

the JAMES MOWAT Messenger

October 2024



Dear Parents/Guardians,

We hope you have been enjoying our amazing weather and the beautiful colours of the trees this Fall. Students are back into routine and there is lots of learning happening at our school.

A reminder that if you will be volunteering for field trips, hot lunch, etc. you will need to complete the [Volunteer Declaration Form](#). This form needs to be completed each school year.

If your child will be absent or late please let the office know through the student attendance link on our website.

Please ensure your child dresses for the weather as students are outside for recess in the morning, at lunch and in the afternoon.

To keep up-to-date please check our [website](#) regularly.

Mr. Stacey Boyko, Principal
Mrs. Lana Romanowska, Assistant Principal



October at a Glance:

Oct	Cybersecurity Awareness Month
Oct	Women's History Month
Oct 2	Early dismissal
Oct 4	No School - PL Day
Oct 5	World Teachers' Day
Oct 7-11	Read in Week
Oct 10	Photo Retakes (K & Gr. 1-6)
Oct 10	World Mental Health Day
Oct 11	Photo Retakes (K - M/W)
Oct 11	Hot Lunch (Panago)
Oct 13	Indigo Adopt a School Fundraiser - Ends
Oct 14	No School - Thanksgiving
Oct 15	Parent Council/Parent Advisory Association Meetings - 6pm
Oct 18	Halloween Dance 6-8pm
Oct 21	Dieleman's Paper Orders Due
Oct 22-24	Scholastic Book Fair
Oct 26	Dieleman's Online Orders Due
Oct 31	Halloween - students dress up in the afternoon only
Oct 31	School Fees Due

Looking ahead to November:

Nov 6	Early dismissal
Nov 8	Remembrance Day Ceremony - 10:30am
Nov 11	No School - Remembrance Day
Nov 12-15	No School - Fall Break
Nov 18	Parent Council/Parent Advisory Association Meetings - 6pm



JAMES MOWAT
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

9625 - 82 Street, Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L3T6

Phone: 780 992 1272

www.jamesmowat.ca



Indigo Adopt a School

Help us fill our library. Donate online until October 13th at <https://indigoloveofreadingfoundation.givecloud.co/fundraisers/james-mowat-elementary>. Our goal is to raise \$1,000 in online donations. You can also visit our partner store, the Chapters in St. Albert.

Through the Indigo Adopt a School program we receive 100% of the funds raised and also receive a 30% discount off the purchases for our school.



Halloween



Students are welcome to bring their costumes and dress up for the afternoon on October 31st. Please do not send any costume weapons. We strongly encourage students not to bring costume props which can get lost, forgotten or broken.

Scholastic Book Fair

The Fall Scholastic Book Fair will run from October 22 to 24, during the morning only. The Book Fair is a fundraiser for the library and all purchases made will give a percentage of the total sales in credits/money for the library to spend to get some great new books for all grades to enjoy!

Terry Fox Run

We raised \$1,058 in donations for the Terry Fox Foundation. Thank you to everyone for your support of this worthwhile cause.

Water Bottles and Cutlery

Please ensure your child remembers to pack all their needed supplies for the day. Students are reminded to bring their lunch, snacks, and water bottle each day, as well as any needed utensils.



Report Cards and Parent Teacher Interviews

Report cards will be published on November 29th. Parents can view their child's report card in the PowerSchool Parent Portal. Parent teacher interviews will be held on December 4 and 5. Information on how to book a Parent Teacher Interview will be in the November newsletter.



Read In Week 2024 is taking place October 7-11.

Read In Week is a divisionwide initiative held annually to encourage a lifelong love of reading and to enhance literacy awareness among students, staff, families and community members. This year's theme: "Reading is for everyone." Some of our activities planned for Read In Week include Guest Readers, Buddy Reading, Flashlight Reading and Read to a Fuzzy Friend



James Mowat Elementary invites all families to participate in Read In Week by reading yourself, with your child or with someone in the community. For more information, visit the [Read In Week website](#).

Music Times!

Welcome back to music! It's that time of the year when the Handchime Ensemble begin preparing for our Remembrance Day Ceremony and the Christmas Concert. The students have been working hard at learning their piece for Remembrance Day. Practices are on Wednesdays at 12:20pm. The grade 4 classes will be preparing a song for Remembrance Day as well.

Remembrance Day

Our Remembrance Day Ceremony is on Friday, November 8th, starting at 10:30am in the school gym. All are welcome to attend. You will hear the James Mowat Handchime Ensemble perform along with the grade 4 classes sing a Remembrance Day song. We'd like to welcome back Colin Williams to play the trumpet along with retired Constable Brian McLeod play the bagpipe for our ceremony. We also hope to have a guest speaker from the Canadian Armed Forces attending. Our colour guard laying the poppies is made up of two students from each class. Please join us in remembering those who fought for our freedom.



Christmas

Our grade 1-6 Christmas concert this year is called "Jingle Bell Jukebox". The concert will be held on Thursday, December 12th. Our kindergarten classes will have their Christmas concert on Wednesday, December 11th. Students from every grade will begin preparing for our concert in a few weeks. More details about our concert will be put in our November newsletter.



