



January 21, 2022



WESTBORO ELEMENTARY Weekly Newsletter

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

January 26: Chapel 1:00 p.m. January 26: Bell Let's Talk Day

January 27: Panago Pizza Fundraiser Night

CHAPEL

Class 1L will be hosting our January Chapel on Wednesday, January 26 at 1:00 p.m.

All are invited to attend over Google Meets using the following code: meet.google.com/woh-rqct-vnc

Please note: You must have a gmail address to join in.

UPDATED COVID-19 INFORMATION

Please see the updated COVID-19 documents below. We encourage families to familiarize themselves with this information.

Alberta Daily Health Checklist—Adults and Children- Jan 2022 Update

Parent Stay at Home Guide - Updated January 18, 2022

EIPS Operational Guidelines 2021-22

Save the date.

Thursday, January 27th



Pizza Night with Panago Pizza and West Boro School

On **Thursday**, **January 27**th your Parent Council will be partnering with our local Wye Road Panago Pizza location to offer our families a great deal and raise money for our school.

When you order from the Wye Road Panago Pizza on January 27th, you will receive 15% off any regular priced menu items using the promo code SCHOOL15. Panago will then donate 15% of these net orders back to our school!

Let's all come together and make January 27th a pizza night that pays back! We thank you in advance and look forward to a successful fundraising event.

Order online at www.panago.com

Call 310-0001 to place your order over the phone.

Order in person at the Wye Road Panago Pizza location: #23, 99 Wye Road, Sherwood Park, AB





BELL LET'S TALK DAY

Bell Let's Talk Day is Wednesday, January 26. There are five simple ways to end the stigma and start a conversation.

- 1. Language matters: The words you use can make a difference.
- 2. Educate yourself: When it comes to mental illness, education is key.
- 3. Be kind: Simple kindness can make a world of a difference. Whether it be a smile, being a good listener or an invitation for a chat over coffee, these simple acts of kindness can help open up the conversation and let someone know you're there for them.
- 4. Listen and ask: Mental illness is a very common form of human pain and suffering. Being a good listener and asking how you can help or simply just being there for people you care about can be the first step to recovery.
- 5. Talk about it: Two out of three people suffer in silence, fearing judgement and rejection. Being open to a conversation is the first step towards eliminating the stigma.

There are so many <u>ways you can help</u>. Find more—including conversation guides, information about national standards, helpful tips, and tools for teachers and students in the <u>Bell Let's Talk Toolkit</u>.

And on Bell Let's Talk Day, Bell donates five cents to Canadian mental health programs for every applicable text, local or long distance call; every tweet or TikTok video using #BellLetsTalk; every Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest, Snapchat, TikTok, Twitter and YouTube view of the Bell Let's Talk Day video; and every use of the Bell Let's Talk Facebook frame or Snapchat lens—all at no cost to participants beyond what they would normally pay their service provider for online or phone access.

CAREGIVER EDUCATION SESSIONS: JANUARY

Alberta Health Services, in collaboration with The Mental Health Foundation, offers free online programming for parents and caregivers of children and youth. Upcoming Caregiver Education Sessions, Lunch & Learn Webinars and Drop-In Series are outlined in the <u>January Caregiver Education Team Newsletter</u>.

EIPS COVID UPDATE JANUARY 13, 2022

We were excited to welcome students back to school this week. While the pandemic continues to present challenges for the delivery of in-person learning, EIPS isn't yet experiencing the staffing issues other school divisions face, at least not yet. It is possible though, if the Division does face staffing shortages, it may become necessary to transition some classes or grades to temporary online learning.

If a class transitions to temporary online learning, it will happen on short notice. As such, the Division encourages all families to watch their emails in the mornings and evenings in case a move to temporary online learning becomes necessary—because of staff shortages or operational challenges that impact the continuity of student learning.

In addition to updating the <u>EIPS Operations Guidelines 2021–22</u>, the Division also revised the <u>Stay-At-Home Guide for Families</u> for your reference. It's an easy-to-read one-page chart to which you can refer when your child is feeling unwell or has COVID-19 symptoms—to help determine when to keep your child at home and when it's safe to return to school. Also, please remember to complete the <u>COVID-19 Alberta Health Daily Checklist</u> with your child every day. Doing so helps keep schools safer for everyone and, will hopefully, keep temporary online learning to a minimum.

Again, as noted in previous emails, Alberta Health Services is now focusing its <u>outbreak</u> <u>management efforts</u> exclusively on specific high-priority settings. As such, it's no longer able to support COVID-19 and respiratory illness outbreak management in schools. That means families will no longer receive communication from either the Division or Alberta Health Services when there are cases of COVID-19 in the classroom. That being the case, it becomes even more critical students remain at home when feeling unwell, regardless of whether they have a confirmed case of COVID-19 or not.

We understand families are experiencing a great deal of stress and uncertainty as the pandemic continues. While much remains outside of the Division's control, EIPS is committed to keeping you up to date and doing everything possible to keep students and staff safe.

Elk Island Public Schools

RETURNING STUDENT REGISTRATION FOR 2022-23

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) will once again conduct an online returning student registration process to confirm student registrations for the 2022-23 school year. Families of all returning students must complete the process to confirm the school their child plans to attend in the 2022-23 school year. Additionally, students who want to attend a non-designated school need to make that request through the returning student registration process—acceptance is based on available space. The 2022-23 returning student registration takes place between Feb. 1-28, 2022.

Access to the Returning Student Registration Form is provided through the <u>PowerSchool Parent Portal</u>. If you don't have a PowerSchool Parent Portal account, you need to set one up before Feb. 1, 2022.

Create a PowerSchool Parent Portal account

For more information, contact the school directly.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION STARTS SOON!

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2022? If so, it's almost time to register for kindergarten.

Kindergarten registration opens for the 2022-23 school year on Feb. 1, 2022. 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.

Additional information regarding Westboro Elementary's kindergarten program is available at https://www.westboroelementary.ca/.

Strathcona County Information

COVID-19 UPDATE

For latest COVID-19 information click here.

CONFIDENT KIDS

Confident Kids is back at the BGC Canteen Youth Hub! For children to develop confidence and strong social-emotional skills, they need opportunities to experience peer interactions in a safe and encouraging environment. This interactive program will create space for your young person to connect with others and learn new skills in a fun way!

Wednesdays starting January 26

Grades 1-3: 5:00-6:00 p.m.

Grades 4-6: 6:00-7:00 p.m.

To register, visit https://www.strathcona.ca/.../family-resource-network/

NATURE NUTS POLAR EDITION

Nature Nuts is back! Are you ready for Polar Edition? Are you looking for ways to explore the wonders of nature as a family? Enjoying the great outdoors promotes a connection to nature that provides endless opportunities to develop new skills and enhance development. Join us for an interactive outdoor experience filled with family fun!

Mondays starting January 24, from 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Centennial Park

To register, visit https://www.strathcona.ca/.../family-resource-network/

FAMILY & COMMUNITY SERVICES WINTER PROGRAM GUIDE

The Family & Community Services winter program guide is now available. Check out the guide to learn about upcoming free and low-cost programs and services for seniors, youth, families and individuals, whether or not you have children.

View the online program guide: ow.ly/UNBE50Hv4QY

PARENT TO PARENT: MANAGING STRESS

Parenting can be overwhelming and stressful. Join us for an evening to unwind, connect with other parents, and learn all about how to take care of yourself while you take care of your children.

Come prepared to share tips of what works for you, and leave with a toolbelt of new ideas! Wednesday January 26, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at Millennium Place

To register, visit https://www.strathcona.ca/.../family-resource-network/...