

KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION NIGHT 2024





**Welcome to
KINDERGARTEN!**



Literacy-rich, play-based programming



Learning Areas

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

New Kindergarten Draft Curriculum

New kindergarten curriculum implemented:

- Mathematics (2022-23)
- English Language Arts and Literature (2022-23)
- Physical Education and Wellness (2022-23)
- Science (2023-24)

Future kindergarten curriculum implementation:

- Social Studies (anticipated 2025-26)
- Fine Arts (to be determined)

Learn more at

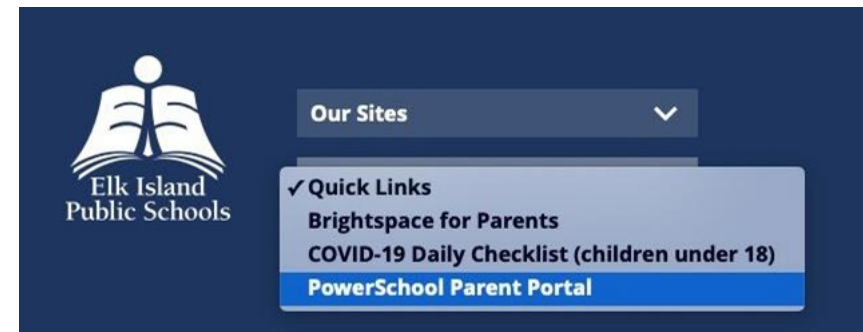
curriculum.learnalberta.ca/curriculum/en



PowerSchool Parent Portal

- Online access to your child's end of the year report card, 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
- Parent Portal accounts will not be accessible until the first day of school.

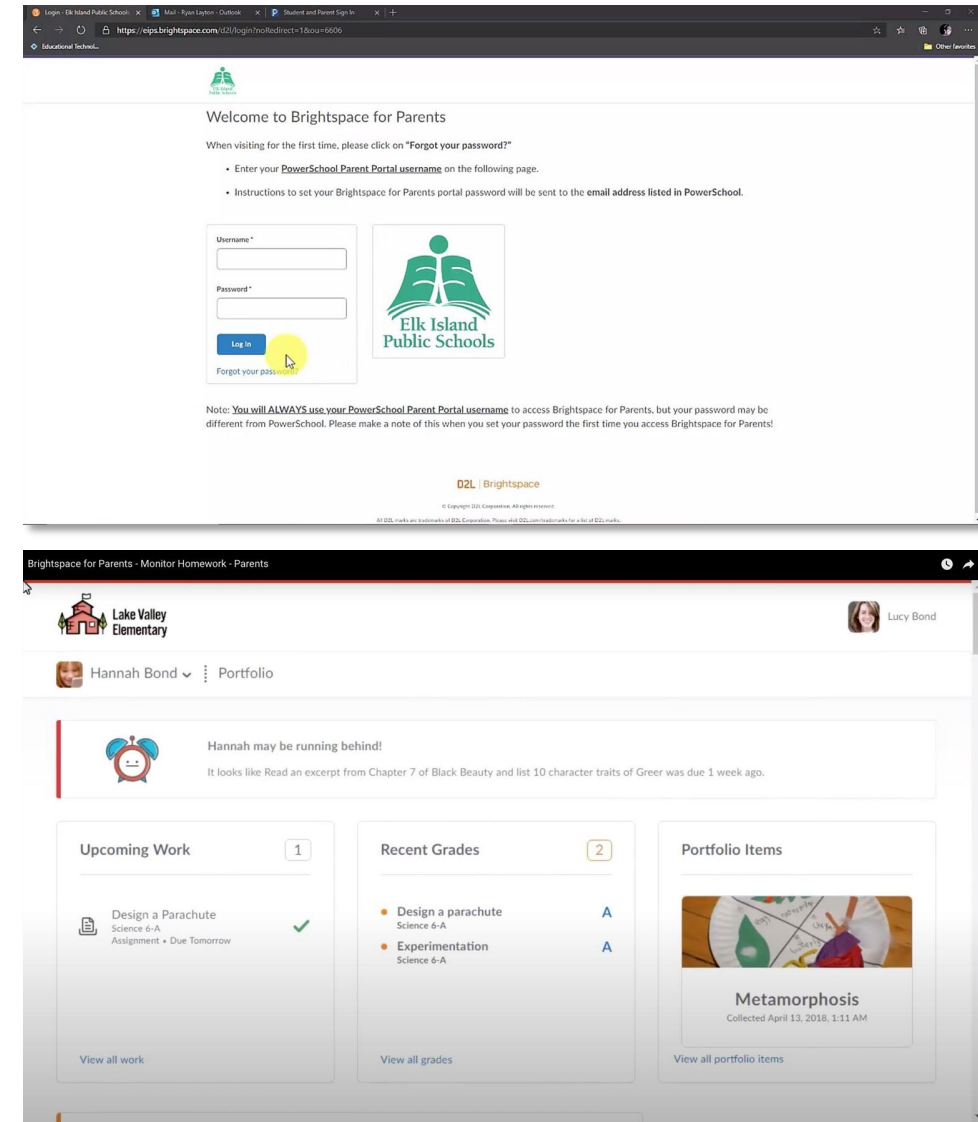
Learn more at eips.ca/schools/powerschool



