

February 1, 2022

Principal's Message,



Well January has officially entered the record books for the most extreme weather patterns we've encountered in a while. We survived swings in temperatures from -46 degrees to rain the very next day, with temperatures reaching +5. But with each day, we get closer to spring.

February will feel like a short month, as we have Teachers' Convention and Family Day weekend. We will also be hosting our next set of virtual Parent/Teacher interviews on Monday, February 7 and Tuesday, February 8 from 3:15 - 5:45pm. Parents and guardians can book their interview time directly from our school website. Go to <https://www.andrewschool.ca/bookings> to make an appointment with your child's teacher.

As we focus on different initiatives like Pink Shirt Day on February 23, this month will be the honorary month of kindness. From practicing kindness to ourselves to extending it to others, we benefit when kindness is at the root of our interactions. What are some ways you can extend this lesson into your home and community life? Perhaps families can initiate different random acts of kindness or send positive notes to others. It would be great to see how everyone shares kindness throughout the month. We have set up a Facebook post so that families can share their experiences throughout the month. Let's see how many comments we can get!

I would like to invite all parents and guardians to attend our virtual School Council meeting on Thursday, February 17 at 6:30pm. This is a great forum to discuss school-related issues and topics and learn how you support our school community.

Finally, I would like to remind all parents and guardians that we do our best to provide all relevant information about school-related topics on our [website](#). From school closure days to different weekly activities, this is your best opportunity to know what's happening at the school. Take time on Sunday's to check in on what's happening the week ahead.

Melissa Kerr

Bell Schedule

- [Andrew School Bell Schedule 2021-22](#)

Division Calendar 2021-22

- [EIPS Division Calendar](#)
 - [EIPS Kindergarten Calendar](#)
-

Upcoming events and important dates:

- **February 1:** [Kindergarten](#) and [grades 1-12](#) new student registration opens for 2022-23
 - **February 1:** [Returning student registration](#) opens for 2022-23
 - **February 2:** Early dismissal
 - **February 3:** International Baccalaureate information session
 - **February 4:** Theme Day: Pyjama Day
 - **February 4:** ECS Day
 - **February 7 & 8:** Virtual Parent/Teacher Conferences
 - **February 10-11:** Teachers' Convention (schools closed to students)
 - **February 15:** [National Flag Day](#)
 - **February 17:** [Random Acts of Kindness Day](#)
 - **February 18:** Theme Day: Neon Day
 - **February 21:** Family Day (schools are closed)
 - **February 23:** [Pink Shirt Day](#)
 - **February 25:** Theme Day: Grown Up Day
 - **February 25:** ECS Day
 - **February 28:** [Returning student registration](#) closes
-

Counsellor's Corner

Supports for Parents in Lamont County

Alberta Health Services | Children, Youth and Families Addiction and Mental Health in collaboration with The Mental Health Foundation are offering to parents and caregivers of children and youth FREE online programming. Sessions are offered online through Zoom conferencing where the link is emailed to registered participants. To see which sessions are being offered in the "Caregiver Sessions," "Drop-In Parenting Series," and "Lunch and Learn Webinars" click on the following link: www.shorturl.at/fuxAH

■ CYF Caregiver Education Newsletter - February 2022.pdf

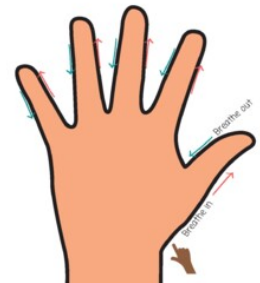
Free Counselling Support for Rural Albertans

City University in Edmonton (<http://www.cityuclinic.ca/>) is offering FREE virtual counselling sessions remotely to new clients across Alberta using secure video conferencing (telepsychology). Use the following hyperlink to access more information and request an appointment:

[City U Edmonton Counselling Clinic](http://www.cityuclinic.ca/)

This past January we continued to discuss how we could all show kindness to others as well as to ourselves, springboarding off of Bell Canada's Let's Talk Day. A couple of the students' favourite activities we have been practising before and after Christmas are the Finger Touch Affirmations, and the Five Finger Breathing exercise.

