

# the JAMES MOWAT Messenger

November 2020



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Wow, it is November already. The weather this week has certainly been a blessing as Halloween came without any snow on the ground. We continue to be impressed by the work that our parents and students are doing with following the EIPS COVID-19 Guidelines. Students are working hard and our teachers continue to share with us all the amazing work that the students are doing. Way to go Jays!

Our Levelled Literacy Intervention program is back up and running this year, though with some changes to support the cohort model. We would like to thank Mrs. Austen and Mrs. Beck for their hard work in supporting students striving for their literacy goals. We are excited to be starting a new program this year called our Math Intervention Program (MIP). This program is designed to support groups of students with their numeracy skill acquisition. Mr. Murphy will be working with identified students in grades 2 to 6 to help build on these skills.

## **Report Cards and Parent Teacher Interviews**

**Report cards will be published on Tuesday, November 24, 2020 at 3:00pm.** Parents can view their child's report card by logging into their PowerSchool Parent Portal. If you need assistance logging in to your PowerSchool account, please contact the school office. If you are unable to access the report card online, please contact your child's teacher to make arrangements to have one printed. Parent teacher interviews will take place Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, November 24-26, from 3:30-5:30pm (please see page 2 of the newsletter for detailed information).

## **Fall Break (No School)**

The school will be closed to staff and students from November 7-15, 2020 for Remembrance Day and the Fall Break. Classes resume on Monday, November 16th.

Please have a safe and restful November break.

Mr. Stacey Boyko, Principal

Mr. John Murphy, Assistant Principal

## **November at a Glance:**

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Nov 4     | Early Dismissal  |
| Nov 6     | Remembrance Day Ceremony (10:30am) - (in class)              |
| Nov 7-15  | Fall Break (No School)                                       |
| Nov 16    | Classes Resume   |
| Nov 17    | Dieleman Fundraising Orders Due Today                        |
| Nov 16-20 | Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week                       |
| Nov 20    | Wear Blue to School Today for National Child Day             |
| Nov 23    | Parent Council Meeting (6:30pm)                              |
| Nov 24    | Report Cards Published on PowerSchool Parent Portal (3:00pm) |
| Nov 24-26 | Parent Teacher Interviews (3:30-5:30pm)                      |

Please note the following school closure days this month. There will be no school on:

Nov 7-15 Remembrance Day and Fall Break



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### **Remembrance Day Assembly (Friday, November 6)**

November 2-6 is our Week of Remembrance at James Mowat School. Our Veteran's Week and Remembrance Day committee curated a list of videos, books, songs and activities that our classes have been doing all week to honor and remember those who fought for our freedom. Students have also completed beautiful Remembrance Day artwork that is displayed throughout the school. Our in class Remembrance Day Ceremony is on Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup> starting at 10:30am. Poppies will be distributed to all students. If students would like to donate to the Royal Canadian Legion Poppy Campaign, they may do so when the poppies are distributed Friday morning.



### **Parent Teacher Interviews**

#### **Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday November 24, 25 & 26 (3:30pm - 5:30pm via telephone)**

Our first round of parent/student/teacher interviews will be conducted via telephone and will take place on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, November 24-26 from 3:30 - 5:30PM. Interviews will be set for 10 minute blocks for an individual conference time with the teacher. Please note that teachers may call from numbers with No Caller ID, so please be sure to answer these calls at your designated appointment time. Thank you.

Mr. Boyko (Principal), Mr. Murphy (Assistant Principal) and Mrs. Arzate (Counsellor) will also be available for appointment times.

### **Booking Appointments for Parent Teacher Interviews**

All interviews will be scheduled using the same online booking system as was used last year. To book your conference(s) please go to <http://www.schoolinterviews.ca>, and type in event code **kss3n**. The online system will open on Friday, November 6, at 3:00pm for interview bookings. If you feel that you would like a longer meeting time with your child's teacher you are welcome to contact the teacher and set up an alternate time to meet.

### **National Child Day - Friday, November 20 (Wear Blue to School)**

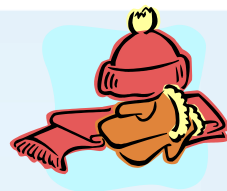
"National Child Day is celebrated in Canada on November 20 in recognition of our country's commitment to upholding the rights of children and two historic events: the 1959 signing of the UN Declaration of the Rights of the Child and the adoption of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1989. This event is celebrated annually in Canada to recognize our country's commitment to upholding the rights of children! Show your true colours and wear BLUE in support of National Child Day." <https://www.nationalchildday.ca/>

We encourage all of our students to wear blue on November 20 in support of National Child Day and to show their James Mowat pride.



### Dressing for the Weather

We would like to remind all students to dress for the weather. Remember to wear your mitts/gloves, boots and hats at recess. We also ask that parents please label their child's belongings. Clearly labeled mitts, hats and boots will assist us in returning these items to the rightful owners should they be misplaced.



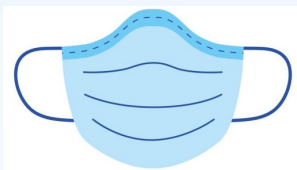
### Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week (November 16-20)

National Bullying Awareness Week is on November 16 -20 this year. At James Mowat students will be participating in a variety of activities/discussions that will address how to make our school a safe place. Topics will likely include:

- What is bullying
- What to do when you see bullying
- What to do when you feel bullied
- Empathy
- Celebrating our uniqueness

### Masks, Water Bottles and Cutlery

Please ensure your child remembers to pack all of their needed supplies for the day. Students are reminded to bring their masks and water bottle each day, as well as any needed utensils for their lunch. Thank you.



