



MUNDARE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

October 2021

BE BRAVE – BE BOLD

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

It was a great September, and we sure enjoyed the wonderful weather this year. Every year, it is a little different – but that is life in Alberta! Students are off to a great start in their new classrooms with new challenges and goals ahead of them. We also had a very busy month with fire drills, a bus evacuation drill, and our Meet the Teacher event. The staff is happy to have their routines back with the students and they are looking forward to observing students excel in their learning!

This month, we have several different events on the go with 2 Mondays off for students (Thanksgiving and PD Day). Within the newsletter, there are many summaries about some of the special events coming up (interviews, etc.). Please refer to the information, as necessary.

With outdoor time narrowing and decreased daylight time and colder weather, it is a good time to schedule family reading time. Kids of all ages love to hear mom or dad read aloud to them – even if the book is above their own reading level. Students should experience a wide variety of literacy on topics that interest them. The little things like reading each night are a great investment in your child's education. As I shared before, great readers make great leaders.

A gentle reminder that our Parent Teacher Interviews will be via the telephone again. The code and dates are provided on the next page of this newsletter.



I hope that you have a safe and fun-filled Thanksgiving weekend with family and great food. All the best to you.

William Korec, MEd
Principal

STUDENT COUNCIL

Thank you to Marcus, Mekha, Steven, Sebastian, and Sadie L. for volunteering to be classroom reps this month for Student Council at Mundare School. They decided to host Pajama Day and Game Day as Fun Fridays this month.

SCHOOL SPIRIT WEAR

If your child has outgrown their old school spirit wear or if you are new to our school, the Mundare School Society hosts this site digitally. Please check it out to see if there is something there that catches your eye. If there is something else that isn't on the site, please let us know and we will see if we can accommodate it.

<https://mundareshool.entripyshops.com/champion>

POSTIIVE REFERRALS

Congratulations go out to **Avery A in grade 3** and **Maria in grade 6** as the winners in the positive referrals draws in September. Each time a student demonstrates positive citizenship,

their name is entered into a monthly draw for a pizza lunch. Citizenship is one of our school goals and we are proud of the efforts of our students.

READ-IN WEEK

Read In Week returns on October 4. This year's theme: "To Each Their Own Story." Through various activities, students will spend the week learning ways to tell their own stories and how stories have the power to teach lessons, broaden perspectives and foster empathy. Students will also can dress up as your favorite character on Wednesday!

Read In Week is a division-wide initiative held annually to encourage a lifelong love of reading and to enhance literacy awareness among students, staff, families, and community members. Mundare School invites all families to participate in Read-In Week by reading yourself, with your child or with someone in the community. Don't forget to share what you've learned. Throughout the week, you can post your own stories about Read-In Week using the hashtag #eipsreads. For more information visit eips.ca and readin.ca

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Parent Teacher Interviews will be held on Tuesday October 26 and Wednesday October 27 from 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm. Our online interview booking program is now open. Please go to <https://www.schoolinterviews.ca/code> and enter the **code yqxv6** to book your parent teacher interviews. Please call the school at 780-764-3962 if you experience any difficulties with this process. Please note that the interviews will be on the phone this year. Teachers will be calling you at your interview time. It is important that your phone number is up to date in your parent portal. When you will be called, **it will come up as private name, private number.** Bookings close on Tuesday October 26, 2021, so that we can prepare for the evenings.

PICTURE DAY

Picture retakes will be on Wednesday, October 20, 2020. Please be sure that your child **does not wear** a green shirt as it interferes with the green screen that is used as a backdrop. Students are asked to return the original order form when requesting a retake.



BUS SAFETY WEEK

Schools throughout Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) are celebrating School Bus Safety Week October 17-23. The theme: *Bus Rules Rock!*, which focuses on the importance of being a responsible rider. Throughout the week, various activities are planned, including information sessions, bus-safety lesson plans and bus-evacuation drills.

As part of School Bus Safety Week, Mundare School reminds students and families all Division school buses are equipped with a bus-pass scanner, GPS technology, the Child Check-Mate system and surveillance equipment, which allows Student Transportation to better monitor and manage its more than 160 buses. Families and students also have access to the Traversa Ride 360 app, a mobile tool to help determine the location of a bus, projected arrival times and when a child is scanned onto a bus. For more information visit [EIPS Student Transportation](#) or contact 780- 417-8151.

