

# the JAMES MOWAT Messenger

March 2025



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to March! The weather is unpredictable this time of year, some days it feels like Spring has arrived and other days it feels like Winter is still here! Please remember to send your child in appropriate outdoor clothing each day.

We look forward to seeing everyone at Parent Teacher Interviews on March 18th and 19th.

Thank you to everyone for completing your returning student registration. It helps us plan for the 2025-26 school year.

The school will be closed to staff and students March 21st to 28th for Spring Break. Classes resume on March 31st.

Have a great break!

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



## March at a Glance:

March: [Alberta Francophonie Month](#)

Mar 5	Early Dismissal
Mar 7	No School - PL Day
Mar 10-14	<a href="#">Week of Inspirational Math</a>
Mar 10	P/T Interview Bookings Open
Mar 14	<a href="#">Pi Day</a>
Mar 14	Report Cards Published
Mar 16	P/T Interview Bookings Closes
Mar 18-19	Parent Teacher Interviews 4-7pm
Mar 18-20	Scholastic Book Fair (open during P/T interviews)
Mar 20	Hot Lunch Day (Boston Pizza)
Mar 21	<a href="#">World Poetry Day</a>
Mar 21-28	No School - Spring Break
Mar 22	Purdy's Fundraiser Orders Due
Mar 31	<a href="#">National Indigenous Languages Day</a>

## Looking ahead to April:

Apr 2	Early Dismissal
Apr 14	Parent Council/Parent Advisory Association Meetings - 6pm
Apr 18	No School - Good Friday
Apr 21	No School - Easter Monday
Apr 29	Kindergarten Info Night 5pm



### **Report Cards**

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

### **Parent Teacher Interviews**

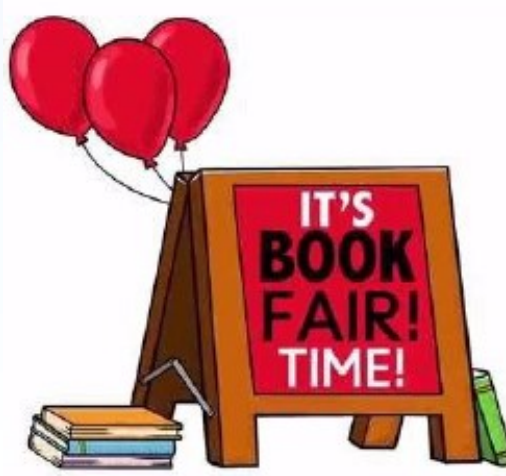
Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews are on March 18th and 19th from 4:00pm to 7:00pm. Scholastic Bookfair will be open in the library on these evenings (debit/credit card accepted).

Interviews are booked through the school website at <https://www.jamesmowat.ca/bookings> until Sunday, March 16th. Please select the appropriate event to book your 10 minute time slot.

### **Lost & Found**

Our Lost & Found is overflowing! Please check the tables by the library during parent teacher interviews on March 18th and 19th for any items your child has misplaced.

*Any items remaining will be donated on Friday, March 20th*



**JMW**  
**Scholastic Bookfair**  
March 18-20

**Student purchasing during  
recesses and class visits.**

**Open all evenings of  
Parent Teacher interviews  
on March 18&19.**

The complex block contains an illustration of a wooden A-frame sign with a red background and white text that reads "IT'S BOOK FAIR! TIME!". To the left of the sign are three red balloons tied together. In front of the sign are several stacks of colorful books. To the right of the sign is a single green book. The text to the right of the illustration provides details about the bookfair, including the dates (March 18-20), student purchasing opportunities during recesses and class visits, and the fact that it is open all evenings of the parent teacher interviews on March 18th and 19th.



### **Basketball Club**

Basketball Club will continue to meet during lunch for students in grades 4-6. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to be introduced to the sport of basketball, learn new skills, or practice and improve the skills they already have. Whether you're a beginner or an experienced player, the club provides a fun and supportive environment where students can develop teamwork, coordination, and confidence. Basketball Club runs on Mondays and Thursdays until Spring Break.

### **Thank you**

A huge thank you to Inter Pipeline for sponsoring several classes to participate in a field trip to the Telus World of Science.

### **Kindergarten Information Night—April 29**

James Mowat Elementary's Kindergarten Information Night will be on April 29th at 5:00pm. This is an informative evening for families of kindergarten students registered at James Mowat for September 2025. We are still accepting registrations for Kindergarten for the 2025-26 school year.

### **Nut Aware School**

James Mowat Elementary is a Nut Aware School. Several students and staff have severe nut allergies. Please do not send any nut or nut products to school. Thank you for your cooperation.





