



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

lamontelementary.ca

Judy Anderson, Principal
Jay Robertson, Assistant Principal

January Newsletter

Welcome back to school and Happy 2018 to everyone! We hope you had a great holiday season in spite of the extreme cold stretch. The students have quickly settled back in to the daily routines of school and January is always a very focused and productive month for learning. It is the perfect time for students to reflect and set some personal learning goals. The next round of parent teacher interviews will be here before we know it during the first week of February.

Throughout the month of January, students in Grades 1 to 6 will continue to participate in skating as part of their physical education program. They will be walking to the rink on their designated days, so please ensure your child is dressed for the weather and have their skates and helmet with them. If your child does not have a skating helmet, we do have some extra ones available. The designated dates for each grade level are on the school calendar and if you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher directly.

The students in Grades 4 to 6 are looking forward to the ski trip that will take place on February 1, at Sunridge Ski Area in Edmonton. A special thank you to Mr. Robertson for coordinating the trip for us.

The next Lamont Elementary School Council meeting will be on Thursday, January 25th at 6:30 pm in the school library. We look forward to seeing you there.

Thank you for your continued support. If you ever have any questions, concerns, or comments, please do not hesitate to contact us. Have a wonderful January!

Sincerely,
Judy Anderson M. Ed.
Principal

PARENT/STUDENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews will be held on Monday, February 5 from 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm and Tuesday, February 6 from 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm. Report Cards will be completed and published on March 16. We strongly encourage every parent/guardian to attend these interviews as it is a great way to stay informed about your child's progress. Please book your interview at www.schoolinterviews.ca using the event code: **ppk72**. Bookings open on January 12 and will close on February 5. If you do not have access to a computer, please call us at 780-895-2269 and we would be happy to book a time for you.

PINK SHIRT DAY

Wednesday, February 28 is Pink Shirt Day! Pink shirt day was started in Nova Scotia in 2007 by teens committed to end the problem of bullying in schools. We encourage everyone to participate in Pink Shirt Day to spread kindness throughout the community, and join in the movement to promote kindness in schools and the community as a whole. Pink shirt order forms have been sent home and are due back to school by **Friday, January 19**.



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

lamontelementary.ca

Judy Anderson, Principal
Jay Robertson, Assistant Principal

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan 12, 19, 26	Skating, Gr. 3 & 4 @ 10:30 – 11:30 Skating, Gr. 5 & 6 @ 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm
Jan. 15, 22, 29	Skating, Gr. 1 & 2 @ 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm
Feb. 1	Sunridge Ski Trip, Gr. 4, 5, 6
Feb. 5	Parent Teacher Interviews, 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Feb. 6	Parent Teacher Interviews, 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Feb. 7	Early Dismissal
Feb. 8, 9	No School, Teachers Convention

MAKE HEAD CHECKS FOR LICE A REGULAR PART OF YOUR CHILD'S PERSONAL HYGIENE ROUTINE!

Head lice is one of the most common problems faced by school-aged children and their families. While head lice control is primarily a parent responsibility, parents, the school and community all have a role to play. We strongly encourage you to speak to your children about proactive behavior to prevent the spread of head lice. This includes not sharing combs, hats, pillows and hair accessories and to avoid head to head contact. Children should know that anyone can get head lice, it does not jump or hop from head to head and it is not dangerous. Although head lice is not considered a health issue it can cause stress, anxiety and economic hardship for staff, students and parents. It is essential that each family does its part at home by undertaking routine screening, early detection and removal of lice and nits as part of routine personal hygiene.

Here are some basic facts about head lice.

- Head lice infestations are common in school aged children and anywhere children gather.
- Checking and treating children for head lice is a parent's/caregiver's responsibility.
- Since head lice is a common problem in school children it is strongly recommended that you check your child's head weekly during the school year for head lice even if they are currently lice free.
- Head lice do not spread disease and are not associated with serious illness or a sign of poor hygiene.
- Children may have head lice but go weeks before showing symptoms. Misdiagnosis of head lice infestations is common. In some cases, lice can be mistaken for dandruff as they have similar symptoms and appearances.
- Head lice are spread mainly through direct head-to-head (hair-to-hair) contact or through sharing of personal items like hats or brushes.
- Lice do not hop or fly, but can crawl at a rapid rate.
- A diagnosis of head lice requires detection of live head lice. Detection of nits alone does not indicate an active infestation. Children with live lice need to stay home and get treated and should not return to school until the live lice are gone.
- Topical insecticides such as Nix can be toxic, particularly if misused. Care should be taken to avoid unnecessary pesticide exposure. There are now non-pesticide containing products such as *Nyda* and *Resultz* approved for lice treatment.