LIBRARY NEWS

We are excited to announce that we will be holding our annual book fair October 25th to October 29th. Students will be able to visit the bookfair with their class or on their scheduled

lunch recess. Supporting our book fair helps us earn Scholastic points to purchase new books for our school library. We are looking forward to seeing their faces light up when choosing a new book to take home and read.

HALLOWE'EN ACTIVITY

On Friday October 29, we will be celebrating Hallowe'en at school. Parents are reminded that costumes depicting excessive gore are not allowed. Toy knives, swords and guns are also not allowed. These parts of their costumes are reserved for trick-or-treating in town. If you have any questions, please speak to your child's teacher or to the administration of Mundare School. We want this experience to be a positive one for all of our students. Masks (not Hallowe'en) will still need to be worn when social distancing is not possible.



SCHOOL FEES

School fee information for the 2021-22 school year is now posted on the PowerSchool Parent Portal. All fees are due within 30 days of being posted. To access your fee information, simply log in to the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) and go to "Student Fees." There you can view your fees and pay them online using Visa, MasterCard, or debit card—when available from your financial institution.

Don't forget to also log in to the PowerSchool Parent Portal regularly throughout the year. Fees are often added to your child's account to cover the cost of various school activities such as field trips, class projects, extracurricular activities fees and more.

If circumstances exist where you are unable to pay your fees, you can apply to have [fees waived](#) by submitting an [Application for a Waiver of Fees](#). The application deadline is Dec. 15, 2021. For more information about school fees, waivers, and payment deadlines, visit www.eips.ca/schools/fees and contact Mrs. Marie Bartsch at Mundare School at 780-764-3962

COUNSELLING CORNER

Although I am sad that the summer heat is officially over, I am enjoying the beautiful weather and scenery this fall season. As restrictions and the uncertainty of Covid continue, I want to support you in these unprecedented times. Alberta Health Services has provided free access to www.togetherall.com. This website provides full anonymity and includes discussion boards, self-help courses, an online journal, and access to community resources. Togetherall.com can help those struggling with stress, anxiety, depression, anger management, grief, and many more mental health topics. This is a great starting point in acknowledging and improving your mental health. You can check out this [brief video](#) for more information. If you would like help accessing community mental health resources, feel free to call or email me at the school - kristy.giebelhaus@eips.ca.





TERRY FOX FUN RUN

Mundare School staff and students enjoyed the remarkable fall weather on Monday, September 28 and in cohorts, participated in the annual Terry Fox Fun Run on our school property. Thank you to all our families for continuing to support this worthy cause and thank you to our students, for always participating in this challenge. If you have not had a chance to go online to donate, it is never too late. Please go to our school link and consider donating at <http://www.terryfox.ca/Mundare>

Congratulations to Addison W. for winning the complimentary t-shirt from the Terry Fox Foundation.

ORANGE SHIRT DAY

Mundare School students participated in many activities during Truth and Reconciliation Week culminating in a virtual assembly hosted by our leadership students. We listened to stories, sang songs, danced, and learned about residential schools in Canada. On Wednesday, September 29, we wore orange as a symbol of remembrance.

Orange Shirt Day is a legacy of the St. Joseph Mission residential school commemoration event held in Williams Lake in 2013. It grew out of Phyllis Webstad's account of her first day of school when her beautiful orange shirt was taken away and she never saw it again. It has become an opportunity to discuss all aspects of residential schools.

In June of 2021 Orange Shirt Day was legislated as a federal statutory holiday and now September 30th is National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. It is a day to reflect on the history of residential schools and honor the lost

Indigenous children, survivors, and families affected by the residential school system in Canada. For more information, please use the link to explore and find ways to discuss and reflect on this time in Canadian history with your family <https://nctr.ca/>



SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL & MUNDARE SCHOOL SOCIETY UPDATE

Recently, our School Advisory Council and the Mundare School Society met. Our new SAC Executive for the 2021-22 school year:

Chair	Mrs. Maria Dytiuk
Vice Chair	open
Secretary	Mrs. Ashley Rietveld

The Mundare Society still has several positions open including the President.

