

the JAMES MOWAT Messenger

FEBRUARY 2022



Dear Parents/Guardians,

It's hard to believe it is February and we are now more than half way through the school year. Parents are reminded that during severe cold weather days our school remains open to students. Depending on temperature, *Administrative Procedure 164: Inclement Weather, may result in buses not providing service, however, schools do not close.*

Our focus this month is on kindness. Our students will fill our 'Plant Kindness and see what grows' bulletin board with ways to be kind at James Mowat. We also have some theme days planned this month to promote school spirit.

We are currently seeking feedback regarding school fees. Please take a few minutes to complete this [Fee Survey](https://forms.gle/aNmOM7oVuZhYN4ko7) (<https://forms.gle/aNmOM7oVuZhYN4ko7>). School administration will use the survey results to help determine fees for 2022-2023, which will then be shared at a parent council meeting.

We look forward to the many activities taking place within our school. Remember to check our online calendar regularly to stay up to date on what's happening at the school.

Mr. Stacey Boyko, Principal
Mr. John Murphy, Assistant Principal

February at a Glance:

Feb 1	Kindergarten and Grades 1-12 New student registration opens for 2022-23
Feb 1	Returning Student Registration opens for 2022-23
Feb 1-4	Giant Indigenous floor map at James Mowat
Feb 2	Early Dismissal
Feb 4	Jay Day
Feb 7	Hot Lunch Orders Due by 3pm
Feb 10-11	No School - Teachers' Convention
Feb 14	Hot Lunch - Boston Pizza
Feb 14	Pink/Red/White Day
Feb 14-17	Metis Beading with Cheryl Devin
Feb 15	National Flag Day
Feb 17	Random Acts of Kindness Day
Feb 18	Secret Theme Day
Feb 21	No School - Family Day
Feb 23	Pink Shirt Day
Feb 28	Parent Council Meeting 6pm
Feb 28	Returning Student Registration 2022-23 closes

Looking ahead to March:

March 2	Early Dismissal
March 4	No School - PL Day
March 18	Report Cards published at 4pm
March 21	Parent Council Meeting 6pm
March 22-23	Parent Teacher Interviews
March 25	No school - Day in Lieu
Mar 28- Apr 1	No school - Spring Break
April 4	Classes resume



JAMES MOWAT
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Kindergarten Registration is Now Open!

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2022? If so, it's now time to register for kindergarten. To register, simply complete the online registration form at eips.ca/kindergarten. To help families prepare, Elk Island Public Schools has put together an online [EIPS Kindergarten Tool kit](https://www.eips.ca/programs-services/early-learning/kindergarten) (<https://www.eips.ca/programs-services/early-learning/kindergarten>) 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 James Mowat Elementary's kindergarten program is available at <https://www.jamesmowat.ca/>.

Complete the Returning Student Registration: February 1-28

Elk Island Public Schools' (EIPS) returning student registration process is now open. **All returning students must complete the online Returning Student Registration Form** to confirm their child's enrolment in a school for the upcoming 2022-23 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. **All returning EIPS students are required to complete the form by Feb. 28, 2022.**

To access the Returning Student Registration Form, simply log in to the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](https://powerschool.eips.ca/admin/home.html) (<https://powerschool.eips.ca/admin/home.html>). If you don't have a PowerSchool Parent Portal account, you do need to set one up. For help see: [Create a PowerSchool Parent Portal account](https://www.eips.ca/parents/powerschool/parent-portal) (<https://www.eips.ca/parents/powerschool/parent-portal>)

For more information contact the school directly.

RELATED INFORMATION:

[Returning Student Registration Process](https://www.eips.ca/registration/returning-students) (<https://www.eips.ca/registration/returning-students>)
[Frequently Asked Questions](https://www.eips.ca/registration/faqs-returning-student-registration) (<https://www.eips.ca/registration/faqs-returning-student-registration>)
[EIPS School Boundary Maps](https://www.eips.ca/schools/boundaries) (<https://www.eips.ca/schools/boundaries>)
[Closed boundaries 2022-23](https://www.eips.ca/download/377318) (<https://www.eips.ca/download/377318>)
[Find my designated school](https://www.eips.ca/schools/find-my-designated-school) (<https://www.eips.ca/schools/find-my-designated-school>)
[Applying to a non-designated school](https://www.eips.ca/registration/applying-to-a-non-designated-school) (<https://www.eips.ca/registration/applying-to-a-non-designated-school>)



Report Cards and Parent Teacher Interviews

Report cards will be published on Friday, March 18 at 4:00pm. Parents can view their child's report card by logging into their PowerSchool Parent Portal. Parent teacher telephone interviews will take place on March 22 and 23. All interviews will be scheduled using the same online booking system as was used in the Fall (www.schoolinterviews.ca). Details for booking interviews will follow in March.

Pink Shirt Day

This year, Pink Shirt Day is on February 23rd. We encourage everyone to celebrate kindness by wearing a pink shirt on this day. Pink Shirt Day started in Nova Scotia when, in 2007, two boys noticed that another boy at their school was being teased for wearing a pink shirt. To show support the boys purchased pink shirts and encouraged their classmates to wear the shirts as a sign of solidarity. We continue this tradition throughout the country every February as a symbol of kindness.