### School Fees

School fees for Quarter 2 will be posted on the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) on November 16. Parents/Guardians will receive an email notification letting them know the fees are posted. 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.

If circumstances exist where you are unable to pay your fees, you can apply to have fees waived by submitting an Application for a Waiver of Fees. **For the 2020-21 school year, the deadline for receipt of applications is extended to Feb. 15, 2021**, or if new to EIPS, the latter of Feb. 15, 2021 or 45 days after registration. **No applications will be accepted after this date.** An extension will be granted for students transitioning from out-of-school learning to in-school classes.

For more information about school fees, waivers and payment deadlines, visit [eips.ca](#) and [jamesmowat.ca](#). Alternatively, contact the school at 780-992-1272.



## **Scholastic Virtual Book Fair!! (November 16-29)**

### Students and Family!

Our Book Fair will be a little different this year, but hopefully you will find the time to click the link provided below to view all the great books available and order a few to enjoy! Similar to our regular in-person Book Fairs, the virtual Book Fair is still a fundraiser for the Library. For all purchases made, the school will receive a percentage of credits/money for the library to spend to get some great new books for all grades to enjoy! We will miss having everyone stop by the Library to look at the books BUT here is the next best thing! <http://scholastic.ca/bookfairs/resources/videos>

**Our Virtual  
Book Fair  
is coming!  
Save the date!**

Always a big concern when ordering online is... will the books be here for Christmas? **YES!!** Scholastic has set December 13 as the last day to order for Christmas delivery. Shipping will be free for orders over \$35 before taxes, and items will be shipped to the address you provide. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ms. Statham at [nadine.statham@eips.ca](mailto:nadine.statham@eips.ca) and she will get back to you.

### **James Mowat School's unique Virtual Book Fair link:**

<https://bookfairs-canada.myshopify.com/pages/5152020>

**START DATE: November 16, 2020**

**END DATE: November 29, 2020**



### **Recycling**

Unfortunately, we are unable to provide recycling of juice boxes, cans and water bottles this year. Students are reminded to please take their recycling home with their lunch kit. Thank you.

### **Boston Pizza School Earnback Program**

*Did you know?* Any receipts collected from any Northern Alberta Boston Pizza location can simply be dropped off at the school office. The school can then submit the receipts and will get a portion of the total back in cash. Please consider supporting our school by bringing in any receipts you or your friends or family may have from Boston Pizza.







## Halloween Celebrations

While we were unable to celebrate Halloween with Parent Council's annual Halloween Dance, our students had a fun time during their in class celebrations. We always look forward to seeing all of the students' creative and unique costumes!



## Nut Aware School

**James Mowat is a Nut Aware School** - Several students and staff at the school suffer from allergies. The most prominent allergy is one to nuts and nut products. Elk Island Public Schools has a "Nut Aware" strategy.

**Please do not send any  
nuts or nut products to school.**

*Thank You for your support and cooperation as we strive  
to keep all of our children safe.*



## DECEMBER



### Looking Ahead to December:

|              |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Dec 2        | Early Dismissal |
| Dec 23-Jan 5 | Winter Break    |
| Jan 6        | Classes Resume  |



## Parent Council Corner...

### NEXT PARENT COUNCIL MEETING:

Monday, November 23 at 6:30pm (virtual). All parents are welcome to attend. The Google Meet link will be emailed to all parents/guardians prior to the meeting.

### Dieleman Fundraising Orders - Due Tuesday, November 17

We would like to extend a tremendous THANK YOU to everyone that is participating in our current fundraiser: Christmas Joy Wrapping Paper, Kitchen Gadgets and more by Dieleman Fundraising Sales (DFS Canada). Information packages were sent home with students in mid-October.

Please note that **Orders are due Tuesday, November 17.** While the fundraising packages indicate a due date of November 20, that is the date Parent Council must have the order submitted to Dielemans. As such, we request that all student orders are returned by November 17. Thank you.

These fundraisers allow Parent Council to support the school in many different ways. Most importantly, we are able to provide additional funding to each teacher to support class projects within the classrooms. Over the years, Parent Council has also supported many other amazing projects and events. Some of these include:

- Bringing in 3rd Street Beat for a full week of Hip Hop dance training (a highlight of the year for many of our students),
- Providing agenda bags for division 1 students
- \$500 a year to the new book purchase plan
- Providing free hot dog lunches for all of our students, staff and volunteers during Fun in the Sun.

Without fundraising support from our families, these activities would not be possible.

Pick up information for the Dieleman's orders will follow in the December newsletter.



***Thank You for your Generous Support!!***



Your Future in MIND

### **Inclement Weather**

With the winter season almost here, we want to remind families 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.

If inclement weather conditions occur, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) advises families of any bus cancellations using various communications tools, which may include automated-telephone messages, alerts posted on [www.eips.ca](http://www.eips.ca) and school websites, through the Bus Status app, Twitter, Facebook and on Versatrans My Stop. Morning bus cancellations are posted on [www.eips.ca](http://www.eips.ca) by 6:30 a.m.

Decisions regarding bus cancellations are guided by EIPS administrative procedures that states, "school bus service may be suspended...when Environment Canada reports a temperature of -40 C." Other reasons for suspending or delaying school bus services include adverse weather and poor road condition. When school bus services are suspended, schools remain open to students. EIPS believes families have the right and responsibility to make choices for their children based on their beliefs and perceptions of safety during times of inclement weather.

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