

the JAMES MOWAT Messenger

April 2022



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back! We hope everyone had an enjoyable and restful spring break. Spring has arrived bringing warmer weather and the occasional snow flurry!

With a little less than 3 months remaining in the school year, our students are busy with many activities happening in the school! We want to thank everyone who had an opportunity to participate in Parent-Teacher conferences.

It is the time of year when we are planning for the next school year. We strive to provide the optimum classroom conditions for all students. To achieve this goal we revisit our class lists each year and make changes based on a number of factors. Staff carefully reflect on creating classes which are balanced and provide the best conditions for all students. This encourages students to make new friendships, become more independent and experience various teaching styles. We appreciate and thank you for supporting these changes.

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



April at a Glance:

April 1	No School - Spring Break
April 4	Classes resume
April 6	Early Dismissal
April 8	Hat Day (Red Cross)
April 8	Blue Day for Autism Awareness
April 15	No School - Good Friday
April 18	No School—Easter Monday
April 22	Crazy Hair Day
April 22	Earth Day
Apr 24-30	National Volunteer Week
April 25	Parent Council Meeting 6pm

Looking ahead to May:

May 4	Early Dismissal
May 5	Jay Day - Wear Blue
May 6	No School - PL Day
May 11	Class Photos - Grades: K-5
May 12	Grade 6 class photo and individual photos
May 12	Class Photos - Alt Kindergarten
May 12	Moose Hide Campaign Day
May 16-20	Scholastic Bookfair
May 16	Parent Council Meeting 6pm
May 17	Kindergarten Open House 6pm
May 18	PAT Grade 6 English Part A
May 20	No School - School Closure Day
May 23	No School - Victoria Day
May 27	Theme Day: Classroom Choice



JAMES MOWAT
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Spring Math Challenge

Our Math Challenge starts the week of April 11th. Students can earn a token for completing their weekly math problem and another token for completing their foundational math challenge. The goal is for the school to earn 2,000 tokens over the next four weeks and then we will have a special school wide reward.

Red Cross Fundraiser

We want to thank everyone who had the opportunity to participate in our Red Cross Fundraiser for humanitarian relief for Ukraine. Over the three days, we managed to raise a total of \$1,658.51.

Bicycle Reminder

With the warmer weather and melting of the winter snow, we are beginning to see some students riding their bikes to school. For safety reasons, we request that students follow these guidelines:



- 1 Students should ride their bicycles up to the school grounds area, dismount and walk their bikes to the rack.
- 2 Bicycles should be locked to the rack immediately.
- 3 Bicycle racks are out of bounds during school hours.
- 4 At noon or after school, when you are going home, students should walk their bikes to the end of the school grounds area and then proceed home.
- 5 No bicycles should be ridden through the parking lot or the student pickup area.
- 6 Bicyclists must wear an approved helmet at all times.

We often have well over one hundred bicycles at the racks. It does get crowded. Please follow the above guidelines to stay safe.

Yearbook Orders

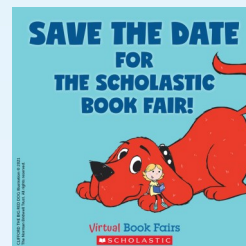
2021-2022 Yearbooks are now available to order through the PowerSchool Parent Portal. The yearbook is \$20 and will arrive in September 2022. The yearbook captures all the events for the entire school year. A big THANK YOU to Mrs. Fleming who is currently busy working on the yearbook and to all staff for taking photos throughout the year for the yearbook.





Spring 2022 Scholastic Bookfair

We will be having a **student** Scholastic Bookfair from Monday, May 16 - Thursday, May 19. Due to this being only a student bookfair there will also be online ordering available from Monday, May 16 - Friday, May 20. Please watch for emails from your homeroom teacher and the James Mowat website for links!



Get ready for Kindergarten

Do you have a child registered in kindergarten next year? If so, make sure to attend James Mowat Elementary's upcoming Kindergarten Information Night on May 17. You'll get to:

- tour the school;
- meet the teachers;
- gain insight on play-based learning; and
- see what a typical day looks like.



