

# Heritage Hills Parent Weekly

## February 28 - March 7, 2022

Twitter Account: <u>@HeritageHills</u>

**Mid-Point Review** 

#### This Week at Heritage Hills:

Monday, February 28

<u>Returning student registration 2022-23 closes</u>

#### <u>Tuesday, March 1</u>

• SHINE Club meeting for students at 12:02 p.m.

#### <u>Wednesday, March 2</u>

- First Round of Voting Opens for March Book Madness
- Early Dismissal
- Blazy Family Pizza Night
- Kinder A Order deadline for Subway Hot Lunch

#### <u>Thursday, March 3</u>

• A great day for Teaching and Learning

#### Friday, March 4

- Professional Learning Day No School for Students
- Order Deadline for Kinder B and Grades 1-6 Order deadline for Subway Hot Lunch

#### <u>Monday, March 7</u>

• Start of SELebration Week - more information in next week's weekly

# Principal's Message:

Hope you enjoyed a great weekend. We are now moving into the month of March. This month we have report cards and spring break. Hopefully the snow will mostly be gone by the end of the month. Thank you to those of you who have completed the re-registration of your children for the 2022-2023 school year. It is important for us to have this completed by February 28 as we will then start our staffing process. Staffing is tied to our registration numbers. If we complete our staffing and then you register late it causes issues for this process. If you have not re-registered for the 2022-2023 school year please do it soon.

Thank you to all the parent volunteers who have been volunteering in the variety of activities taking place in the school. I have had the opportunity to have many wonderful conversations with you.

It is hard to believe we are already halfway through the school year. Heritage Hills continues to have Amazing Things happening. We couldn't do it without the support of our families and community. Here is our <u>Mid-Point Review</u> of just some of the amazing things that have happened so far this school year.

Thank you for your continued support.

We are excited to announce the hiring of Mr. Ryan Jap as our new grade one teacher. He has been working with Mrs. Pavan since February 25, to ensure a smooth transition. He will be taking over full time on March 1.

Once again, thank you for all the support you give to Heritage Hills Elementary and our students. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to call us at (780) 467-7447 or email us at <u>General.HHE@eips.ca</u>

# **Counselor:**

I will be in school Monday, Wednesday, and Tuesday morning this week.

#### <u>Parent to Parent - Foundations of Connection Wednesday, March 23, 2022, 6 -</u> <u>8pm</u>

This free workshop for parents aims to explore effective language and how to develop healthy habits with children. Guidance is provided for parents on how to teach children about consent, conflict, and how to recognize healthy or unhealthy behaviors in others.

<u>My Anxiety Plan (MAP)</u> is a resource for parents and caregivers to "coach" anxious children or teens using practical strategies and tools to manage anxiety. MAP includes 6 units with 46 lessons.

**Unit 1:** The lessons in this unit highlight key information and facts about anxiety, so that you and your child can become anxiety experts.

**Unit 2:** Lessons focus on helping your child or teen learn relaxation and mindfulness strategies to help them "ride out" the physical sensations of anxiety. **Unit 3:** In this unit, you will help your child or teen learn how to catch, evaluate, and change their anxious thinking.

**Unit 4:** You will learn how to help your child overcome their fears by gradually facing them one step at a time.

**Unit 5:** Highlights the importance of a solid foundation and helping your child develop a plan to prevent anxiety from making a comeback.

**Unit 6:** In this final unit, get additional information and strategies to tackle other problem areas that your child may need help with.

# **Caregiver Education Series:**

Alberta Health Services is hosting a series of 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. This year, sesion topics include anxiety, ADHD, depression, self-harm, technology, teens and teaching leadership skills, and more.

Visit **<u>Caregiver Education for the Edmonton Zone</u>** for more information and session dates.

# March Book Madness:

We love to participate in any competition that involves books. We are excited again this year to participate in <u>March Book Madness</u>. This program has been going on since 2015. We encourage all classes to participate by voting directly on the official website, but also this year <u>EIPS</u> has created their own <u>voting bracket</u> for the books as well. Please feel free to place your vote in both places.

# Measuring Success: Complete this year's Alberta Education Assurance

### **Survey**

Once again, Alberta Education is surveying teachers, students and families through its annual Alberta Education Assurance (AEA) Survey. The survey acts as an annual check-up on the province's education system. Every year, Alberta Education conducts the survey to gather information about the quality of education provided by Alberta schools and school authorities. The survey looks at various measures such as education quality, citizenship, family involvement, engagement levels, school climate and student wellness. Throughout March, Grade Four students and teachers at Heritage Hills Elementary are completing the survey online at the school. Student participation is voluntary and completely anonymous. Students are assigned a random username and password to ensure survey responses aren't linked to any individual student. The survey doesn't take long to complete and is done within the school day during regular class time.

Additionally, parents and guardians of students in grades 4, 7 and 10 are also asked to take a survey, either online or by mail. Alberta Education will send families information about the survey directly. As with the student and teacher survey, it's anonymous and asks questions about your school experiences. If you have a child in grades 4, 7 or 10, we encourage you to participate. The survey deadline is March 25, 2022.

