

# Kindergarten Information Night 2023





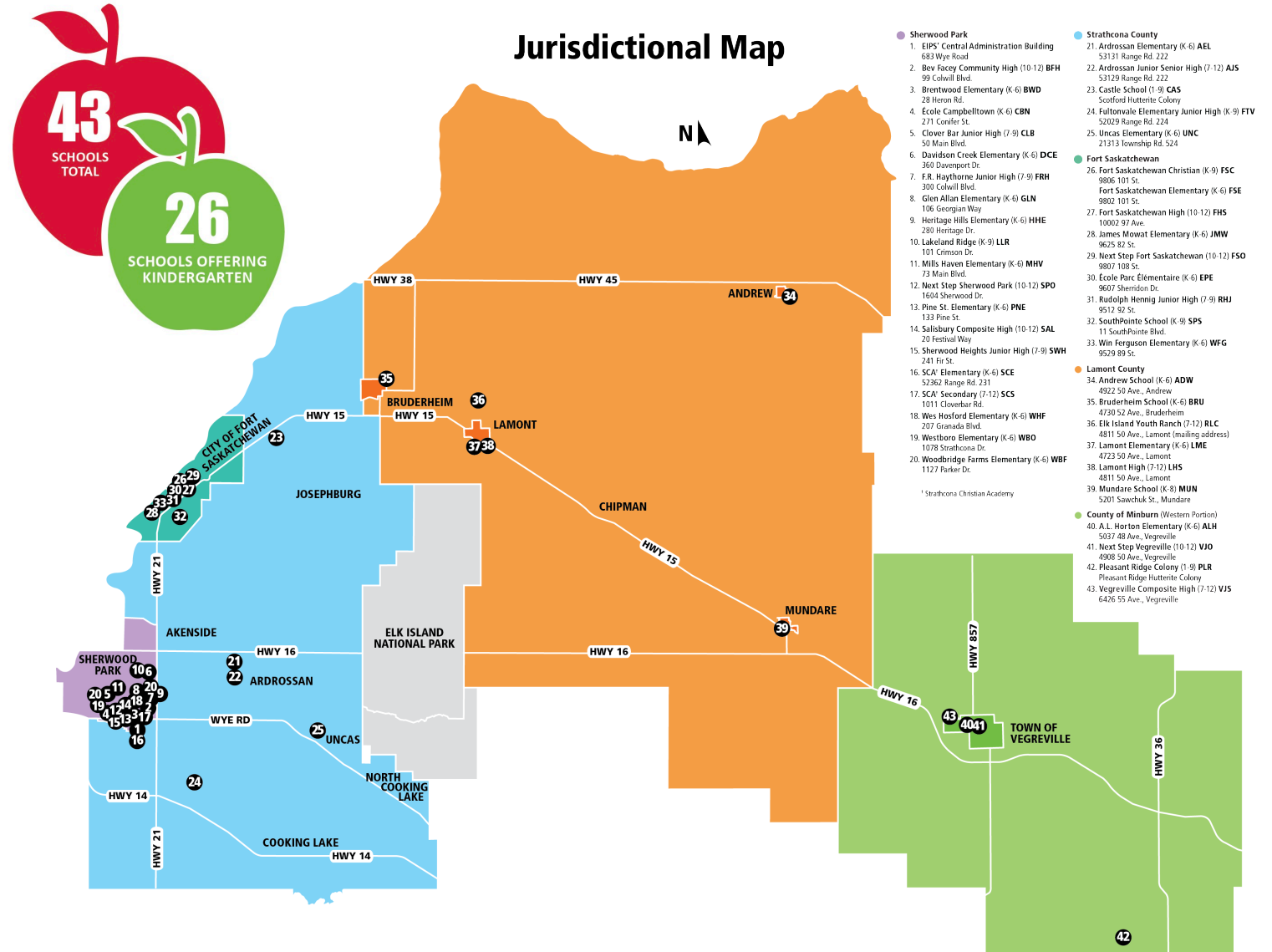


**Welcome to  
KINDERGARTEN!**



## Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) serves:

- Sherwood Park
- Fort Saskatchewan
- Strathcona County
- Lamont County
- Western Portion of the County of Minburn







**Literacy-rich, play-based programming**





# Curriculum Areas

- English Language Arts and Literature
- Mathematics
- Physical Education and Wellness
- Science
- Social Studies
- Fine Arts
- French Immersion Language Arts and Literature



