

May 2, 2022

*Principal's Message,*



I am so excited for the upcoming months as we have a few school-wide events planned to have all of our great parents and guardians join us at the school. Our first event will be held on Wednesday, May 11 when we host our Mother's Day Lunch for school families. We are also working on our Father's Day BBQ that will be hosted in June. Stay tuned for more details!

Students will be participating in exciting activities throughout the next two months! On Wednesday, May 25 our kindergarten to grade 6 students will be visiting Strathcona Wilderness Centre for a day of Indigenous learning and activities. On Friday, June 10 students will have the opportunity to visit Jurassic Forest, for many different outdoor-related learning experiences.

After conversations with staff and Andrew School Council, we will be bringing microwaves back into the classrooms. In order for our eating time to be as seamless as possible, we are asking that students only bring an item that requires a heat-up NOT to be cooked. This means that students require 1 minute or less seconds or less to warm up an item. Please save popcorn bags, instant noodles, and/or frozen meals for at-home use. Thank you so much for your diligence with this.

I would like to invite all parents and guardians to attend our in-person Andrew School Council meeting on Thursday, May 26, from 1-2pm. This will be an in-person meeting, but we will also send out a link for those that cannot make it into the school. This is a great forum to discuss school-related issues and topics and learn how you can support our school community.

Finally, it is with a heavy heart that I share that for the 2022-23 school year, I will be leaving Andrew School and starting as principal at Mundare School. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with the students, staff, and parents within this community! There is so much great work going on here and it has been an absolute pleasure to serve as your principal this year!

Melissa Kerr

## Bell Schedule

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

## Division Calendar 2021-22

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

## Division Calendar 2022-23

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

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## Upcoming events and important dates:

- May 2-6: [Education Week](#)
- May 2-8: [Mental Health Week](#)
- May 4: Early dismissal
- May 6: Professional learning day (schools closed to students)
- May 11: Mother's Day Lunch for School Families
- May 13: Theme Day - Career Day
- May 16: Spring Pictures
- May 18: ELA Pat exam (part 1) - Grade 6
- May 20: Closure day (schools closed to staff and students)
- May 24: **NEW** Kindergarten Information session from 1:00-2:00pm
- May 23: Victoria Day (schools and Central Services closed)
- May 25: Strathcona Wilderness Centre Field Trip
- May 27: Theme Day - Alien/Space/UFO Day
- June 1: Early dismissal

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## THANK YOU! Driver Appreciation Day is May 2

Join us on May 2 as we recognize and thank our school bus operators for keeping the safety of our students their first priority. We encourage you, and your children, to take a moment to say thanks to our bus operators—who go above and beyond to provide safe and timely transportation to our students.

On behalf of Andrew School, THANK YOU to all of our school bus operators for a job well done.

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## **Student Transportation: 2022-23 registration is now open**

Planning to use Student Transportation in the 2022-23 school year? If so, make sure your child is registered so Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) can plan routes and send your child a bus pass before the first day of school.

All students who indicated needing transportation services through the returning student registration process are now registered. Families registered will receive tentative route schedules and invoices by the end of the month—fees are due June 30, 2022.

For those students who didn't indicate needing transportation service through the pre-enrolment process and want to now register, simply contact EIPS Student Transportation at 780-417-8151 or email [st@eips.ca](mailto:st@eips.ca).

For more information about EIPS Student Transportation visit [www.eips.ca/transportation](http://www.eips.ca/transportation)

NOTE: Families can pay fees online using the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#). To pay in-person contact Student Transportation to make an appointment.

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## **Education Week 2022: May 2-6**

Education Week takes place May 2-6. Throughout the week, students and staff will be showcasing and celebrating the role education plays in shaping the future of our province. Led by the Alberta Teachers' Association and Alberta Education, the annual event is celebrated by school communities provincewide with activities focused on the importance of education.

The theme of Education Week continues to be Learning is a Journey highlighting the progression and growth of students over time and the multiple facets of an educational experience—including core subjects, fine arts, school teams, citizenship education, extracurricular activities and more.

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## Preparing for Kindergarten Series

The EIPS Early Learning team has planned several sessions for families with children starting kindergarten in the fall to help prepare them for the year ahead. Sessions will take place throughout May and June.

We invite you to join us for any or all of the upcoming virtual sessions that fit your schedule. Many sessions have both a daytime and evening option. Upcoming sessions include:

- Supporting a Successful Transition to School
- Self Help: Building independence
- Speech Sound Development
- Fine-Motor Development in Young Children
- Literacy in Kindergarten

The full list and schedule of sessions are available online.

NOTE: Links to register were sent to all families with children registered to start kindergarten in 2022-23. Presenters will send the links to join the actual sessions directly to all registered families closer to each event.

For more information, contact the school at 780-365-3501.

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## Literacy News!

### Let's Practice Vocabulary at Home!

Working with your child to build a strong vocabulary is an important part of reading and writing success! Here are some fun activities you can try at home:

#### Read and Talk

As you read with your child, be sure to point out interesting words and discuss their meanings. If there are interesting phrases, puns or figures of speech, help your child understand what the author is trying to say when they use these words. Try to transfer some of these words and phrases to your everyday conversations.

#### View and Talk

Let's face it! We watch a lot of shows with our kids! Even the shows and movies meant for children throw in adult similes, metaphors and vocabulary. Why not pause the show and have a mini-discussion to help your child make deeper sense of what is going on?

#### Add Some Variety

As you talk with your child, add some spice to the conversation! Throw in some words that are more exciting than ordinary language. For example, instead of asking your child to walk to the door, try using a "fancier" term like "scurry, hustle or dash". Kids love learning new words and then showing them off when speaking with others.



## Counsellor's Corner

### Kalyna FRN May Programs

May programming! Please make sure that you register via the links/QR codes at least one week in advance of the program. Also, if you sign up and are unable to attend, please email [erin.t@lamontcounty.ca](mailto:erin.t@lamontcounty.ca) as soon as possible as supplies are purchased and space is limited.

Stay, Play & Learn - <https://signup.com/go/ZokVWhV>

Register by the Thursday at noon prior to program date.

Cooking With Your Littles - <https://signup.com/go/SoPvDHr>

Register by the Thursday at noon prior to program date.

Welcome to Kindergarten - No registration with FRN required. Please be sure to register your child for Kindergarten with EIPS.

## 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](#)



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**anonymous & 24/7.**

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to someone who understands  
what you're going through,  
**anytime & anywhere.**

Togetherall (<https://togetherall.com>) is an alternative to attending counselling sessions is a safe, inclusive, online community, where people support each other anonymously to improve mental health and wellbeing. Watch a 60 second video to get an understanding of how [Togetherall](#) can help you or someone you love. Working with AHS, Rural Mental Health Network, Healthy Campus Alberta, and CMHA Alberta.