



HERITAGE HILLS

ELEMENTARY

Heritage Hills Parent Weekly

December 11 - January 8, 2024

This Week at Heritage Hills:

Monday, December 11

- Ms K in the School
- Gr 6 Lunch Leaders meeting at noon in Art Room

Tuesday, December 12

- Ms K in the School
- Chess Club at lunch recess in the Art Room

Wednesday, December 13

- A great day for teaching and learning

Thursday, December 14

- A great day for teaching and learning

Friday, December 15

- Holiday Sweater Day
- **Grade 6 Volleyball Tournament - starting at 12:15 pm**

Monday, December 18

- Ms K in the School
- Milk & Cookies for Kids K-6

Tuesday, December 19

- Ms. K in the School
- Milk & Cookies for Kids - ECS

Wednesday, December 20

- A great day for teaching and learning

Thursday, December 21

- Ms K in the School for the morning
- Hot Lunch - Chopped Leaf for Kindergarten only
- Staff Luncheon / Indoor Recess with parents supervising

Friday, December 22

- Last Day of school before Christmas Break
- Pajama Day
- Hot Lunch- Chopped Leaf
- Gr 6 Dare Grad 1 pm

Saturday December 23, 2023 - Sunday, January 7, 2024

- Christmas Break

Monday, January 8

- First Day Back as School After Christmas Break
- Ms. K in the School

Principal:

I hope you enjoyed the new format for our Christmas Concert. It was so nice to have it in our school. We have such a beautiful building and it is home to our students and staff. I was proud of the performance our students and staff prepared for you.

As we approach our Winter Break this will be our last Parent Weekly until after the break. Please take a brief moment to provide us with some feedback on our Parent Weekly. We are always looking for ways to improve our home and school communication. [Feedback Form](#)

AirPod lost at the Christmas Concert:

A parent lost their left AirPods at the Concert on Thursday evening, and it is 'binging' around the Glen Allen area. If by mistake you picked up an airpod thinking it was yours, please check. If it isn't yours, you can return to the school office. Thank you.

Food Bank Donations:

Thank you Heritage Hills Families for your generosity! The Food Bank picked up our school donations on Friday, and they were very grateful. Your donations will go a long way to help those in our community that are struggling, especially at this time of year. We ARE a caring community, thank you.

Numeracy at HHE:

Numeracy is one of Heritage Hills Elementary's top [School Education Plan](#) goals. We pride ourselves on having up to date resources and creating equal access to a variety of materials and manipulatives for all students. Since the school opened in 2020, HHE has ensured each classroom is equipped with a variety of manipulatives that are permanently housed in classrooms to help teachers provide whole and

small group instruction. We also have a large storage room with additional math manipulatives and games that teachers can access to supplement instruction. Our staff continue to build their understanding of numeracy by participating in professional development put on through Elk Island Public Schools focused on fact fluency, early numeracy and vertical non-permanent surfaces. One of our favourite annual highlights includes our Pi competition in March.

Your parental involvement is a huge part of numeracy at HHE. We thank you for your help in promoting numeracy at home by playing card and dice games and talking about how we use math every day.

Why play math games at home?

- Provide purposeful practice of number facts
- Meaningful opportunities to think strategically
- Develop critical thinking skills

Social-Emotional connections:

- Taking turns
- Working with others
- Communicating clearly
- Follow expectations/rules

Games such as Yahtzee, Go Fish, and Crib are highly engaging and easy to play!

Counsellor:

Goal setting with children can be a thoughtful and inspired activity. Consider how members of the family can work together toward positive, meaningful changes.

Share Your Thoughts on Budget Planning for 2024-25

Alberta Education allocates funds to school boards to fulfill their delegated responsibilities of providing education programs for students in kindergarten to Grade 12. As part of Elk Island Public Schools' (EIPS) commitment to stakeholder engagement and to continue allocating resources according to local priorities, the Division conducts an annual budget planning survey to seek input from staff, families, Grade 12 students and community partners.