# New Kindergarten Draft Curriculum

- New kindergarten curriculum implemented in 2022-23:
  - mathematics
  - English language arts and literature
  - physical education and wellness
- In April 2023, Alberta Education will release the final kindergarten curriculum, to be implemented for the start of the 2023-24 school year, for:
  - fine arts
  - science
  - French immersion language arts and literature

Learn more at  
[curriculum.learnalberta.ca/curriculum/en](https://curriculum.learnalberta.ca/curriculum/en)

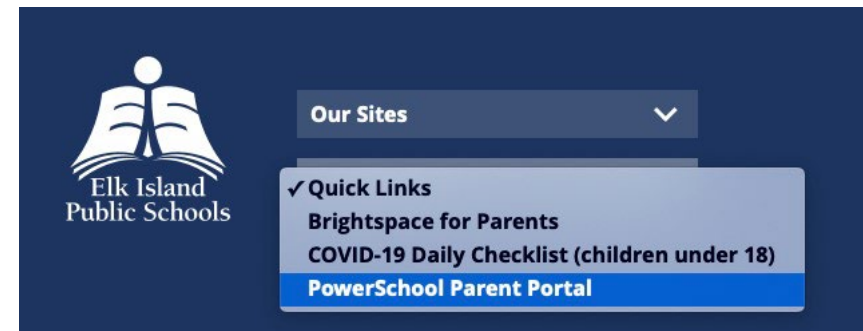




# PowerSchool Parent Portal

- Online access to your child's progress report, attendance and school fees
- One Parent Portal account to link all children in the family together
- Your account follows each student as they move through the Division

Learn more at [eips.ca/parents/powerschool](https://eips.ca/parents/powerschool)

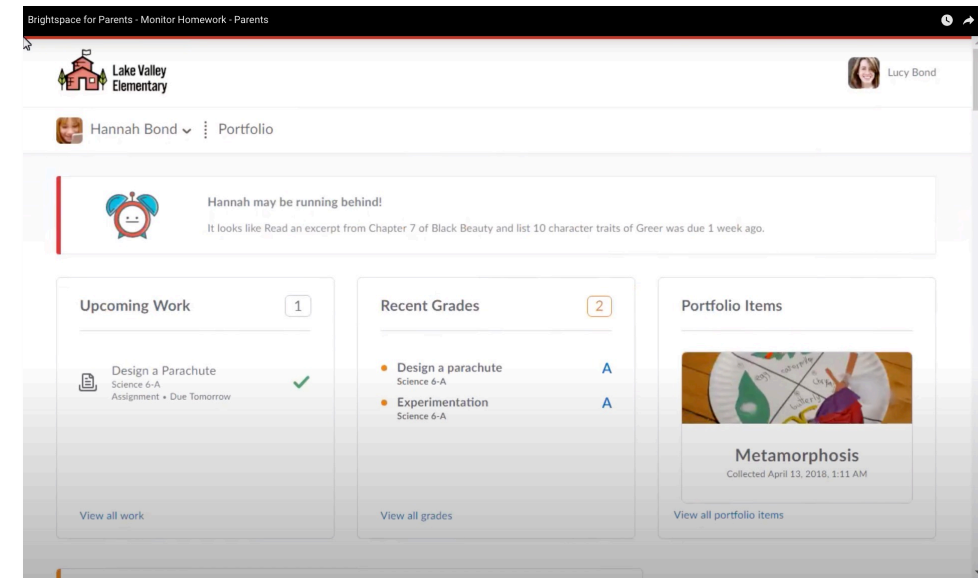
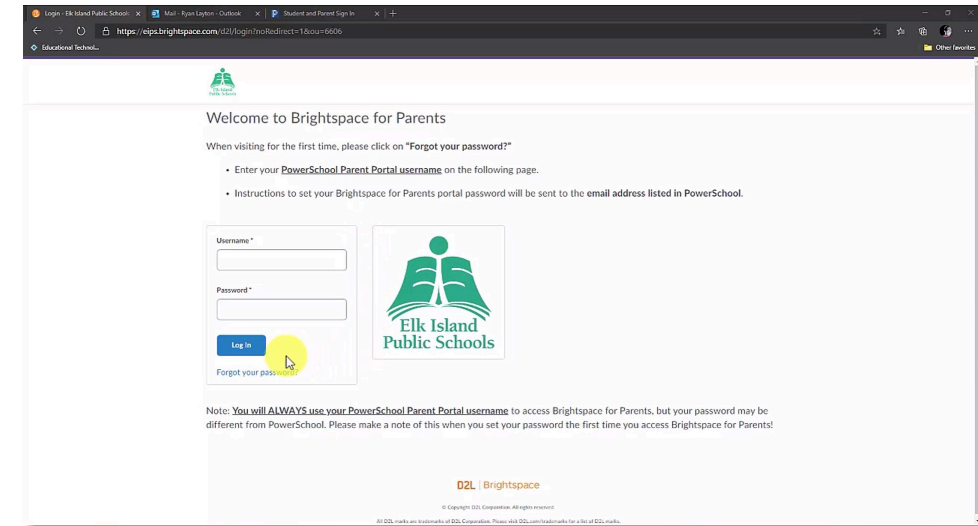




