

the JAMES MOWAT Messenger

June 2024



Dear Parents/Guardians,

It's hard to believe it is June! June is a very busy month with PATs, Field Trips, Olympic week, Fun in the Sun, Talent Show, Kindergarten and Grade 6 Farewell. We wish our Grade 6 students success as they leave James Mowat and move on to Junior High.

We want to thank and wish all the best to our staff who will be leaving James Mowat: Mrs. Ortigosa, Mrs. Austen, Mrs. Mitchell, Ms. Scott, Ms. Dyer, Mrs. Payne, Mrs. Harrison, Miss Humphrey, Mrs. Schouten, Miss Prost, Miss Kobelka, and Miss Mephram. We appreciate everything they each have done and their commitment to making our school such an amazing place to be. We will miss having you at James Mowat.

We look forward to seeing everyone at our Meet the Staff on August 28th from 4:30 to 5:30pm and our students for the first day of classes on August 29th.

Have a fun filled and safe summer!

Mr. Stacey Boyko, Principal
Mrs. Amaya Ortigosa, Assistant Principal

June at a Glance:

June	National Indigenous History Month
June 3-7	Pride Week
June 5	Early Dismissal
June 14	Fun in the Sun
June 15	Yearbook Orders Due
June 19	Gr. 6 PAT - Social Studies - 9am
June 19	M/W Kindergarten Farewell - 1:30
June 20	Gr. 6 PAT - Science-9am
June 20	T/Th Kindergarten Farewell - 1:30
June 21	National Indigenous Peoples Day
June 21	Library books due
June 25	Talent Show - 1pm
June 26	Gr. 6 Farewell (1:00 - 2:00pm)
June 26	Last day of school
June 26	Report Cards

Looking ahead to 2024-2025:

Aug 1	Write-on Stationery orders due
Aug 22	Office re-opens
Aug 28	Meet the Staff 4:30 - 5:30pm
Aug 29	First Day back - Classes Begin
Sept 2	No School - Labour Day
Sept 19	School Photos (T/Th Kindergarten to Grade 3)
Sept 20	School Photos (M/W Kindergarten class and Grade 4 to 6)
Sept 30	No School - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation



JAMES MOWAT
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

9625 - 82 Street, Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L3T6

Phone: 780 992 1272

www.jamesmowat.ca



Year End Talent Show

Tuesday June 25 at 1:00pm

Location: School gymnasium

We hope you join us for this annual special event, everyone is excited to perform!!!

Thank you for your awesome support of our arts program at James Mowat!

Library Books

All library books must be returned by June 21. Any library books/textbooks not returned will have the fee added to student accounts in late June/early July. These fees will be included on the list sent to collections in the Fall, if they are outstanding on August 30. Please check for fees and pay fees through your [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#).

REMINDER: 2023-24 school fees

School fees for the 2023-24 school year are posted on the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#). All fees are due within 30 days of being posted. Throughout the year, fees are often added to cover the costs for various activities, such as field trips, extracurricular activities, and late, damaged or lost textbooks.

To access your fee information, simply log in to the PowerSchool Parent Portal and go to "Student Fees." There you can view fees and pay them online using a Mastercard or Visa credit or debit card. Make sure to monitor your child's account on an ongoing basis.

For more information about school fees, waivers and payment deadlines, visit eips.ca/schools/fees. And, if you have questions, think there is an error or need help creating a PowerSchool Parent Portal account, contact your child's school directly before the summer break.

NOTE: Pursuant to [Board Policy 23: School Fees](#) and [Administrative Procedure 505: School and Administrative Fees](#), EIPS will forward any unpaid 2023-24 fee amounts to a collection agency. To prevent this from happening, remember to pay your fees before Aug. 30, 2024.

Are you Moving this Summer?

If you are moving and will not be returning to James Mowat Elementary in the Fall, please let the office know. It is very helpful to have this information as we plan for next year.



Meet the Staff - Wednesday, August 28th – 4:30-5:30pm

New for 2024-2025 our “Meet the Staff” will be on Wednesday, August 28th, the day **before** school starts. Drop in between 4:30 to 5:30pm to meet your child’s teacher and drop off your child’s school supplies. Student class information will be posted to their [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) account on the morning of August 28th.

First Day Back at School - Thursday, August 29th

Our first day of school for students is on Thursday, August 29th. Parents can find out their child’s class information on their [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) account. If you were unable to join us at our “Meet the Staff” and your child is unsure where to go for their classroom, please direct them to the office.

