



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

February 2020

The beginning of February marks the halfway point through the school year! As such, we are hosting Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences on Wed. Feb. 26, 2020 from 4:30-7:30 p.m. and on Thu. Feb. 27, 2020 from 4:00-7:00 p.m. Please book your conference [online](#). The link is available on our school website at [www.brunderheimschool.ca](http://www.brunderheimschool.ca). We look forward to having great discussions about your child's progress and learning.

February is also the month for parents of children in Grade 4, 5 and 6 to complete the Alberta Education Accountability Pillar Survey. You should have received your code for the online survey in the mail. **It is extremely important to us that your surveys are completed.** Your participation helps provide important information that is used in our school education plan. Please take the time to submit your survey to Alberta Education prior to the deadline of Feb. 28, 2020.

The Bruderheim School Council is kicking off a major spring fundraiser. On Wed. Mar. 4, 2020, our student choir will be singing the national anthem on the ice at the Oil Kings Game at Rogers Place. The Oil Kings are playing the Spokane Chiefs and the game starts at 7:00 p.m. The school will share in the proceeds of the 50/50 and chuck-a-puck ticket sales. **We need your support to make this evening a success!** The school needs to sell 400 tickets to the game to qualify for the funds. It is estimated that the school can receive up to \$10,000. Order forms are being sent home for tickets. We also need 30 adult volunteers who can be at Roger's Place for 5:00 p.m. to help sell the 50/50 and chuck-a-puck tickets. Volunteers, as well as students singing in the choir, need to purchase a game ticket. Tickets are \$20.00 each and this should be a very fun night out. I also want to thank our music teacher, Ms. Sawyer for volunteering her time to get our student choir ready for this opportunity.

Throughout February, our students will have a chance to participate in many exciting initiatives and events. Students are learning about Creativity this month and will be completing a cross-grade team design challenge on Feb. 24. Staff and students are having a beach day volleyball game on Feb. 5. The Valentine's Day carnival is always a wonderful afternoon and please let us know if you can volunteer on Feb. 12. Several of our Grade 6 students are attending the Young Author's Conference and our library is celebrating I Read Canadian Day on Feb. 19 and is having a Book Tasting Party in the library from Feb. 25-27.

Lastly, I hope that you get to enjoy some time as a family during the long weekends for Teacher's Convention and Family Day.

Warm Regards,

Cheryl Semeniuk

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## FEBRUARY 2020

Feb 1	New And Returning Students Online Registration
Feb 3	BSC Meeting 5:45
Feb 3 to 29	“Creativity” Character Trait
Feb 4	“Try It Tuesday” Lunch
Feb 4	Grades 1-3 Religion Club 12:10
Feb 4, 5	Bonus Book Days In The Library
Feb 5	Beach Day!
Feb 5	Grades 4-6 Religion Club 12:10
Feb 5	Staff vs Grade 6 Volleyball 1:15
Feb 5	Early Dismissal 2:05
Feb 6, 7	Teachers’ Convention –No School
Feb 11	Grades 1-3 Religion Club 12:10
Feb 12	Grades 4-6 Religion Club 12:10
Feb 12	Valentine’s Day Carnival 1:30
Feb 13	Grades 3-5 Skating 1:00 to 2:00
Feb 14	School Closure Day
Feb 15	National Flag Day
Feb 17	Family Day – No School
Feb 18	WISEST/Choices Grade 6 Girls
Feb 18	Grades 1-3 Religion Club 12:10
Feb 19	“I Read Canadian Day”
Feb 19	Grades 4-6 Religion Club 12:10
Feb 20	Grades 3 & 5 Skating 1:00 to 2:00
Feb 21	Grades 4 & 6 Skating 1:00 to 2:00
Feb 22	Young Authors Conference
Feb 24	Seniors Visit Grade 4
Feb 24	“Creativity” Assembly 2:05
Feb 25 to 27	Book Tasting Party In The Library
Feb 25	Grades 1-3 Religion Club 12:10
Feb 26	Grades 4-6 Religion Club 12:10
Feb 26	Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:30
Feb 26	Pink Shirt Day
Feb 27	Grades 3 & 5 Skating 1:00 to 2:00
Feb 27	Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:00
Feb 28	Grades 4 & 6 Skating 1:00 to 2:00