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

lamontelementary.ca

Judy Anderson, Principal
Jay Robertson, Assistant Principal

- **A good lice comb along with manual picking of head lice and nits (eggs) is an essential part of treatment for head lice. Topical treatments alone do not always kill all of the lice and do not remove the nits.**
- Excessive household or school cleaning is not warranted following the detection of a case of head lice because neither head lice nor nits survive for an extended period of time away from the scalp.
- According to the Canadian Pediatric Society, exclusion from school and daycare due to the detection of the presence of active lice or 'nits' (eggs) does not have sound medical basis. As such 'No nit' school exclusion policies are not recommended. Instead sharing of personal items such as combs, brushes, hats and close head-to-head contact should be avoided.

Families of children in a classroom where a case of active head lice has been reported will be notified as such. The school will work with the teacher, students and families to help prevent further transmission. Information on the prevention and treatment of head lice is available at www.EIPS.ca

DID YOU KNOW LAMONT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HAS A FAMILY SCHOOL LIAISON WORKER?

My name is Julie Johnston and I have the privilege of working in 3 EIPS schools this year. You will find me at Lamont High, Lamont Elementary & Bruderheim Elementary School.

What does a Family School Liaison Worker do?

Family School Liaison Workers support and encourage students and families. We facilitate positive connections between family, school and community resources. Working with students aged 5-18, FSLW's provide education, information and awareness to topics that youth and families must navigate. The Family School Liaison Worker will help you face challenges and provide support to enhance both student and parent's well-being.

Some of the reasons to refer might include: Parent-Teen Communication, Self-Esteem, Anxiety/Stress, Relationships, Family Conflict/Separation/Divorce, Budgeting, Peer Concerns, referrals to counselling options and more. Family School Liaison Workers have great connections in the community and partner on many different local mental health and community initiatives.

How can I receive Family School Liaison Support for my child and/or our family?

A consent form must be signed by a parent or legal guardian before service can be provided. Forms are available from the office and service is provided during regular school hours. The service is free, confidential and voluntary. I look forward to meeting you, come say hello or you may also call me directly at 780-405-1643 to make an appointment.

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS - ACCOUNTABILITY PILLAR SURVEY

During the month of January you will be receiving a survey in the mail. As an annual check-up on the education system, the Accountability Pillar Survey provides an opportunity for Alberta Education and school authorities to ensure that we are equipping students for success.



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

lamontelementary.ca

Judy Anderson, Principal
Jay Robertson, Assistant Principal

The Accountability Pillar uses a set of 16 indicators. Data on these indicators consists of surveys of students, parents and teachers on various aspects of education quality, student outcomes such as dropout and high school completion rates, and provincial assessments of student learning.

From January to the end of February, Alberta Education will be conducting the annual Accountability Pillar Survey.

- In January, parents of students in grades 4-6 will receive a survey from Alberta Education.
- In February, students in grades 4-6 and all teachers will be completing their surveys online at school.

All surveys are anonymous and ask questions about experiences with your school. Your participation in the survey helps provide important information on the quality of education your child is receiving, so we really encourage you take a few moments to complete and return your survey.

We value your opinions and appreciate the opportunity to reflect on how we are doing here at Lamont Elementary. Survey results will be available to school authorities in May 2018, and will be reported publicly as part of their 3-Year Education Plans and Annual Education Results Reports.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION STARTS SOON!

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2018? If so, it's time to register for kindergarten. Kindergarten registration opens for the 2018-19 school year on Jan. 15, 2018. To register, simply complete the online registration form at www.eips.ca/kindergarten.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION CHECK LIST:

- Determine your child's designated school
- Scan and upload all required documents: proof of name, residence, date of birth and citizenship.
- Additional documents to scan, if applicable include: Guardian Letter and Parental Custody Agreement if restrictions on access.
- Once the online registration is complete and submitted, a confirmation notice is sent to the given email address.

NOTE: The online registration form is available as of Jan.15, 2018—the paper version no longer exists.

To help families prepare, Elk Island Public Schools has put together an online toolkit 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. Find it by visiting <http://www.eips.ca/programs-services/kindergarten>.



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

lamontelementary.ca

Judy Anderson, Principal
Jay Robertson, Assistant Principal

EIPS 2018-19 DIVISION CALENDAR: NOW AVAILABLE!

The official 2018-19 EIPS calendar is now available online. The calendar includes important dates during the 2018-19 school such as school-closure days; breaks; the first and last day of classes; professional learning days; and early dismissal days.

