



Elk Point Elementary School

December 2024

Box 600, 5410—50 Street, Elk Point, Alberta, T0A 1A0

Principal: Mr. Garth Finlay

Asst. Principal: Mrs. Reanne Mudryk



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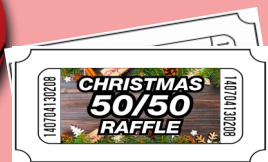
Christmas Concert

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 18TH

DOORS OPEN @ 12:00 PM

PERFORMANCE @ 1:00 PM

ADMISSION BY DONATION.



Tickets \$5 each or
5 for \$20

Supporting Student Activities

DECEMBER

2-13 Skating Program for Gr.3-6

4 After School Athletics

10 January Milk/Hot Food Orders Due

11 Magician Steve Harmer

12 Santas Anonymous Deadline

16 Red/Green Day

17 Christmas Sweater Day

17 Formal Rehearsal (KA CONCERT)

18 Formal Day

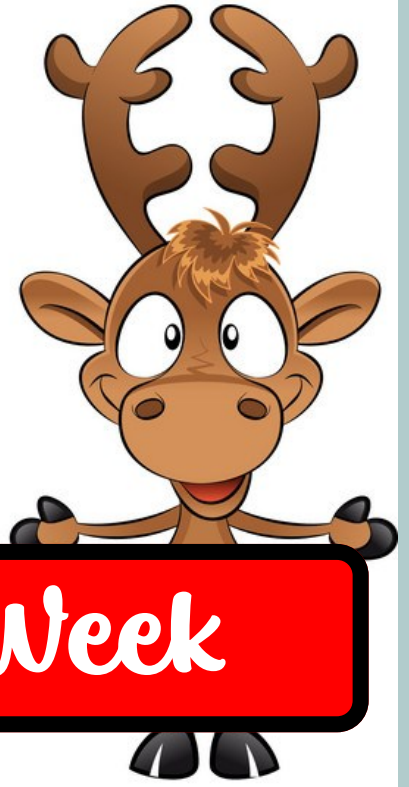
18 Christmas Concert 1:00 pm

19 Anything Christmas Day

20 Pajama Day

20 Early Dismissal @ 2 pm





Christmas Spirit Week

Monday, December 16
RED/GREEN DAY

Tuesday, December 17
CHRISTMAS SWEATER DAY

Wednesday, December 18
FORMAL DAY

Thursday, December 19
ANYTHING CHRISTMAS DAY

Friday, December 20
PAJAMA DAY

NEWS FROM THE LEARNING COMMONS

CHRISTMAS IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!!!!

THIS MONTH THE GRADE 3 CLASS WILL BE LEARNING ABOUT THE DEWEY DECIMAL SYSTEM! I WILL ALSO BE TEACHING THE GRADE 4 CLASS ON HOW TO SEARCH FOR BOOKS WITHIN OUR LIBRARY!



**LIBRARY
JEOPARDY!**

We have begun Library Jeopardy! The winners will receive a free lunch from a restaurant of their choice in town!

A BIG THANK YOU
goes out to all
students and staff
who have
participated
in Santa's
Anonymous!
The deadline for
donations is
December 12th!



TOP 10 AR READERS

Our 1st Reporting period is done for AR and I am beyond ecstatic to congratulate our whole school (Grades 3-6) who have made their AR goal!!

KEEP IT UP STUDENTS!!

Our 2nd Reporting period has begun!! Students have until March 7th to reach their AR goal!

10. Aleksander - 500%
9. George - 503%
8. Gracie - 523%
7. Kaelynn - 535%
6. Taber - 600%
5. Nolan - 646%
4. Jacob 680%
3. Aurora 700%
2. Victoria - 742%
1. Raihan 1375%



*Wishing Everyone Peace and Happiness throughout
the Holiday Season!!*

- Mrs. Dewan



Thursday, December 5 (KA Day)

Mac 'n Cheese

Thursday, December 12 (KB Day)

Subway

Thursday, December 19

NO HOT FOOD

January Orders will be due on

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10TH

Skating Program for Grade 3—6 students December 2-18

Please be sure your child is coming with skates, helmets, mitts and a warm coat every day.

Skates need to be brought in a sturdy bag and please bring a rag to wipe off blades.



MOTIVATIONAL MAGIC

Magician Steve
Harmer will be

@ EPE on

**Wednesday, December 11th @
9:00 am**



May all that is beautiful,
meaningful, and brings you
joy be yours this holiday
season and throughout the
coming year! Wishing you
all the happiness in these
holidays.

