presented by: SAFFRON Centre

Creating safer spaces for 2SLGBTQ+ people
February 23 | 12 noon - 1 p.m.

What makes a space safe and how can we help make them safer? Learn why safer spaces are so important for 2SLGBTQ+ people and what simple steps we can all take to demonstrate our allyship.

Presented by: The altView Foundation

Register: strathcona.ca/adultlearning

#SCchooseKind