Celebrate Summer BINGO at Fort Saskatchewan Public Library! For All Ages!

During the summer months it is so important students keep reading! On June 24th the Fort Saskatchewan Library will be visiting James Mowat to talk to the students about their summer reading program. Here is some information about their summer program!

Everyone’s invited to welcome in summer! The library’s Summer BINGO challenge will help you get out and about and trying new things – or reading your favorite books in the sun! Pick up your monthly summer BINGO card at the Library or play virtually using the Beanstack app. Mark BINGO squares by completing an activity - or “buy” a square by reading for 30 minutes. Kids can earn weekly prizes and completed BINGO cards can be turned in for a new book that’s yours to keep! Teens and adults can play, too, and will earn Booksale Book Bucks and weekly entries into two amazing grand prizes. The games begin July 2 and run until August 31! Information on the Summer BINGO challenge and all of the library’s great FREE summer programs will be available at <https://fspl.ca/> beginning June 14. Questions? Call 780-998-4275.





School Supplies 2024-2025

2024-2025 School Supply Lists are posted on our [website](#).



James Mowat Elementary is once again offering school supply packages through Write-On Stationery. Write-On will purchase, package and deliver all of your supplies for next year to your home address over the summer.

THIS IS A VOLUNTARY PROGRAM but one that we are sure will be of value to you as it ensures that students will be provided with quality school supplies that meet the student's exact needs.

To pre-order your school supplies from Write-on Stationery, please order by August 1, 2024. (Note: Late orders are accepted and orders can be placed throughout the school year.)

To order from Write-on Stationery:

Go to www.write-on.ca

Click on "For Parents" or go directly to the [Parent Area](#)

Select your School Name: James Mowat Elementary School - FORT SASKATCHEWAN

Choose your grade(s) and select package and/or items

Complete your order by clicking "PLACE ORDER"

You will receive an automatic email confirmation to confirm your order has been received

Write-On accepts: VISA, MC, AMEX, Visa Debit and INTERAC® Online

Parent Council & Parent Advisory Association Corner...

The next meeting is our Annual General Meeting in September. Parent Council and Parent Advisory Association elections for executive positions take place annually at this AGM. This is a great way to get involved with the school and stay informed. If you have any questions about these executive positions, or are interested in volunteering, please contact jamesmowatpaa@gmail.com

Thank you Parent Council and Parent Advisory Association!

A huge thank you to our Parent Council and Parent Advisory Association for their continued support at James Mowat this year. Our Hot Lunch Program would not be possible without them and the many parent volunteers.

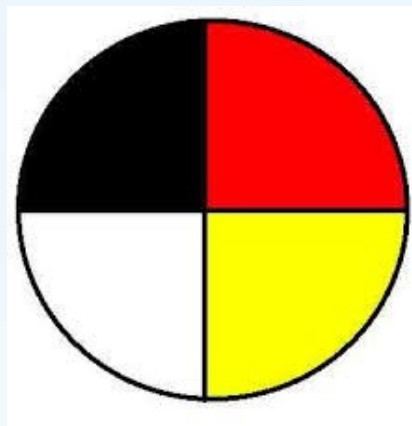




Indigenous Corner...

What is the Medicine Wheel?

The Medicine Wheel is a symbol used by many Indigenous peoples, representing the interconnectedness of life. It is typically depicted as a circle divided into four quadrants, each symbolizing different elements, directions, and aspects of life. It serves as a tool for learning and teaching. The medicine wheel teaches us to balance our mental, physical, spiritual and emotional health.



The Four Quadrants:

1. **Yellow**
 - **Direction:** East
 - **Season:** Spring
 - **Part of Being:** Emotional - heart
2. **Red**
 - **Direction:** South
 - **Season:** Winter
 - **Part of Being:** Spiritual - soul
3. **Black**
 - **Direction:** West
 - **Season:** Fall
 - **Part of Being:** Physical - body
4. **White**
 - **Direction:** North
 - **Season:** Winter
 - **Part of Being:** Intellect-mind



Your Future in MIND

Little Elk Island Adventure: Registration

Elk Island Public Schools is once again planning to run the Little Elk Island Adventure, a fun and informative program for first-time school bus riders.

