



From the Principal's Desk January

Happy New Year! I hope all of you had a restful break and had the opportunity to spend some quality time with family and friends. Christmas time was very busy at the Huculak household. We welcomed a new addition to our family.....no, not any more kids... I have one son and one daughter and that is perfect for us. Instead, we surprised our kids with a puppy. Her name is Oakley and she is a Golden doodle. She is 10 weeks old and is adorable. We all love her already and I am happy to say she is settling into our home nicely.

Bruderheim School closed out December with our annual Christmas concert. "Light up the World" was a huge success! Approximately 400 people were in attendance and each was treated to a wonderful performance from our students. The school was decorated with fantastic artwork and creative writing from students along with Christmas trees that were made by our grade 3 students. Thank you to all staff who helped out and made this concert a very memorable one. The concert was a perfect way to get us all into the Christmas spirit! We also raised \$119 for the Bruderheim Christmas Hamper program by raffling off the 'Best Seats in the House' (the entire front row of our concert) and once again our school collected food items. Way to go Bruderheim!

We have a number of classes that are participating in Energize Oil Country again this year. The program encourages students to be active throughout the week and in return they can win prizes.

January promises to be another busy month as we settle back into school routines. Kindergarten registration opens on January 16 for the 2017-2018 school year, so please spread the word. Bruderheim School is a great place to be! We are extremely grateful for the support we receive from the Town of Bruderheim, businesses and our community and are looking forward to a terrific 2017.

For more information, please visit the school website at: <http://www.bruderheimschool.ca/>

Sincerely,

Jeff Huculak M.Ed
Principal

JANUARY 2017

- Jan. 9 Classes Resume
- Jan. 10 Skating Grades 4, 5, 6 10:00 AM to 11:50 AM
- Jan. 10 BPAC Meeting 6:00 PM
- Jan. 11 Staff Meeting – Early Dismissal 1:55 PM
- Jan. 12 Skating Grade 2 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM
- Jan. 13 Assembly 9:00 AM
- Jan. 16 Kindergarten Registration Begins
- Jan. 17 Skating Grades 4, 5, 6 10:00 AM to 11:50 AM
- Jan. 17 Skating Grades 1, 3 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM
- Jan. 17 Disney Day in the Library – Dress Disney
- Jan. 18 Disney Day in the Library
- Jan. 19 Skating Grade 2 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM
- Jan. 24 Skating Grades K, 4, 5, 6 10:00 AM to 11:50 AM
- Jan. 24 Skating Grades 1, 3 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM
- Jan. 26 Spell-a-thon
- Jan. 26 Skating Grade 2 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM
- Jan. 27 Beach Day (Staff vs. Grade 6 Volleyball Game 2:15 PM)
- Jan. 31 Teacher’s Pet Grades 4, 5 9:00 AM
- Jan. 31 Teacher’s Pet Grade 1 1:00 PM



FEBRUARY 2017

- Feb. 1 Staff Meeting – Early Dismissal 1:55 PM
- Feb. 2 Skating Grade 2 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM
- Feb. 3 Assembly 9:00 AM
- Feb. 7 Skating Grades K, 4, 5, 6 10:00 AM to 11:50 AM
- Feb. 7 Parent/Teacher/Student Conference Booking Online Information Home
- Feb. 7 BPAC Meeting 6:00 PM
- Feb. 9, 10 Teachers’ Convention – No School
- Feb. 13 Parent/Teacher/Student Conference Online Bookings Open 9:00 AM
- Feb. 14 Valentine’s Day Carnival 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM
- Feb. 16 Skating Grade 2 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM
- Feb. 17 Professional Learning Day – No School
- Feb. 20 Family Day – No School
- Feb. 21 WISEST
- Feb. 21 Skating Grades 1, 3 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM
- Feb. 22 Pink Shirt Day
- Feb. 22 Parent Teacher Student Conferences 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM
- Feb. 23 Parent Teacher Student Conferences 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM
- Feb. 25 Young Authors Conference
- Feb. 28 Skating Grades K, 4, 5, 6 10:00 AM to 11:50 AM
- Feb. 28 Skating Grades 1, 3 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM
- TBD Running Room Indoor Games

