



Box 329, Lamont, AB T0B 2R0
p 780-895-2269 f 780-895-7468

lamontelementary.ca

Judy Anderson, Principal
Jay Robertson, Assistant Principal

January 2020 Newsletter

Welcome back after a wonderful two-week break from school and Happy New Year to everyone! We hope you had a relaxing holiday season filled with quality family time and fun.

A special thank you to the Lamont Agricultural Society for donating the hams for our Christmas lunch. All staff and students were able to enjoy the delicious meal. We would also like to thank our Lunch Crew for the extra effort they put forth to cook and serve such an amazing lunch. The extra volunteers are sure appreciated!

We are so grateful for the support of the Lamont Elementary School Council (LESC). Sylvia McDonald, the LESC Treasurer, coordinated the Holiday Gift Shop which was a huge success and the source of great enjoyment for our students. Thank you to Sylvia for all the time and energy it took to coordinate the week-long event. **The next LESC meeting will be on Thursday, January 16 at 6 p.m. in the school library.** Everyone is welcome and we look forward to seeing you there!

The students quickly settle back into the daily routines of school and January is always a focused and productive month for learning. It is the perfect time for students to reflect and set some personal learning goals. The next round of parent teacher interviews will be here before we know it during the first week of February!

Throughout the month of January, students in grades 1 to 6 will participate in skating as part of their physical education program. They will be walking to the rink on their designated days, so please ensure your child is dressed for the weather and have their skates and helmet with them. If your child does not have a skating helmet, we do have some extra ones available. The designated dates for each grade level are on the school calendar and if you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher directly. A huge thank you to Mrs. Motiuk for coordinating all of the skating times!

We will continue with our weekly draws for positive choices as well as our monthly pizza lunch and Mario Kart with admin! Mr. Robertson and I both enjoy the opportunity to have some fun with the students whenever we can! Our next reward lunch is scheduled for Friday, January 31.

Thank you for your continued support. If you ever have any questions, concerns, or feedback, please do not hesitate to contact us. Have a wonderful January!

Sincerely,
Judy Anderson M. Ed.
Principal





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Upcoming Events

Jan. 8	Early Dismissal @ 2:08 p.m./Loonies4Lamont
Jan. 17, 24	Skating, Gr. 1 & 2 @ 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.
Jan 10, 17	Skating, Gr. 3 & 4 @ 10 am to 11 a.m.
Jan.16, 23	Skating, Gr. 5 & 6 @ 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.
Jan. 16	School Council Meeting @ 6 p.m.
Jan. 31	Numeracy Day, Reward Pizza Lunch
Feb. 3	Parent Teacher Interviews, 4 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Feb. 4	Parent Teacher Interviews, 4 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Feb. 5	Early Dismissal/Loonies4Lamont
Feb. 6, 7	No School, Teachers Convention

Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews

Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews will be held on Monday, Feb. 3 and Tuesday, Feb. 4 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Report Cards will be completed and published on March 20. We strongly encourage every parent/guardian to attend these interviews as it is a great way to stay informed about your child's progress. Please book your interview at www.schoolinterviews.ca using the event code: **j66c7**. Bookings open on January 13 and will close on February 3. If you do not have access to a computer, please call us at 780-895-2269 and we would be happy to book a time for you.

January Counsellor's Corner

This month, our **TEAM Day on January 31** is focused on developing **numeracy**. Please contact me if you would like to volunteer! Here are some tips and activities for parents to try at home to develop numeracy skills with your children.

Kindergarten – Grade Three

1. Counting can be fun and entertaining. Sing counting songs such as "One, Two Buckle My Shoe". Play Hopscotch – it's a counting game! There are lots of games where you count, such as *Snakes and Ladders*, UNO, *Dominoes*, *Crazy Eights* and *Candyland*.
2. Use household items for counting practice. Practice adding and subtracting with objects around the house. Counting things like cereal or goldfish crackers can be a fun way to practice. You can practice skip counting by 2's or 3's this way too.
3. Tap into your child's curiosity. Go on a number hunt together and discover places where numbers are used such as a clock, TV, computer keyboard, calendar, telephones and license plates.
4. Kitchens can be math zones. When baking, ask your child to help measure the ingredients. Have fridge magnets available so your child can make number patterns and play with numbers.
5. Predict and compare. Start to measure and estimate things like how many steps it is from the driveway to the house or how long a trip will take and then measure and compare the actual time it takes.



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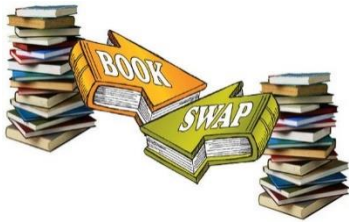
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Grade Four – Grade Six

1. Connect math to daily life. Let your kids know the importance of math in day-to-day living. Talk about the ways you use math in your job and around the house. Show them a tax form or how you pay the bills. Discuss careers that require math skills.
2. Practice mental math using coins. Show that an item costs a certain amount and ask what coins are needed to pay for it. It can be fun to practice at the store (dollar stores are great for this... "You have 10 dollars to spend...what could you buy for that amount?").
3. Play games together. Play family games to add excitement to math activities or games in the car such as math bingo or adding license plate numbers. Lots of board games need math such as *Junior Monopoly* or card games such as *Uno*.
4. Cooking can be counting fun! Involve your child in helping out at dinner time and let them help measure ingredients for dishes or estimate the number of potatoes that are needed to feed everyone.
5. Sports and math. There is a lot of math in sports: batting averages, points per game, save percentages. If you and your child watch a game, or read about one in the newspaper, talk about math concepts.