Kindergarten Information Night 2022:

Date: May 17, 2022

Time: 6:00-7:00pm

Location: James Mowat Elementary

To make the transition to school as smooth as possible, Elk Island Public Schools has put together a toolkit for families. The kit includes information about registration, important dates, programming options, what to expect, eligibility, finding your designated school, transportation and more. Find it at: Welcome to EIPS Kindergarten (<https://www.eips.ca/programs-services/early-learning/kindergarten>).

Additional information about James Mowat Elementary's kindergarten program is available on the school website. <https://www.jamesmowat.ca/programs/kindergarten>

Parent Council Corner...

Next Parent Council Meeting:

April 25, 2022 at 6:00pm. All parents/guardians are welcome to attend.

Parent Council Fundraising:

Thank you to everyone who supported our Mom's Pantry Fundraiser!

Thank You for your Generous Support!!



Your Future in MIND

Junior High Information Nights: Running April and May

Junior high schools across EIPS are hosting information nights for all Grade 6 students and their families—taking place in April and May. Make sure to attend to learn everything you need to know about the junior high programs at your child's school. Those who attend will also have a chance to:

- meet the teachers;
- tour the school and classrooms;
- learn about the upcoming curriculum; and
- ask questions.

For specific dates and times, see: EIPS Junior High Information Sessions 2022 (<https://www.eips.ca/registration/junior-high>)

A big THANK YOU to EIPS Volunteers

National Volunteer Week takes place April 24-30. On behalf of the Board of Trustees at Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS), I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all EIPS volunteers and school families for your support over the last 24 months. Collectively, we've had to react, shift and adapt throughout the various COVID-19 waves and changing public-health restrictions. Despite that, EIPS volunteers showed tremendous flexibility, commitment and creativity to ensure schools continue providing exceptional education and opportunities for all students.



So, thank you for your time, efforts and support. It's inspiring and making a difference in the lives of students. I encourage everyone to join in this year's National Volunteer Week by celebrating the hundreds of volunteers within EIPS and reflecting on the role of volunteers in our future.

Trina Boymook Chair, EIPS Board of Trustees

Spread the Word: EIPS is Hiring Substitute Educational Assistants

Do you know someone who's great at working with children and youth and eager to support student learning? Someone who's looking for a flexible schedule and variety in their day-to-day tasks? Spread the word! Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) is hiring substitute educational assistants (EA) to work on a casual, on-call basis supporting all school locations.

EAs are integral to the school team, assisting teachers with instructional and non-instructional tasks in the classroom and other school activities. Whether it's working one-on-one with individual students or with a small group of students in a class or special program, EAs provide support and assistance to help students achieve success. Substitute EAs are critical to ensuring the continuity of student learning each and every day.

Substitute EAs are needed to fill positions until the end of the school year. If you know someone who'd be great in this role, encourage them to apply today.

Strathcona County's
Agricultural Service Board

POSTER CONTEST

From field to fork

Grains, vegetables, fruit, and livestock—farmers work hard every day to provide us with nutritious food that they grow in their fields. Draw a picture of all the farm-grown food you love to eat.

Prizes

Prizes will be presented to three winners from each grade.

**1st Place - \$100 | 2nd Place - \$75
3rd Place - \$50**

Contest open to all Grade 3, 4 and 5 students in Strathcona County and Fort Saskatchewan.

In order to claim their prize, a parent or legal guardian will be required to sign a Release and Consent form.

Contest opens:
Monday, April 4, 2022

Contest closes:
Friday, May 6, 2022

For contest rules and entry guidelines, visit:
strathcona.ca/postercontest



Chances of winning are dependent on number of entries received. Contest entries will be judged by Strathcona County, Transportation and Agriculture Services Selection Committee based on creative representation of the theme of "From field to fork" and visual appeal. No purchase is necessary.

