



Box 329, Lamont, AB T0B 2R0
p 780-895-2269 f 780-895-7468

lamontelementary.ca

Judy Anderson, Principal
Jay Robertson, Assistant Principal

October Newsletter

The month of September flew by and it has been an absolute pleasure spending time getting to know the staff, students, and parents of Lamont Elementary. Thank you for taking the time to attend our *Meet the Teacher* evening. It was a huge success and it was wonderful to partner with the Community Awareness Committee as well.

Thank you also for supporting our Terry Fox Run. Mrs. Malica's grade three class did a fantastic job hosting the assembly to kick off the run and remind us why it is so important to do our part for cancer research. I was very proud of the students for not only raising \$2,479.30 for cancer research, but also for participating with energy, enthusiasm, and perseverance. We were certainly blessed with a beautiful day.

During the last week of September, I had the pleasure of attending the first school council meeting of the school year. Thank you very much to all of you who were able to attend. We had some great dialogue and conversations. The efforts and support of the Lamont Elementary School Council are greatly appreciated. If you would like to stay informed, the minutes from the meeting can be found under the *Parents* tab on the school website. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 23rd at 6:30 pm in the library.

October starts with the excitement of Read-In Week! The theme for this year is ***I am a Reader!*** Mrs. Wisselink, Ms. Mulholland, Mrs. Koziak and Ms. Howatt have planned a fun filled week including a special celebration day on Wednesday, October 4th featuring several guest readers and events. We have Mayor, Bill Skinner as well as Trustee, Colleen Holowaychuk joining us among many others. Thank you to all of our guest readers for making it an extra special day!

In October we also look forward to parent teacher interviews that will be held on Wednesday, October 18th and Thursday, October 19th. Having parent teacher interviews prior to report cards will give you and your child the opportunity to focus on targeted areas for growth as well as celebrate the successes thus far.

Fall has definitely arrived and with the changes in temperatures, please make sure your child is dressed for the weather. The weather can certainly be unpredictable.

We have two professional learning days coming up for staff on Thursday, October 5th and Friday, October 6th which leads into an extra-long weekend for families. I hope you have a wonderful Thanksgiving and are able to enjoy some time as a family.



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Thank you for your continued support. If you ever have any questions, concerns, or just want to stop in and introduce yourself, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Judy Anderson M. Ed.

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Parent/Teacher Interviews will be held on Wednesday, October 18 from 5 pm – 8 pm and Thursday, October 19 from 4 pm – 7 pm. (Report Cards will be complete on December 1). We would like to see every parent/guardian at these interviews. Please book your interview at www.schoolinterviews.ca. The event code is **34wffq**. Bookings are now open and will close on October 17. If you do not have access to a computer, please call us at 780-895-2269 and we will book a time for you.

SCHOOL PICTURES

The dates for school pictures are Wednesday, October 18 and Thursday, October 19. Even if you do not intend to buy any pictures we ask that every student get their picture taken for our school yearbook. On Wednesday, October 18, Kindergarten, PALS, and Grades 1, 2, and 3 will have their pictures taken. On Thursday, October 19, Kindergarten, PALS, and Grades 4, 5, and 6 will have their pictures taken, as well as any students who were absent on Wednesday.

ALLERGY ALERT

Because some of our students experience LIFE THREATENING reactions to nuts and/or traces of nuts, it is critical to remember to read labels before purchasing groceries and packing lunches for school. Please remember that some products considered safe previously may have changed their labels and are now not safe. If products are labeled “may contain nuts” or “this has been made in a facility that handles nut products” they cannot be brought to school. If a child inadvertently brings a product to school that isn’t safe, the product will be sent to the office and can be picked up by a parent. One of our students has a severe allergy to eggs. Students in grade 3 and grade 4 need to avoid sending whole eggs or items containing whole eggs to school, including hard-boiled eggs and egg salad.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct. 4	Early Dismissal
Oct. 5 & 6	No School, Professional Learning Days
Oct. 9	No School, Thanksgiving Day
Oct. 18	Picture Day; Kindergarten, PALS, Gr. 1, 2, 3,
Oct. 19	Picture Day; Kindergarten, PALS, Gr. 4, 5, 6
Oct. 18 & 19	Parent/Teacher Interviews (book online)
Nov. 1	Early Dismissal



