



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 we have had a wonderful start to the school year. Thank you for taking the time to attend our *Meet the Teacher* evening. We are blessed with an amazing staff who demonstrate their commitment and dedication to making Lamont Elementary School a warm and caring place to be on a daily basis!

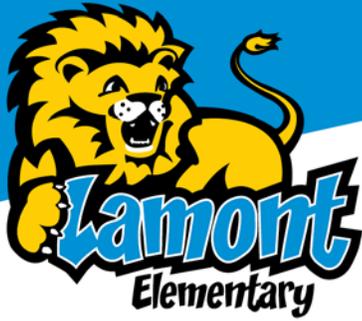
Thank you also for supporting our **Terry Fox Run**. Mrs. Malica, Mrs. K. Kelly and Mrs. Motiuk did a fantastic job organizing the run and we were reminded why it is so important to do our part for cancer research. I was very proud of the students for not only surpassing the amount raised last year by raising over **\$2700.00 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, the **Lamont Elementary School Council (LESC)** held its first meeting of the school year. Thank you very much to all of you who were able to attend. We had the opportunity to celebrate all the accomplishments over last year. The efforts and support of the Lamont Elementary School Council is 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 on **Thursday, November 1 at 6:30 p.m. in the library**. We are still actively looking for involvement on the LESL Executive for the 2018 – 2019 school year. Please consider your availability for helping out and contact me if you have any questions.

Mr. Robertson and I had a great time at our **Pawsitive Choices** Pizza Lunch last week! The students have been working hard to follow the school rules, treat each other with respect and kindness, and make positive choices. We will continue with our monthly lunches with admin. It's a wonderful way to celebrate and recognize some of the good things happening around the school. Mr. Robertson and I enjoy spending time students, not to mention eating pizza and playing Mario Kart!

October starts with the excitement of **Read-In Week!** The theme for this year is **Bringing Stories to Life!** Mrs. Wisselink, Mrs. Cossey and Mrs. Gaudet have planned a fun filled week including a special day on Wednesday, October 3 where we can dress up as our favorite book character!

In October we also look forward to parent teacher interviews that will be held on Wednesday, October 24 and Thursday, October 25. 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.



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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 a professional learning day coming up for staff on Friday, October 5 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.

Thank you for your continued support. If you ever have any questions, feedback or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,
Judy Anderson M. Ed.

Parent/Teacher Interviews

Parent/Teacher Interviews will be held on Wednesday, October 24 from 5 p.m. – 8 p.m. and Thursday, October 25 from 4 p.m. – 7 p.m. (Report Cards will be available on December 5). We would like to see every parent/guardian at these interviews. Please book your interview at <https://www.schoolbookings.net/code?code=w2pp7>. (The event code is **w2pp7**). Bookings are now open and will close on October 23. 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 **Thursday, October 25 and Friday, October 26**. Even if you do not intend to buy any pictures we ask that every student get their picture taken for our school yearbook. On Thursday, October 25, Kindergarten, PALS, and Grades 1, 2, and 5 will have their pictures taken. On Friday, October 26, Kindergarten, PALS, and Grades 3, 4, and 6 will have their pictures taken, as well as any students who were absent on Wednesday.

Lamont Lions Athletics

Despite the early chilly weather, the Lamont Elementary cross country running team has been very busy. Led by Mrs. Richert, Mrs. Marks, Mrs. Marouelli and Ms. Budd, the team has had the opportunity to participate in three races. The Edmonton Harriers Track club offers elementary students cross country races at Callingwood Park, Millwood's Park, and Rundle Park throughout September and early October. Great job Lions!

Exciting addition this year our extra-curricular activities, volleyball season is upon us. Many students have shown interest in practicing for the grade 5/6 volleyball team. The volleyball team will be practicing every Thursday from 3:15 to 4:15 until November 29, 2018. We are hoping to line up an exhibition game with Waskatenau later in the year. Thank you to the many coaches for volunteering their time and volleyball expertise.