Note: Please check the calendar on our website for up to date information

MARCH 2017

- Mar. 1 Staff Meeting – Early Dismissal 1:55 PM
- Mar. 2 Skating Grade 2 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM
- Mar. 3 Professional Learning Day – No School
- Mar. 6 Handbells Grade 6
- Mar. 7 Skating Grades 4, 5, 6 10:00 AM to 11:50 AM
- Mar. 7 Skating Grades 1, 3 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM
- Mar. 7 Super Hero in the Library – Dress Like Your Favorite Super Hero

Mar. 8	Super Hero in the Library
Mar. 7	BPAC Meeting 6:00 PM
Mar. 10	Assembly 9:00 AM
Mar. 14	Skating Grades 1, 3 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM
Mar. 17	St. Patrick's Day – Calgary Opera "Cinderella" 1:45 PM
Mar. 21	Telus World of Science (School Wide Field Trip)
Mar. 22	Report Cards Distributed and Available Through CSL on PowerSchool
Mar. 24	Day-in-lieu – No School
Mar. 27-31	Spring Break & Easter – No School

Bruderheim School is a great place to be, thanks to the efforts of many dedicated people. In this section of the newsletter we try to recognize the work done on behalf of the students. Thank you to:



- ✓ Hot lunch group: Sarah Smith, Erin Lewis, Amanda Oldfield-West, Stephanie Campbell, Nicole Kammer and Dawn Kotyk
- ✓ Staff Christmas lunch group: Nicole Kammer, Amanda Oldfield-West, Stephanie Campbell and Cynthia Willis
- ✓ BPAC for providing baby-sitting during BPAC meetings
- ✓ Stacy Nice for bringing snacks for students
- ✓ Lamco Gas Co-op/Gas Alberta Inc. for their \$250 donation towards the Breakfast Program
- ✓ James Marko for his donation of poster paper
- ✓ Conal Macmillan from Shell for pizza for the staff
- ✓ The Ryer family for the microwave
- ✓ Everyone who brought in food to support the Bruderheim Christmas Hamper

- ✓ Everyone who purchased a front row ticket to the Christmas concert
- ✓ The Town of Bruderheim for allowing our students to skate for free
- ✓ Giant Tiger in Fort Saskatchewan for their generosity. Giant Tiger donated a case load of fresh apples and numerous boxes of freezies before Christmas. In addition, Giant Tiger donated several NEW books for our students. We are very fortunate to have such great support from local businesses

BREAKFAST FOR LEARNING – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are currently looking for volunteers to run and help out with our breakfast program. The breakfast program runs from about 8:00 AM – 8:45 AM during school days. We are in need of more parents to sign up. If you can

help, even one morning a week, please call the school. We will be happy to put you in touch with our Breakfast Coordinator, Stephanie Campbell.

HOT LUNCH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are currently looking for people to assist with our Hot Lunch program. Once a month, students and staff are treated to a hot lunch. The lunch is free of charge and organized through BPAC. If you are able to help, please contact the school and we will put you in touch with Sarah Smith and Krystyn Miller who are our Hot Lunch Coordinators this year.

OUR MITTEN TREE CONTINUES TO GIVE...

Thank you to all our school families who donated mittens towards an Edmonton inner city charity. Mrs. Bartz has collected almost 70 pairs of mittens this year! The mittens will be taken into Edmonton at the end of January. They will be much appreciated. Thank you to the families who took the time to buy a pair and bring them in to the school library.



SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR RESULTS

Thank you to all who attended our annual Scholastic book fair in December. We sold 150 books and a lot of other product to have our sales reach \$2271.26. Mrs. Bartz, our librarian, was able to choose almost \$700.00 of product from the fair shelves as well as receive a \$500.00 coupon to be used later for library books.

We had a fun time with the pirate theme and saw many contest winners who guessed the correct amount of gold coins found at the bottom of the sea, as well as coloring contest winners from each classroom.

Our big ticket event was the "Open to the Public" sale evenings during parent/teacher interviews. Congratulations to the Johnson family for winning the \$25 in free books! They also chose Mrs. Vandelannoite as the teacher winner, so she chose \$25 in books for her classroom library.

Thank you to all the families who braved the cold to come out to purchase items. Thank you to the helping hands to did the set up.

We look forward to next year, probably during the same month, when we once again will host another Scholastic Book Fair. Mrs. Bartz always appreciates your parental help. Please consider volunteering.

A.M.A. SCHOOL PATROL UPDATE "Safety over Convenience"

Congratulations to Olivia and Kylie who are patrollers of the month. Their dedication and service is greatly appreciated! They demonstrate responsibility by being on time and performing their duties with care and attention. All patrollers deserve a pat on the back for the hard work they do, regardless of the weather. See you at the crosswalk!

BRUDERHEIM PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL UPDATE

Please join us on Tuesday, February 7 at 6:00 PM in the Library for the next BPAC meeting. There are many important things happening, and this is an excellent way to be involved in the life of the school. All parents are welcome! Babysitting will be provided thanks to BPAC and Grade 6 Leadership students.

Kindergarten

Registration begins January 16, 2017

At this time we do not yet know if there will be one or two Kindergarten classes. If there is one class, it will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and alternating Fridays. If there are two classes, there will be an additional class held Mondays and Wednesdays, and alternating Fridays. Please be sure to state your preference at the time of registration, if there is the need for two Kindergarten classes.

STAFFING UPDATE

Lisa Bocek

Congratulations to Lisa Bocheck who has accepted our grade two teaching position. Mrs. Bocek is taking over for Mrs. Brady and will be working with Mrs. Bettac in the grade two classroom until the end of June. Welcome to Bruderheim School, Mrs. Bocek!

Nicole Brady

We would like to wish Mrs. Brady all the best as she gets ready to begin the next chapter in her life. As you know, Mrs. Brady and her husband are expecting their first child. We will certainly miss Mrs. Brady at Bruderheim school.



Parents, Student, & Teacher Conferences

CHANGES COMING TO BRUDERHEIM PARENT/TEACHER/STUDENT CONFERENCES

Bruderheim School will be changing the way we schedule our Parent/Teacher/Student conferences. In February, we will be using an “on-line system” where parents can book conferences with their child’s teachers. Many EIPS schools, along with other school districts, are currently using on-line booking systems with great success. The format of the conferences will remain the same. Parents will still have 10 minutes to meet with their child’s teachers. However, rather than the teachers picking a time for you, you will be able to select the time that works best for your family. Those parents that do not have access to the Internet can contact the school and speak with either Mrs. Carlson or your child’s teacher to assist you with booking an appointment.

Term 2 conferences will be held on:

- Wednesday, February 22 from 5:00pm – 8:00pm
- Thursday, February 23 from 5:00pm – 8:00pm

Information on how to book conferences will be sent home with students a couple weeks prior to conferences.

HAPPY ★ NEW ★ YEAR



COUNSELLOR'S CORNER

Welcome back to school. I hope everyone is feeling refreshed and relaxed from the break. This month in Character Education classes we will continue to discuss kindness and empathy. We will be learning through stories, class discussions and videos.