# Brightspace

- Online access to classroom updates, upcoming assignments, feedback from teachers and communication from the school and teacher, as applicable
- Separate portal access for parents and students
- One Brightspace for Parents account to link all children in the family together
- Your account follows each student as they move through the Division

Learn more at [eips.ca/parents/brightspace](https://eips.ca/parents/brightspace)







# Student Transportation

- Bus routes
- Bus passes
- Transportation fees
- Little Elk Island Adventure

Transportation fees are due June 30, 2023

Fees are paid online at [eips.ca/transportation/  
transportation-fees/student-transportation-online-payments](https://eips.ca/transportation/transportation-fees/student-transportation-online-payments)





# Student Transportation: Little Elk Island Adventure

Students and parents learn:

- How to be safe when around the bus
- What the Danger Zone is and where it is located
- How to board the bus and scan their bus pass
- How to sit properly on the school bus
- EIPS' Code of Conduct

Learn more at

[eips.ca/transportation/little-elk-island-adventure](https://eips.ca/transportation/little-elk-island-adventure)





## EIPS KINDERGARTEN CALENDAR 2023-24

Regular School Day	Early Dismissal for Students	First Day of Class
No School – Statutory Holiday	No School for All Students and Staff	No School for Students – Professional Learning/Operational Day

**SCHEDULE A:**  
Mondays, Wednesdays  
and select Fridays

**SCHEDULE B:**  
Tuesdays, Thursdays  
and select Fridays

### Important Dates

Aug 29	Professional Learning Day
Aug 30	Operational Day
Aug 31	First Instructional Day Calendar B
Sept 1	First Instructional Day Calendar A
Sept 4	Labour Day – Statutory Holiday
Sept 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
Oct 6	Professional Learning Day
Oct 9	Thanksgiving Day – Statutory Holiday
Nov 6-10	November Break
Nov 11	Remembrance Day – Statutory Holiday
Dec 25 - Jan 5	Christmas Break
Dec 25	Christmas Day – Statutory Holiday
Dec 26	Boxing Day – Statutory Holiday
Jan 1	New Year's Day – Statutory Holiday
Jan 31	Professional Learning Day
Feb 8 & 9	North Central Teachers' Convention
Feb 19	Family Day – Statutory Holiday
Mar 1	Professional Learning Day
Mar 22	School Closure Day
Mar 25 - 29	Spring Break
Mar 29	Good Friday – Statutory Holiday
Apr 1	Easter Monday – Division Closure
May 3	Professional Learning Day
May 16-17	School Closure Day
May 20	Victoria Day – Statutory Holiday
June 21	National Indigenous Peoples Day
June 24	Last Instructional Day Schedule A
June 25	Last Instructional Day Schedule B
June 26-27	Operational Days

AUGUST 2023						
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SEPTEMBER 2023						
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OCTOBER 2023						
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NOVEMBER 2023						
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DECEMBER 2023						
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JANUARY 2024						
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FEBRUARY 2024						
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MARCH 2024						
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APRIL 2024						
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MAY 2024						
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JUNE 2024						
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JULY 2024						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29

# EIPS offers full-day programming on alternating days.

- Monday, Wednesday and **select** Fridays, or
- Tuesday, Thursday and **select** Fridays

Find the Division calendar at [eips.ca/calendar](https://eips.ca/calendar)

Visit the calendar page on the school's website for school specific dates and events

475  
instructional  
hours  
per year



# Staggered Entry

- To introduce new kindergarteners to school, James Mowat offers staggered entry at the start of the school year.
- Children come in smaller groups to learn a bit about the classroom, the school and daily routines.
- More info will be send through email





# Typical Kindergarten Day

- Bell schedule
- Early dismissal days
- Parent drop off and pick up







# School Supplies

- School supply list will be posted on school website. We offer Write on Stationary program where you can order your child's school supplies and you can pick it up at the school in August.