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Instagram

Lamont Elementary is now on Instagram. Please check us out: [lamont_lions](https://www.instagram.com/lamont_lions).

Upcoming Events

Oct. 3	Early Dismissal
Oct. 2, 4, 9, 11	Swimming Lessons, Grade 2
Oct. 16, 19, 23, 26	Swimming Lessons, Grade 5
Oct. 5	No School, Professional Development
Oct. 8	No School, Thanksgiving
Oct. 24 & 25	Parent/Teacher Interviews
Oct. 25 & 26	Picture Days

First Nations, Metis and Inuit Education

September was full of learning about sharing circles, Indigenous shelter and Orange Shirt Day activities. Thank you to all the students who participated in Orange Shirt Day. We will start October off with learning about Indigenous music and celebrations, including Powwows. We will also have the opportunity to explore the Inuit culture. There will be Indigenous presentations from Metis Author Jacqueline Guest on October 15th and our first visit, of three, from Elder Wilson will be on October 22. We hope your children are able to share the information they are learning with you at home.

The Lamont News Network

A few of our grade 5 and 6 students have signed up to be a part of our school news team (LNN). The writers, videographers, and anchors will be preparing a short newscast every two weeks to keep you up to date on upcoming activities happening at Lamont Elementary. Look out for our **first episode coming out October 15**. You can subscribe to our "LamontLions" YouTube channel to get notifications when new episodes are uploaded. Thank you in advance for supporting this leadership opportunity for our students.

Library Notes

Read-In Week 2018 "Bringing Stories to Life"

Read In Week 2018 returns on October 1. The theme for this year is Bringing Books to Life. Through various activities, students will spend the week learning how stories live on, even when the book is finished.

Read-In Week is a Divisionwide initiative held annually to encourage a lifelong love of reading and to enhance literacy awareness among students, staff, parents and community members.





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Reading a book doesn't have to be where the story ends. Expand on it by adding to the story, acting it out, making props, telling your own story or creating art based on a story. This week in LES we are bringing stories to life through art, drama, puppet plays in the library, in our classrooms, and when we meet as buddy classes. **A highlight, on Wednesday, will be our dress up as a Book Character Day.** The "DOT" displays through the school were a great way to bring Peter Reynold's story *The Dot* to life. A special thank you to our guest readers Barb Percy (EIPS math consultant) who will be bringing math stories to life and Tamara Martin-Spady (EIPS Literacy Consultant) who will teach grade 1-2, 6 students drawing techniques based on her books. Mr. Mali and Mr. Starko are coming from across the street to read to our youngest students, thank you.

Author Visit – Eric Walters, a very well-known and well published children's author will be visiting our school on Thursday, October 11. He will be presenting to students in grades 3-6. Mr. Walters began his writing career when he was a grade 5 teacher. In 1993 he could not find books for his Grade 5 students who did not enjoy reading, so he wrote his own. Often including their names as characters and allowing them to read through his just finished chapters to give a critique. 25 years later Mr. Walter is still writing books, publishing his 100th book this year. Mr. Walters lives in Ontario and we are very privileged to have him visit our school.



Read, Return, Repeat

Each year our library loses over \$300.00 because of damaged or unreturned books. In order to help students keep track of their library books the following procedure is in place:

1. If the library books are not returned on the due date, a small reminder slip will be sent home, this slip is usually attached to your child's agenda. This is simply a reminder not a charge for a lost book.
2. If the library books have not been returned after 4 weeks from when the book was due, a note will be sent home to parents requesting help in finding the book.
3. After a week the letter will be followed by a phone call to ensure parents are aware of the outstanding library book.
4. If the book has not been returned after 6 weeks a letter will be sent, requesting parents/students to reimburse the school for the cost of the book.
5. At the end of the year any outstanding library fines will be added to the school fees for the coming year.
6. We do appreciate if the book is returned after school ends but unfortunately we would not be able to refund any payment that has been made.