Before the break, grades 1-6 students at Bruderheim School were fortunate to experience a presentation from author Jacqueline Guest. Jacqueline is a Metis author who lives in the Rocky Mountain foothills of Bragg Creek, Alberta. Her award winning novels touch on issues common to every child; such as bullying, blended families and physical challenges. Her characters are strong role models for today's youth. Jacqueline's historical novels for young readers illustrate Canada's vibrant past as part of an exciting read every child will enjoy. Jaqueline worked with our division one students on how to develop interesting details in writing with a theme around dinosaurs. She gave a historical presentation to our division two students about the voyageurs of Batoche. Students and parents may visit <http://www.jacquelineguest.com/> to learn more about Jaqueline Guest or order any of her novels.

We are still looking for volunteers! Bruderheim School has joined the Alberta Reads Network. This year we will be implementing "Wee Reads", which is an eight-week program that matches volunteers with kindergarten and grade one students to share books and conversation. "Wee Reads" is designed to strengthen the foundations for reading, and school success as well as help children develop language skills and a love of reading. If you are interested in volunteering for "Wee Reads", please let us know.

As always, if your child needs any additional support, I am available to meet with him or her to provide strategies for friendships, school and other areas of need. I am also free to meet with parents to provide support and offer additional resources when needed.

If you have any concerns you'd like to address, or would just like to stop by and introduce yourself, please feel free to visit my office or contact me for an appointment. I can be reached at 780-796-3936 or by email at: lyndsey.pearson@eips.ca

Sincerely,
Mrs. Lyndsey Pearson, M.Ed.

BRUDERHEIM PRESCHOOL NEWS



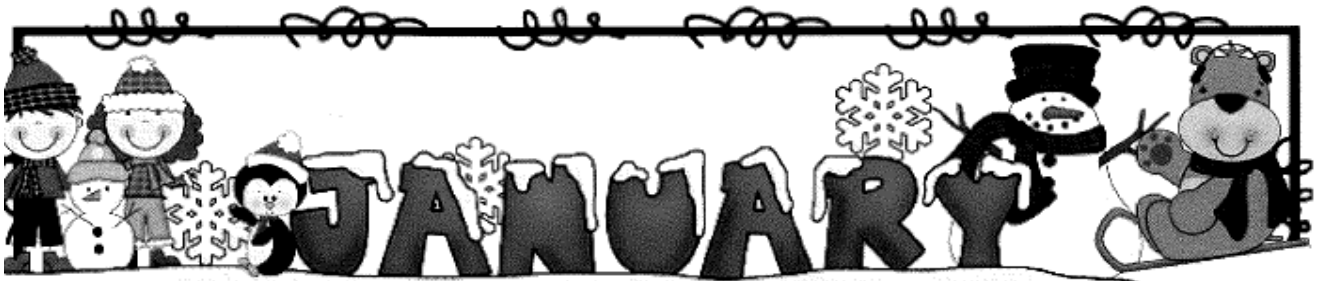
Happy New Year!! Hope everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas holiday. Preschool is back in full swing. We welcome a few new faces to preschool.

The preschool was very successful at the annual Christmas concert/silent auction. The preschool raised about \$2000.00. The money raised helps pay for field trips, new toys, crafts and books. Thank you for your support!

If you have a child that is three or four and you are interested in preschool please feel free to call me at 780-796-0008 or email me at willis74@mcsnet.ca

Thanks
Ms. Cynthia

Classroom News



Miss Cameron's Kindergarten Kiddos

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 Classes Resume	10 Kinder Letter: Ii Star Student: Carter BPAC 6:00pm	11	12 Kinder Star Student: Tanya	13 Kinder Star Student: Hunter Assembly 9:00am	14
15	16 Kindergarten Registration Begins	17 Kinder Letter: Jj Star Student: Amiya Disney Day!	18	19 Kinder Star Student: Keegan	20	21
22	23	24 Kinder Letter: Kk Star Student: Avery Skating 10:05	25	26 Kinder Star Student: Jaxon Spell-a-thon	27 Kinder Star Student: Emily Beach Day	28
29	30	31 Kinder Letter: Uu Star Student: Emery				

I hope everyone had an awesome Winter Break! We are back into the swing of things with another busy month. Our theme for this month is Super Heroes and we will also be learning about local super heroes, our community helpers. I hope to organize a speaker (police officer, most likely) to come in and talk to the kids about how they help the community. Star Students don't need to bring anything in this time around, they get to sit in the special spot with 2 friends and help around the classroom (with the exception of Carter, Tanya, and Hunter who will be bringing in their "I am Unique" booklets and special item to show) Home reading will begin this month! More information to follow.