Library Notes



New Year, New Books is the theme for our 2nd Annual January Book Swap. The Book Swap is an opportunity for students to refresh their home book collection by trading books with other students.

Students have been instructed to receive parental approval for all books brought to the Book Swap. Please help your child make choices carefully before bringing in books.

Books will only be accepted under the following guidelines:

- Books must be appropriate for grades Kindergarten to Grade 6 only
- Books must be in gently used condition: cover on, no rips, tears, or bent edges
- Books with coloring or writing in them or discarded library books will not be accepted
- Coloring books, activity books, and sticker books will not be accepted

Each student may bring in **3 books** to be exchanged. If your child wishes to bring in more than 3 books the additional books will be considered a donation to the Book Swap.



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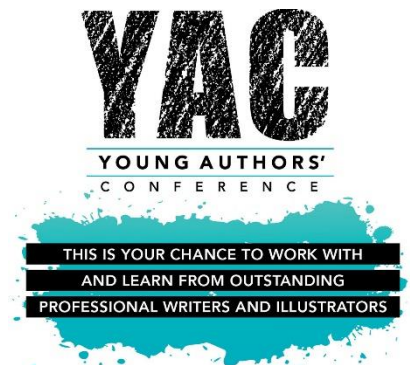
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From January 13 – 23 students may bring in books which will be collected from the classrooms by Library Leaders, during first recess. The Book Swap will happen during the last week of January. On the Book Swap Day students will receive tickets to match the number of books they have brought in and they will be able to “shop” for new books using their tickets.

The Elk Island Young Author’s Conference

Each year over 400 selected students in grades 4 to 9 from both Elk Island Public Schools and Elk Island Catholic Schools are invited to spend the day with a variety of well-known children and young adult authors, illustrators and graphic artists—working with them and learning the tricks of the trade. Students who show special interest or aptitude in the areas of writing and illustration are **invited by their teacher** to attend the conference. **The YAC is happening on February 22, 2020 and six students from our school have been chosen to attend. More information and registration forms will be sent home on Monday.**



EIPS 2020-21 Division Calendar: Now available!

The 2020-21 EIPS calendar is now available online. The calendar includes important dates during the 2020-21 school year, such as school-closure days; breaks; the first and last day of classes; professional learning days; and early dismissal days.

Highlights from the 2020-21 EIPS calendar include:

- September 1* – first day of classes
- November 9-13* – November break
- December 23 to January 5* – Christmas break
- February 1* – second semester begins
- February 4-6* – Teachers’ Convention
- March 29 to April 2* – spring break
- June 25* – last day of classes
- June 28* – last operational day before the summer break

To view the 2020-21 calendar, visit eips.ca.

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





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Kindergarten Registration Starts Soon!

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2020? If so, it's almost time to register for kindergarten.

Kindergarten registration opens for the 2020-21 school year on Feb. 1, 2020.

To help families prepare, Elk Island Public Schools has put together an online toolkit—available at www.eips.ca/kindergarten—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.

Returning Student Registration for 2020-21

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) will once again conduct an online returning student registration process to confirm student registrations for the 2020-21 school year. Families of all returning students must complete the process to confirm the school their child plans to attend in the 2020-21 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 2020-21 returning student registration takes place Feb. 1-29, 2020.

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, 2020.

[Create a PowerSchool Parent Portal account](#)

For more information contact the school directly.

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

With 43 schools and close to 17,400 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 the 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](#).



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NOTE: Communications Services manages the Division's Facebook and Twitter accounts. The account is updated and monitored intermittently during regular office hours from 8:30 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.

Inclement Weather:

With the winter season well underway, we want to remind families to dress children appropriately for the weather when getting ready for school or the bus. The weather often changes unexpectedly throughout the day, so please select suitable outerwear and ensure your child is prepared for changing conditions.

If inclement weather conditions occur, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) will advise families of any bus cancellations using various communications tools, including automated-telephone messages, alerts posted on www.eips.ca and school websites, Twitter, Facebook, local radio stations and on Versatrans My Stop.

Decisions regarding bus cancellations are guided by EIPS' [Administrative Procedure 131: Inclement Weather](#), which states: "school bus service may be suspended ... when there is a forecast or current temperature of -40 C including wind chill, in one or more regions." Other reasons for suspending or delaying school bus services include adverse weather and poor road condition.

When school bus services are suspended, schools remain open to students. EIPS believes families have the right and responsibility to make choices for their children based on their beliefs and perceptions of safety during times of inclement weather.

For more information, contact EIPS Student Transportation at 780-417-8151.

Have a great month of January and stay warm!