Pay School Fees Online!

[School fee information](#) for the 2024-25 school year is now posted on the PowerSchool Parent Portal. All fees are due within 30 days of being posted. 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. If you’re unable to pay your school fees, you can apply to have certain [fees waived](#). The application deadline is Dec. 16, 2024.

NOTE: 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 fees and more.

For more information, visit <https://www.jamesmowat.ca/about/fees>. Alternatively, contact Sherri at James Mowat Elementary at 780-992-1272.

Celebrating World Teachers’ Day: October 5

October 5 is [World Teachers’ Day](#)! World Teachers’ Day recognizes the integral role teachers play in providing quality education to students. On October 5, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) encourages all of its students, parents, caregivers and community members to show their appreciation for their teachers and the positive impact they make on our lives. EIPS extends its heartfelt thank you to all Division teachers for their dedication, hard work and commitment in guiding and educating students through their kindergarten to Grade 12 years.

School Bus Safety Week: October 21-25

Schools throughout Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) are celebrating School Bus Safety Week from October 21-25. The theme: ‘Bus Rule – Be Clever, Dress for the Weather,’ which focuses on how students should dress appropriately for weather conditions—especially when taking the bus. All students participated in our bus-evacuation drills and learned about bus safety the last week of September.

For more information, visit [EIPS Student Transportation](#) or contact 780-417-8151.





Parent Council & Parent Advisory Association Corner...

Next Parent Council/Parent Advisory Association Meetings:

October 15 at 6:00pm (library). All parents/guardians are welcome to attend.

If you will be bringing your kids, please contact jamesmowatpaa@gmail.com to ensure there are enough babysitters.

Parent Advisory Association Fundraising:

Playground

The small playground is in need of replacement soon. This requires significant fundraising along with applying for several grants. If you are able to assist, please contact Parent Council at jamesmowatpaa@gmail.com

If your workplace provides allocations for community organizations that could be directed towards our new playground, please contact general.jmw@eips.ca.

Dieleman's Fundraiser

We're excited for the return of the Dieleman's Fundraiser (gourmet gifts, food and wrapping paper). Paper order forms must be returned to the office by Oct 21st with payment by cash (exact) or cheque payable to JMSPAA. Online orders are accepted until Oct 26th at www.shopdfscanada.com Organization ID: 7123



Art Fundraiser

Students will be creating artwork that will be used to create items that can be purchased online between November 8-17. You will be able to view/purchase items of your child's art using their unique code. You can share your child's code with family and friends. Items will arrive before Christmas Break. Watch for details on how to order coming home just before Fall Break.

Any questions or feedback, email jamesmowatpaa@gmail.com

**CONNECTION
IN COLOR***



**Dear students and parents of James Mowat Elementary,
James Mowat Parent Council
would like to invite you to our
HALLOWEEN
Spooktacular Dance
Friday, October 18th
from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm**

This is an opportunity for our families to dress up, dance, and have yummy snacks!



**Admittance tickets are
\$5 per person to a \$20 maximum per family**

Cash only for admittance and concession.

Please note the following rules regarding the dance:

- This event is for James Mowat students and their **immediate family only** (parents/guardians and siblings). **Cousins, friends and others will not be allowed entrance.**
- **Absolutely No outside food or beverages** will be permitted (**this includes coffee/tea**).
- All students **MUST** be accompanied by a parent or adult guardian. Guardians will be charged admission and must stay onsite for the entire event. Please do not drop off your children or leave them. All children must have an adult present.
- No re-entry including smoke breaks etc.

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR ADULT VOLUNTEERS.. WITH OUT VOLUNTEERS WE WILL NOT BE
ABLE TO RUN THIS EVENT. PLEASE EMAIL AT:**

JAMESMOWATPAA@GMAIL.COM



Your Future in MIND ●

Did you know?

EIPS is committed to a productive and collaborative relationship with parents and caregivers. As such, the Division has a Committee of School Councils (COSC) comprised of representatives from school councils across EIPS. From October to May, COSC members meet monthly with the Board of Trustees and senior EIPS administration to discuss educational issues and trends, while sharing valuable information with one another to best enhance student success. In recognition of the effort and dedication of EIPS families and staff in engaging with their school communities, the Division was honoured to receive the Division School Council Engagement Award from the Alberta School Councils' Association last April. To learn more, visit the [EIPS website](#).

Elk Island Public Schools is on Instagram!

Want reminders and news about EIPS? You can now follow the Division on Instagram [@elkislandpublicschools](#). Stay in the know about what's going on, from divisionwide celebrations to reminders about important dates and deadlines. You can also connect with EIPS on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [YouTube](#) and the [EIPS website](#).

Interested in school-specific updates? Follow James Mowat Elementary on [Facebook](#), [X](#).

Circle of Security® Parenting™



Raise love.

Explore how supporting your child's emotional development will build your bond.

Open doors to a deeper understanding of your child's needs with a FREE 8-week program for caregivers of children 0 to 6 years of age.