A "Book Care Presentation" has been given to all students. We have also discussed safe places to keep their library books and their responsibility in ensuring the books are returned. The "Library Prize Spinning Wheel" and "Scratch and Win Cards", are in place as





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incentives for students to keep track of their library books. Thank you for your help in encouraging your child to care for their library books

Health Days

Lamont Elementary School is taking a different approach to the health curriculum this year in an attempt to offer our students engaging wellness activities and more opportunities to

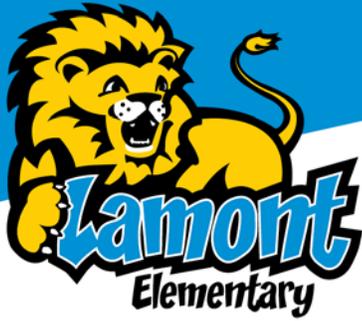


connect to the community. The school has scheduled one afternoon per month when students will rotate through sessions and workshops in a conference-style format. The activities and presentations will be guided by the Alberta

Education Program of Studies for Health but the material will be offered in new ways to students including hands-on activities, guest presenters, unique physical activity sessions and volunteer opportunities in the community. Session topics are wide-ranging and some of them include cooking/nutrition, line dancing, fire safety, survival first aid, home alone safety and positive mental health. The Health Day Committee are putting out a request for community involvement. Community members who are willing to share their knowledge and skills are what makes this type of learning most effective. We are open to hearing about new ideas for workshops and sessions that you may have and are encouraging local people to facilitate sessions for the afternoon. **If you are interested in running or helping out with a presentation or activity, please contact jessica.sereda@eips.ca or judy.anderson@eips.ca by email or call into the school (780-895-2269). A list of potential upcoming sessions are included below:**

- **Nutrition/Healthy Cooking**
- **Physical Activity** (Amazing Race, Scavenger Hunts, Goal Ball, Dance, Cooperative Games, Zumba, Fitness Circuits, Traditional Indigenous Games, Self-defense)
- **Relationships/Social Skills** (Conflict Resolution, Friendship Skills, Managing Feelings)
- **Mental Health** (Mindful Art, Gratitude Journals/Cards, Positive Mental Health, Stress Busters, Meditation)
- **Volunteerism/Career Exploration**
- **Safety** (Water, Trampoline, ATV, Farm, Sun, Bike, Pedestrian, Internet, Household Chemicals, Basic First Aid)
- **Creating Lifelong Learners** (organization, study skills, learning new skills, growth mindset, digital citizenship)

We also welcome parents to join us on the Health Days even if they aren't facilitating a session. The next two health days are scheduled for **Thursday October 18 and November 27.**



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Student Leadership

At Lamont Elementary, we are happy to offer a wide variety of leadership opportunities for students to become more involved in the school community. We are running the following groups this year:

- **Office Helpers**- Office Helpers are Grade 5/6 students who help manage the office duties at break times (like lunch and recess). They answer phones, take messages and help students who need assistance at the office and welcome guests. Mrs. Motiuk supervises these leaders.
- **Ignition Team**- Ignition is the student leadership team and is open to students in Grade 5/6. They plan and organize theme days, school-wide activities and help with assemblies. Miss Sereda supervises these leaders.
- **Library Helpers**- Library Helpers is a program for students in Grades 5/6 who want to encourage a love of reading and assist with events in the library. Their tasks include creating bulletin boards, helping to organize the library, helping with library events (like puppet shows, reading to younger students) and encouraging their peers to enjoy reading. Mrs. Wisselink supervises these leaders.
- **LNN**- The Lamont News Network (LNN) is open to students in Grade 5/6 who want to help deliver school news to our students, staff and community. They can be in front of the camera, as news anchors, or behind the camera, as camera operators, directors or stage crews. Mrs. Calder and Mrs. A. Kelly supervise these leaders.
- **Spirit Buddies**- Spirit Buddies is our Grade 3/4 leadership group. The purpose of this group is to spread kindness and happiness to others in the school and community. Tasks include monthly acts of kindness (card making, baking, shoveling, etc.). Miss Sereda supervises these leaders.
- **Nitro**- Nitro is the intramural leadership group for students in Grade 5-6. Their tasks include preparing equipment for intramurals, reffing/scorekeeping and clean-up of equipment. Mr. Robertson and Ms. A. Kelly supervise these leaders.
- **Art/Flex Room Fairies**- Art Room and Flex Room Fairies are Grade 3/4 students who volunteered to organize and manage those two rooms in our school. They will be responsible for meeting once a month to organize materials, take inventory as needed and beautify the space. Mr. Robertson and Mrs. Anderson supervise these leaders.
- **Lunch Helpers**- Lunch Helpers are a group of Grade 5/6 students who volunteered to help the Kindergarten class at lunch time. Their tasks would include helping to open packaging, helping with hand washing routine and getting to know the younger students. Miss Sereda and Mrs. Dziwenko supervise these leaders.
- **Patrollers**- Patrollers are a group of Grade 5/6 students who were chosen to help our students at Lamont Elementary cross the street safely before and after school. Mrs. Richert and Mrs. Marks supervise these leaders.



