



SEPTEMBER 2022 Newsletter

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

It was great to see so many happy, smiling faces on the first of school. Welcome back, everyone! I would like to thank everyone for the warm welcome that I received since coming to Win Ferguson Elementary School. I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome those new families to our community school. I know you will enjoy your time here.

I am thrilled to be at WFG in the capacity of Principal of your child's school. This is the 30th year that I have worked as an educator, and I look forward to working with your child and with the staff to ensure that students have the very best year possible. Win Ferguson Elementary School is home to a dedicated and talented staff who love what they do and this shines through each day. I am thrilled to be working alongside them.

Communication between home and school is essential for the success of your child. Teachers will be sharing the different ways that they accomplish this. Parents will also need to share with the teachers how best to communicate with them – whether it is email, phone, etc. Enjoy taking some wonderful family photos when the leaves start to turn in about 2-3 weeks. All the best to you and on behalf of the Win Ferguson School team – Welcome back! It's going to be a great year!

Mr. William Korec, M.Ed.,
Principal

NEW STAFF

We are pleased to welcome Mrs. Warkentin, Mrs. McGregor Mrs. O'Bertos, and Mr. Davis to our school team. As well, Mrs. Hudson will be returning this year to teach grade one. Welcome, all new and returning staff to the 2022-2023 school year.

WIN FERGUSON SCHOOL STAFF 2022-2023

Principal	William Korec
Assistant Principal	Chantel Werner
Counsellor	Karin Brassard
ECS	Nicole Polukoshko Laura Sundell
Grade 1	Crystal Hudson Heather Lavergne Brandi Fokema
Grade 2	Ali Dixon Cora O'Bertos Jennifer Rooke
Grade 3	Shawna Gray Sacha Kupchenko
Grade 4	Tom Klimaszewski Jodi Emsley
Grade 5	Kristyn McGregor Lynsey Warkentin
Grade 6	Mitch Davis Sheila Storey
Music Registrar	Sarah Demers
Financial Secretary	Candace Kereliuk
Educational Assistants	Michelle Campbell Kim Green Rhonda Bara Jennifer St. Louis Karen Ingram Amanda Lavallee Lori McLaughlin Caroline Harkin Julie Lefebvre Carlin Adams Candace Crepeau
Library Technician	Natalie Bos

ABSENCE CHECK

Parents/guardians are asked to inform the school, whenever possible, if their child is going to be absent. Messages may be left on the school's main number 24 hours a day, email or

by a note. If a child is absent and no reason has been received in the office by **8:45 AM**, then the office staff will attempt to contact parents/guardians or emergency contacts.

EARLY DISMISSAL

Please note that staff meeting days are the first Wednesday of **each** month. Students will be dismissed at **2:12PM**. The next early out will be on **Wednesday September 7, 2022**. Please note that this information is always included in the school newsletter and on our school website calendar.

QUIET HALLWAYS

We remind all parents that if they are coming to pick up their child, they wait in the main foyer or directly outside of their child's exit. Students who need to leave during the school day must be signed out by a parent/guardian at the main office.

UPDATE POWERSCHOOL PORTAL

The EIPS Correction and Verification Form is now available online through your [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#). Use the form to access and update your child's records information—including address, parent and guardian information, emergency contacts and medical information. Reviewing the form and submitting updates ensures the school has the most up-to-date information regarding your child.

When reviewing the form, pay close attention to all listed phone numbers, email addresses and emergency contact information. Also, if you recently moved, now is the time to ensure the Division has your updated address. Throughout the year, the Division and school uses the listed information to communicate with families about important information, including updates, the latest news and event.

[EIPS Correction and Verification Form](#)

Review and update the form by Sept. 22, 2022. For more information about the PowerSchool Correction and Verification Form, contact the school office at 780-998-1441

SCHOOL FEES

School fee information for the 2022-23 school year will be posted on the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) in late September. 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 online using a credit card.

Don't forget to 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 certain school activities such as field trips, class projects, athletic-team fees and more. If you're unable to pay your school fees, you can apply to have certain [fees waived](#) by submitting an [Application for a Waiver of Fees](#). The application deadline is Dec. 15, 2022.

For more information about school fees, waivers and payment deadlines visit [eips.ca](#). Alternatively, contact Mrs. Campbell, Financial Secretary at Win Ferguson School at 780-998-1441.

PICTURE DAY

The Lifetouch Experience will be here on **Monday September 19** ((whole school) and **Tuesday September 20th** (Kindergarten 2) for individual student photos. Retakes have been booked for **October 19** (whole school) and **October 20** (Kindergarten 2). An information sheet will be shared with families in the very near future.

IMPROVING COMMUNICATION

To enhance communication between families and schools, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) created 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. EIPS encourages all families and schools to review the guide at:

[Communication Protocol for Schools](#)

SYNC YOUR CALENDARS

Did you know you can sync the school calendar to your own calendar? You can. Simply, visit <https://www.winferguson.ca/about/calendar> and click on the applicable subscription option:

- Download to iCal
- Add to Google Calendar
- Subscribe to Calendar

NOTE: Options are located above the calendar.

