



## December Newsletter

Although this holiday season will look a little different than previous years, we are still working to provide some cheer and celebrate the season. Mrs. Janssen has spearheaded the collection of donations for the Lamont County Food Bank. Although non-perishable food items are always appreciated, this year the food bank is in great need of toys for children of all ages. We will gratefully accept donations up until December 16. Families who are in need of a Christmas Hamper this year must self-refer and call the Food Bank directly. We encourage you to call 780-619-6955. The application period for a food hamper is November 16 to December 8. Hampers will be distributed on December 20.

Mrs. Oviatt and the students have been hard at work practicing for our Virtual Christmas Concert. The link for the Concert will be posted on our School Website on Friday, December 18. Our School Nutrition Program is implementing a system where you will know exactly when the online form comes out and when it is due. Starting in December, on the early dismissal Wednesday, we will release the hot lunch form to be filled out for the next month. It will be due on the 15th of each month. For example, on December 2nd the form for January will be released. It will be due on December 15th.

Thank you for your continued support. Have a safe and restful holiday season!

Kari Huk  
Principal

Dec. 2	Early Dismissal
Dec. 15	January Hot Lunch form deadline
Dec. 18	Virtual Christmas Concert posted on School website
Dec. 22	Last day of classes
Dec. 23 – Jan. 5	Winter Break
Jan 6-8	Students Learning Online through Brightspace
Jan. 11	In-School Classes Resume

### **The Friends of Lamont Elementary School Society CHRISTMAS CASH RAFFLE**

The Friends of Lamont Elementary School Society is excited to launch their first online fundraiser and just in time to win Christmas spending money! They are currently fundraising for the Playground Replacement Project. Removal of the well used wooden structures has started with the remaining pieces slated to be removed in the next 1-2 years. The hope was to have the new playground installed next summer but as with many things, Covid-19 has put a damper on the fundraising efforts. All proceeds from this raffle will go towards a new play structure. There are a variety of ticket options and three cash prizes to be won:

1st Prize: \$1500

2nd Prize: \$750

3rd Prize: \$250

Ticket Sales End: December 13, 2020

Draw Date: December 18, 2020

Draw Location: In front of Lamont Elementary School

The winners will be announced on their Facebook Page and contacted by phone or email. To purchase your tickets use this link: <https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/foless>

### **School Fees**

Quarter 2 fees are now posted on the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#). To access your fee information, go to “Student Fees” on PowerSchool. There you can view your fees and pay online using Visa, MasterCard or INTERAC Online—when available from your financial institution. All fees are due within 14 days of being posted. NOTE: School Fees apply to in-school learners only.

### **Christmas Cookie Decorating**

Thank you so much to Lamont Light Up, Tom’s Catering, Realty Advisors, Fort Saskatchewan Safeway, Lamont Dental Clinic and As Scene Photography for sponsoring this activity so all students can take part in decorating a Christmas Cookies!

### **First Nations, Métis & Inuit Education**

Many classes celebrated Métis week, November 16 to 20. Teachers had access to Métis stories and other resources that they shared with their classes. A few teachers also had their class view the “Spirit Bear” film and read the book. Spirit Bear tells the true story of a human rights case for First Nations children, this is now known as Jordan’s Principle. The story of Spirit Bear shares how he and his friends stood with First Nations children to help make Jordan’s Principle a reality. To learn more about Jordan’s Principle please visit [fncaringsociety.com/jordans-principle](http://fncaringsociety.com/jordans-principle). In December, classes will have a chance to explore the Métis kit to learn more about their rich culture.

### **Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from the Board of Trustees**

As we draw closer to the end of 2020—a year like no other—I want to extend warm holiday wishes to all our students, staff and families on behalf of the Elk Island Public Schools Board of Trustees. Thank you for your partnership, co-operation and understanding throughout the past year. The holidays are often a time of reflection and gratitude, and we want you to know how much we appreciate the contributions you make to the Division on an ongoing basis. By working together, we're making a difference in the learning experiences and opportunities of all students within EIPS.

While this Christmas will undoubtedly look very different than past years, we hope you have the opportunity to celebrate the season—whether that be an intimate holiday meal with your immediate family or a virtual celebration with extended family and friends.

Stay safe this holiday season, and we look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Jan. 6, 2021.

Merry Christmas and happy holidays,

Trina Boymook  
EIPS Board Chair

### **Christmas Break**

**Lamont Elementary School** will close for the Christmas break at the end of the day on Tuesday, Dec. 22, 2020. The school will reopen on Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2021. 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	December 23–25
Open	December 28–31; 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Closed	January 1
Open	January 4–5; 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

\*For location and contact information, visit [www.eips.ca](http://www.eips.ca).

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

### **Discounted Software for EIPS Students**

All Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) students now have access to discounted software through the new EIPS OnTheHub webstore, available at [eips.onthehub.com](http://eips.onthehub.com). Through OnTheHub, students can purchase software at significant discounts off standard retail prices. Users must

sign in using their EIPS email address and password to access the product selection and take advantage of discount pricing. Included in the discounts is student-only access to Windows 10 for Education completely free! More information is available through the Help menu within OnTheHub.

### **School and Transportation Fee Waiver Applications: Deadline extended**

Elk Island Public Schools recognizes the global pandemic has put a strain on some families' finances and available income can change quickly in the current situation. As such, the Division has extended the deadline for requesting a waiver of your 2020-21 school and transportation fees. If you encounter circumstances where you're unable to pay your fees, you can apply to have [fees waived](#) by submitting an [Application for a Waiver of Fees](#). Because of the pandemic, the new deadline is Feb. 15, 2021—if you're new to EIPS, the deadline is the latter of Feb. 15, 2021, or 45 days after registration.

Each quarter—or trimester, as applicable—you'll receive an email notification letting you know fees are posted on the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#). To access your fee information, go to "Student Fees" on PowerSchool. There you can view your fees and pay online using Visa, MasterCard or INTERAC Online—when available from your financial institution. All fees are due within 14 days of being posted. *NOTE:* School Fees apply to in-school learners only.

For more information about school fees, transportation fees, waivers and payment deadlines, visit [eips.ca](#) or [lamontelementary.ca](#). Alternatively, contact the school at 780-895-2269.

### **No Child Without: Free MedicAlert for students**

In our ongoing effort to provide safe and caring schools for our students, Lamont Elementary School is registered in the Canadian MedicAlert Foundation's No Child Without program. The program is a national initiative that provides no-cost MedicAlert services to children—between the ages four of 14 years—who have chronic health conditions. The goal is twofold: to help children with severe allergies, medical conditions or special needs and to assist schools with medical-emergency plans for students.

Once a child is registered, the school is provided with advice on a medical-emergency plan for that student and given a list of medications, allergies and medical conditions the student has. If your child has a serious medical condition or allergy and could benefit from MedicAlert services, contact the school office at 780-895-2269. To learn more about the No Child Without program, visit [www.nochildwithout.ca](#).