Our first skating date is also this month. Please ensure your child has proper fitting skates, a CSA approved helmet (bike helmets are not allowed), and mitts. If you are able to volunteer on or off the ice, please let me know. We will be starting literacy centers this month to help students work on letter recognition and sounds. I strongly encourage parents to be working on these skills at home as well. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please let me know! Happy New Year, everyone!

© Mrs. Cameron's Ladybug Shop



Grade 1 News

Welcome back to everyone after what I hope was an enjoyable and relaxing Christmas Break. We are right back into the swing of things this week and are continuing our learning right where we left off.

In Language Arts we will start our Spelling Check-Ups again next week. Our words for

January are:

Jan 16-20	want, come, her, him, day
Jan 23-27	his, will, house, mom, dad
Jan 30-Feb 3	your, that, if, some do

We will continue our Writer’s Workshops and work on becoming better writers. Our focus this month will be making sure our stories have a beginning, middle and end. We will also be starting Literacy Centres this week. We will rotate between centres focused on writing, reading, word work, phonics, listening to reading and time with the teacher.

In Mathematics we are continuing Unit 3 “Addition and Subtraction to 12”. I encourage parents to have their children make groups of objects and then split those groups into two parts. We are also counting by 2s, 5s, and 10s throughout the day and working on numbers to 100 at the end of the month and into February.



In Science we will conclude our “Creating Colour” unit and start “Needs of Plants and Animals.” During Social Studies, we will be looking at the town of Bruderheim and discussing some of the landmarks in town.

In Gym, we will be working on ball skills like bouncing, rolling, passing, and catching. We will also be going skating twice this month, on January 17 and 24. Please make sure your child has their skates and a CSA approved helmet on these dates. (Bike helmets are not designed for the ice and will not work.)

Printmaking will be our focus in Art this month. I am excited to see what kind of patterns and designs we will come up with as we try different printmaking techniques!

On the afternoon of January 31, “Teacher’s Pet” is coming to our classroom for an in-school field trip so we can explore an upcoming Science Unit called “Building Things.” More information will go home about this activity soon.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Secrist

Award Winners: Kaydence - Diligence Terrance - Leadership Rylee - Super Storyteller



Grade 2 News

What a pleasure it has been getting to know your children and meeting you in our school hallways! I am very excited to be a teacher at Bruderheim School and especially honoured to be inspiring grade two students to be their best!

What We're Learning!

During Language Arts we are continuing to integrate winter themed writing assignments, with special focus on snowmen.

Learning goals are...

- Make connections to personal events during guided reading
- Practice writing complete sentences using capitals and correct punctuation
- Revise writing
- Add descriptive detail as well as include interesting and exciting words
- Create sequential and persuasive writing



In Math, students are starting our "Addition and Subtraction to 18" unit.

Learning goals are...

- Develop and use mental math strategies to add and subtract two 1-digit numbers, including zero.
 - Look for patterns in digits when adding and subtracting.
 - Understand and use the relationship between addition and subtraction.
 - Find out if 2 sides of a number sentence are equal or not equal.
- Lots of practice both at school and at home will improve your child's knowledge of adding and subtracting.

Our Social Studies unit has students continuing to learn about the following communities: Bruderheim, Meteghan, Iqaluit, and Saskatoon.



"Exploring Liquids" is our next Science unit. Students will learn about water and other liquids and various states of water (solid, liquid, gas).