Annually, Student Transportation offers the Little Elk Island Adventure to new riders and their parents. The program’s aim: To help introduce families to busing so they feel comfortable and at ease before even starting school. Through a series of activities, riders learn about school bus safety, danger zones, tips on boarding and how to sit properly on the bus. After that, both the children and parents hop on the bus to practice what they’ve learned by venturing out on a short ride.

The Little Elk Island Adventure is for first-time school bus riders entering the 2024-25 school year. The tentative session dates and times are as follows:

Location	Date	Time
EIPS Central Services	August 12	5 p.m.
EIPS Central Services	August 12	6:30 p.m.
EIPS Central Services	August 14	5 p.m.
EIPS Central Services	August 16	2 p.m.
EIPS Central Services	August 16	5 p.m.
EIPS Central Services	August 19	2 p.m.
EIPS Central Services	August 19	5 p.m.
EIPS Central Services	August 20	5 p.m.
EIPS Central Services	August 20	6:30 p.m.
EIPS Central Services	August 21	5 p.m.
EIPS Central Services	August 21	6:30 p.m.

SouthPointe School	August 13	5 p.m.
SouthPointe School	August 13	6:30 p.m.

*** SouthPointe School locations are for students attending schools in Fort Saskatchewan.*

*EIPS Central Services is located at 683 Wye Rd., Sherwood Park
SouthPointe School is located at 11 SouthPointe Blvd., Fort Saskatchewan*

[Register Now](#)
Space is limited and pre-registration is required.

More information about busing for kindergarten children is available at: eips.ca/transportation/kinderqarten-busing-faq.





Your Future in MIND

EIPS Annual Education Results Report

Every year, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) publishes an Annual Education Results Report, which outlines the Division's Four-Year Education Plan, opportunities for growth and how it's supporting students to achieve the best possible outcomes. Read through this year's [*EIPS Annual Education Results Report 2022-23*](#) and discover how EIPS fosters learning environments for all students to learn, grow and thrive—and why it matters.

June Spotlight: [*EIPS Four-Year Education Plan: 2022-26 \(Year 3\)*](#), which details the Division's priorities, goals and outcomes over a four-year period.

Priority 1: To promote the growth and success of all students.

Priority 2: To enhance high-quality learning and working environments.

Priority 3: To enhance public education through effective engagement.

The plan also outlines the performance measures and strategies the Division will use to meet each priority, goal and outcome in the 2024-25 school year.

RELATED INFORMATION

[*EIPS Annual Education Results Report 2022-23*](#)

[*EIPS Annual Education Results Report 2022-23: Overview*](#)

[*EIPS Three-Year Capital Plan: 2025-28*](#)

Did you know?

EIPS is collectively committed to ensuring all members of the school community are provided with welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environments that respect diversity and foster a sense of belonging.

Specifically, the Division believes that all individuals within EIPS have the right to learn in settings that promote equality of opportunity, dignity and respect regardless of race, age, ancestry, place of origin, colour, religious beliefs, gender, gender identity, gender expression, physical or mental disability, marital status, family status, socioeconomic status and sexual orientation. Learn more:

[*Board Policy 19: Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning and Working Environments*](#)

[*Administrative Procedure 170: Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning and Working Environments for Staff*](#)

[*Administrative Procedure 311: Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning Environments for Students*](#)



Your Future in MIND

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 five of its elementary school locations. Applications are still open 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 2020 or 2021, who could benefit from pre-kindergarten programming or want to book an assessment, fill out the [PALS Program Request Form](#) or call 780-417-8219. For more information, visit eips.ca.

Student Transportation: 2024-25 registration

Planning to use Student Transportation in the 2024-25 school year? If so, make sure your child is registered so Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) can plan routes and send your child a bus pass before the first day of school.

All students who indicated needing transportation services through the returning student or new student registration processes are now registered. Those families have also received tentative route schedules and invoices—fees are due June 30, 2024.

For those students who did not indicate needing transportation services during the registration process and want to now register, contact EIPS’ Student Transportation office at 780-417-8151.

For more information about EIPS Student Transportation, visit www.eips.ca/transportation.

NOTE: Families can pay fees online using the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#). To pay in-person, visit the [EIPS Student Transportation building](#) during its office hours—Monday to Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on school days and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on non-school days.