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

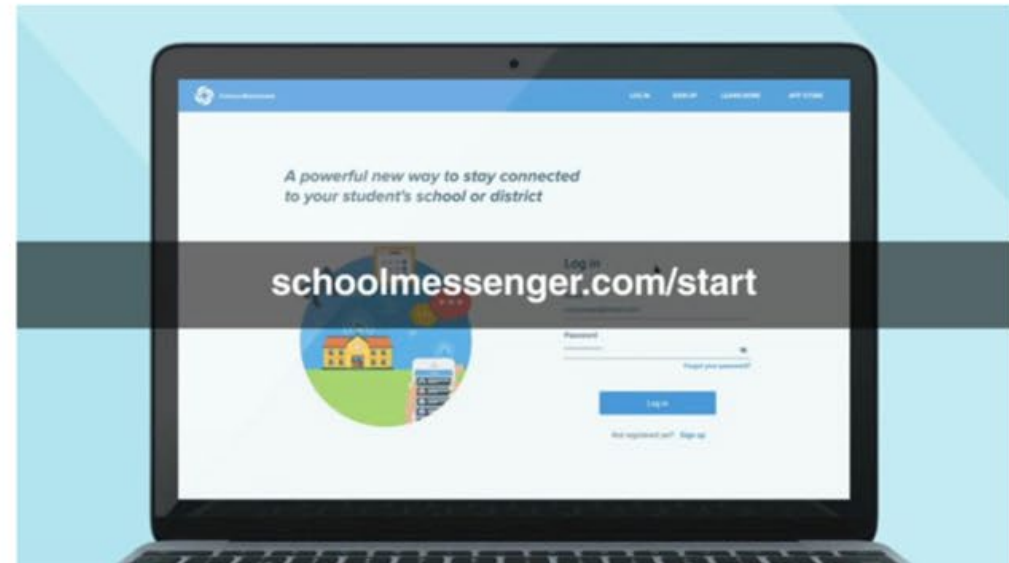
Learn more at eips.ca/parents/brightspace



SchoolMessenger

- EIPS uses the SchoolMessenger system for sending information to families by phone and email—including bus cancellations or delays, inclement weather, upcoming events, school newsletters, parental engagement opportunities, emergency notices and more.
- Families can manage their subscription preference through their SchoolMessenger account.
- Download the app to stay connected on the go.

Learn more at eips.ca/contact/subscribe



Permission Click

- EIPS uses the online Permission Click platform for many school and Division forms.
- Forms are easily accessible and fillable from mobile devices. No log in required.
- Emails will come from Permission Click.
 - Add notifications@permissionclick.com to your safe-sender list to ensure required forms aren't mistakenly directed to your junk mail folder.