Highlights from the 2018-19 EIPS calendar include:

- September 4 First day of classes (after long weekend)
- November 12-16 November break
- December 24 to January 4 Christmas break
- January 31 Second semester begins
- February 7-8 Teachers' Convention
- March 25-29 Spring break
- June 27 Last day of classes
- June 28 Schools close for the Summer break

To view the 2018-19 calendar, visit www.eips.ca. Also available online: the current school calendar and the 2019-20 calendar.

Did you know you can sync the Division calendar to your own personal calendar? You can. Simply, visit www.eips.ca/calendar and click on "subscribe to calendar." It's that easy.

REQUEST TO ATTEND A NON-DESIGNATED SCHOOL

Effective for the 2018-19 school year, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) is changing the way in which students apply to attend a non-designated school. From March 1 to 15, 2018, parents of all EIPS students are being asked to pre-enrol their children online and indicate whether their child will be attending their designated school or if they wish to register at a different school. Acceptance at a non-designated school is based on available space—families will be advised of the outcome by April 13, 2018. Because of high enrolment numbers, some schools won't be accepting any non-designated students. Schools with closed boundaries will be identified prior to the pre-enrolment process.

Please note that should you request a non-designated school for your child and need busing, there are fees associated with this choice. Visit [Transportation Services](#) for more information.

As part of the pre-enrolment process, parents are also asked to check and update phone numbers, email addresses, mailing address and other important data – doing so will both make sure that the Division has the most current information available and eliminate the need to fill in the paper Correction Form that has traditionally been sent home every fall. Better yet, families will be able to go online and update their child's data throughout the year as circumstances change.

To determine your child's designated school, please check [EIPS school boundary maps](#).



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

lamontelementary.ca

Judy Anderson, Principal
Jay Robertson, Assistant Principal

INCLEMENT WEATHER

With the winter season well underway, we want to remind parents to dress children appropriately for the weather when getting ready for school or the bus. The weather often changes unexpectedly throughout the day, so please select suitable outerwear and ensure your child is prepared for changing conditions.

If inclement weather conditions occur, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) will advise parents of any bus cancellations using various communications tools including: automated-telephone messages, alerts posted on www.eips.ca and school websites, Twitter, Facebook, local radio stations, and on Versatrans My Stop.

Decisions regarding bus cancellations are guided by EIPS administrative procedures that states: "school bus service may be suspended when...Environment Canada reports a temperature of -40 C." Other reasons for suspending or delaying school bus services include adverse weather and poor road condition.

When school bus services are suspended, schools will remain open to students. EIPS believes parents have the right and responsibility to make choices for their children based on their beliefs and perceptions of safety during times of inclement weather.

For more information, contact EIPS Student Transportation at 780-417-8151.

ANOTHER WAY TO STAY CONNECTED: FOLLOW EIPS ON TWITTER AND FACEBOOK

With 42 school and close to 17,150 students there's a wealth of events, activities and stories taking place across the Division every day. You can find these stories and more by following Elk Island Public Schools on both [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/eips) and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/eips). Each use the combination of news articles, videos and photographs that showcase the latest news, updates, events and alerts taking place across the Division.

Plus, if you're a member of an EIPS school community and want to share in the storytelling, simply tag the Division using the hashtag [#EIPS](https://twitter.com/eips).

Stay in the loop, follow EIPS on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/eips) and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/eips)

NOTE: The Division Facebook and Twitter accounts are managed by EIPS Communications Services. The account is updated and monitored intermittently during regular office hours from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday. The Division welcomes feedback and ideas from followers but does ask everyone interacting on the EIPS Facebook page to be respectful. Personal attacks and offensive language will not be allowed and may be deleted.

STAY CONNECTED: SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWS

Want to stay up-to-date on the latest news and events taking place at your school? Make sure to subscribe to Elk Island Public Schools' (EIPS) email distribution list. Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL) now requires the Division to have direct consent before engaging in electronic communication with its families. If you haven't yet subscribed, simply visit www.eips.ca/contact/synrevoice. As soon as you sign up and confirm, you'll begin receiving Division- and school-related news—newsletters, information about upcoming events, parent and community engagement opportunities, important school-based updates and more.





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

lamontelementary.ca

Judy Anderson, Principal
Jay Robertson, Assistant Principal

NOTE: Even if you're not subscribed, you will continue to receive emails regarding emergency situations and financial matters. Those who received notifications about high school attendance will also continue to receive those messages.

EIPS appreciates your co-operation in ensuring its distribution lists are compliant with CASL and you continue to receive only the information you feel is important.