Kindergarten days (“Schedule A”):

February 3, 5 (early dismissal 2:05), 10, 12, 19, 21, 24, 26



*Please check our website for up to date information*

## LUNCH BUNCH UPDATE

January proved to be challenging with four days of bus cancellations. Our goal is to keep providing healthy lunches with minimal waste, so altering the menu last minute may be required. If you have questions about the lunch menu on bus cancellation days, please feel free to contact us. For those students who missed receiving lasagna that week, we are offering it again on Feb 13.

In the world today we see the use of disposable plastic everywhere! Plastic items take centuries to break down and wreak havoc on our environment. Each day our school is throwing away hundreds of plastic forks, knives and spoons that could be avoided. We would like to encourage our students to bring their own utensils in their lunchbox, that they can reduce waste by reusing them daily. This small change will reduce our plastic waste dramatically and also provide a firsthand learning experience for students on reducing our carbon footprint. If students forget cutlery, we will continue to have plastic available but together we can make a difference! We appreciate your support with this initiative.

February 4 is 'Try it Tuesday'. We will be offering a potato corn chowder for students to try. If the response is positive, we may offer it as a menu option in March. Please contact Judy Taylor with any questions at 780-405-1901.

## THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

- Breakfast program volunteers
- Hot lunch volunteers
- Mitten Tree donators
- Religion Club Teacher Mr. Dul



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## PAGES FROM OUR LIBRARY

Our mitten tree continues to give... Thank you from Mrs. Bartz to all our school families who donated mittens towards an Edmonton inner city charity. Bruderheim School has collected 69 pairs of mittens this year! The mittens were taken into Edmonton at the end of January and were so appreciated. Thank you to the families who took the time to buy a pair and bring them in to the school library.

# ***In and around the District***

## Read Aloud Day Contest

Do you have a favourite book your parents or grandparents read to you when you were young? Is there a book you enjoy reading to your children or grandkids? Maybe a teacher once shared a great book with your class that captured your imagination and set you on a lifelong love of reading?

On February 5, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) wants to hear from you—about the story you'll always remember. Write a post and include a photo. Or, even better, record a short video reading a favourite quote or passage from the book. Then, tweet it and tag the EIPS Twitter account [@eips](#) or reply to the Read Aloud Day post on the Division's [Facebook page](#). And, be sure to use the hashtag: #eipsreads aloud.

**NOTE:** The Read Aloud contest is open to community members, students, and teachers and staff throughout the Division—everyone who posts is automatically entered in a draw to win one of nine EIPS prize packages. Winners will be announced on Feb. 7, 2020.

### **Measuring our Success: Complete the Accountability Pillar Survey**

Once again, Alberta Education is conducting its Accountability Pillar Survey—an annual check-up on the province’s education system. Every year, Alberta Education conducts the survey to gather information about the quality of education provided by Alberta schools and school authorities. The survey looks at various measures such as engagement levels, student wellness, student outcomes, and the classroom(s) and school climate.

Throughout February, Grade K to 6 students and teachers at Bruderheim School are completing the survey online at the school. Student participation is voluntary and completely anonymous. Students are assigned a random username and password to ensure survey responses aren’t linked to any individual student. The survey takes about 40 minutes to complete and is done within the school day during regular class time.

Additionally, parents and guardians of students in grades 4, 7 and 10 are also asked to take a survey, either online or by mail. Information about the survey was sent to these families in January. Like the student and teacher survey, it’s anonymous and asks questions about your school experiences. If you have a child in grades 4, 7 or 10, we encourage you to participate. The survey deadline is Feb. 28, 2020.