Water Bottle and Mask Reminder



Please remember to send a water bottle and mask to school each day with your child(ren). Our water fountains are closed and only available as water bottle filling stations.

Student Attendance

The best way to report student attendance is by visiting www.jamesmowat.ca and clicking the "Student Attendance" box on the left side of the homepage. It is important to **provide a reason** for the absence and if your child is ill, please include the type of symptoms.



Career Day—Thank You Parent Volunteers!



We would like to send a huge thank you to all of the parent volunteers that participated in our grade 4 to 6 Career Day on January 28th. We appreciated you taking the time out of your day to join us virtually and share about your occupation, as well as the training and education required. Our students really enjoyed the presentations and learning about a wide range of occupations.



Parent Council Corner...

Next Parent Council Meeting:

February 28 at 6:00pm (virtual). All parents/guardians are welcome to attend. The link will be emailed to parents/guardians prior to the meeting.

Thank you to all of the parents and guardians that attended the January Parent Council meeting and provided feedback regarding setting fees for the upcoming school year. If you were unable to attend the meeting, but would like to provide your input, please complete the google form on our website or here <https://forms.gle/aNmoM7oVuZhYN4ko7>.

In particular, we are looking for feedback on Noon hour supervision, Field trips and associated fees, Extracurricular activities, and Non-curricular goods and services (for example, yearbooks). Specific questions for consideration are:

- Do you support fees for sports and other extracurricular activities on a cost-recovery basis?
- Do you support an increase to field trip fees if it is a good opportunity to enhance student learning?
- Do you support higher cost field trips such as swimming and skiing?

Upcoming Hot Lunch:

The next hot lunch is on February 14th (Boston Pizza). Order forms went home February 2 and are also available on our website. Order forms are due Monday, February 7, no later than 3pm.



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 (www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca) for more information and session dates.



Literacy at Home: Supporting Reading Comprehension

Ask Questions (open ended, not yes/no)	Why do you think ____ happened?	What do you think ____ means? How do you know?	What do you think will happen next? Why?
Compliment	I like how you went back to re-read when it didn't make sense.	Your expression really shows you understand what you are reading.	You can provide a lot of text evidence to support your thinking.
Suggest Strategies	Why don't you try summarizing what you've read.	Go back to the text and find the part where _____. Re-read and let's talk about it.	Use the illustrations to see if that helps you make sense of what you read.
Model It	"Watch me as I"	"That part didn't make sense to me. I'm going to go back and re-read".	"This part reminds me of..."

EIPS 2022-23 Division Calendar: Now available!

The official 2022-23 EIPS calendar is now available. The calendar includes important dates during the 2022-23 school year, such as school-closure days, breaks, the first and last day of classes, professional learning days, early dismissal days, plus more.

Highlights from the 2022-23 EIPS calendar include:

first day of school – Aug. 30, 2022
 November break – November 7-11
 Christmas break – December 21 to January 3
 second semester starts – January 31
 Teachers' Convention – February 9-10
 spring break – March 24-31
 last day of classes – June 27, 2023

To view the 2022-23 calendar, visit eips.ca.

Did you know you can sync the Division calendar to your personal calendar? You can. Simply, visit www.eips.ca/calendar and click on "subscribe to calendar." It's that easy.



EIPS DIVISION CALENDAR 2022-23

Regular School Day

Early Dismissal for Students

First Instructional Day (Semester 1 and 2)

No School – Statutory Holiday

No School for All Students and Staff

No School for Students – Professional Learning/Operational Day

Important Dates

- Aug 26** Professional Learning Day
- Aug 29** Operational Day
- Aug 30** Classes Begin
- Sept 5** Labour Day – Statutory Holiday
- Sept 30** National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – Division Closure
- Oct 7** Professional Learning Day
- Oct 10** Thanksgiving Day – Statutory Holiday
- Nov 7-11** November Break
- Nov 11** Remembrance Day – Statutory Holiday
- Dec 21 - Jan 3** Christmas Break
- Dec 25** Christmas Day – Statutory Holiday
- Jan 1** New Year's Day – Statutory Holiday
- Jan 4** Classes Resume for Students
- Jan 30** Professional Learning Day
- Jan 31** Second Semester Begins
- Feb 9 & 10** North Central Teachers' Convention
- Feb 20** Family Day – Statutory Holiday
- Mar 3** Professional Learning Day
- Mar 24 - 31** Spring Break
- Apr 3** Classes Resume
- Apr 7** Good Friday – Statutory Holiday
- Apr 10** Easter Monday – Division Closure
- May 5** Professional Learning Day
- May 19** School Closure Day
- May 22** Victoria Day – Statutory Holiday
- June 21** National Indigenous Peoples Day – No Exams
- June 27** Last Instructional Day
- June 28** Last Operational Day

AUGUST 2022

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FEBRUARY 2023

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SEPTEMBER 2022

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NOVEMBER 2022

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JANUARY 2023

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MARCH 2023

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MAY 2023

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JULY 2023

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