Once you click on the desired subscription option, follow the instructions. Within seconds, your calendar will contain all Win Ferguson's important dates including holidays, school-closures days, planned activities, events and more.

SCHOOL MESSENGER APP

Win Ferguson School and the Division use the School Messenger platform for communicating with families—through both phone and email. Be sure to add communications@eips.ca to your safe sender list to avoid having important messages funneled into your junk mail folder.

The easiest way to stay connected is to download the School Messenger app. Get the latest updates direct to your mobile device and enable push notifications to never miss a message. Families can also check back on past messages—for up to 30 days—directly in the app rather than searching to find an old message buried in your inbox. Download the School Messenger app from the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#) today. Coming soon—the Safe Arrivals absence reporting tool will be rolled out within the School Messenger app later this

school year. Families will be able to report a child's absence directly quickly and easily in the app. No more phone calls or emails required. Stay tuned for updates in the coming months.

ARRIVAL TIME

Students are not to be at the school prior to 8:10AM. Doors will be locked, and supervision will not be available prior to this time. For your child's safety, please ensure that they are not coming to school earlier than the designated time. We thank you, in advance, for your support.

PLAYGROUND AFTER SCHOOL

Please note that there is no supervision on the playground after school. Students being picked up should immediately wait for parents and guardians at the front of the school or at their exit doors where there is adult supervision. Thank you very much.

VOLUNTEERS

With a responsibility of protecting all students in its care, Elk Island Public Schools' Administrative Procedure 490 requires that all volunteers annually sign a Confidentiality Undertaking Declaration for Volunteers and for extended field trips a Criminal Record Check and an Intervention Record Check. All forms are available at the school office. Volunteers are an important and integral part of our school, and we look forward to your continued support and efforts. Signs are posted on all entry doors directing visitors to the office.

ATTENTION PARENTS

Please note that the September 2022 newsletter is the only school newsletter that we will print. Our community school endeavors to be as environmentally friendly as possible. The school newsletter is posted on our WFG school website each month for your reading pleasure and convenience.

FNMI UPDATES

Over the summer, some new additions were made to our Land-based Learning Space,

including a plaque to acknowledge the space, and more boulder seating in front of the school. September 30 is National Truth & Reconciliation Day. The school will be closed in recognition of this day. Students will be learning about National Truth & Reconciliation Day in the days leading up to it through lessons and activities. Win Ferguson will have Orange Shirt Day on **Thursday September 29**. Orange Shirts can be purchased locally at Dreamcatcher Gift & Art Gallery

COUNSELLING CORNER

Please note that on the school website under the Parents tab, support information and materials are regularly updated for parent use. If you have any additional questions, please contact the school to speak with Mrs. Brassard.

STUDENT DROP OFF

We have concerns for student safety especially as they exit the school at the end of the day. We have numerous students crossing the bus lane to access the parking lot as well as many bike riders heading for home. Parents who park near the beginning of the lane way or those who use that lane way to pick up their children pose a potential risk to our student safety. **Please avoid using the lane way during the high traffic times.** If you are picking up a child, please park in the parking lot. We thank you, in advance, for supporting our goal for a safe place and space for all.

WIN FERGUSON SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL (SAC)

The WFG SAC provides parents and the school community with a means to consult with and provide advice on school policies to the principal on matters pertaining to the school and its operations. A separate part of the Council – The WFG School Society (PTA), which meets right after the School Advisory Council, facilitates all fundraising activity for the school that can enhance the educational programming for our students. On Monday September 26, 2022, elections will be taking place for both the School Council and the School Society. We look

forward to seeing some new faces around the table this year. All WFG parents are automatically members of SAC. See you then!

WIN FERGUSON NEIGHBOURS

To maintain harmony and demonstrate respectful citizenship to our WFG neighbors, we ask that parents please not park in homeowners' driveways and keep children out of the homeowners' yard. It's all part of the win-win thinking our school is known for. Do the right thing and demonstrate the Golden Rule in our immediate community.

VIDEO SURVEILLANCE

Did you know each EIPS bus is equipped with video surveillance? Video surveillance and equipment help:

- ensure the safety of all students, drivers, and property; and
- discourage destructive acts.

On a regular basis, EIPS Student Transportation reviews the video recordings, in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FOIP). The recordings assist the department with monitoring student and driver conduct and may be used as evidence in a disciplinary matter.

For more information about the collection, use and disclosure of personal information, contact the EIPS FOIP Coordinator at 780-464-3477.



SEPTEMBER 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		30 First day of school	31	1	2	3
4	5 School Closed Statutory Holiday	6 Regular ECS classes begin	7 Early dismissal day Staff Meeting	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 School Picture Day	20 School Picture Day (Kindergarten 2)	21	22	23 Terry Fox Run RED DAY	24
25	26 SAC @ 6:30 PM Society @ 7:00 PM	27	28	29 ORANGE SHIRT DAY	30 School Closed Statutory Holiday	