Merry Christmas

Christmas Holidays—December 21, 2024-January 5, 2025

Students return January 6, 2025 (Day 1—KA)

15-2, 15-4, & a Pair is 6

Elk Point Elementary School has launched a heartwarming and educational initiative, teaming up with local seniors to help students sharpen their math skills through the game of cribbage. Students from Grades 4 to 6 have been welcoming seniors from the Elk Point community into their classrooms on November 4th, blending fun and learning with intergenerational bonding.

The program was equally rewarding for the seniors. It allows them to share their knowledge, connect with younger generations, and engage in meaningful social interactions. Many seniors have expressed joy at being part of the student's learning journey, while the kids are thrilled to learn from their experienced mentors.

Elk Point Elementary hopes to continue and expand this initiative, fostering community ties while making math more approachable and enjoyable for students.



Friday, December 20th is going to be a busy day @ EPE!!



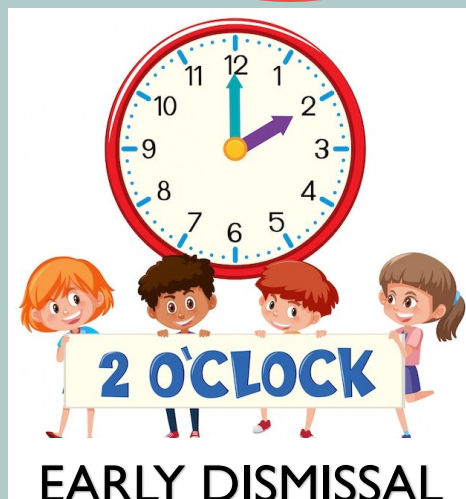
Pancake Wars



What pancake
topping will win?

Students will get
to choose from a
variety of toppings
& vote for their
favorite!!

Donations of
non-perishable food
items or a toonie will
be accepted to
support the Elk Point
Helping Hands.



Elk Point
Elementary

BOTTLE DRIVE

SCHOOL FUNDRAISER

January 6 - 10

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

SCHOOL PARKING LOT

Drop your recycle containers off
in the collection trailer!



HOW SICK IS TOO SICK FOR SCHOOL?



SEND TO SCHOOL

- A runny nose or just a little cough but no other symptoms.
- Sore throat but no other symptoms.
- No fever in the past 24 hours without fever-reducing medicine.
- No vomiting or diarrhea for 24 hours.



KEEP AT HOME

- Fever higher than 100.4 degrees F (38 degrees C).
- Sore throat, with other symptoms such as a persistent cough.
- Vomiting or diarrhea in the past 24 hours.
- Eyes are pink and crusty.
- Has been exposed to an illness where isolation is recommended.



St. Paul Education



stpauleducation.ab.ca



EXTREME WEATHER

Is my child's bus running? Coming home early?

Throughout the winter, weather and road conditions are constantly monitored with the safety of students and staff at the center of all of our decisions. We strive to inform parents of any delays or cancellations as quickly as possible. Here's how you may be notified:

- Bus driver contact
- Call/text from your school
- Local radio stations
- Bus Status app
- Division social media (Facebook and Instagram)
- Division website
<https://www.stpauleducation.ab.ca/transportation/bus-status>



How we decide:

When temperatures and/or wind chill is -40 or colder, buses are CANCELLED. Notice may be given the night before or in the morning.

-40°C



Buses may run in the afternoon during extreme cold weather under certain circumstances.

Weather checks start very early with The Weather Network and phone calls to designated staff living in each local area.



Even if buses are cancelled schools remain **OPEN**.

- If your child attends: meaningful learning still occurs
- If your child is absent: efforts will be made to ensure they do not fall behind



Decision is based on:

- Local road conditions
- RCMP travel advisories
- Weather and wind warnings
- Local municipality

Your bus driver also has complete discretion to cancel a route should they feel travel is unsafe.



If a decision is required around temperature and/or road conditions, the Director of Transportation consults with:

- Local bus drivers
- School principals
- Superintendent of Schools



Parents always have the final say about their child's safety and well-being and can always choose whether or not to have their child take the bus.



The Nations of Saddle Lake, Whitefish Lake and Frog Lake make independent decisions about their buses. Please contact them directly for any questions regarding their transportation policies.

BOARD MEETING

HIGHLIGHTS



Remembrance Day

Schools across the Division held ceremonies to honor the sacrifices made for our freedom. We extend our gratitude to the special guests who joined us, making these moments of remembrance truly meaningful.

Kutryk Presentation

Two community members from Two Hills approached the Board of Trustees seeking support for a tribute recognizing the accomplishments of Canadian astronaut and Two Hills School alumnus, Joshua Kutryk. Trustee Rajoo will represent the Division on the tribute planning committee.