Please contact me with any questions or concerns and be sure to stop by the classroom to say hello.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Bocek
(780) 796-3936
lisa.bocek@eips.ca

Award Winners: Ethan - Academic

Nicklas - Leadership

Tristian - Diligence

Grade 3 News

Happy New Year and Welcome Back to School! I hope you all had a fantastic Christmas break, and I wish you the very best in 2017! I'd like to go back to December happenings and thank all parents for sending in lunch items for our Christmas luncheon together. Your contribution was graciously accepted and enjoyed by all! The Christmas concert was fabulous and the Grade 3's Christmas trees looked spectacular on the stage.



Before the break, the Grade 3's were busy with many writing opportunities in Language Arts and are now anxiously waiting to begin our second novel study, Fantastic, Mr. Fox. We continue to work on weekly grammar packages, writing opportunities, and comprehension story work. In Math, we are learning all about Numbers to 1000. Work at home on daily math facts (single and double digits) will assist your child in this unit as well as upcoming ones. In Science, we are continuing our Hearing and Sound unit and then moving quickly into Rocks

and Minerals. We look forward to learning more about India and Peru this term in Social and being engaged in many inquiry units at home and at school.

To start off our new year, the Grade 3's will be working on receiving, "Class Dojo Points". Students will be gaining points for agendas signed, homework complete, ready to work, etc. Unfortunately, students may also lose points for homework not being returned, talking out of turn, agendas not signed, etc. Each Friday afternoon, students who have a certain number of Dojo points will gain free time in class.



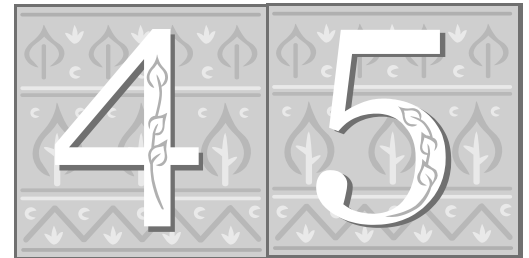
January-March the Grade 3's will be going skating with the Grade 1's. Please watch for more information on dates/times. As well, with the cold weather please ensure your child is properly dressed for our walk to the arena and for outdoor recesses as well.

Mrs. V and the Grade 3's ☺

Award Winners: Cameron and Heidi – Academic Keyaira – Leadership Katherine - Diligence

Grade 4/5 News

- ✓ Language Arts: This month, we began small group novel studies within our reading groups. We will concentrate on summarizing, making inferences, and analyzing the author's purpose.
- ✓ Grade 4 Science: We began our Light and Shadow unit this month. Students will learn about light by studying the effects of light on things within their environment. They learn about light sources, about materials that light can pass through and about what happens when a material blocks or changes the path of light. They discover that mirrors, prisms and a variety of other materials can affect that path by reflecting and refracting light and splitting it into colors.
- ✓ Grade 5 Science: We are diving into our Classroom Chemistry unit. Students will experiment with a variety of materials to see what happens when they mix together!
- ✓ Grade 4 Math: We are continuing our unit on multiplying and dividing larger numbers. Students will estimate products, multiply 2-digit and 3-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers, and solve division equations with 1-digit divisors and 2-digit dividends.



Important dates to remember:

- Library is on Wednesday
- In school field trip on January 31st – Building Catapults!



Have a wonderful month and please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Michalchuk

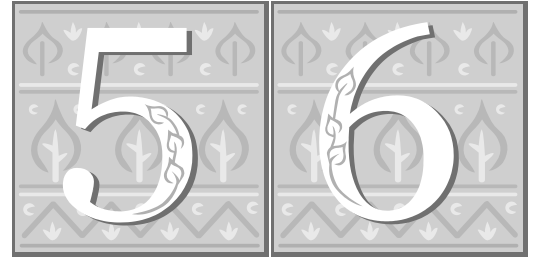
(780) 796-3936

ashley.michalchuk@eips.ca

Award Winners: Anastasia – Leadership Alexander – Diligence Grace - Academics

Grade 5/6 News

December was an exciting month in our class, as we sold our crafts we worked really hard on! We were able to raise \$330.75 for the Lamont County Food Bank. With this money we purchased 9 boxes of diapers! Mrs. Atchison also used her Shoppers Points to purchase pull-ups as well! The people at the food bank were very thrilled to see such a great donation!