Your Future in MIND

2023-24 EIPS Annual Feedback Survey: For Parents and Caregivers – Results now available

The results of the 2023-24 EIPS Annual Feedback Survey: For Parents and Caregivers are now available. In March, the Division conducted the annual survey, which helps EIPS gauge its progress toward meeting the goals and priorities outlined in its [Four-Year Education Plan](#). Families were 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.

Thank you to all families who took the time to share their feedback with the Division. Overall, the survey received close to 1,900 responses from parents and caregivers across EIPS. The Division, and schools, will now review the feedback in detail and use it to develop new strategies to serve students and the wider community better.

The full results are available online:

[2023-24 Parent and Caregiver Survey results: EIPS](#)

2023-24 Parent and Caregiver Survey results: [James Mowat Elementary](#)

Tools for School

James Mowat Elementary has once again partnered with the United Way for the [2024-25 Tools for School](#) campaign. Annually, Tools for School provides backpacks and school supplies to students in kindergarten through Grade 12 whose families have limited resources. If you're a parent or know a parent who needs access to the program, contact the school directly. Staff will discretely provide the backpack to the child at the beginning of the 2024-25 school year.

Alternatively, if you'd like to donate to the program, you can pick up a few extra supplies when you're out shopping for back to school in August. Drop-off boxes are located at the EIPS Central Services office, many [Staples locations](#) and various businesses in the community. Any supplies donated within the community are invested back into the region.

For more information about Tools for School, contact James Mowat Elementary or call EIPS Central Services at 780-464-3477. [Tools for School Requests: 2024-25 Family Orders](#)

Updating Your Contact Information

Have you recently moved or has your contact information changed? Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) encourages families to review their 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 their 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.

NOTE: Only submit updates for the changes that have already taken place. If you're moving this summer, you'll submit the necessary updates through the Student Information Update after you've moved at the start of next school year. The form is open—for current-year updates—until June 14 at noon. It will reopen for families at the start of next school year.



EIPS DIVISION CALENDAR 2024-25

☐ Regular School Day

○ Early Dismissal for Students

☆ First Instructional Day (Semester 1 and 2)

■ No School – Statutory Holiday

■ No School for All Students and Staff

☐ No School for Students
– Professional Learning/Operational Day

Important Dates

- Aug 27** Professional Learning Day
- Aug 28** Operational Day
- Aug 29** Classes Begin
- Sept 2** Labour Day – Statutory Holiday
- Sept 30** National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – Division Closure
- Oct 4** Professional Learning Day
- Oct 14** Thanksgiving Day – Statutory Holiday
- Nov 11-15** November Break
- Nov 11** Remembrance Day – Statutory Holiday
- Nov 18** Classes Resume
- Dec 23-Jan 3** Christmas Break
- Dec 25** Christmas Day – Statutory Holiday
- Dec 26** Boxing Day – Statutory Holiday
- Jan 1** New Year's Day – Statutory Holiday
- Jan 6** Classes Resume
- Jan 29** Professional Learning Day
- Jan 30** Second Semester Begins
- Feb 6-7** North Central Teachers' Convention
- Feb 17** Family Day – Statutory Holiday
- Mar 7** Professional Learning Day
- Mar 21** School Closure Day
- Mar 24-28** Spring Break
- Mar 31** Classes Resume
- Apr 18** Good Friday – Statutory Holiday
- Apr 21** Easter Monday – Division Closure
- May 2** Professional Learning Day
- May 19** Victoria Day – Statutory Holiday
- June 21** National Indigenous Peoples Day
- June 25** Last Instructional Day
- June 26** Last Operational Day

AUGUST 2024

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DECEMBER 2024

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JUNE 2025

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SEPTEMBER 2024

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JANUARY 2025

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MARCH 2025

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MAY 2025

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JULY 2025

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ADHD Support Group for Parents and Families

Are you a caregiver of a youth with ADHD? Join us for a 10 session support group and workshop for caregivers run by one of our psychologists. Learn about tips & tricks to manage your child's ADHD, meet other caregivers, and connect with ADHD resources!

Cost: \$50 for all sessions

Who? Any caregiver of an ADHD child + 1 guest per session (bring a different guest each time if you want)

When? Starts August 27, and will be every other Tuesday following. Time to be announced.

Includes: 10 session for 1.5 hours, workshop sessions with our psychologist. Refreshments & snacks included.

Contact Information

The Bridge Wellness Hub for Youth

780-589-0224

Info@thebridgewhy.com

Suite #2 10307 100 Ave, Fort Saskatchewan, AB