Student Transportation

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

Transportation fees are due June 30, 2024
and 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



EIPS KINDERGARTEN CALENDAR 2024-25

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 27	Professional Learning Day
Aug 28	Operational Day
Aug 29	First Instructional Day Calendar B
Aug 30	First Instructional Day Calendar A
Sept 2	Labour Day – Statutory Holiday
Sept 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
Oct 4	Professional Learning Day
Oct 14	Thanksgiving Day – Statutory Holiday
Nov 11-15	November Break
Nov 11	Remembrance Day – Statutory Holiday
Dec 23 - Jan 3	Christmas Break
Dec 25	Christmas Day – Statutory Holiday
Dec 26	Boxing Day – Statutory Holiday
Jan 1	New Year's Day – Statutory Holiday
Jan 29	Professional Learning Day
Feb 6 & 7	North Central Teachers' Convention
Feb 17	Family Day – Statutory Holiday
Mar 7	Professional Learning Day
Mar 21	School Closure Day
Mar 24 - 28	Spring Break
Apr 18	Good Friday – Statutory Holiday
Apr 21	Easter Monday – Division Closure
May 2	Professional Learning Day
May 19	Victoria Day – Statutory Holiday
June 21	National Indigenous Peoples Day
June 23	Last Instructional Day Schedule A
June 24	Last Instructional Day Schedule B
June 25-26	Operational Days

AUGUST 2024

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SEPTEMBER 2024

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OCTOBER 2024

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NOVEMBER 2024

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DECEMBER 2024

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JANUARY 2025

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FEBRUARY 2025

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MARCH 2025

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APRIL 2025

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MAY 2025

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JUNE 2025

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JULY 2025

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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
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EIPS offers full-day programming on alternating days.