Tools for School is a program from the United Way that provides backpacks filled with school supplies to students in kindergarten to Grade 12 whose families have limited resources. The supplies provided may not be everything that's on your child's supply list, but it's a start.

If you would benefit from the Tools for School program, contact the school office.

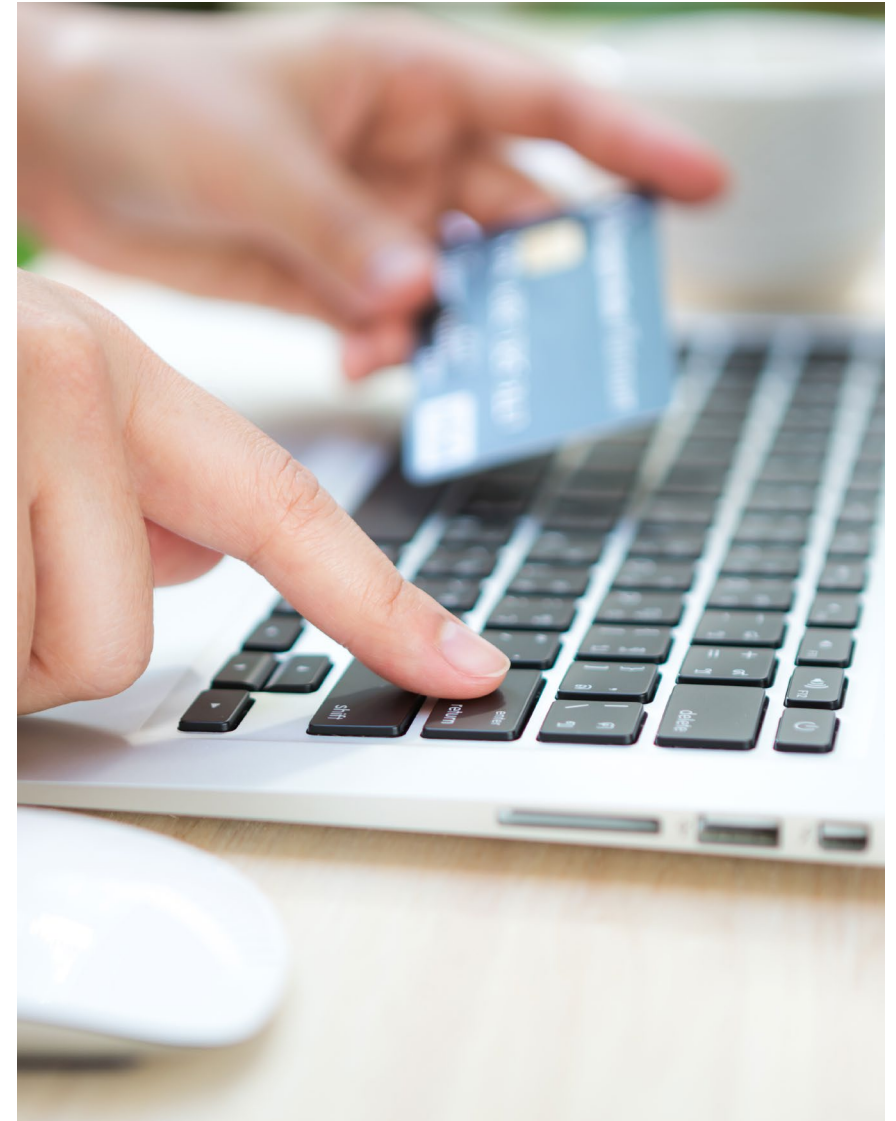
# School Fees

- Paid online through the PowerSchool Parent Portal
- Assessed at the start of the year
- Others may be added throughout the year
- Fee waiver policy

Learn more at:

[eips.ca/schools/fees](https://eips.ca/schools/fees)

[eips.ca/schools/fees/waiver-of-fees](https://eips.ca/schools/fees/waiver-of-fees)







# Parent Involvement

- School Council
- Parent volunteers

# Speech-Language Pathology (SLP) Services

- SLPs in kindergarten provide the following services, as needed:
  - Informal classroom-based speech and language screening
  - Speech and language assessment to identify need for further services
  - Followup intervention or consultation for children transitioning from preschool programs
  - Direct intervention and consultation based on identified needs
  - Parent consultation





# Occupational Therapy (OT) Services

- OTs informally screen students' participation in the classroom setting and provide universal strategies to the classroom staff.
- Service is primarily consultative, providing resources to classroom staff and parents when needed. Students with mild to moderate needs will be primarily served through these general classroom suggestions.
- OTs may have more direct involvement with children who have significant needs in the areas of self-care, regulation and motor skills.