Results from the Accountability Survey are provided to Elk Island Public Schools each May. The Division then uses the data to inform its four-year education plan, its annual school education plans and strategies for continuous improvement. The results are also shared with EIPS families and school communities each fall in the Division’s *Combined Education Plan and Annual Education Results Report*.

For more information about Alberta Education’s Accountability Pillar Survey visit [alberta.ca/accountability-education-system.aspx](http://alberta.ca/accountability-education-system.aspx)

### **Caregiver Education Series**

The Division, in partnership with Alberta Health Services and Elk Island Catholic Schools, 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 the [Division calendar](#) to see all scheduled caregiver sessions.

### **Kindergarten Registration is Now Open!**

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2020? If so, it’s now time to register for kindergarten. To register, simply complete the online registration form at [eips.ca/kindergarten](http://eips.ca/kindergarten).

To help families prepare, Elk Island Public Schools has put together an online toolkit—available at [eips.ca/kindergarten](http://eips.ca/kindergarten)—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 kindergarten is available on our school website at [www.bruderheimschool.ca](http://www.bruderheimschool.ca).

### **Complete the Returning Student Registration: February 1-29**

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 2020-21 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. 29, 2020.

Access to the Returning Student Registration Form is provided through the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#). If you don't have a PowerSchool Parent Portal account, you need to set one up before Feb. 1, 2020.

[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](#)

[2020-21 Find my](#)

[designated school](#)

[Applying to a non-designated school](#)

**Do more this summer!**

**Next Step Continuing Education Summer School and Camps: Registration opens March 9**

Summer School: Open to students entering grades 10-12 and mature students. With more than 25 credit courses, there are lots of ways to get ahead. Students can earn high school credits, upgrade marks and finish pre-requisite courses.

*Courses include:*

- CALM (in class or self-paced)
- Physical Education 10
- Extreme CALM and Physical Education 10 combined
- English – 10-, 20- and 30-levels
- Math – 10-, 20- and 30-levels
- Social – 10-, 20- and 30-levels
- Sciences – 10-, 20- and 30-levels
- Film Production
- Work Experience and RAP

Summer Camps: Open to participants in grades 5-9

From sports to cooking to babysitting, campers enjoy a fun-filled program while making friends and learning new skills.

*Camps include:*

- Sports – volleyball, basketball and handball
- computer gaming and design
- cooking and baking
- babysitting

Registration opens March 9.

Related information:

[Summer](#)

[School](#)

[Summer](#)

[Camps](#)

**Superintendent's Update**

If what we're forecasting is accurate, we have to concentrate on what's important—our core work, which is teaching and learning in the classroom.

I've had quite the hiatus from my blog. And, I must confess, I don't have a good excuse as to why.

Sometimes though, when you have something on your mind, that's the precise time to put pen to paper.

So far, the school year is off to a good start. We have much to celebrate—engaged students, dedicated staff, and supportive families and school communities. Overall, students continue to achieve at high levels, we're making headway in areas we've identified as challenges, and our annual results indicate we're providing students with a high-quality education and opportunities to learn, grow and thrive in and out of school.

That's not to say we haven't also had our challenges. We have.

As you know, the provincial budget was delivered much later than usual—in fall 2019 as opposed to spring 2019. Provincewide, the late release created implications for education. Within EIPS, the budget revealed a shortfall of roughly \$5.5 million from what was estimated in the spring. For the current school year only, the Division is accessing its operating reserves to absorb the funding gap. So, we will get through this year. And, thanks to prudent actions from both schools and central departments, students will feel little impact in the classroom in the 2019-20 school year. That said, there are clouds on the horizon.

The reality: Alberta's fiscal situation is deteriorating. The economy isn't turning around as quickly as we had hoped, and there are economic factors working against the province—capital has fled, companies have relocated, and jobs have been lost. As a result, we're starting to feel the effect in education, and in many other sectors for that matter.

