



Elmer Elson ELEMENTARY

NEWSLETTER - April 2022

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ADMIN TEAM MESSAGE

It is hard to believe it is April already and that we are into the final term of the school year.

The last round of Parent Teacher Conferences via telephone were well attended. Information about student achievement is available on an ongoing basis throughout the year on PowerSchool. Please be sure to check under **Homeroom** to see citizenship marks and individual comments if you have not already done so, in addition to all other subjects. New comments were released on March 25th.

It is hard to believe but we have begun to plan for the next school year. Our budget is impacted by student enrollment, so if you plan on moving, or know of families moving in it would be very helpful if you could let us know.



MUSIC FESTIVAL 2022

Students who are participating in individual speech arts or singing a vocal solo or duet will be video taped on April 11th or 12th. A schedule will be sent home soon. Over 70 students participated in the festival from our school. Mrs. Benson is also preparing group performances with grades 4's, 5's, and 6's in their music classes.

Thank you all the staff members who helped prepare vocal soloists and speech arts students. We were happy to be able to offer this program for our students and will share out the performances for everyone to enjoy.

ECS REGISTRATION 2022-2023



On March 22nd we held our 2022-2023 ECS registration night where we registered students for the upcoming year.

If you were unable to attend and have a child who will be the age of 5 by December 31st, 2022 or know of a child who is eligible, please call the school to get a registration package. Please drop off completed registration packages at your convenience.

THEME DAY

We are declaring Tuesday, April 26th as "Pajama Day"
Staff and students are encouraged to dress in school appropriate pajamas for the day.



SCHOOL START SCHOOL SUPPLIES

We will be offering parents the opportunity to pre-purchase next year's school supplies for their children. This is completely optional for parents.
All orders will be delivered directly to parents.

Staff will be reviewing the supply lists soon and more information will follow. The website is www.schoolstart.ca if you wish to find out more information.

A supply list for each grade will be sent home on the last day of school if you would prefer to purchase your own supplies.



MARCH TIM HORTONS HOT LUNCH

The postponed March hot meal has been rescheduled for **Thursday, April 7th**.

STUDENT ABSENCES

This is a reminder to please call the school when your child(ren) are absent from school. We realize this may be burdensome but it is for your child's safety. This way we know where they are when they are not at school.

In the case of a missing child, it would allow us to react quickly.

EASTER RAFFLE

We are very excited to be organizing an Easter raffle again this year where all proceeds will be donated to the local food bank. Tickets will be on sale from Friday, April 8th till Thursday, April 14th at a cost of .25 cents each. There will be some great prizes to be won, while supporting a good cause.



DAMAGED LIBRARY BOOKS



Unfortunately we have seen an increase in damage to library books caused by water, juice, food, mud, etc.

Please help us to keep our books in good condition by reminding your children to keep their books separated from water bottles, juice or food in their backpacks. It would be helpful to keep a clean grocery bag or large ziploc bag in your child's backpack for this purpose.

In some instances, this is happening to new books the first time they are signed out.

EASTER EGG HUNT

A group of staff and students are planning an Easter egg hunt for the entire student body on April 14th. Thank you to everyone who will help make this day memorable for our students.



SCHOOL COUNCIL REPORT

Spring has arrived!

As your school delegate, I have the opportunity to attend the Alberta School Council Association's annual general meeting. The 2022 event will consider "School Councils: Cultivating Compassion", promoting the work of school council and well-being in the school community to benefit student success. This will be an information-filled day and I look forward to reporting back on what I have learned.

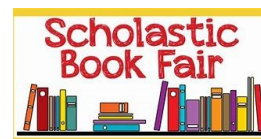
If you are interested in knowing more about school council, please feel free to reach out to myself Mr. Andriuk, or Mrs. Feser.

We hope everyone had a wonderful spring break. Despite our busy schedules, we hope you can take some time to join our next school council meeting on Monday, April 25th at 6:00 p.m. in the EEE school library.

Falon Boll
School Council Chairperson

BOOK FAIR

Our recent Book Fair held in March was a tremendous success generating a profit of \$1,400.00.



Thank you for continued support of this literary fundraiser. This enables us to purchase new resources for our Library!

We look forward to hosting another Book Fair in the fall.

BUS ZONE



Please help us keep our students safe by not walking between the parked buses in the bus zone.