## **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.

- ◆ March meeting - cancelled
- ◆ 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](mailto:jamesmowatpaa@gmail.com) so we can ensure we have babysitters available.

### **Parent Advisory Association Fundraising:**

#### **COBS Bread Dough Raiser Program:**

Each time you purchase a product at the COBS Bread Fort Saskatchewan location, mention James Mowat Elementary and we will receive a 5 % donation of the total sale.

#### **Boston Pizza Fundraiser Program:**

Please bring in any Boston Pizza receipts dated from January to June 2025 to the school office and we will receive a 5% rebate at the end of the school year as part of their Operation Education Program. Thank you!

#### **Purdy's Fundraiser - Orders Due March 22, 2025**

Stock up on beautiful Spring gift boxes, fun chocolates, Sweet Georgia Browns and more. All profits will go directly to James Mowat PAA to help support the new playground and other exciting activities for our students.

What you need:

- Campaign number: 74551
- Campaign link: <https://fundraising.purdys.com/1895040-126011>
- Deadline to order is **March 22, 2025**



Your Future in MIND

## Update to EIPS Administrative Procedure 146: Social Media

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) has updated EIPS Administrative Procedure 146: Social Media, as per the new legislation from the provincial government. The procedure includes rules for using personal devices at school and banned social media platforms. [Learn more](#)

## It's Survey Season!

### EIPS Annual Feedback Survey

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) wants to hear from you. Every year, EIPS conducts a feedback survey to gauge its progress toward meeting the goals and priorities outlined in its [Four-Year Education Plan](#). Collectively, the Division uses the survey feedback to help guide future planning, decision-making and strategies—all aimed at enhancing student learning and better serving the wider community.

Complete the [2024-25 EIPS Annual Feedback Survey: For Parents and Caregivers](#) by **March 21**.

### Alberta Education Assurance Survey

The Alberta Education Assurance survey gathers feedback on the quality of education provided by school authorities and their schools. Schools and school authorities use this information to understand how they are doing and plan for the future. Grades 4 parents and caregivers have received information directly from the school on how to complete the survey. Complete the Alberta Education Assurance survey by **March 21**—[learn more](#). For questions or concerns, contact the school.

### Watch for Thin Ice

Remember, be aware of thin ice this time of year. Depending on changing temperatures, ice can form and melt to varying degrees on outdoor bodies of water. Try to remind your child about the dangers of thin ice, obey all posted signs, take proper care and remain a safe distance from the ice.

For more information about ice safety, visit the [Canadian Red Cross](#).

### Did you know?

The colour of ice may be an indication of its strength. Clear blue ice is the strongest. White opaque is half as strong as blue ice. And, grey ice is [unsafe—greyness](#) indicates the presence of water.



Your Future in MIND

## **Pre-kindergarten Programming at EIPS**

Is there a preschooler in your life experiencing identified developmental delays or challenges with speech-language—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 now 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 2021 or 2022, 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](https://eips.ca).

## **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](https://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.](#)

Additional information regarding James Mowat Elementary's kindergarten program is available at [jamesmowat.ca](https://jamesmowat.ca).



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*, growth opportunities, and how it supports students in achieving the best possible outcomes. Read through this year's [\*EIPS Annual Education Results Report 2023-24\*](#) and discover how EIPS fosters learning environments for all students to learn, grow and thrive—and why it matters.

## **March Spotlight: Student Growth and Success**

[Early Learning](#): Ensuring early learners reach developmental milestones

[Culture of Literacy](#): Dive deep into the data and learn how students are developing strong literacy skills

[Math Matters](#): Enhancing reasoning, understanding and achievement through numeracy-rich classrooms

[Boosting Educational Outcomes](#): How EIPS supports the growth and achievement of self-identified First Nations, Métis or Inuit students.

[Beyond High School](#): Supports and strategies that are creating real-life career pathways for learners

## **RELATED INFORMATION**

[EIPS Four-Year Education Plan: 2022-26](#)

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

## **Did you know?**

EIPS is seeking two volunteer community members to serve on its Audit Committee. The Audit Committee reports to the Board of Trustees and is comprised of three elected trustees and two volunteers residing within EIPS boundaries. This opportunity provides valuable experience in the financial oversight of one of Alberta's largest school divisions with an operating budget of approximately \$210 million. The committee keeps EIPS accountable for every dollar spent to enhance student success. The closing date for this opportunity is March 7, 2025. For more information and to apply, visit the [EIPS website](#).