



HERITAGE HILLS

ELEMENTARY

Heritage Hills Parent Weekly

February 1 - February 8, 2021

Twitter Account: @HeritageHills_

This Week at Heritage Hills:

Monday, February 1

- A great day for teaching and learning
- Registration for 2020-2021 School Year Begins

Tuesday, February 2

- A great day for teaching and learning

Wednesday, February 3

- A great day for teaching and learning
- Early Dismissal

Thursday, February 4

- Teachers Convention - No School

Friday, February 5

- Teachers Convention - No School

Monday, February 8

- A great day for teaching and learning

Principal's Message:

Hope you all had a great week. Thank you to all of you who participated in our School Council Meeting this month. These are excellent meetings and the feedback we receive from parents helps us in our planning for the current school year as well as the 2021-2022 year. We are currently looking at school fees. Please look at the

school fee [form](#) and share your thoughts with us if you haven't already done so. For those of you who have already shared your thoughts it is greatly appreciated.

Registration for the 2021 -2022 school year starts on Monday, February 1st. During the month of February you will be able to register at open schools and in the programs you choose. Once the registration process is complete at the end of February there will be no changes. If you have any questions on the registration process please do not hesitate to call the school.

This is a short week as we do have Teachers Convention on Thursday and Friday.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to call us at (780) 467-7447 or email us at General.HHE@eips.ca

HHE Clothing Online Stores:

Heritage Hills clothing is available through the [online store](#) until February 21st. Orders will be delivered to the school. Apparel is available in Youth and Adult sizes. Happy Shopping!

Valentine's Day:

As you've no doubt experienced in your own homes, COVID-19 has changed the way we celebrate holidays and special occasions.

One of the measures EIPS put into place to mitigate the spread of the virus was to reduce, as much as possible, the number of high-touch items in our classrooms. In terms of class celebrations, this has meant eliminating the passing out of treats and other items traditionally shared among students.

As such, students will not be able to bring Valentine's cards, gifts or treats to school for distribution next month. Many of you may be disappointed in this change of approach but please rest assured, your child's teacher will still find creative ways to mark the occasion, and make the day fun for students.

Thank you for your kind understanding and cooperation as we strive to keep our staff and students safe and healthy.

Kindergarten Registration Starts Soon!

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2021? If so, it's almost time to register for kindergarten.

Kindergarten registration opens for the 2021-22 school year on Feb. 1, 2021. 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 Heritage Hills Elementary 's kindergarten program is available at heritagehillselementary.ca

Personal Communication Devices:

Did you know that EIPS has an Administrative Procedure regarding the use of Personal Communication Devices in schools? This Administrative Procedure is [AP 145](#) regarding Personal Communication Devices.

At Heritage Hills we are Powered Off

Heritage Hills Elementary Policy:

At Heritage Hills Elementary, all student personal communication devices are **powered off** during the entire school day including recess and lunch times. If they are on during the day inside or outside of the school they will be taken away and returned at the end of the school day with a phone call home. If a student continues to have their cell phone on during the school day, a meeting with all stakeholders will take place. Personal communication devices are the sole responsibility of the owner. Heritage Hills Elementary is not responsible for any loss or damages to a device.

If you have a message that needs to be passed on to your child throughout the day, please call the office and we can communicate this information to the classroom teacher and your child.

First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education

Information and Engagement Series for Families

Elk Island Public Schools First Nations, Métis and Inuit education team, Cheryl Devin and Jeremy Albert are offering information and engagement series for EIPS families.

Series #1: Developing Foundational Knowledge of First Nations, Métis and Inuit cultures, histories, and contemporary contexts.

This three-part series is designed for EIPS parents and families who are curious to learn about First Nations, Métis and Inuit cultures, perspectives, and histories. These sessions are designed as entry points to understanding as we work toward learning our collective truth on the path of reconciliation.

Sessions will be held online using Microsoft Teams Meetings. You can join on your computer or mobile app. [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Session 1 (virtual): February 2, 2021 (7 - 7:30 PM)

Who we are and why this work is needed?

What reconciliation looks like in EIPS.

Session 2 (virtual): February 23, 2021 (7 - 7:30 PM)

Addressing common roadblocks to understanding and build relationships.

Terminology: bridging the gap between what language parents may be used to hearing and what children are learning in schools.

Session 3 (virtual): March 16, 2021 (7 - 7:30 PM)

Language of this land- The importance of highlighting Indigenous languages; deepening understanding of relationship to land through language; what exploration of Indigenous languages can look like in schools.

Series #2: Virtual gathering of First Nations, Métis and Inuit parents and families.