We know everyone is busy, but we are asking for your help to ensure the safety of all students.

PARENT FUNDRAISING SOCIETY UPDATE

Elmer Elson Parent Fundraising Society wishes to thank our community for generously supporting our Spring Purdy's Chocolates fundraiser!

The fundraiser was a huge success, raising \$1,681.18 in profit that will go towards enriching student programs in our school. Please watch for an update on order pick up dates and times at the school prior to Easter break.

If you have fundraising questions or suggestions, please feel free to reach out to committee members, Kristin Tomkiewych, Falon Boll, Jaclynn Andriuk, Christina Gilroy or Miranda Knapp.

CALMING CHILDREN DURING A GLOBAL CRISIS

Unless you have been residing under a rock or on an island with zero contact with the rest of the planet, it is safe to say that you and your family have been inundated with disturbing news around the world. On social media, in classrooms and the playground, children are hearing about traumatizing circumstances around the globe. How do we answer their inquisitive questions? How much information should we share? Do we say anything at all?

“Speak to what’s actionable to help put your child’s mind at ease,” says Dr. Beth Oller, a family physician in Stockton, KS. Oller further clarifies, “With younger kids, speak simply and avoid discussing scary topics in detail. With adolescents, honesty is the best policy. Always be transparent.”

"Children should be **encouraged to ask questions** but to continue with their daily routines of schoolwork, play and bedtime," says Dr. Jessica Griffin, a child psychologist and executive director of the Child Trauma Training Center at the UMass Chan Medical School in Worcester, MA. Griffin explains that, **"routines can send signals to the brain that children are safe. Routines are calming for children in anxiety-provoking situations."**

Set a good example for your children by managing your stress through **healthy lifestyle choices**, such as eating healthy, exercising regularly, getting plenty of sleep, avoiding drugs/alcohol, and not over consuming social media/news. When you are prepared, rested, and relaxed you can **respond better to disturbing events and can make decisions in the best interest of your family.**

“For children under the age of 7, it might just be acknowledging that something is happening in other parts of the world and asking something like, ‘Have you heard anything?’ Take the child's lead,” said Janine Domingues, a clinical psychologist at the nonprofit Child Mind Institute in New York. “Overall, just **provide reassurance**, that this is what we know right now. Let them know you don’t know all the answers but here are some places we can go,” Domingues said.

Children, young and old, have common worries when it comes to war, crisis and trauma even if they do not verbalize it: Am I safe? Are the people taking care of me safe? How will this affect my day-to-day life? Dr. Gene Beresin, executive director for The Clay Center for Young Healthy Minds at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston tells us that “children know things are troubled. They know things are problematic. They may ask you if you’re worried. And frankly, you got to be honest. You can say, ‘Yes, I am, but **we can manage this. We can get through this.**’ I would indulge them a little bit.”

The recurring message, regardless of a child’s age, is to be honest, unplug from screens altogether for a while and give the young people in your life extra tender loving care. We all need the reassurance

that we are brave and will look after each other no matter what.



Sources: [The Associated Press](https://www.cdc.gov/childrenindisasters/helping-children-cope.html)

<https://www.cdc.gov/childrenindisasters/helping-children-cope.html>

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/mar/04/reassure-children-about-russia-ukraine-war-with-resilience-tales-say-experts>

<https://abcnews.go.com/Lifestyle/wireStory/honesty-reassurance-talk-kids-ukraine-83109979>

This article was submitted by Tammy Charko BA, BSW, RSW. Tammy is Northern Gateway Public School's Student Support Facilitator. She is a support for schools, students, parents and caregivers to promote success in school. Tammy advocates for students and families and has been a Registered Social Worker for more than 20 years. She is a mother to 3 teenagers and 1 young adult.

It's time for
Class Photos!

Class Photos will ship to
school 2-3 weeks after
Photo Day.



Bring your best smile!



Smart Photography Ltd.
#5, 10121 - 82 Avenue, Edmonton, AB T6E 1Z5
T. 780-944-0800 TF. 1-877-838-0800
www.smartphotography.ca
info@smartphotography.ca

KINDERGARTEN FAREWELL PHOTO DAY IS HERE!

Individual portraits will be taken at:

April 28th, 2022
Elmer Elson Elementary



Please contact Smart Photography
directly with any questions.



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info@smartphotography.ca www.smartphotography.ca