



Elmer Elson ELEMENTARY

NEWSLETTER - June 2022

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ADMIN TEAM MESSAGE

Wow! It is hard to believe June is here already. The month of June always keeps staff and students busy until the final hour on the final day.

We have had a very successful year at Elmer Elson. Your children have given us many fond memories that we will carry with us for years to come. It is wonderful to have such a fine student body; young people who show respect for themselves and others. It is you, the parents, who have provide us with the encouragement, cooperation and support to work together for your children. Thank you for a great year and we look forward to working together again next year.

Mr. A & Mrs. Feser

HOT LUNCH

A June Hot Lunch note went home last week. The deadline to order has been extended to June 7th.

Special thanks to Dana Crossland for being our pizza delivery Mom for our pizza lunches.

BALON VALVES

Thanks to Balon Valves our staff and students will receive a free hot dog on June 28th.

Please be sure to send lunch items for the rest of your child's lunch.



YEAR END B-B-Q

On Friday, June 25th, all students and staff will enjoy a hotdog B-B-Q. The school will also supply drinks and an ice cream treat.

The B-B-Q has become a yearly event and is a great way to conclude and celebrate the end of the school year.

Please see the hot lunch note for more details.

BOOKS FOR GIFTS

"The Gift that Keeps on Giving"

Many years ago a member of our School Council proposed a "Books for Gifts" program

The purpose of this program was to enable a parent or guardian to have a book purchased in honor of a staff member at EEE and have it placed in the school Library. Staff members appreciate this donation to our Library in place of gifts at Christmas or year end. If you are interested in this program, please contact Mrs. LeClercq. Payment may be made by cheque, cash or through School Cash online.



SCHOOL START SCHOOL SUPPLIES

The supply lists for each grade level have been finalized. They are now available at www.schoolstart.ca for those who wish to order. The deadline for ordering is June 14th to be entered into a draw to win 5 prizes. The final date to order for the upcoming school year is **August 8th, 2022.**

It is important to note that the supplies have been divided into 2 categories: **Starter Package and Additional Package.** All supplies in both categories are required by your child, but you may not have to purchase everything in the additional package if your child already has them and can carry them over from this year. Supply lists will be added to our school website

A regular supply list will also be included in your child's report card for parents who do not wish to purchase online.



ICE CREAM DAY

We have declared
Wednesday, June 15th
as
Ice Cream Day

The cost is a suggested donation of \$2.00 per cone. Alternate options for peanut free and/or lactose free students will be available.

The proceeds will be donated to the Stollery Children's Hospital in Edmonton.



IMPORTANT DATES

The last day for students to attend school this year is **Wednesday, June 29th**.

The first day of school for students for the 2022-2023 school year is **Thursday, September 1st**.



SCHOOL COUNCIL REPORT

As your School Council chair, I had the opportunity to attend the Alberta School Council Association AGM and Conference. It is an informative day of breakout sessions and networking opportunities. During one of the break-out Sessions I took in information on how the implementation of the new curriculum will come specifically on the English Language Arts subject area. If you want to learn more about the curriculum please visit:

<https://www.alberta.ca/curriculum.aspx>

Networking with the ASCA Association gave opportunity to discuss topics on ASCA grant funding and uses as well as engagement ideas to strengthen parent involvement. Some of the ideas to use the grant funding were work shops for parents to increase council, parent resources, and workshops on important health topics information sessions to support student learning. These workshops can be presented by an in person facilitator. We will be looking at organizing a workshop in the fall. Your opinion is important to us and if you would like to learn more about how you can get involved, please consider attending School Council meetings in the fall. During these meetings you have the opportunity to discuss the opportunities for our students as well as hear from our school board trustees.

Reach out to me if you want to hear more or have any questions.

Falon Boll
School Council Chair

ANNUAL GRADE 3-6 TALENT SHOW

So you think you've got talent? Students in grades 3-6 have the next three weeks to prepare and practice their talent for the annual Elmer Elson Talent Show, which will be held in person on June 27th. Parents are welcome to attend.