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NUTRITION NEWS – HOT LUNCH/HEALTHY SNACK PROGRAM:

We would like to thank the students, staff and parents for being patient and understanding during the initial weeks of the hot lunch/healthy snack program. It has been quite a challenge to do the meal planning and cooking but we are so pleased to be able to offer this program for our students. We are trying to follow the Canada Food Guide and also make the meals appealing to the students.

Unfortunately we also had a setback in the kitchen. We are unable to use the stoves until appropriate ventilation is installed. Once this work has been completed, we look forward to offering more rice and pasta items on the menu.

Another major challenge has been ensuring the safety of our students with severe allergies. We really appreciate the open lines of communication and all the help we have received directly from parents in this area. We will continue to offer as much variety as we can with our hot lunch menus. Our goal is to get the November hot lunch form out by Friday, October 20th to allow enough time for all students to select from the menu items.

A special thank you to all the moms and grandmas who have come in to help us with the lunches so far. All the extra help is greatly appreciated. If you are interested in volunteering, please add a note to your child's hot lunch form or give me a call.

Watch for a note coming home about a special Halloween Hot Lunch! Thank you again for your continued support and help.

Regards,
The Lunch Bunch
780-405-1901 (Judy Taylor)

LITERACY AND LEARNING DAY

This year's Literacy and Learning Day Conference takes place at the Northlands Expo Centre on October 28. The event is a fun-filled day for both parents and teachers, and includes various keynote speakers and free workshops. Participants are guaranteed to walk away with new strategies, tools and resources to support children as they grow and learn. The conference is free and everyone is welcome. For more information, or to register, visit www.literacyday.ca.



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**CENTRAL ZONE
ORAL HEALTH PROGRAM
SCHOOL ORAL HEALTH SERVICES**



- The Oral Health Program will be coming to your child's school to offer free fluoride varnish for all children from Kindergarten to grade 2.
- We will also provide free dental sealants for all grade 1 and 2 students who need them.
- If your grade 3 child received sealants from us last year, we will recheck and repair/complete them if needed. A consent package will be sent home with the grade 3 children who had sealants placed last year.
- You can expect a consent package to come home Sep 14th.
- Please read, fill out, sign and return the consent forms to your school by Oct 13th.
- The Oral Health team will be at your school Nov 20-22nd & Apr 9-10th. If you have any questions please call the oral health staff at the Vegreville CHC/PH at 780-631-0016 or 780-632-3331; ext 260.

MUNICIPAL ELECTION 2017: VOTE OCTOBER 16

Lamont County's Election Day is Monday, Oct. 16, 2017. Polls open as early as 9 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. If you can't vote during those times, there's also the option of advance voting and voting by special ballot. To learn more about the election and candidates running— for mayor, reeve, councillor and public school trustee—visit:

Fort Saskatchewan: www.fortsask.ca/city-government/city-council/2017-municipal-election

Lamont County: www.lamontcounty.ca/Election-2017

Minburn County: <http://minburncounty.ab.ca/2017-election/>

Strathcona County: www.strathcona.ca/election

EIPS School Trustees: www.eips.ca

REMINDER: MAKE HEAD CHECKS FOR LICE A REGULAR ROUTINE!

Head lice is one of the most common problems faced by school-aged children and their families. Typically, head lice are tiny, greyish brown insects that live on the scalp and lay their eggs, or nits, in the hair close to the scalp—itching is the main complaint. Lice don't jump from head to head nor are they dangerous. Having a head lice infestation, however, can cause stress, anxiety and hardship for staff, students and parents. As such, it's essential each of our families do their part at home by undertaking weekly routine head checks and, if head lice and nits are found, physically removing them.





