



Mundare School Newsletter

September 2022
BE BRAVE – BE BOLD

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Welcome back everyone! It was wonderful to have so many parents join us for kindergarten orientation on Friday, before school started, and for our Cheers and Tears parent gathering on the first day of school. Reconnecting with our families and hosting in-school activities is something that we look forward to doing more regularly.

Our students have started to quickly settle into their new routines. It's great to be back! I would like to welcome the families that are new to Mundare. I know that you will enjoy your time here.

We will be hosting our Meet the Staff evening on Wednesday, September 14 from 6:30-7:30pm. We hope that we can join us that evening to meet new staff and see your child's classroom. The County of Lamont will also join us that evening to highlight different community resources for families. On Monday, September 19, our School Council will be meeting for their AGM. All parents and guardians are invited to attend. This is an important opportunity to stay connected to the goals of Mundare School.

With the first week of school completed, I am amazed by this learning community. Our teachers have dedicated so much time to ensure their classrooms are engaging and welcoming for students. It's a great feeling to have students walk through the doors, to hear their laughter, and to see their excitement as they learn.

I look forward to meeting each of you and learning more about the great work that is happening at the school. Please visit our school website www.mundareschool.ca regularly to see new updates.

Ms. Melissa Kerr
Principal

ABSENCE CHECK

Parents/guardians are asked to inform the school, whenever possible, if their child is going to be absent. Messages may be left on the school's main number 24 hours a day, or by a note. If a child is absent and no reason has been received in the office by **9:30 AM**, then the office staff will attempt to contact parents/guardians or emergency contacts.

SCHOOL SWAG

[Get 15% OFF Mundare School's Customized School Wear \(mailchi.mp\)](#)

MUNDARE SCHOOL STAFF 2022-2023

Principal	Ms. Melissa Kerr
Counsellor	Miss Kristy Giebelhaus
ECS	Mrs. Maritta White
Grade 1/2	Mr. Eric Boyd
Grade 3/4	Mr. Matthew McGregor
Grade 5/6	Miss. Kendelle Marr
Grade 7/8	Ms. Alissa Roy
Secretary	Mrs. Marie Bartsch
Educational Assistants	Mrs. Ambyr Berlinguette Mrs. Bernadine Horne Mrs. Tammy Seney
Custodian	Mr. Ruslan Fedorouk

UPDATE POWERSCHOOL PORTAL

Update your PowerSchool information. The EIPS Correction and Verification Form is now available online through your [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#). Use the form to access and update your child's records information—including address, parent and guardian information, emergency contacts and medical information. Reviewing the form and submitting updates ensures the school has the most up-to-date information regarding your child.

When reviewing the form, pay close attention to all listed phone numbers, email addresses and emergency contact information. Also, if you recently moved, now is the time to ensure the Division has your updated address. Throughout the year, the Division and school uses the listed information to communicate with families about important information,

including updates, the latest news and event.

[EIPS Correction and Verification Form](#)

Review and update the form by Sept. 22, 2022.

For more information about the PowerSchool Correction and Verification Form, contact the school office at 780-764-3962.

SCHOOL FEES



School fee information for the 2022-23 school year is expected to be posted on the PowerSchool Parent Portal by the end of September. 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. Do not forget to 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, athletic-team fees and more.

For more information about school fees, and payment deadlines contact Marie Bartsch at **780-764-3962**.

SCHOOL CALENDAR



Did you know you can sync the school calendar to your own personal calendar? You can. Just visit <http://mundareschool.ca/about/calendar> and click on the applicable subscription option:

- Add to Google Calendar
- Subscribe to Calendar (Outlook)
- Download iCal

NOTE: Using a mobile device, these options are located above the calendar. Using a computer, these options are located below the calendar. Once you click on the calendar option you want to subscribe to follow the instructions. Within seconds, your personal calendar will contain all Mundare School's important dates including holidays, school-closures days, planned activities, events and more.



TERRY FOX RUN

The annual Terry Fox School Run is coming up on **Friday, September 23, 2022**. Terry asked us to try and so we will! Please consider donating to this worthy

cause in support of cancer research. It will also be RED day at school.

SCHOOL MESSENGER APP

Mundare School and the Division use the SchoolMessenger platform for communicating with families—through both phone and email. Be sure to add communications@eips.ca and general.MUN@eips.ca to your safe sender list to avoid having important messages funneled into your junk mail folder.

The easiest way to stay connected is to download the SchoolMessenger app. Get the latest updates direct to your mobile device and enable push notifications to never miss a message. Families can also check back on past messages—for up to 30 days—directly in the app rather than searching to find an old message buried in your inbox. Download the SchoolMessenger app from the App Store or Google Play today.

Coming soon—the Safe Arrivals absence reporting tool will be rolled out within the SchoolMessenger app later this school year. Families will be able to quickly and easily report a child's absence directly in the app. No more phone calls or emails required. Stay tuned for updates in the coming months.

COUNSELLING CORNER

Welcome back to school, we are so excited to have the students back in the building! I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself, my name is Kristy Giebelhaus, and I am the school counsellor. I was born and raised on a farm near Vegreville, and I have loved growing up in a strong small-town

community. I enjoy helping students learn and encouraging them to become the best versions of themselves. I have a passion for mental health, and I look forward to providing you monthly updates and mental health tips and resources throughout the year! If you ever have questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out through phone, email or make an appointment so we can meet in person!