# Specialized Supports Informed Consent

## School and Program Preference

For the 2023-24 school year, it is anticipated that all students will attend school in person.

Enrolling Grade required i

Kindergarten



Review [Kindergarten Specialized Supports Informed Consent](#)

☐ I have read and understand the Kindergarten Specialized Supports Informed Consent. required

Please choose from the two options below regarding Kindergarten supports screening for your child. required

☐ Accept Screening

☐ Decline Screening

Refer to the [Kindergarten Calendar](#) information for the 2023-24 schedule options, then return to this form and select your kindergarten schedule preference. The selected preference is taken into account but is not guaranteed.





## Community Services

- <add information about any partnerships the school has with other organizations or information about community services available to families (for example, FCSS, school nutrition program, hot lunch program, etc.)>





# Preparing for Kindergarten





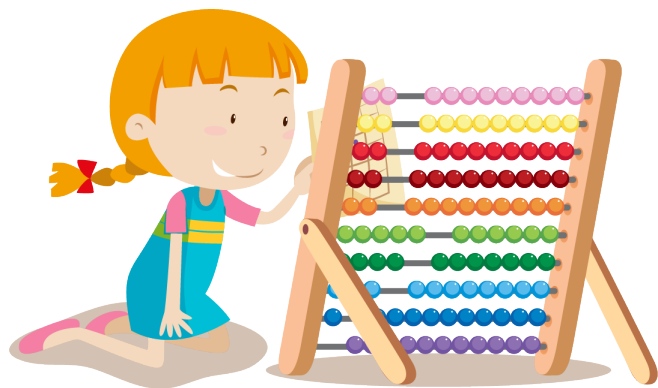
Communication and literacy



Motor skills



Social-emotional development



Numeracy



Self-help skills



Eye See, Eye Learn

Learn more at [eips.ca/programs-services/early-learning/kindergarten/preparing-for-kindergarten](https://eips.ca/programs-services/early-learning/kindergarten/preparing-for-kindergarten)



## Preparing for Kindergarten Series

- EIPS, together with local partners, is planning a series of videos and resources for kindergarten families to help prepare for the year ahead.
- Families will receive information through a series of emails sent in May and June.
- Watch your inbox for details. Prizes available to be won!



# Early Years Evaluation – Teacher Assessment (EYE-TA)

- Administered in the fall
- Uses teachers' regular observations and informal assessments
- Helps determine a child's progress and development in five key areas
  - Awareness of self and environment;
  - Social skills and approaches to learning;
  - Cognitive skills;
  - Language and communication; and
  - Physical development
- Assessment findings used to help plan instruction and will be shared with parents at the first progress reporting term in November
- Parent sessions providing more details and explanation will be available in the fall

Learn more at [eips.ca/download/412368](https://eips.ca/download/412368)







# Helpful Links

[eips.ca/kindergarten](https://eips.ca/kindergarten)

Facebook: [facebook.com/ElkIslandPublicSchools](https://facebook.com/ElkIslandPublicSchools)

Twitter: [twitter.com/eips](https://twitter.com/eips)

## **Facebook:**

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Elementary-School/James-Mowat-Elementary-1384973211740885/>

## **Twitter:**

[https://twitter.com/jmw\\_elementary?lang=en](https://twitter.com/jmw_elementary?lang=en)

- Alberta Education curriculum:  
[curriculum.learnalberta.ca/curriculum/en](https://curriculum.learnalberta.ca/curriculum/en)





- The main doors located at the front of the school will be the **only doors** children will enter and leave the school by
- It is at this entrance where students and parents must wait until 8:25 where we will greet you and welcome students inside. Students will be dismissed at 3:05pm.