PANORAMA PHOTO

To order a whole school group photo visit SmartOrders.ca

Enter code **EE2122WSG**. Enjoy free shipping until June 10th, 2022.

STUDENT DRESS CODE

Now that the weather is warming we want to review our student dress code. Our expectations are:

- All students are expected to wear clothing that is appropriate for school
- No inappropriate messages or images
- All students must dress to ensure coverage for midribs and backs as well as no low cut tops or short shorts (shorts must ensure coverage even when students are active, bending or sitting - a mid thigh length or longer is acceptable.)

MUSIC FESTIVAL 2022

Our school has hosted the choral speech and individual speech arts classes for the festival for over a decade but unfortunately due to covid protocols we had to switch to an online platform again this year. We videoed the individual speech arts and vocal performances and sent them away to be adjudicated. To watch the Elmer Elson 2022 Whitecourt Rotary Music Festival Awards video go the Elmer Elson Facebook page.

Our students won \$1225.00 worth of scholarships which is something to be very proud of! Congratulations to all the students who won scholarships for their festival performance.

\$150 Dr. Diane Ferguson Award for the 2021 Highest Annual Mark in the entire festival
Blaise - grade three speech arts

\$100 Larry Johnson Memorial Award for the Highest Mark in voice or speech
Blaise - grade three speech arts

\$75 Adjudicator's Choice Award for Speech Arts
Blaise

\$25 Speech Arts Scholarship- Kindergarten
Kacey

\$25 Speech Arts Scholarship- Grade one
Chloe, Yuri, Brooke

\$25 Speech Arts Scholarship- Grade two
Bridgette, Hailey, Mackenzie

\$25 Speech Arts Scholarship- Grade three
Jaxon, Shelby-Lynn, Taylor

\$25 Speech Arts Scholarship- Grade four
Zoey, Adrianna, Letty

\$25 Speech Arts Scholarship- Grade five
Logan, Ashley, Charlotte, Abby

\$25 Speech Arts Scholarship- Grade six
Rayel, Makayla, Keira

\$75 Adjudicator's Choice Award for Vocal Solo
Kira

\$25 Vocal Solo and Duet Scholarship - Grade three/four
(Solo) - Ainsley, (Duets) Annabelle & Adrianna, Zoey & Tenley

\$25 Vocal Solo and Duet Scholarship - Grade five/six
(Solos) Rayel, Cybil (Duets) Luna & Jewel, Cullen & Sam

\$50 Voice Adjudicator's Choice Award
Mrs. Benson's Grade Fours



PARENT FUNDRAISING SOCIETY UPDATE

It's hard to believe that it's June and summer break is right around the corner. The parent fundraising society met in May and approved the following requests:

Library Enrichment	\$1,551.77
Snowshoe Equipment Storage	\$1,132.58
Juno Audio System	\$4,040.04
Education Week - Staff Appreciation	\$ 238.30

TOTAL FUNDING FOR MAY \$6,962.69

Friendly reminder to take advantage of our local Pembina West CO-OP Keep It Local Program. To participate visit: pwcoop.ca/mayerthorpe, enter your membership information and select Elmer Elson Elementary Parent Fundraising Society to have our organization receive up to 1% of your purchases throughout the year!

With this school year coming to an end we are thinking ahead to the fall with new fundraising ideas as well as bring our school community together for a fun social event to kick off the school year. More details to come in the fall when school is back in!

If your are interested in what we do as a society, and would like to help out please contact any of our members: Kristin Tomkiewych, Falon Boll, Miranda Knapp, Jaclynn Andriuk or Christina Gilroy.

We wish you all a wonderful summer with your family and friends!

GRADE 6 ORIENTATION

On June 17th the Mayerthorpe High School administration team has organized an orientation for our grade sixes to assist with the transition to grade 7 next year.