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No Child Without: Free MedicAlert for students

In our ongoing effort to provide safe and caring schools for our students, Lamont Elementary School continues to be registered in the Canadian MedicAlert Foundation's No Child Without program. The program is a national initiative that provides no-cost MedicAlert services to children—between the ages four of 14—who have chronic health conditions. The goal is twofold: to help children with severe allergies, medical conditions or special needs and to assist schools with medical-emergency plans for students.

Once a child is registered, their school is provided with advice on a medical-emergency plan for that student and given a list of medications, allergies and medical conditions the student has. To learn more about the No Child Without program, visit www.nochildwithout.ca.

School Bus Safety Week: October 22-26

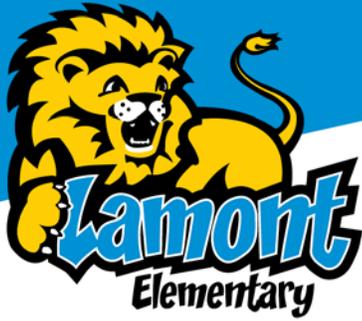
Schools throughout Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) are celebrating School Bus Safety Week October 22-26. The theme: School Bus...Bully Free Zone, which is all about promoting the importance of healthy relationship among students, staff and school bus operators. Throughout the week, various activities are planned including information sessions, bus-safety lesson plans and bus-evacuation 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.

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 2018-19 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.



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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 fees, you can apply to have [fees waived](#) by submitting an [Application for a Waiver of Fees](#). The application deadline is Dec. 15, 2018.

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

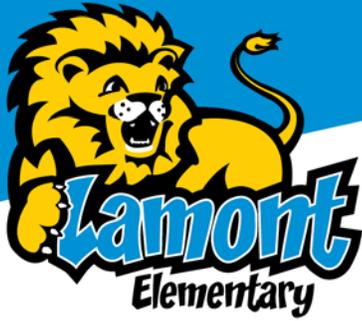
October 5 is World Teachers' Day! Launched in 1994 by the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Teachers' Day is celebrated annually around the world as a way to recognize teachers and the integral role they play in providing quality education to students. On October 5, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) encourages all students, families 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.

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.

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



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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/programs-services/healthy-schools/head-lice. Alternatively, you can contact the school at 780-895-2269.

Take Just a Moment and Stay Connected: Subscribe to our news

As of the 2018-19 school year, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) is moving to a new service provider for sending phone and email notifications to families, School Messenger. Families won't notice much of a difference—all email subscription are being transferred so, there is no need to resubscribe.

If you're new to EIPS and want to start receiving Division news and update, or just want to review your subscription information, visit www.eips.ca/contact/subscribe. Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL) requires the Division to have direct consent before engaging in electronic communication with its families. Only those who have subscribed to receive emails will get information about Division and school-related news, such as newsletters, information about upcoming events, parent and community engagement opportunities, important school-based updates and more.

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.

Happy Thanksgiving to everyone!