# Kindergarten Hours

- Our school day runs from 8:25am-3:05pm.
- **The first Wednesday of every month** is Early Dismissal. The day ends at 2:05pm.
- Supervision begins at 8:15 every morning by the drop off zone
- Parking loop- **Right side of loop is drop off ONLY.**





# Snacks/Lunch

- Provided by you each day for your child
- We encourage healthy options and **no peanuts as we are a peanut aware school.**
- Please be aware of food allergies
- Easy to open independently
- Please send food that does not require heating as we do not have microwaves





# A Typical Day In Kindergarten

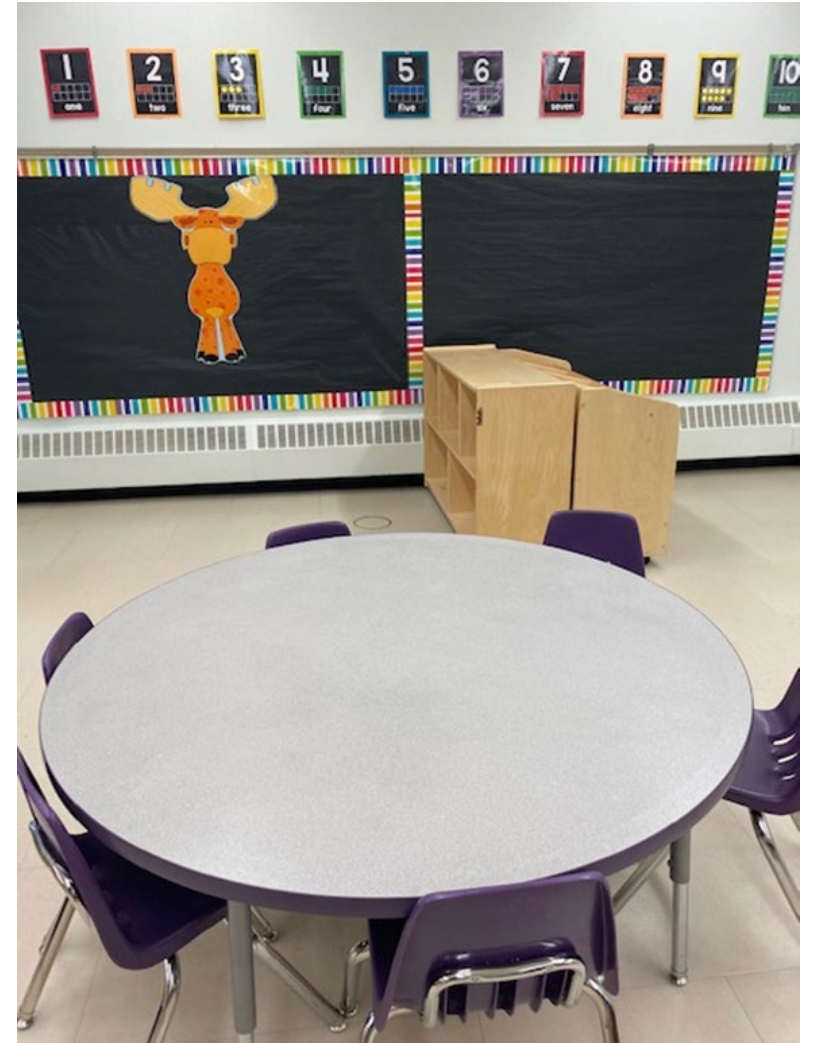
- Large Group Time – calendar, story, read-alouds, discussions etc.
- Structured Activities – journal drawing /writing, shared reading, fine motor activities
- Small group centers
- Play Centers
- Movement.



# Centers

Exploration and learning through hands on activities

- Small group or individual instruction with a teacher or parent volunteer
- Free choice with some mandatory activities
- Learning social skills and curriculum
- Students rotate through small centers



## Odds and Ends

- Mailbags will be provided. Please send to school each day and check after school each day. All important forms, etc will be sent home in mailbags
- Absences/illness- Please email or call the school as well as the teacher.
- Please send extra clothes for accidents/spills to keep at school in a labeled bag
- Label outdoor clothing (boots, mittens, hats etc.) A lot of children have the same items.
- Indoor shoes (Velcro-non-marking)
- Please label all school supplies ( Pencils, crayons, etc). This helps us to keep track of supplies.
- Library- Students go to library once a week to choose 1 book to bring home
- Supplies: Shared supplies ( Caddies at the tables)





## What Can We Work On At Home?

- Practice alphabet ( lower and upper case)
- Recognizing and writing first name
- Scissors skills e.g. model and practice proper grip, non-dominant hand turns the paper etc.
- Dressing- aim for independence! E.g. zippers, putting shoes on etc.
- Read. You can read together at home. Talk about the author, pictures, look at the words, discuss the 5 W's (Who, What, Where, When, Why)