Results from the AEA Survey are provided to Elk Island Public Schools each spring. The Division then uses the data to inform its four-year education plan, school education plans and strategies for continuous improvement. Each fall, the results are also shared with EIPS families and school communities in the Division's Annual Education Results Report.

RELATED INFORMATION <u>AEA Survey: Parent letter</u> <u>AEA Survey: Methodology for rate calculation</u> <u>Assurance and Accountability: Alberta's K-12 education system</u>

# Have your say! The 2022 EIPS Parent Survey Opens March 14-27

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) wants to hear from you. Make sure to complete the 2022 EIPS Parent Survey—open from March 14-27.

Annually, EIPS conducts a parent survey to gauge its progress toward meeting the goals and priorities outlined in its <u>Four-Year Education Plan</u>. Families are asked a series of questions about their experiences with EIPS and the school their child attends, the overall performance of the Division, the quality of education being provided to students and areas for improvement. The survey feedback helps the Division develop new strategies to better serve students and the wider community.

#### VISIT EIPS.CA TO TAKE THE SURVEY: March 14-27

NOTE: The survey is anonymous and only takes a few minutes to complete. If you want to share the experience of more than one child attending an EIPS school, simply complete the survey again.

# **Kindergarten Registration is Now Open!**

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2022? If so, it's now time to register for kindergarten. To register, simply complete the online registration form at **eips.ca/kindergarten**.

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.

# **Pre-kindergarten Programming at EIPS**

Is there a preschooler in your life experiencing developmental delays or challenges with speech-language or motor-skill development—big or small? If so, Elk Island Public School's Play And Learn at School (PALS) program could help.

Early learning lays the foundation for success in primary grades and beyond. As such, EIPS offers the pre-kindergarten PALS program in six of its elementary school locations. In fact, EIPS is now accepting applications for free speech-language assessments for those interested in registering in the PALS program this fall. The assessment helps determine if PALS is appropriate for your child.

If you know a preschooler, born in 2018 or 2019, who could benefit from pre-kindergarten programming or want to book an assessment, visit eips.ca or call 780-417-8219 to learn more.

# School Fees Survey (2022-2023)

As discussed at the school council meeting, please find below a link to a survey regarding school fees for the 2022-2023 school year. We look forward to hearing your feedback.

https://forms.gle/xcoNGs1owsw4hiUc8

# Carnaval:

Our third and final week of Carnaval was fantastic. Some highlights:

- Hot chocolate
- Traditional recipes
- Cornet de tire d'érable
- Sledding
- Snowshoeing
- Skating
- Broomball
- Metis finger weaving
- Bonhomme plasticine sculptures
- Repas québécois avec tourtière et tarte au sucre
- Carnaval songs, dance and videos

• Bonhomme Visits

# **FAHHE Update:**

#### **Blaze Pizza Nights**

For the month of March, Blaze pizza will be supporting the FAHHE by hosting a fundraiser each week where we receive 20% of the proceeds that evening when customers show our <u>flyer</u>. You can print out the <u>flyer</u> or show it on your phone. Works for online orders too! Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup>

#### **Hot Lunch**

Thanks to all your support of our hot lunches this year.

We have been approached about adding a universal hot lunch fund to assist families who maybe can't afford the special lunch at this time. We have added a donation item to the menu if you would like to donate to the fund. If you would like to access the fund, please email <u>hhehotlunch@gmail.com</u>.

For March we will be having 2 hot lunches. Ordering for both lunches is now open. **Subway** 

Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> – Kinder A (Order deadline March 2<sup>nd</sup>) Friday, March 11 – Kinder B and 1-6 (Order deadline March 4<sup>th</sup>)

#### COBS

Wednesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> – Kinder A (Order deadline March 16<sup>th</sup>) Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup> – Kinder B and 1-6 (Order deadline March 17<sup>th</sup>)

Returning families: <u>https://munchalunch.com/login</u> New family registration: <u>https://munchalunch.com/schools/heritagehills</u>

#### **Playground Committee**

We are so lucky to have been able to fundraise for an amazing playground at Heritage Hills when it opened. However, the building is not complete. There is a plan to add more equipment into the current playground on the back side where there is lots of open sand. We would like to create a playground committee who will work closely with the school and the county to fundraise and install the remaining equipment. Do you have a knack for writing? Do you love planning fundraisers? We are looking for individuals who can help apply for grants, seek sponsorships as well as plan some amazing fundraisers to make this playground complete. Please email <u>fahhe.president@gmail.com</u> if you are interested or would like more information.

Next Meeting: March 9, 2022, following the school council meeting.

# **First Nations, Metis and Inuit:**

Heritage Hills was very fortunate to welcome <u>Connie Kulhavy</u> to our school last week as an artist in residence. She worked with 3C, 3R, 3S, 4M, 4J and 4/5G. Here are some beautiful pieces created by our students.



Enjoy a great week everyone!!!

"Don't be pushed around by the fears in your mind. Be led by the dreams in your heart."

- Roy T. Bennett, The Light in the Heart