Kudos to the students on this fundraiser and thank you so much to our supporters! We have dived right back into our studies now that we are back, and there is a lot to accomplish!

Award Winners: Jordon and Jolene - Academic Natalie - Diligence Hannah - Leadership

Sincerely,
Mrs. Atchison

In and around the District



Kindergarten Registration Starts January 16!

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2017? If so, it's now time to register for Kindergarten.

Kindergarten registration opens for the 2017–2018 school year on **Jan. 16, 2017**. To register, bring your

completed [Student Registration Form](#) to the school you're enrolling your child in along with proof of your child's name, residence, date of birth and citizenship. If you're registering for Kindergarten at SouthPointe School, the new school in Fort Saskatchewan opening in the 2017–2018 school year, you can submit a registration form to any elementary school in Fort Saskatchewan—the school will make sure your registration package is delivered to the principal at SouthPointe School.

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>.

Additional information regarding Bruderheim School's Kindergarten program, can be found on our school website at <http://bruderheimschool.ca/programs/kindergarten>

Boundary Exemption Request Process

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) boundary exemption request process for the 2017–2018 school year takes place from February 1 to April 7. The boundary exemption request process is the only time of year EIPS students—in Kindergarten to Grade 12—wishing to attend a non-designated school in the upcoming school year can apply to do so. Interested families must fill out a Boundary Exemption Request Form and submit it directly to their requested school.

The [Boundary Exemption Request Form](#) and additional information about the boundary exemption request process, schools with closed boundaries and frequently asked questions can be found by visiting www.eips.ca/schools/boundaries/boundary-exemption-request-process.

Final decisions will be made by April 12, 2017.

NOTE: Students already accepted into a non-designated school don't need to reapply.

Inclement Weather

With the winter season already here, 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. All morning bus cancellations will be posted on www.eips.ca by 6:30 a.m.

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.

Have Your Say: Take the EIPS Parent Survey

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) is inviting all of our parents and guardians to complete a survey about your experiences with Bruderheim School and the Division.

Annually, EIPS conducts a Parent Survey, which acts as a supplement to Alberta Education's Accountability Pillar survey for families with children in grades 4, 7 and 10. The EIPS Parent Survey is a chance for all EIPS families to share their thoughts on the overall performance of the Division and their school, the quality of education being provided to students and areas for improvement.

The feedback gathered will help the Division measure its progress towards meeting the goals and priorities outlined in the EIPS 2015–2018 Three-Year Education Plan and develop strategies to better serve our students and the wider community.

We encourage all of our families to complete the survey, which only takes a few minutes. Also, if you wish to share the experience of more than one of your children, you can respond to the survey more than once. The survey is open until Jan. 30, 2017.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/22JMPC3>

Download the PowerSchool App

Did you know there is a PowerSchool app? Download PowerSchool Mobile today on your Apple or Android device to stay connected with similar information available on the PowerSchool website. The same app can be used by both parents and students. You'll have real-time access to attendance, upcoming assignments, grades and more. Sign-up for push notifications to stay up to date.

Links to download PowerSchool Mobile are available from the PowerSchool parent or student portals or directly from the App Store or Google Play. Use the Elk Island Public Schools district code, HXWF, and your PowerSchool portal username and password to login to the app. The first time you login, or if you haven't used the app in a while, it may take three to five minutes for the app to load completely as it accesses all of your data from the PowerSchool server.