As a Division, we're still waiting to find out the exact impact. For now, what we know is the province is developing a new funding framework for education and the overall education budget is frozen for the next three years. In the coming months, we'll know more. We'll learn what the new framework looks like and how the government plans to fund education for the 2020-21 school year.

While we wait, schools throughout EIPS are being proactive and planning for the next school year. Part of that planning includes conversations with families, mainly about school fees—field trips, course options, sports teams and tournaments. The outcome of these conversations will ultimately influence what schools end up charging to families. The fact is, school fees impact the programming available in a school and, to some

degree, staffing. As such, it's essential these conversations take place, that they take place soon and revolve around what schools can realistically provide, given our current fiscal situation. Simply put, schools need to determine the nice-to-haves versus the need-to-haves.

Going forward, if what we're forecasting from a fiscal perspective is accurate, we have to concentrate on what's most important, what has the biggest impact on learners and our core work, which is education—teaching and learning in the classroom. Simultaneously, we have to do this in a way that ensures our finite resources—time, people and finances—are utilized well and sustainably. We will get it right. We have to. And, by doing so, we're in a position to continue to focus on teaching and learning, offer programming choices to learners and support the success of all students under our care.

Collectively, education is top of mind for all of us within the Division, and there's a lot of work to do. As such, it's crucial we engage in these hard and important conversations, at both the school level and Division level. We'll know more in a few months. When we do, we'll make sure to continue to communicate with all our families, school communities and stakeholders. That way, we can find solutions to the challenges we're facing together.

Mark Liquori  
Superintendent





Your Future in MIND



***Little School, Big Dreams  
Hear Us Roar!***

### What is kindness?

Kindness is defined as the quality of being friendly, generous and considerate.

Everyday we hear stories about people trying to make the world a better place.

Together we can make the world a little bit kinder for all of us.

It all starts with one person... You!

### Kindness helps you and others by:

Enhancing positivity  
Changing your perspective  
Creating a sense of community  
Helping us feel connected to others  
Reducing stress  
Improving mood and self-esteem

### Just one act of kindness a day can help:

Reduce stress, anxiety and depression

Kindness releases feel-good hormones in your body so you and the person you helped:

Feel calmer, healthier and happier

More loving and loved

More energy, less aches and pains and more confident

### Simple ways to spread kindness:

- Volunteer
- Help a friend or neighbour
- Ask someone how they are feeling
- Offer support and encouragement to others
- Say good morning and smile
- Make someone laugh
- Be generous with compliments
- Leave a kind note for someone special

Kindness is contagious and doubles when you share it!

### MORE RESOURCES

<https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/info/Pa ge13769.aspx> Search "be kind"  
<https://www.randomactsofkindness.org/the-science-of-kindness>

Information on mental health, community supports, programs and services in your area:





# BRUDERHEIM SCHOOL

## CANADIAN NATIONAL ANTHEM

Join Bruderheim School at Rogers Place as students will sing the Canadian National Anthem on-ice before the game.  
Bruderheim will be fundraising at the game selling 50/50 tickets and Chuck-A-Pucks!



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2020

PUCK DROP 7:00 PM

**\$20 PER  
TICKET**  
**PURCHASE TODAY!**

For questions, please contact  
Principal Semenik at 780-796-3936

**OILKINGS.CA**

GROUP EXPERIENCES PRESENTED BY



# ORDER FORM



## BRUDERHEIM SCHOOL

Please return this form by Monday, February 24

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

POSTAL CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

METHOD OF PAYMENT (CIRCLE ONE) CASH CHEQUE

Please make all cheques payable to:  
**Oilers Entertainment Group Canada Corp.**

Ticket Type	# of Tickets	Price per Ticket (\$)	Total (\$)
Wednesday, March 4, 2020		\$20	

Prices include taxes and fees

