

the JAMES MOWAT Messenger

MAY 2022



Dear Parents/Guardians,

We hope you are enjoying the warmer weather. A reminder to have your child dress appropriately for the weather as the mornings are still quite cool.

This is a busy time of year and there will be lots happening in classrooms between now and the end of the school year. Please check the online calendar regularly to stay up to date on what's happening at the school.

Please remember that Provincial Achievement Tests (PAT) for students in Grade 6 start May 18th and continue June 15 to 24. Please check the calendar for specific exam writing dates. Students who are absent on the day of the scheduled exam date will be required to complete the test on an alternate date.

Looking forward to our Fun in the Sun day in June which will be filled with many fun events for students. Thank you to our parent volunteers and Parent Council for making this event possible.

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



May at a Glance:

May 2-6	Education Week
May 2-8	Mental Health Week
May 4	Early Dismissal
May 4	Hats On! for Mental Health Day
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 13	Hot Lunch Orders due by 3pm
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
May 30	Hot Lunch - Freson Bros

Looking ahead to June:

June 1	Early Dismissal
June 2	Grade 6 Tour Rudolph Hennig
June 8	Fun in the Sun
June 15	PAT Grade 6 Math Part A
June 20	PAT Grade 6 Math Part B
June 21	National Indigenous Peoples Day
June 22	PAT Grade 6 Science
June 23	PAT Grade 6 Social Studies
June 24	PAT Grade 6 English Part B
June 24	Talent Show
June 28	Last Day of School



JAMES MOWAT
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Yearbook—Order deadline June 15th

2021-2022 Yearbooks are 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. THANK YOU to staff for taking photos throughout the year for the yearbook. A huge THANK YOU to Mrs. Fleming for compiling the photos into our yearbook!



Bicycle Reminder

With the warmer weather we have many students riding their bikes to school. We often have well over one hundred bicycles at the racks. It does get crowded. For safety reasons, we request that students follow these guidelines:

- Students should ride their bicycles up to the school grounds area, dismount and walk their bikes to the rack.
- Bicycles should be locked to the rack immediately.
- Bicycle racks are out of bounds during school hours.
- 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.
- No bicycles should be ridden through the parking lot or the student pickup area.
- Bicyclists must wear an approved helmet at all times.

Kindergarten Information Night

Families who have a child registered to begin kindergarten in September 2022 are invited to attend our Kindergarten Information Night with their child on Tuesday, May 17, 2022 from 6:00-7:00pm

Cell Phone Policy

Students in kindergarten to Grade 6 have no access to cellphones or personal communication devices during the school day, including during breaks and the lunch hour. The purpose of the EIPS policy is to ensure learning takes place in an environment with fewer distractions. When students can focus on what's taking place in the classroom and can interact directly with the teacher and other students, they're in a better position to grow and succeed.

Contact Information

It's important to keep your PowerSchool Parent Portal Account up-to-date with any NEW information (i.e. phone numbers, addresses, etc.) so we're able to reach you, if necessary.



THANK YOU! Driver Appreciation Day is May 2



Join us on May 2 as we recognize and thank our school bus operators for keeping the safety of our students their first priority. We encourage you, and your children, to take a moment to say thanks to our bus operators—who go above and beyond to provide safe and timely transportation to our students.

On behalf of James Mowat Elementary THANK YOU to all of our school bus operators for a job well done.

Education Week 2022: May 2-6

Education Week takes place May 2-6. Throughout the week, students and staff from James Mowat Elementary, are showcasing and celebrating the role education plays in shaping the future of our province. Led by the Alberta Teachers' Association and Alberta Education, the annual event is celebrated by school communities province wide with activities focused on the importance of education.

The theme of Education Week continues to be Learning is a Journey highlighting the progression and growth of students over time and the multiple facets of an educational experience—including core subjects, fine arts, school teams, citizenship education, extracurricular activities and more.

Write On Stationery

James Mowat Elementary will once again be offering parents of children planning to attend James Mowat next year the opportunity to pre-purchase their school supplies. Write-On Stationery will purchase, package and deliver all of your children's school supplies for the next year.



WRITE-ON STATIONERY

THIS IS A VOLUNTARY PROGRAM but one that we are sure will be of value to you as it ensures that students will be provided with quality school supplies that meet the student's exact needs.

Ordering will be online and you will have the option for home delivery (new this year) or to pick up from James Mowat on August 24, 25, and 26. Ordering information will be sent home soon.

This will give you one less thing to worry about over the summer.





Parent Council Corner...

Next Parent Council Meeting:

May 16, 2022 at 6:00pm. All parents/guardians are welcome to attend.
This is the last Parent Council meeting of the school year.

Hot Lunch:

Next hot lunch day is May 30 - Freson Bros Hot Lunch

Preparing for Kindergarten Series

The EIPS Early Learning team has planned several sessions for families with children starting kindergarten in the fall to help prepare them for the year ahead. Sessions will take place throughout May and June.

We invite you to join us for any or all of the upcoming virtual sessions that fit your schedule. Many sessions have both a daytime and evening option. Upcoming sessions include:

- Supporting a Successful Transition to School
- Self Help: Building independence
- Speech Sound Development
- Fine-Motor Development in Young Children
- Literacy in Kindergarten



The full list and schedule of sessions are available online:

<https://www.eips.ca/programs-services/early-learning/kindergarten/preparing-for-kindergarten-sessions>

NOTE: Links to register were sent to all families with children registered to start kindergarten in 2022-23. Presenters will send the links to join the actual sessions directly to all registered families closer to each event.

For more information, contact the school at 780-992-1272.



Your Future in MIND

This is Empathy: Mental Health Week runs May 2-8

Mental Health Week takes place May 2-8. To mark the week, James Mowat Elementary has a series of activities and lessons planned for students, all centred on Mental Health Week's theme, "This is Empathy"—particularly fitting, especially this year. Empathy helps connect us, feel less isolated, and shows us how we can help others.

Collectively, students will learn when we do something good for others, we lift both their spirits and our own. In addition to school activities, students and staff can also share messages about empathy and kindness on various social media platforms using the hashtag #GetReal.

For more information: Mental Health Week Mental health and well-being: Supports and resources available through EIPS Alberta Health Services: Help in Tough Times

Student Transportation: 2022-23 registration is now open

Planning to use Student Transportation in the 2022-23 school year? If so, make sure your child is registered so Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) can plan routes and send your child a bus pass before the first day of school.

All students who indicated needing transportation services through the returning student registration process are now registered. Families registered will receive tentative route schedules and invoices by the end of the month—fees are due June 30, 2022.

For those students who didn't indicate needing transportation service through the pre-enrolment process and want to now register, simply contact EIPS Student Transportation at 780-417-8151 or email st@eips.ca.

For more information about EIPS Student Transportation visit www.eips.ca/transportation.

NOTE: Families can pay fees online using the PowerSchool Parent Portal. To pay in-person contact Student Transportation to make an appointment.