More information, links to download the app and a copy of the PowerSchool Mobile app user guide are available at www.eips.ca.

Think Globally Contest: Student art

Alberta Education's Think Globally Art Contest is now accepting submissions from students in grades K-12. The contest is meant to help students reflect on their connection with the world, using the power of creativity as a tool to illustrate their understanding and thoughts. This year's submissions should be artwork reflecting the various First Nations, Métis and Inuit cultures in Alberta. All selected artwork will be displayed at the Alberta Legislature building. **The submission deadline is Jan. 20, 2017.** [Learn more](#)

Canada Day Challenge

EIPS students are invited to enter the Canada Day Challenge—a creative-art contest to celebrate Canadian culture and heritage. The theme this year: Celebrate Your Future! Submissions can be a creative piece of art, photography or writing that reflects Canada in the next 150 years. Top prize is an all-expense paid trip for two to Ottawa to celebrate the Canada 150 festivities. Submissions are being accepted from **January 3 to March 31.** [Learn more](#)

First Nations and Inuit Hope for Wellness Help Line

Health Canada recently announced the launch of the First Nations and Inuit Hope for Wellness Help Line (1-855-242-3310), which is available 24-7. The helpline provides immediate, culturally competent, telephone-based, crisis-intervention counselling to First Nations and Inuit people experiencing distress. All calls are answered in

English or French by experienced crisis-intervention counsellors. Callers can also ask if service is available in Cree, Ojibway and Inuktitut.

EIPS 2017–2018 Division Calendar: Now Available

The approved EIPS 2017–2018 school year calendar is now available online. The calendar includes important dates during the 2017–2018 school year including: school-closure dates; holidays; dates for the fall, winter, spring and summer breaks; the first and last day of classes; professional learning days; and early dismissal dates.

Highlights from the 2017–2018 Division calendar include:

- August 30 First day of classes
- November 13-17 Fall Break
- December 25 to January 5 Winter Break
- January 31 Second Semester begins
- February 8-9 Teachers' Convention
- March 26-30 Spring Break
- June 28 Last day of classes
- June 29 Schools close for the Summer Break

To view the 2016–2017 Division calendar and 2017–2018 Division calendar, visit www.eips.ca. You can also sync the calendar to your own personal calendar for easy reference throughout the year.

**NOTE:* Start and end times for school timetables differ by school so make sure to call your school's office or visit your school's website if you need more information.

Another Way to Stay Connected: EIPS on Facebook

Did you know Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) recently launched a [Facebook](#) page? With 42 school and approximately 17,100 students spread across the Division, there's a wealth of events, activities and stories taking place every day. Using the combination of news articles, videos and photography, the EIPS [Facebook](#) page showcases the latest news, updates, events and alerts taking place across the Division.

Stay in the loop, follow us on [Facebook](#).

NOTE: The [Division Facebook account](#) is 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 and asks everyone interacting on the EIPS Facebook page to be respectful. Personal attacks and offensive language will not be allowed and may be deleted.

Sync the School Calendar to Your Personal Calendar

Did you know you can sync the school calendar to your own personal calendar? Just visit <http://bruderheimschool.ca/about/calendar> and click on one of the following calendar options you want to subscribe to:

- Add to Google Calendar
- Subscribe to Calendar (Outlook)
- Download iCal

NOTE: Using a mobile device, these options are located above the calendar. Using a computer, these options are located below the calendar.

Once you click on the calendar option you want to subscribe to, simply follow the instructions that appear on your computer screen or mobile device. Within seconds, your personal calendar will contain all of Bruderheim School's important dates including holidays, school-closure dates, school activities and events, and more.

Notes from the Office

Will your child be absent or late today? Please phone in your child's absence/late to 780-796-3936. Our answering machine is available 24 hours a day. Messages are picked up regularly from 8:00 AM to 3:30 PM. Thank you in advance for your assistance!



Your Future in MIND



Be Your Best!