Treasurer	Mrs. Pat Koch
Secretary	Mrs. Ashley Rietveld

We look forward to filling all positions and restarting the work of the Council and of the Society. If you have any additional questions, please contact the school office.

WORLD TEACHERS DAY

October 5 is World Teachers' Day! Launched in 1994 by the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Teachers' Day is celebrated annually around the world to recognize teachers and the integral role they play in providing quality education to

students. On October 5, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) encourages all its students, parents and community members to show their appreciation for their teachers and the positive impact they make on our lives. EIPS extends its heartfelt thank you to all Division teachers for their dedication, hard work and commitment in guiding and educating students through their kindergarten to Grade 12 years.

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ELECTIONS

Municipal Election 2021: Vote October 18

The next municipal election, which includes the election of local school board trustees, takes place on Monday, Oct. 18, 2021. It's your opportunity to get involved in public education by casting your vote for a public-school trustee.

[EIPS Trustee Election information](#)
[EIPS Trustee Candidate List](#)

Electors can cast their votes for municipal candidates - mayors, reeves, councilors, as applicable and school board trustee candidates

-public or separate. Voting stations are typically open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Each municipality conducts the election for its residents and establishes formal voting station hours and procedures.

To learn more about election day procedures in your area, including opportunities for advance voting and voting by special ballot, visit:

[County of Minburn](#)
[Fort Saskatchewan](#)
[Lamont County](#)
[Strathcona County](#)
[Town of Bruderheim](#)
[Town of Lamont](#)
[Town of Mundare](#)
[Town of Vegreville](#)
[Village of Andrew](#)
[Village of Chipman](#)

STAY CONNECTED

If you're new to EIPS and want to start receiving Division news and update, or just want to review your subscription information, visit www.eips.ca/contact/subscribe. Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL) requires the Division to have direct consent before engaging in electronic communication with its families. Only those who have subscribed to receive emails will get information about Division and school-related news, such as newsletters, information about upcoming events, parent and community engagement opportunities, important school-based updates and more. The school does not print newsletters any longer. Please consult our school website for the most recent news each month. For more information about the PowerSchool Correction and Verification Form, contact the school directly.

CAREGIVER EDUCATION SERIES

Alberta Health Services is hosting a series of virtual 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. Session topics include anxiety, ADHD, depression, self-

harm, technology, teens and teaching leadership skills, communication, resiliency, and more. Visit the [Division calendar](#) or [Caregiver Education](#) to see the monthly caregiver sessions.

IMPROVING HOME-SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

To enhance communication between families and schools, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) has developed a how-to guide entitled, "Communication Protocol for Schools." Topics include appropriate channels to use, standard formats and structures, timing, and sequencing for regular and ongoing home-school communication, and ways to bring forward questions or concerns. The guide also offers useful tools and resources schools, and families can use to enhance face-to-face meetings, email communication and various social media efforts.

[Communication Protocol for Schools](#)

OCTOBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 DAY 4 ECS Day Bus Evacuation Drill	2
3	4 DAY 5 ECS Day READ IN Week begins	5 DAY 6 World Teachers Day	6 DAY 1 ECS Day Early dismissal @ 2:36 Dress as you favorite character	7 DAY 2	8 DAY 3 Fun Friday: GAME DAY	9
10	11 THANKSGIVING DAY School Closed	12 DAY 4	13 DAY 5 ECS Day	14 DAY 6	15 DAY 1 ECS Day Fun Friday: PAJAMA DAY	16
17	18 PD Day School closed	19 DAY 2	20 DAY 3 ECS Day Picture Retake Day 10AM K-1 Field Trip to the Fire Hall	21 DAY 4	22 DAY 5	23
24	25 DAY 6 ECS Day Book Fair Begins	26 DAY 1 Parent Teacher Interviews 5-8 PM	27 DAY 2 ECS Day Parent Teacher Interviews 5-8 PM	28 DAY 3 Book Fair Ends	29 DAY 4 Fun Friday: HALLOWEEN	30