The survey is voluntary, anonymous and takes about five to 10 minutes to complete. The survey questions suggest possible budget areas for EIPS to focus its resources, which align with the Division's current [Four-Year Education Plan](#). If you believe there are other areas where the Division should concentrate its resources, you can also indicate what these are. EIPS will consider all budget planning input to guide future decision-making.

COMPLETE THE SURVEY NOW

Survey closes Dec 20, 2023

Grade 12 students will complete the survey at school.

Thank you for sharing your input to help inform Division planning.

HHE Athletics:

Athletics [schedule](#) for the year.

Volleyball Tournament:

Our district volleyball tournament for December has been canceled. Some schools are getting together to play each other. Our school volleyball club is looking at playing Campbelltown and Westboro on Friday, December 15th in the afternoon. Parents are invited to come and watch their child play. The games will start at 12:15 p.m. If your child is playing and you would like to watch them play, ask them to see their schedule so you know when they are playing.

Christmas Break:

Heritage Hills Elementary will close for the Christmas break at the end of the day on Friday, Dec. 22, 2023. The school will reopen on Monday, Jan. 8, 2024. During this time, if you have any school-related questions or concerns, contact Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) Central Services at 780-464-3477.

EIPS Central Services Christmas Break Hours

Closed Dec. 25, 2023 to Jan. 1, 2024

Open Jan. 2, 2024; 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. *for location and contact information visit www.eips.ca.

From everyone at Elk Island Public Schools, we wish all of you a happy holiday season and a wonderful New Year.

Fee Waiver Application Deadline:

If circumstances exist where you're unable to pay school or transportation fees, you can apply to have fees waived by submitting an Application for a Waiver of Fees. The application deadline is Dec. 15, 2023. If you're new to the Division, the deadline is the latter of Dec. 15, 2023, or 45 days after registration.

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. All fees are due within 30 days of being posted.

Don't forget to also 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, extracurricular activities and more.

For more information about school fees, waivers and payment deadlines, visit www.eips.ca/schools/fees and <https://www.heritagehillselementary.ca/about/fees>. Alternatively, contact Amanda Trach, Business Manager at Heritage Hills Elementary at 780-467-7447, or Amanda.Trach@eips.ca

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from the Board of Trustees:

I want to extend warm holiday wishes to all students, staff and families on behalf of the Elk Island Public Schools Board of Trustees.

We're grateful to have school communities full of hard-working families committed to the success of their children. Education doesn't just happen in school, it happens at home too—in every homework assignment completed, every textbook chapter read and every test reviewed. Thank you for taking the time out of your day to cultivate learning at home, so that students are eager to strive for their best at school the next day. We also appreciate the countless hours school councils put into planning events and appreciate all the people who volunteer at and attend them. Your support is invaluable.

We hope you enjoy all the holiday concerts and festivities happening at your schools, and that you get some well-deserved rest during the break. To each and every person, have a wonderful holiday season and a healthy and happy New Year.

We look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Jan. 8, 2024.

Merry Christmas and happy holidays,

Cathy Allen EIPS Board Chair

Spread the Word: EIPS is Hiring Substitute Educational Assistants:

Do you know someone who may be interested in part-time, flexible work as a substitute educational assistant (EA)? Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) is hiring—spread the word!

EAs are integral to the school team, assisting teachers with instructional and non-instructional tasks in the classroom and other school activities. Whether it's working one-on-one with individual students or with a small group of students in a class or special program, EAs provide support and assistance to help students achieve success.

Substitutes are needed to fill positions at all school locations until the end of the school year. The application deadline is December 8. If you know someone who'd be great in this role, encourage them to [apply today](#).

Kindergarten Registration Starts Soon!

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2024? If so, it's almost time to register for kindergarten.

Kindergarten registration opens for the 2024-25 school year on Feb. 1, 2024. 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 <https://www.heritagehillselementary.ca/>

Returning Student Registration: 2024-25:

Mark your calendars! Returning student registration for the 2024-25 school year will take place Feb. 8-21, 2024.

