

the JAMES MOWAT Messenger

February 2025



Dear Parents/Guardians,

We're off to a cold start to February! Please ensure your child comes to school every day dressed for the weather (hats, gloves, snowpants).

February is kindness month and our students will be creating our 'Kindness Chain' by writing acts of kindness on slips of paper. Our goal is to have the 'Kindness Chain' run through the hallway of the entire school.

A reminder that field trip fees and library fines are added throughout the school year so please check your [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) regularly.

Check our [school website](#) and the [calendar](#) regularly to stay up to date on what's happening at the school.

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



February at a Glance:

February	Black History Month
Feb 1	Kindergarten and new student registration opens at 9am
Feb 4 to 13	Alternate Program Info sessions
Feb 5	Early Dismissal
Feb 6-7	No School - Teachers' Convention
Feb 9-15	Random Acts of Kindness Week
Feb 10	Parent Council/Parent Advisory Association Meetings - 6pm
Feb 10	Returning Student Registration opens via Permission Click
Feb 12	Rudolph Hennig Junior High Open House 6-7:30pm
Feb 14	Citrus Fundraiser - Orders Due
Feb 15	National Flag Day
Feb 17	No School - Family Day
Feb 17	Random Acts of Kindness Day
Feb 19	Hot Lunch orders due
Feb 24	Returning Student Registration deadline
Feb 24	Hot Lunch Day (Dicky's BBQ Pit)
Feb 26	Pink Shirt Day

Looking ahead to March:

Mar 5	Early Dismissal
Mar 7	No School - PL Day
Mar 10	Parent Council/Parent Advisory Association Meetings - 6pm
Mar 14	Report Cards Published
Mar 18-19	Parent Teacher Interviews 4-7pm
Mar 21-28	No School - Spring Break



KD Challenge

Thank you to families who donated to our KD challenge. We collected 1, 121 individual boxes of Kraft Dinner (685 lbs) which was donated to the Fort Saskatchewan Food Bank. Congratulations to 3H and 5B who won a classroom pizza party! Way to go Jays!

Pink Shirt Day - Wednesday, February 26th

On February 26th we encourage everyone to wear pink in support of Pink Shirt Day to stand up against bullying.

Career Day

A huge thank you to all of our parent volunteers that presented at our Career Day for Grades 4 to 6 on January 31st. We appreciate you sharing about your occupation. Our students enjoyed learning about a wide range of occupations.

Report Cards

Report cards will be published on Friday, March 14th. Parents can view their child's report card by logging into the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#). (Note: Report Cards are not available on the mobile app).

Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent-Teacher interviews will be on March 18th and 19th from 4:00 to 7:00pm. Please book your parent teacher interview (10 minute time slot) on our online booking system <https://www.jamesmowat.ca/bookings> between Monday, March 10th and Sunday, March 16th.

**BOOK
FAIR
COMING SOON!**

March 18-20, 2025

Will be open the evenings of Parent Teacher interviews. Huge thank you to our volunteers.



Chess Club

The chess club will be in full swing for the month of February, starting Tuesday, February 4th. Any students in grades 4-6 are welcome to join and will be introduced to the wonderful game of chess! They will be shown how to play the game as well as introduced to some basic chess strategies. All chess levels are welcome! Come sign up and “check” out the fun at lunch in Mr. Pel’s room!



Complete your Returning Student Registration: February 10-24

Elk Island Public Schools’ (EIPS) [returning student registration](#) process is now open. All current students, except Grade 12, must complete the online Returning Student Registration Form to confirm their enrolment in a school and program for the upcoming 2025-26 school year. Additionally, students who want to attend a non-designated school or program need to make that request through the returning student registration process—acceptance is based on available space. **All current EIPS students are required to complete the form by Feb. 24, 2025.**

To complete your child’s returning student registration, refer to the Returning Student Registration Form email you received from Elk Island Public Schools through Permission Click on February 10. Families will receive one email for each student. No log in is required to complete the form. For more information, contact the school directly.

RELATED INFORMATION:

[Returning Student Registration Process](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[EIPS School Boundary Maps](#)

[Closed Boundaries 2025-26](#)

[Find my designated school](#)

[Applying to a non-designated school](#)

2025-2026 School Fee Feedback

Thank you to everyone who has already completed our Fee Survey. The [Fee Survey](#) will be open until February 19th for anyone who would still like to provide feedback regarding school fees. School administration will use feedback provided to help determine fees for 2025-2026, which will then be shared at the March or April School Council Meeting.



Did you know?

The next municipal election is on Oct. 20, 2025—an important component of this is the election of school trustees. Trustees are elected representatives who are knowledgeable about the communities they serve, and are accountable to students, families, staff and community members of a school division. Once sworn in, these individuals work diligently to promote and advocate for a strong public education system. [Learn more](#)

Kindergarten Registration is Now Open!

