



Mundare School Newsletter - January 2022

Be brave! Be bold!

Telephone: 780-764-3962

Principal's Message

Happy New Year! With the holidays and the festive season of 2021 behind us, we all very much welcome the start to a new year. The school team is very excited to welcome back our students. I look forward to hearing about the literacy and numeracy goals that students have set for the second part of the school year. You have, no doubt, been reading or hearing the many announcements regarding school operations recently. Students will receive masks and testing kits later this week. Depending on the shipment, we may need to have more than one distribution day, so please bear with us as we receive the products. The use of either product is not mandatory for students. Thank you for your understanding.

I would also like to congratulate students and families for their continued efforts and commitment to schoolwork, staying positive and healthy during this time. We have very much appreciated your emails and phone calls lending kind words of support as we navigate through this pandemic. I encourage parents to check emails and our school website on a regular basis to stay current on any updates that we provide our families. I recognize that it becomes tedious checking and trying to stay on top of it, but it is appreciated. I look forward to seeing parents on our SAC Zoom meeting regarding school fees later this month. All the best as we look forward to a better and healthier 2022.

William Korec, MEd
Principal

Health and Wellness

Health and wellness have always been a priority for our students, but the pandemic has increased the need to be mindful and creative in how we approach these matters. In December, we reinstated a few pieces back into school life. We had two different opportunities to go skating and this was very well received. Thank you to the many parents, grandparents and guardians who completed their screenings, paperwork, and laced up skates. We also participated in a recreational swim in December. I know that the students enjoyed having some time in the pool with their friends! We also did some introductory yoga with a trained instructor – Ms. Val Miller. This too was very well received by staff and students. Students had a chance to stretch and to practice some deep breathing exercises. We are looking to host one more session later this month.

Bouquets

Thank you to the Sherwood Park Crusaders who came out to our school on the last day before the winter break to skate with the students at the arena to encourage good sportsmanship. I know that the students were thrilled to have this opportunity to meet some hockey players and to skate and speak with them.

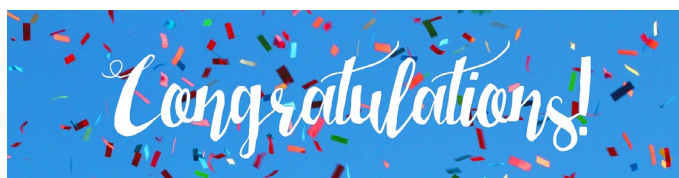
As well, a special thanks to our School Society and Parent Council members for organizing the recent hot dog lunch and for providing some much-needed coverage for our staff so that they could have a quick Christmas lunch together. Thank you for this kindness.

Parent Council and Fees

As we shared in an email before the winter break, our January SAC meeting will begin our preliminary discussion regarding school fees and any changes to the existing fee structure for Mundare School. The meeting is open to all parents. Please let the office know, or any SAC member, if you require the zoom link to join in on the discussion. Save the date – **Tuesday January 25, 2022 @ 6PM on Zoom!** We will be discussing fees, the new playground project, and other fundraising activities. Congratulations to **Mandy Chipps** for returning the parent survey and winning the gift card this month in the random lottery.

Lamont County Food Bank Luncheon Winners

Our school participates in an annual collection of food items at Christmas to support the Lamont County Food Bank. This year, as always, students and families were extremely generous. Thank you to our leadership students under the direction of Miss Giebelhaus, who coordinated the initiative. Special thanks to Mr. Kowal for bringing the limo around to the school and collecting the food items. As an added incentive, the classroom that brought the most items in was awarded a pizza lunch on the last day before the break. The winning classroom this year was **Grade 7/8**



Their pizza party happened on the last day before winter break. Thank you, everyone, for showing kindness and empathy to others in Lamont County. Your generosity is so inspiring. We donated a whopping 887 items of food this year! Way to go, Dragons!

Kindergarten Registration Starts Soon!

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2022? If so, it is almost time to register for kindergarten. **Kindergarten registration opens for the 2022-23 school year on February 1, 2022.** To help families prepare, Elk Island Public Schools has put together an online [EIPS Kindergarten Tool kit](#) to make the transition as smooth as possible. The kit includes information on registration, important dates, programming options, what to expect, eligibility, how to find your designated school, transportation and more. Additional information regarding **Mundare School's** kindergarten program is available at [Kindergarten | Mundare School](#)

Returning Student Registration for 2022-23

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) will once again conduct an online returning student registration process to confirm student registrations for the 2022-23 school year. Families of all returning students must complete the process to confirm the school their child plans to attend in the 2022-23 school year. Additionally, students who want to attend a non-designated school need to make that request through the returning student registration process—acceptance is based on available space. The 2022-23 returning student registration takes place between Feb. 1-28, 2022. Access to the Returning Student Registration Form is provided through the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#). If you do not have a PowerSchool Parent Portal account, you need to set one up before Feb. 1, 2022. For more information contact the school directly

[Create a PowerSchool Parent Portal account](#)

***Remember to follow our school on Facebook and Twitter and sync our calendar with yours at mundareshool.ca**



PD DAY – MAKE IT A FAMILY LITERACY DAY

Even though this national Family Literacy event is on January 27 and our PD Day is on the following Monday, we would like to share the following information that you may want to use with your child on this day when they will be at home with you. Have fun with these suggestions!