For some, the start of the new school year is exciting and joyous; however, others may feel anxious or apprehensive. The transition from summer break to back to school can be difficult for both students and parents. [Triple P Parenting](http://triplep-parenting.ca) (triplep-parenting.ca) is a free resource provided by the Government of Alberta to provide helpful parenting tips. You can explore the website for general tips, or complete the online sessions based on your child's age group.

Here are some tips from the Triple P website to start the school year off right!

CREATE A SAFE, INTERESTING ENVIRONMENT

Bored kids are likely to misbehave. Bored teenagers may find trouble. So, create an environment that allows kids to explore safely and develop their skills.

HAVE A POSITIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

If a child or teenager comes to you for help or a chat, they're ready to learn. Give them positive attention, even if only for a minute or so. Encourage their ideas and opinions.

USE ASSERTIVE DISCIPLINE

Set clear rules and boundaries and follow through with fair consequences. You can negotiate some of these with older kids and decide on the rules and consequences together. Praise little and big kids to encourage the behavior you like.

HAVE REALISTIC EXPECTATIONS

Nobody's perfect – kids, teenagers, or adults – so don't expect your child to do more (or less) than they're capable of. And remember, we all make mistakes sometimes.

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF AS A PARENT

It's all about balance. You've got to look after your own needs too, so make sure you're getting some support, time with friends, and maybe even a little time to yourself!

CAREGIVER EDUCATION SERIES

Alberta Health Services hosts a variety of virtual caregiver information sessions throughout the year 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 Caregiver Education to see the monthly caregiver sessions.

[Home \(\[cyfcaregivereducation.ca\]\(http://cyfcaregivereducation.ca\)\)](http://Home(cyfcaregivereducation.ca))

ENHANCING LITERACY & NUMERACY

As part of Elk Island Public Schools' (EIPS) ongoing efforts to enhance the literacy and numeracy of students in all grade levels, the Division is once again administering the STAR literacy and numeracy tools for all in-school learners in the 2022-2023 school year. The tools focus on literacy and numeracy, are digitally based, and offer an opportunity for students to demonstrate their learning. The goal: To provide timely information to teachers, help enhance classroom instruction and ensure student learning needs are identified.

At three points throughout the year, EIPS in-school students in grades 1 through 12 will complete the STAR literacy assessment, which evaluates reading comprehension. The assessment takes approximately 20 minutes and is administered on a digital device. At least once throughout the year, in-school students in grades 2 through 10 will complete the STAR math assessment, which is a mathematic screening tool used to inform teachers about a student's math skills. The results offer the teacher a clearer picture of a student's learning needs and help determine if subsequent instructional planning is required.

The scores of the assessments are not used toward a student's grade, and there is no need to study ahead of time. The tools simply provide the teacher with information to better understand where each student is in terms of reading comprehension and mathematic ability. If, after analyzing the results, it is determined a student can benefit from extra support, the teacher will contact the family to discuss possible support strategies.

For more information about the Division's STAR assessment tools, contact EIPS Supports for Students at 780-464-3477.

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL (SAC)

The Mundare SAC provides parents and the school community with a means to consult with and provide advice on school policies to the principal on matters pertaining to the school and its operations. A separate part of the Council – The Mundare School Society, which meets right after the School Advisory Council, facilitates all fundraising activity for the school that can enhance the educational programming for our students.

Please note that both the Mundare School Advisory Council and Mundare School Society will be hosting their first meeting on **Monday, September 19** at 6:30 PM. We look forward to seeing some new faces around the table this year. All Mundare School parents are automatically members of SAC.

BUS VIDEO SURVEILLANCE

Did you know each EIPS bus is equipped with video surveillance? Video surveillance and equipment helps:

- ensure the safety of all students, drivers, and property; and
- discourage destructive acts.

On a regular basis, EIPS Student Transportation reviews the video recordings, in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FOIP). The recordings assist the department with

monitoring student and driver conduct and may be used as evidence in a disciplinary matter.

For more information about the collection, use and disclosure of personal information, contact the EIPS FOIP Coordinator at 780-464-3477.

August/September 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		30	31	1	2	3
		DAY 1 First day of school	DAY 2	DAY 3	DAY 4 ECS Day	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	School Closed Statutory Holiday	DAY 5	DAY 6 ECS Day Early Dismissal Day (2:36pm)	DAY 1	DAY 2 ECS Day	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	DAY 3 ECS Day School Photos	DAY 4	DAY 5 ECS Day Meet the Teacher 6:30-7:30pm	DAY 6	DAY 1	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	DAY 2 ECS Day SAC @ 6:30pm	DAY 3	DAY 4 ECS Day	DAY 5	DAY 6 ECS Day Terry Fox Run RED DAY	
25	26	27	28	29	30	
	DAY 1 ECS Day	DAY 2	DAY 3 ECS Day	DAY 4 ORANGE SHIRT DAY	School Closed National Day for Truth and Reconciliation	