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While head lice prevention and control is primarily the responsibility of the parent, the school does work discreetly with the teacher, students and families to prevent further transmission. To prevent the spread of head lice, we strongly encourage you to speak to your child about preventative behaviour such as avoiding head-to-head contact and not sharing combs, hats, pillows and hair accessories. It's also important to teach children not to tease other students about head lice—anyone can get head lice. If head lice are found on your child, notify the school, physically remove the lice and nits using the proper lice comb, and keep your child home until all signs of active head lice are gone.

For more information about head lice prevention and treatment, visit www.eips.ca/parents/health-safety-information/head-lice. Alternatively, you can contact the school at 780-895-2269.

READ IN WEEK TAKES PLACE OCTOBER 2-6

Read In Week 2017 returns on **October 2-6**. The theme for this year is I'm a Reader! I Read for Me!. Through various activities, students will spend the week learning how stories have the power to teach lessons, broaden perspectives and foster empathy. Some of the activities planned for Read in Week include: creation of "I am a Reader" Banner, guest readers, "Got Caught Reading" – roving photographers will be on the lookout for students reading, and pajama day – curl up and enjoy reading.

Read In Week is a Division-wide initiative held annually to encourage a lifelong love of reading and to enhance literacy awareness among students, staff, parents and community members. We invite all our families to participate in Read In Week with us either by reading yourself, with your child or with someone in the community.

And, don't forget to share what you've learned throughout the week using the hashtag *#eipsreads*. We hope you discover some amazing stories.

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY WEEK: OCTOBER 15–21

Schools throughout Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) are celebrating School Bus Safety Week October 15–21. The theme: Rider Rules = Safe to School, which is all about teaching children about proper school bus safety. Throughout the week, various activities are planned including information sessions, bus safety lesson plans and bus-evacuations drills.

As part of School Bus Safety Week, we'd like to remind our students and our families all EIPS school buses are equipped with both a bus-pass scanner and GPS technology, which allow Student Transportation to better monitor and manage its more than 170 buses and 600 bus routes. Thanks to this technology, parents and students also have access to the Versatrans My Stop app, a mobile tool to help determine the location of a bus, projected arrival times and when a child scanned onto a bus.



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More information about School Bus Safety Week and EIPS Student Transportation services can be found by visiting www.eips.ca/transportation or by contacting Student Transportation (780-417-8151, st@eips.ca) directly.

PAY SCHOOL FEES ONLINE!

School fee information for the 2017-18 school year is now posted on the PowerSchool Parent Portal. All fees are due within 30 days of being posted. To access your fee information, simply log in to the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) and go to “Student Fees.” There you can view your fees and pay them online using Visa, MasterCard or INTERAC Online—when available from your financial institution.

Don’t forget to also log in to the PowerSchool Parent Portal regularly throughout the year. Fees are often added to your child’s account to cover the cost of various school activities such as field trips, class projects, athletic-team fees and more.

If circumstances exist where you are unable to pay your student fees, you can apply to have [fees waived](#) by submitting an [Application for a Waiver of Fees](#). The application deadline is Dec. 15, 2017.

For more information about school fees, waivers and payment deadlines visit www.eips.ca/schools/fees. Alternatively, contact Wendy Motiuk, Secretary at Lamont Elementary School at 780-895-2269.

CELEBRATING WORLD TEACHERS’ DAY: OCTOBER 5

October 5 is World Teachers’ Day! Launched in 1994 by the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Teachers’ Day is celebrated annually around the world as a way to recognize teachers and the integral role they play in providing quality education to students. On October 5, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) encourages all of its students, parents and community members to show their appreciation for their teachers and the positive impact they make on our lives.

EIPS extends its heartfelt thank you to all its teachers for their dedication, hard work and commitment in guiding and educating our students through their Kindergarten to Grade 12 years.