- [Barbara Reid](#)
- [Barbara Reid Tip Sheet](#)
- [Activity Sheet](#)
- [Activity Book](#)

Family Literacy in Canada

- Children whose parents are involved with them in family literacy activities score 10 points higher on standardized reading tests (*The Effect of Family Literacy Interventions on Children's Acquisition of Reading: From Kindergarten to Grade 3, Conducted by Monique Seneschal for the National Center for Family Literacy, 2006*)

What to do when the words won't stick!

Do any of these describe your child:

- Practices every night for the spelling test, but still makes many errors?
- Makes constant spelling mistakes with the same words again and again?
- Is able to read a word one day, but is unable to decode that same word the next day?

Parents and teachers notice these things in children all the time! The research tells us that in order to remember the words and store them into our long term memory, our brain uses a process called Orthographic Mapping. This process involves the brain making connections between letter sounds and letter names. And guess what? Not all brains are wired to do this process automatically. While some children can be taught to learn a word with just 1-4 practices, it takes others up to 40 times to learn that same word. The good news is that there is a great way to practice word learning by using the Orthographic Mapping technique.

So, how can I work on this process at home?

Below, you will find links to:

- Watch a video about Orthographic Mapping and how it works.
- Download a copy of "Map the Snap".
- Get more information about the process from Sarah's Snippets.

Happy Mapping!

Reference: Kilpatrick, D.A. (2016). *Equipped for reading success*. Casey & Kirsch Publishers

slidesgo

[Download Video](#)

[Download Map the Snap](#)

[Sarah's Snippets](#)

Have your say, EIPS wants to hear from you!

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) wants to hear from you to gain a deeper understanding of your confidence in the Division and its strategic direction. As such, it's launched a new annual survey entitled, EIPS Year in Review: Stakeholder Confidence Survey—open January 6-18.

The survey covers a range of topics, including student growth and achievement, learning supports, teaching and leading, governance, and resource allocations. The information gathered will help EIPS:

***Remember to follow our school on Facebook and Twitter and sync our calendar with yours at mundaeschool.ca**



- assess stakeholder confidence—families, staff, Grade 12 students and community members.
- gather input to guide future decision-making.
- gather feedback to enhance its [Four-Year Education Plan](#); and
- provide a platform for families, students, staff, and community members to have a voice in ensuring high-quality, student-centered learning environments in EIPS schools.

EIPS will share the results in the *Annual Education Results Report 2021-22*.

[TAKE THE SURVEY NOW!](#)

Survey closes Jan. 18, 2022

NOTE: EIPS encourages everyone to respond honestly. Your identity and answers are confidential and cannot be linked in any way to you or your child’s school. Grade 12 students will have an opportunity to complete the survey at school. Families who do not want their child to complete the survey simply need to advise their child’s school.

Counselling Corner: Zones of Regulation

This month, students will be learning about personal triggers. I can get upset when I am sitting beside someone who is chewing with their mouth open or if I am hungry. It is important to identify one’s triggers and develop strategies to proactively handle an individual’s triggers. For example, I can create space from an individual who is chewing loudly, or politely ask them to close their mouth while they chew. For my other trigger, I can make sure I always have a snickers bar nearby. As individuals recognize and implement strategies to deal with triggers, they can gain control of their emotions and behaviors. What triggers you, and what can you do to prevent or lessen an emotional reaction?

Miss Giebelhaus, Counsellor



Inclement Weather

With the winter season well underway, we want to remind families to dress children appropriately for the weather when getting ready for school or the bus. The weather often changes unexpectedly throughout the day, so please select suitable outerwear, and ensure your child is prepared for changing conditions. If inclement weather conditions occur, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) will advise families of any bus cancellations using various communications tools, including automated-telephone messages, alerts posted on [eips.ca](#) and school websites, Twitter, Facebook, local radio stations and on Versa trans My Stop. Decisions regarding bus cancellations are guided by [EIPS’ Administrative Procedure 131: Inclement Weather](#), which states: “school bus service may be suspended ... when there is a forecast or current temperature of -40 C including wind chill, in one or more regions.” Other reasons for suspending or delaying school bus services include adverse weather and poor road condition. When school bus services are suspended, schools remain open to students. EIPS believes families have the right and responsibility to make choices for their children based on what they feel is safest during times of inclement weather. For more information, contact EIPS Student Transportation at 780-417-8151.

***Remember to follow our school on Facebook and Twitter and sync our calendar with yours at [mundaeschool.ca](#)**








January 2022






Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 Classes resume Day 4 ECS	11 Day 5	12 Day 6 ECS	13 Day 1	14 Day 2 ECS	15
16	17 Day 3 ECS	18 Day 4	19 Day 5 ECS	20 Day 6	21 Day 1 ECS	22
23	24 Day 2 ECS	25 Day 3 SAC Mtg @ 6:00 Zoom Meet	26 Day 4 ECS	27 Day 5	28 Day 6 ECS	29
30	31 PD DAY SCHOOL CLOSED					

*Remember to follow our school on Facebook and Twitter and sync our calendar with yours at mundareschool.ca