Families of all current students—with the exception of graduating Grade 12 students—must complete the process to confirm the school their child plans to attend in the 2024-25 school year or advise the Division of their plans not to return to EIPS. 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. Watch for more details in the new year.

Has your contact information recently changed?

Have you recently moved or has your contact information changed? Heritage Hills Elementary encourages families to review the information the Division has on file to ensure it's up to date. Using the Student Information Update available through the PowerSchool Parent Portal, families can review the current information on file for each student—including addresses, phone numbers, email addresses, parent and guardian information, emergency contacts, medical details and other related information—and submit any updates needed.

Reviewing and updating the form ensures the school and Division have the most up-to-date information regarding your child. Your review is especially important as the Division prepares for 2024-25 registration processes beginning in the new year.

NOTE: Only submit updates for the changes that have already taken place. If you're moving later this school year, you'll submit the necessary updates to your information through the Student Information Update after you've moved.

If you have questions about the form or any trouble with your Parent Portal account, contact the school office at 780-467-7447.

School Council and FAHHE News:

Milk and Cookies

School council and FAHHE are excited to bring a Holiday treat to the staff and students. On December 18th/19th we will be delivering some milk and cookies to everyone in the school.

We are looking for donations of nut free cookies, if you're interested, please click [HERE](#) to sign-up. Cookies are to be dropped off at the school on Friday, December 15th.

Staff Lunch Supervision

The school is providing lunch for the staff for Christmas in lieu of the School Council providing it as part of our staff appreciation so we can put that money towards our playspace development. The school is looking for some volunteers to supervise the classes during the lunch hour that day, so that all the staff can enjoy together. If you would be interested in helping out from about 11:50 am-1:10 pm, please email fahhe.president@gmail.com.

Hot Lunch

Did you know there is a universal hot lunch fund to assist families who can't afford the special lunch at this time? If you would like to access the fund, please email hhehotlunch@gmail.com.

Upcoming Hot Lunch:

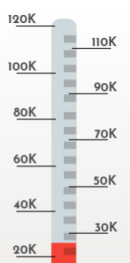
Chopped Leaf Thursday, December 21st (Kinder B, ordering closes Dec 16th)

Chopped Leaf Friday, December 22nd (Kinder A and Grades 1-6, ordering closes Dec 17th)

All lunches must be ordered through healthy hunger at www.healthyhunger.ca, all families must create an account and register their children. Any questions or concerns, please email Jaclyn at hhehotlunch@gmail.com

**** Please note:** if your child is absent and you would like to pick up their order you **MUST** email hhehotlunch@gmail.com **BEFORE** 10:00am and it will be available **AFTER** 1:00pm at the office. Please do not come earlier as it disrupts the distribution to the classes.

Fundraising Focus



Our fundraising focus for the 2023-2024 school year is the completion of our outdoor playspace. We currently have about \$24,000 raised to go towards this project. We are hoping to reach a goal of at least \$120,000. To help reach this goal we will be applying for a provincial matching grant in the spring so every dollar we raise until then counts!

We are so thankful to the County Clothesline Foundation for awarding us a \$2500 Grant.

Ongoing Fundraisers



Order online through Mabel's Labels and choose support a fundraiser, then a portion of your purchase will go back to FAHHE.



Stop by COBS on Wye Road and tell them you're from Heritage Hills Elementary and a portion of your purchase will go back to FAHHE.



Shop at Save-on-Foods on Wye Road, submit your receipts to the office and we will receive 5% back.



All orders will be shipped directly to your home for free on orders over \$50. Simply click on our link to shop and 20% of each sale goes back to FAHHE.

tru-earth.sjv.io/FAHHE

**Next Meeting: January 17th @ 630pm followed by FAHHE @7:45pm following.
Enjoy a great week everyone.**

Enjoy a great week and a great Winter Break.

"December is the time for remembering the past and reaching toward the future."

— Ralph Waldo Emerson