Free meal included, children's programming available



#thisisourvillage

Thursday mornings
9:00 to 11:00 am

Oct. 10, 17, 24, 31
Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28

Join us at:

Families First office:
9901 90 St
Fort Saskatchewan



To register please call:
780-998-5595 ext. 221

Understanding Your Grief and Loss

Grief is a natural response to loss.

Join Jody Cook (MSW) for this monthly in person group for individuals who are grieving a loss.

October 3, November 14, December 5, 2024
12:00 pm to 2:00 pm

Loss can come in different forms, death of a loved one, loss of a job, loss of a relationship, and covid related losses to name a few. This group is a psychoeducational support group. The aims of the group include improving the understanding of grief and loss, gaining support from other members and learning a variety of helpful coping strategies.



This is an open group, come when you can and childcare can be provided.

Please call to register for the weeks that work for you and if you need childcare.

 CONTACT

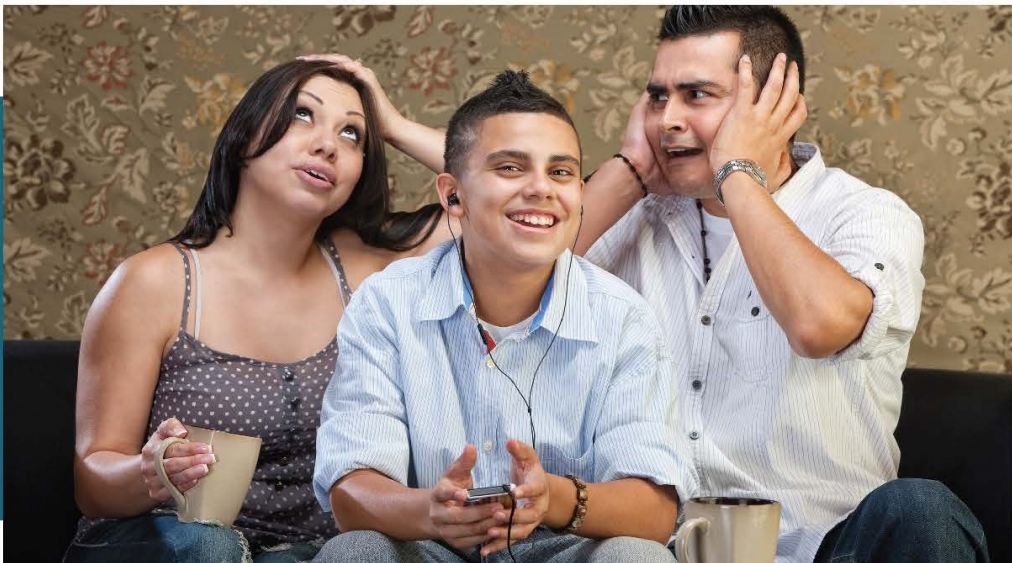
780-998-5595 EXT. 221 TO REGISTER

Connect

A program for parents and caregivers

Connect is for parents of pre-teens and teens struggling with significant behavioural and mental health issues. It is an opportunity to build a better relationship with your 8-18 year old youth.

Join us for this free 10 week program!



**TUESDAY EVENINGS OCT 08- DEC 10
NO PROGRAM NOV 12**

SUPPER 5:00- 5:30 PM PROGRAM 5:30-7:00 PM

**BON ACCORD COMMUNITY SCHOOL:
HIGHWAY 28, RANGE ROAD 240**

**FOR MORE INFO PLEASE CALL 780-998-5595 EXT. 221
INTERESTED FAMILIES WILL HAVE AN INTAKE TO SEE IF CONNECT IS A GOOD FIT**

FREE MEAL INCLUDED, CHILDCARE AVAILABLE



BGC Fort Saskatchewan's
Kindergarten Program

HAS A FEW SPACES LEFT!

Welcome to our hive!

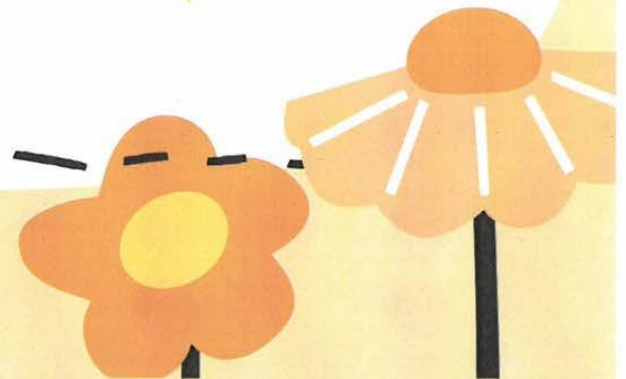
The kindergarten program is open from 6:00 am – 6:00 pm Monday to Friday we offer breakfast, lunch and an afternoon snack!

In this program you will...

LEARN  CREATE

PLAY  GROW

EXPLORE  DISCOVER



For more information or to register please contact

Krystal@fsbgc.ca

(780) 992-0103 EXT 303