This series is designed for First Nations, Métis and Inuit parents and families who are curious to learn more about the supports offered throughout EIPS. It is an opportunity for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit parents to gather and engage in conversation in partnership with the EIPS First Nations, Métis and Inuit education team.

Sessions will be held online using Microsoft Teams Meetings. Join on your computer or mobile app. [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Initial Gathering (virtual): January 26, 2021 (7 - 7:30 PM)

Introduction to the First Nations, Métis and Inuit education team

What self-identification is and what it means?

What supports are in place for self-identified students?

Future sessions will be discussed and decided upon with input from participating parents and families.

Curious about supports? Talk to your child's school today or contact EIPS' First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education Centre, Cheryl Devin or Jeremy Albert.

2019-2020 Yearbooks from Wye School:

There are a few extra copies of the last School Yearbook from Wye School (2019-2020 Year). If you would like a copy, please email General.HHE@eips.ca to request a copy. The cost is \$20.00 for the soft-covered, and \$26.00 for the hard-covered.

Returning Student Registration for 2021-22

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) will once again conduct an online returning student registration process to confirm student registrations for the 2021-22 school year. Families of all returning students must complete the process to confirm the school their child plans to attend in the 2021-22 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 2021-22 returning student registration takes place between Feb. 1-28, 2021.

Access to the Returning Student Registration Form is provided through the **PowerSchool Parent Portal**. If you don't have a PowerSchool Parent Portal account, you need to set one up before Feb. 1, 2021.

Create a PowerSchool Parent Portal account

For more information contact the school directly.

EIPS 2021-22 Division Calendar: Now available!

The official 2021-22 EIPS calendar is now available online. The calendar includes important dates during the 2021-22 school year, such as school-closure days, breaks, the first and last day of classes, professional learning days, early dismissal days, plus more. Highlights from the 2021-22 EIPS calendar include:

- September 1 – first day of classes
- November 8-12 – November break
- December 22 to January 4 Christmas – as break
- February 1 – second semester begins
- February 10-11 – Teachers' Convention
- March 28 to April 1 – spring break
- June 28 – last day of classes
- June 29 – last operational day before the summer break

To view the 2021-21 calendar, visit eips.ca.

Did you know you can sync the Division calendar to your personal calendar? You can. Simply, visit eips.ca/calendar and click on "subscribe to calendar." It's that easy.

Another way to stay connected: Follow EIPS on Twitter and Facebook

With 43 schools and close to 17,000 students, there's a wealth of events, activities and stories taking place across the Division every day. You can find these stories and more by following Elk Island Public Schools on both **Facebook** and **Twitter**. Each uses a combination of news articles, videos and photographs that showcases the latest news, updates, events and alerts taking place across the Division.

Plus, if you're a member of an EIPS school community and want to share in the storytelling, simply tag the Division using [#eips](#).

Stay in the loop, follow EIPS on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

NOTE: Communications Services manages the Division's Facebook and Twitter accounts. The account is updated and monitored intermittently during regular office hours from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday. The Division welcomes feedback and ideas from followers but does ask everyone interacting on the EIPS Facebook page to be respectful. Personal attacks and offensive language are not allowed and may be deleted.

School Fees (2021-2022):

Under Alberta Education's School Fee Regulation, schools must consult with parents prior to setting school fees for the upcoming school year.

At our school council meeting on January 18, 2021, we discussed school fees for the 2021-2022 school year. During that time, we shared information about our current fee structure, posing specific questions about priorities, and asking you to provide your feedback as we plan for the 2021-22 school year. While many of these activities and services enhance students' educational experience, we want to ensure these fees aren't cost prohibitive for families.

Specifically, we asked for input on the following:

- Optional courses and associated fees
- Noon hour supervision
- Field trips and associated fees
- Extracurricular activities
- Non-curricular travel (for example, ski trips and band camps)
- Non-curricular goods and services (for example, student union and yearbooks)

We understand not all families were able to attend the meeting but it's still important we get as much input from the school community as possible. We have provided a [link](#) to a form for you to submit a written response if you were not able to attend the meeting or would like to elaborate on the information shared at the school council meeting.

School administration will use feedback provided to help determine fees for 2021-22, which will then be shared at the February school council meeting, posted to our website and shared via link through email.

French Family Fun Weekend

The Alberta chapter of Canadian Parents for French are offering a weekend filled with fun activities for parents and kids - virtually. Check out their [website](#) to learn

more about how you can register for this fun weekend experience on February 26-28.

Enjoy a great week everyone!

“Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn.”

– Benjamin Franklin