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2025? If so, it's now time to register for kindergarten. To register, simply complete the online registration form at eips.ca/kindergarten.

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.

For the 2025-26 school year, there's no longer a random selection process or specific kindergarten registration deadline at James Mowat Elementary.

In 2025-26, EIPS is also piloting three full-day, every-day kindergarten programs. If interested, families can register their children for these programs until February 28. [Learn more](#)

Additional information regarding James Mowat Elementary's kindergarten program is available at jamesmowat.ca.





Parent Council & Parent Advisory Association Corner...

Next Parent Council/Parent Advisory Association Meetings:

Meetings are held at 6pm in the school library. All parents/guardians are welcome to attend.

- ◆ February 10, 2025
- ◆ March 10, 2025
- ◆ April 14, 2025
- ◆ May 12, 2025
- ◆ June - no meeting

Did you know PAA offers babysitting services at the school so parents can attend these meetings? If you are interested in attending, but will require babysitting, please send an email to jamesmowatpaa@gmail.com so we can ensure we have babysitters available.

Parent Advisory Association Fundraising:

◆ Citrus Fundraiser

James Mowat Parent Council is running a fundraiser for oranges and grapefruits. Order Forms were sent home and are available on [our website](#)

Orders forms and payment (cash (exact change) or cheque (payable to JMSPAA)) are due by **February 14th**.

◆ Hot Lunch (February)

Hot lunch orders due by **February 19th at 11pm**. Order online at <https://munchalunch.com/schools/jamesmowat/>

Hot lunch (Dicky's BBQ Pit) is on February 24th. It is open to Grade 1 to 6 and Kindergarten (Monday/Wednesday).

We are always looking for hot lunch volunteers. Please indicate your desire to volunteer on the Munchalunch website or by emailing jamesmowatlunch@gmail.com

Please direct any questions or feedback to jamesmowatlunch@gmail.com

BLACK HISTORY MONTH EVENTS



JANUARY 31 - 9:50 AM

MAYORS PROCLAMATION - CITY HALL FOYER



FEBRUARY 1 - 28

HARVEST OF HOPE: RECOGNITION OF THE BLACK PIONEERS OF THE PRAIRIES DISPLAY - CITY HALL FOYER



FEBRUARY 1 - 28

EXPLORE THE INSPIRING STORIES OF LOCAL BLACK PROFESSIONALS, YOUTH, BUSINESS OWNERS, AND COMMUNITY LEADERS - FORT RECORD NEWSPAPER



FEBRUARY 22 - 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM

TASTE OF AFRICA & CARRIBEAN: FREE FOOD TASTINGS, ENTERTAINMENT, BOOK LAUNCH AND ART CONTEST!
LIONS MANE - DOW CENTENNIAL CENTRE



“I AM HERE”

ART COMPETITION & CELEBRATION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Are you a youth age 12-18 and would like to participate in an Art Competition in celebration of **Black History Month**?



Submission Deadline:

FEBRUARY, 22 2025

**THEME:
THE POWER OF US: BUILDING BRIDGES
THROUGH ART**

Exhibit Location:

**Dow Centennial Centre
Lion's Mane - 3:30-5:30pm**

PRIZES TO BE WON

For Submission Details and More Information:
FORTBLACKCOMMUNITY@GMAIL.COM

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Experience A Taste of Africa & Caribbean!



FEBRUARY, 22 2025

3:30 PM - 5:30 PM

Dow Centennial Centre- Lion Mane Room

FREE ENTRY | FOOD TASTINGS | MUSIC | ART

**BOOK LAUNCH BY LOCAL AUTHOR
AJIBOLA ABITOYE**

TO LEARN MORE: FORTBLACKCOMMUNITY@GMAIL.COM

Supported by:



Supported by:





Managing anxiety

through strengthening belonging and connection in school:

Are you concerned about mental health in our school community?

Your school is involved as a Mental Health Flagship School and is implementing leading-edge strategies to strengthen relationships and manage day-to-day anxiety and worries.

Want to learn more?

**YOU ARE INVITED
TO A DISCUSSION AND PLANNING HOUR
MARCH 11, 2025
LAKELAND RIDGE SCHOOL
101 CRIMSON DRIVE, SHERWOOD PARK
6:30 TO 7:30 PM**

**What can adults do to help children and youth
regulate their emotions and behaviour for greater success?**

**How can we use specific relational strategies such as affective
statements and family agreements to support brain development,
learning and optimal wellbeing?**

RSVP [here](#)

**Childcare provided on site
(must request upon RSVP)**



Snacks and beverages provided