



4524-84 Street P 780-998-1441
Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L 1J2 F 780-998-1444
www.winferguson.ca



October Newsletter

Dear Win Ferguson Families,

October 1, 2021

Thank you for a great start to the 2021 - 2022 school year. September has come and gone, and now we are moving into October enjoying the beauty of fall. With the change in season, comes a change in protocols at Win Ferguson.

Recently, the province updated its guidelines for schools. As a result of this we will be moving back to cohorting outdoors, though by grade, not by class, like last year. This also means that the playgrounds will be closed before and after school, effective immediately. Thank you in advance for your patience and cooperation as we navigate these new restrictions..

I have included a link to the [EIPS Operations Guidelines: 2021-22](#) for your reference, which was updated September 29, 2021.

We have a new way to report student absences on our school website at www.winferguson.ca. There is a link titled Report an Absence. Please state your child's name and the reason for the absence and we will do the rest. It is especially important that if your child is ill, you let us know the symptoms.

Report an Absence

Click here to email the office to inform us if your child will be absent.

I would like to extend a huge thank you to all of our parents who attended our first School Council/PTA meeting of the school year on September 27. These meetings are open to all families, and we welcome new attendees anytime.

I wish everyone a great month, take care everyone,

Lana Lastiwka

Principal

Literacy Corner

Try playing a work game at home

Make a word: If you have plastic letters, magnet letters, or letter blocks, you can play this as soon as your child is old enough to spell. Play it mentally with older kids, or with paper and pencil. Simply give your children some letters and challenge them to make words from those letters. Great beginning for board games like Scrabble. Have fun!



Masks

Throughout the month of September, we have been giving out many disposable masks to students. This is not something we are able to sustain all year. Remember to ensure your child has enough masks with them daily, we appreciate your support.

Water Bottles

As the regular water fountains are closed for use, students need to bring a refillable water bottle to school daily.

Neighborhood Parking

A friendly reminder to be aware of our neighbors, and to not block private driveways when parking near the school.

Municipal Election 2021: Vote October 18

The next municipal election, which includes the election of local school board trustees, takes place on Monday, Oct. 18, 2021. It's your opportunity to get involved in public education by casting your vote for a public school trustee.

[EIPS Trustee Election information](#)

[EIPS Trustee Candidate List](#)

Electors can cast their votes for municipal candidates—mayors, reeves, councillors, as applicable—and school board trustee candidates—public or separate. Voting stations are typically open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Each municipality conducts the election for its residents and establishes formal voting station hours and procedures.

To learn more about election day procedures in your area, including opportunities for advance voting and voting by special ballot, visit:



4524-84 Street P 780-998-1441
Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L 1J2 F 780-998-1444
www.winferguson.ca



[County of Minburn](#)

[Fort Saskatchewan](#)

[Lamont County](#)

[Strathcona County](#)

[Town of Bruderheim](#)

[Town of Lamont](#)

[Town of Mundare](#)

[Town of Vegreville](#)

[Village of Andrew](#)

[Village of Chipman](#)

Improving Home-School Communication

To enhance communication between families and schools, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) has developed a how-to guide entitled, "Communication Protocol for Schools." Topics include appropriate channels to use, standard formats and structures, timing and sequencing for regular and ongoing home-school communication, and ways to bring forward questions or concerns. The guide also offers useful tools and resources schools and families can use to enhance face-to-face meetings, email communication and various social media efforts.

[Communication Protocol for Schools](#)

Pay School Fees Online!

School fee information for the 2021-22 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 debit card—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, extracurricular activities 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, 2021.



4524-84 Street P 780-998-1441
Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L 1J2 F 780-998-1444
www.winferguson.ca



For more information about school fees, waivers and payment deadlines, visit www.eips.ca/schools/fees. Alternatively, contact Michelle Campbell, Win Ferguson's Business Manager at 780-998-1441.

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 Division teachers for their dedication, hard work and commitment in guiding and educating students through their kindergarten to Grade 12 years.

Read In Week 2021 October 4-8

Read In Week returns on October 4. This year's theme: "To Each Their Own Story." Through various activities, students will spend the week learning ways to tell their own stories and how stories have the power to teach lessons, broaden perspectives and foster empathy. Please go to www.winferguson.ca to see all of the exciting activities we have planned.

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, families and community members. Win Ferguson invites all families to participate in Read In Week by reading yourself, with your child or with someone in the community.

Don't forget to share what you've learned. Throughout the week, you can post your own stories about Read In Week using the hashtag #eipsreads.

For more information visit www.eips.ca and www.readin.ca

Kindergarten Calendar

Based on the decision to make September 30 a school closure day, we wanted to bring a change to your attention.

Here are the updated calendars for your reference. PDF [2021-22 EIPS Division Calendar](#) and [2021-22 Kindergarten Calendar](#)



4524-84 Street P 780-998-1441
Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L 1J2 F 780-998-1444
www.winferguson.ca



Upcoming events and important dates:

- October 5 - [World Teachers' Day](#)
- October 6 - Early Dismissal - 2:12 pm
- October 11 - Thanksgiving Day - school closed to staff and students
- October 18 - PL Day - school closed to students
- October 18 - Election Day
- October 19 and 20 - Parent Teacher Interviews
- October 20 and 21 - School Picture Retakes
- November 3 - Early Dismissal - 2:12 pm