475
instructional
hours
per year

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

Find the Division calendar at eips.ca/calendar

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

School Fees

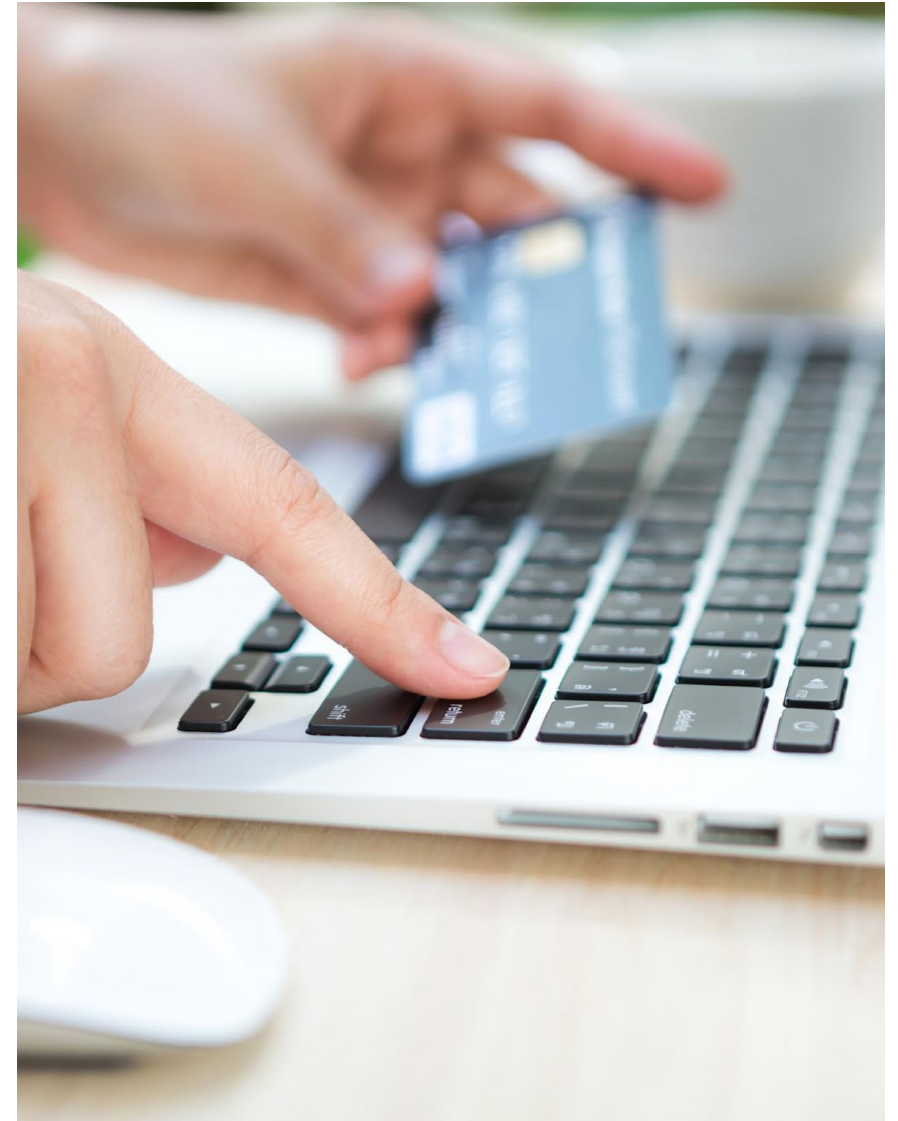
▪ School Fees

- 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

eips.ca/schools/fees/waiver-of-fees



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 for a whole day to learn a bit about the classroom, the school and daily routines.

2024-25 staggered entry dates will be emailed out.

Please note: We are still looking for families who are willing to switch to Mon/Wed. If we do not get enough volunteers, we will be doing a random draw.

**First day of kindergarten busing:
September 5**





School Supplies

- School Supply List will be posted on school website
- We do use write on stationary if you would like to order supplies. Please watch the school website for more information.



Events

- ▶ We do a Christmas concert every second year. On the alternate year we do a family fun night.
- ▶ Next year is a Christmas Concert year.



Parent Involvement

- School Council
- Parent volunteers

Supports Available

- Occupational Therapist – Fine Motor Skills
- Speech Language Pathologist



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

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 2024-2025 schedule options, then return to this form and select your kindergarten schedule preference. The selected preference is taken into account but is not guaranteed.



Preparing for Kindergarten



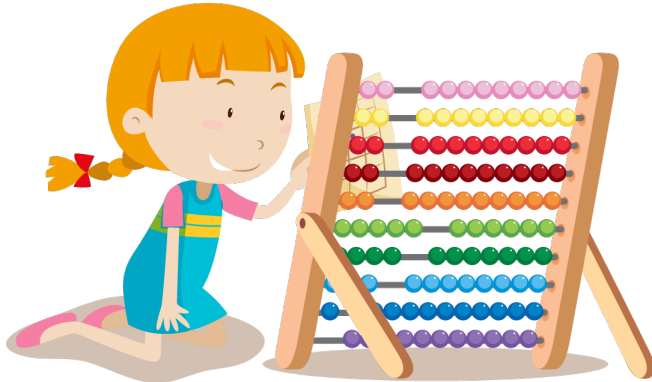
Communication and literacy



Motor skills



Social-emotional development



Numeracy



Self-help skills



Eye See, Eye Learn



Preparing for Kindergarten Series

- EIPS, together with local partners, is planning some opportunities for kindergarten families to help prepare for the year ahead.
- Watch for more information about these opportunities coming to you email inboxes in May.
- Follow us [@eipsearlylearning](https://www.instagram.com/eipsearlylearning) on Instagram to check out resources and what's happening in EIPS Early Learning!

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



James Mowat Kindergarten



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 8:20 every morning by the drop off zone
 - **Loop- Buses only.**
- Please park on the street if you are picking up or dropping off your child.





Kindergarten Entrance

- 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 wait outside until 8:25 where we will greet you and welcome students inside. Students will be dismissed at 3:05pm.

Snacks/Lunch

- provided by you each day for your child
- We encourage healthy options and **no nuts as we are a nut 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
- Gross Motor and Fine Motor Activities

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.) as well as outdoor and indoor shoes. A lot of children have the same items.
- ★ Indoor shoes (Velcro-non-marking)
- ★ Library- Students go to library once a week to choose 1 book to bring home
- ★ Supplies: Shared supplies (Caddies at the tables). Pencil cases are not needed.

What Can We Work On At Home?

- Practice alphabet (lower and upper case and sounds) This is important for our new curriculum.
- Recognizing and writing first name, knowing letters in 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)





Helpful Links

- eips.ca/kindergarten
- Facebook:
facebook.com/ElkIslandPublicSchools
- Twitter: twitter.com/eips
- <https://www.jamesmowat.ca/>
- Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Elementary-School/James-Mowat-Elementary-1384973211740885/>
- Alberta Education curriculum:
curriculum.learnalberta.ca/curriculum/en