Together We Are Stronger

The horrific tragedy in Uvalde, Texas is incomprehensible. Watching the events unfold creates panic and terror that something like that could happen in our town or in our school. As a parent of four children, I cannot stop my mind from going to the families of students at Robb Elementary, their fear and how they will carry on afterward. Like you, I am holding my children a little closer, a little tighter, a little longer, breathing in their sweetness, wishing I could keep them in a safe bubble. Not only that, I want to hold school staff close too. My heart aches for how they are feeling walking into their schools, what are they thinking about as they look upon the precious faces of their students. How do their families feel about watching them leave for work in the morning?

Are Students and Staff Safe in Our School Division?

Northern Gateway School Division has a process in place to ensure that every incident of child and/or youth violence in our communities is addressed. Four years ago, North American Center for Threat Assessment and Trauma Response (NACTATR) trained NGPS staff and community partners in Levels 1 and 2 VTRA - Violent Threat Risk Assessment. We learned how to prevent, respond and intervene to threats of violence, and/or trauma in schools and communities.

VTRA is effective because it involves schools and community agencies working together. RCMP, Children's Services, Mental Health and Addiction, Alberta Justice, Family Support Programs, Youth workers, Victim Service Units, and psychologists in each NGPS community are VTRA trained.

These trained, multi-disciplinary teams of professionals are able to identify the early signs of risk in persons of concern and work together through high end threat assessment starting with thorough data collection to comprehensive interventions.

What does VTRA teach?

VTRA teaches that serious violence is an evolutionary process, no one ever just snaps. People are influenced by a large number of factors, and their motivation to act out violently fluctuates, along with their emotional state. There are always signs that indicate a person is moving along a pathway to violence and VTRA teaches how to recognize and respond to those signs.

There is Still More Work To Do

Like all good things, the learning never stops. We need to ensure that professionals are continually staying up to date with VTRA training and research. We know that healthy relationships are key. Students need to have their tanks full and know they are cared for. People who are struggling with their mental health need to know where and how to get help. We all need to continue to work together for the health and safety of our children, schools and communities.

Need Help Now?

Crisis Hotline 1-877-303-2642
Health Link 811

Kid's Helpline 1-800-668-6868
Distress Hotline 1-800-232-7288

Emergencies 911

This article was written by Tammy Charlo 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. Tammy has been a Registered Social Worker for more than 20 years and is a mother to 3 teenagers and 1 young adult.

AUGUST							SEPTEMBER						
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2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

August 30 & 31	Staff Planning & Development Days
September 1	First Day for Students
September 5	Labour Day
September 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
October 7	Staff Planning & Development Day
October 10	Thanksgiving Day
November 10	Day in Lieu of Parent Teacher Interviews
November 11	Remembrance Day
November 14	Staff Planning & Development Day
Dec 26 - Jan 6	Christmas Break
January 9	First Day Back for Students
January 30	Staff Planning & Development Day
February 9 & 10	Oneway to Fox Creek only - Teachers' Convention
February 17	Valleyview only - Staff Planning & Development Day
February 20	Family Day
March 9 & 10	Valleyview only - Teachers' Convention
March 10	Oneway to Fox Creek only - Staff Planning & Development Day
Mar 27 - 31	Spring Break
April 3	First Day Back for Students
April 7	Good Friday
April 10	Easter Monday
May 19	Day in Lieu of Parent Teacher Interviews
May 22	Victoria Day
May 29	Staff Planning & Development Day
June 29	Last Day for Students
June 30	Staff Planning & Development Day

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

TRUSTEE	AREA	PHONE
Barb Maddigan - Board Chair	Whitecourt	780.262.1013
Christine Peck - Board Vice-Chair	Oneway	780.691.0772
Diane Hagman	Mayerthorpe	780.396.9694
Jim Hailes	Fox Creek	780.622.3385
Deb Koloski	Sangudo	780.674.1994
Judy Muir	Alberta Beach	780.991.7413
Sally Petryshen	Valleyview Rural	780.300.0427
Gerry Steinke	Valleyview	780.524.9889
Linda Wigton	Whitecourt	780.706.4345

Regular School Board meetings are held at the Division Office in Whitecourt. Members of the public are welcome to attend. Please visit our website at ngps.ca or contact the Division Office for a complete board schedule.