Council of School Councils Meeting

The Board is hosting a Council of School Councils Engagement Meeting on November 25, 2024 at 7 p.m. at the St. Paul Education Division Office.

Criminal Record Check Bylaw

New provincial rules for local elections are resulting in boards and municipalities needing to decide whether to implement a bylaw requiring a criminal record check for individuals submitting nomination papers before running in an election. Such a bylaw would need to be passed before December 31, 2024. The new rules state that a conviction does not necessarily disqualify a candidate. Given the tight timeline, St. Paul Education trustees chose to defer the Board's response until after the next election and consider addressing a criminal record check requirement in policy for any elected trustees.

Election Update

Nomination packages for individuals who might be interested in running in the October 2025 school board election will be available in January 2025. The Board is not planning any changes to its ward structure.

New Curriculum Update

Alberta's government is working with education partners this fall to develop the junior high and career education curriculum. Drafts for Grades 7-9 mathematics and social studies, Grades 7-10 physical education and wellness, and Career and Life Management (CALM) will be created this school year, with input from teachers, system leaders, and subject experts. A public release of the refined curriculum is anticipated in spring 2025, and schools will have the option to pilot it in the 2025-26 school year.



Education Act Changes

Bill 27: Education Amendment Act, 2024, was introduced by the provincial government to improve transparency and support student choice regarding topics of gender identity, sexual orientation, and human sexuality. The bill also establishes a right to education during emergencies, emphasizing access to in-person learning, with new requirements for emergency learning plans. If passed, these changes are expected to take effect for school authorities on September 1, 2025.

December Board Meeting Date

The next Board meeting is scheduled for December 11, 2024, at 12:30 p.m. at the Division Office. A livestream will be available on the Division's [YouTube](#) channel.



Literacy Update

A literacy consultant has been hired to provide direct support to teachers and staff, enhancing their ability to build early literacy and reading skills. The Acadience tool has been instrumental in identifying areas where students need support, allowing for the development of targeted interventions. To further support a systemic approach to literacy, a speech-language pathologist has also been hired to aid language development.

Enrolment Update

Enrolment is down 70 students compared to last year but is 32 higher than projected, which will positively impact funding.

**For more information,
contact:**

Dr. Peter Barron
Superintendent of Schools
barrpete@sperd.ca



St. Paul Education

Learning Together, Growing Together

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Spending Time with Family

Studies have found that spending time with family can help reduce stress, anxiety and lead to a healthier lifestyle. And "family" doesn't just mean blood relatives: It can include close friends and neighbours.

Happiness and well-being are impacted by the love, support, and acceptance we get from people around us. Spending time with our families helps us be stronger and shapes who we become. It is one important piece of building a full and meaningful life.

Health Benefits of Family Time

The benefits of family time can include:

- Reduced anxiety and depression through face-to-face time with loved ones.
- Children that spend time with family tend to perform better in school.
- Children receive positive attention for good behaviour and are more likely to ask for help.
- Children's self-confidence is strengthened when they feel valued by others.
- Children learn communication skills and conflict resolution strategies.
- Children develop healthier coping skills through connection.

Be Intentional with Family Time

Make family time part of your routine:

- Go for family walks
- Spend time outdoors
- Have playtime
- Watch movies
- Have a game night
- Attend community events
- Engage in family conversation
- Plan and make meals together
- Read aloud
- Do homework together

Plan family time outside of your routine:

- Go for an overnight trip
- Plan a vacation together
- Check out local attractions like a museum, fair or farmers market
- Attend community family events
- Play together at a family fun place
- Different family members plan an activity or day
- Camp in the backyard or living room
- Share traditions and make new ones

MORE RESOURCES

Visit kidshealth.org



For information on mental health, community supports, programs and services in your area:



Addiction Services Help Line
1-866-332-2322

Mental Health Help Line
1-877-303-2642



DECEMBER



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2 DAY 4 KB SKATING PROGRAM BEGINS GR. 3-6	3 DAY 5 KA 	4 DAY 6 KB After School Athletics	5 DAY 1 KA Mac ' n Cheese	6 DAY 2 KB	7
8	9 DAY 3 KA	10 DAY 4 KB  JANUARY MILK & HOT FOOD ORDERS DUE	11 DAY 5 KA MOTIVATIONAL MAGIC	12 DAY 6 KB  Anonymous Subway	13 DAY 1 KA	14
15	16 DAY 2 KB  Red/Green Day	17 DAY 3 KA  Christmas Sweater Day	18 DAY 4 KB Christmas concert 1 pm  EORMAE DAY	19 DAY 5 KA Anything Christmas Day	20 DAY 6 KB 2:00 Dismissal   PJ DAY	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				