Five Finger Breathing is shown in the following picture. Ask your child to demonstrate what they remember.



Finger Touch Affirmations are used with a controlled breath while touching each of your four fingers with the thumb (using both hands as shown in the poster) as you state each word or word-grouping.

Kindergarten Registration is Now Open!

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2022? 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 Toolkit](#) 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 Andrew School's kindergarten program is available on our [school website](#).

Returning Student Registration for 2022-23

Complete the Returning Student Registration: February 1-28

Elk Island Public Schools' (EIPS) returning student registration process is now open. All returning students must complete the online Returning Student Registration Form to confirm their child's enrolment in a school for the upcoming 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. **All returning EIPS students are required to complete the form by Feb. 28, 2022.**

To access the Returning Student Registration Form, simply log in to the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#).

If you don't have a PowerSchool Parent Portal account, you do need to set one up. For help see: [Create a PowerSchool Parent Portal account](#)

For more information contact the school directly.

RELATED INFORMATION:

- [Returning Student Registration Process](#)
 - [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
 - [EIPS School Boundary Maps](#)
 - [Closed boundaries 2022-23](#)
 - [Find my designated school](#)
 - [Applying to a non-designated school](#)
-

Caregiver Education Series

Alberta Health Services is hosting a series of caregiver information sessions focused on ways to support students' mental health. The sessions are free and geared toward parents, caregivers, teachers and community members who want to learn more about challenges impacting children and adolescents. This year, session topics include anxiety, ADHD, depression, self-harm, technology, teens and teaching leadership skills, and more. Visit [Caregiver Education for the Edmonton Zone](#) for more information and session dates.

EIPS 2022-23 Division Calendar: Now available!

The official 2022-23 EIPS calendar is now available. The calendar includes important dates during the 2022-23 school year, such as school-closure days, breaks, the first and last day of classes, professional learning days, early dismissal days, plus more.

Highlights from the 2022-23 EIPS calendar include:

- First day of school – Aug. 30, 2022
- November break – November 7-11
- Christmas break – December 21 to January 3
- Second semester starts – January 31
- Teachers' Convention – February 9-10
- Spring Break – March 24-31
- Last day of classes – June 27, 2023

To view the 2022-23 calendar, visit www.eips.ca.

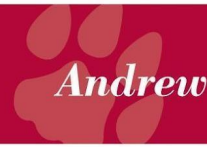
Did you know you can sync the Division calendar to your personal calendar? You can. Simply, visit www.eips.ca/calendar and click on “subscribe to calendar.” It's that easy.

Inclement Weather

With the winter season here, we want to remind families to dress children appropriately for the weather when getting ready for school or the bus. The weather often changes unexpectedly throughout the day, so please select suitable outerwear and ensure your child is prepared for changing conditions.

If inclement weather conditions occur, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) advises families of any bus cancellations using various communications tools—automated-telephone messages, alerts posted on www.eips.ca and school websites, Twitter, Facebook, local radio stations, and notification through both the Bus Status and the Ride 360 apps. Morning bus cancellations are posted on www.eips.ca by 6:30 a.m.

Decisions regarding bus cancellations are guided by EIPS administrative procedures that state, “school bus service may be suspended...when there is a forecast or current temperature of -40 C, including wind chill factor, in one or more regions.” Other reasons for suspending or delaying school bus services include adverse weather and poor road conditions. When school bus services are suspended, schools remain open to students. EIPS believes families have the right and



responsibility to make choices for their children based on their beliefs and perceptions of safety during times of inclement weather.

For more information, contact EIPS Student Transportation at 780-417-8151.

Looking for Staff Contact Information?

We've recently made changes to how families can contact Andrew School staff.

If you'd like to reach out to your child's teacher directly, simply log in to your PowerSchool Parent Portal account. From the Grades and Attendance page, you can click on the name of any of your child's teachers to email them directly.

To connect with school administration and main office staff, refer to the online contact form to send an email to the applicable person directly. From the online contact form, you can also send an email to the school to report your child's absence.

If you're having trouble with your PowerSchool account, contact the school office. And, of course, we're always just a phone call away if you have questions or need assistance, 780-365-3501.