



**BRUDERHEIM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**Newsletter #7, March 2018**

**Principal: Paul McKay**

**From the Principal's Desk**

**Looking Back...**

Sometimes it seems impossible how much we can fit into a month with 3 and four day weeks, but I think as teachers we see this as a challenge not an obstacle. February was amazing filled with carnivals, running races, spell-a-thons and many other awesome activities. For a small school we are giving our kids every opportunity to experience what school has to offer.

**Presently...**

March in like a Lion and hopefully out like a Lamb. Another month cut short by spring break, but again we have a lot planned. Have you pre-enrolled your kiddo for next year? If not please do so at home or come by the office and we will be glad to help. Kudos to Miss Burton, Mrs. Michalchuk and the Tigers basketball teams as they learn about the game and teamwork in our short basketball season. I would like to welcome Mr. Robert McWeeny who has replaced Mrs. Oviatt in our music program. He has just joined us and by all accounts the kids are loving it.

**Looking Ahead...**

March is another reporting month. Report cards will go live on March 16<sup>th</sup> and parent teacher interviews will follow on March 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> from 4:30 – 7:30pm. I hope all our families take the time to come see some of the amazing work your kids have done. Just before spring break we will be welcoming Mrs. Brady back to Bruderheim after the birth of her daughter and saying goodbye to Mrs. Bochek. We deeply thank her for her contributions to our school and wish her the best of luck in the future.

I hope that everyone has a safe and relaxing spring break.

**Paul Mckay  
Principal**



## MARCH 2018

- Mar. 1 Dress Spacey Day (in Honor of the Bruderheim Meteorite – March 4)  
Mar. 1 Seniors Visit Grade 5  
Mar. 2 Professional Learning Day – No School  
Mar. 5 BSC Meeting 5:30PM  
Mar. 7 Staff Meeting – Early Dismissal 1:55PM  
~~Mar. 9 Assembly 9:00AM~~ *Changed to 9:00AM March 16*  
Mar. 12 Seniors Visit Grade 4  
Mar. 16 Assembly 9:00AM  
Mar. 16 Report Cards Distributed at 2:30PM and Available Through CSL on PowerSchool  
Mar. 17 St. Patrick's Day – Wear Green Saturday!  
Mar. 19 Teacher's Pet Grades 2, 4  
Mar. 20 Kindergarten Report Cards Distributed  
Mar. 20 Parent Teacher Student Conferences *time change 4:30 – 7:30*  
Mar. 20, 21 Bonus Book Days  
Mar. 21 Parent Teacher Student Conferences *time change 4:30 – 7:30*  
Mar. 23 Day-in-lieu – No School  
Mar. 26–30 Spring Break & Good Friday – No School

## APRIL 2018

- Apr. 2 Easter Monday – No School  
Apr. 3 Classes Resume  
Apr. 4 Staff Meeting – Early Dismissal 1:55PM  
~~Apr. 6 Assembly 9:00AM~~ *Changed to 9:00AM April 13*  
Apr. 9 BSC Meeting 5:30PM  
Apr. 17 Spring School Pictures  
Apr. 18 Math Contest  
Apr. 24, 25 Hat Days in the Library  
Apr. 23 Author Visit 1:00 – 3:00  
Apr. 26 Kindergarten Information Night 6:00PM  
Apr. 27 Professional Learning Day – No School



Please check our website for up to date information



Spring Break

## **THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!**

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:

- Breakfast program: Stephanie Campbell
- Parents for including forks and spoons in their child's/children's snacks/lunches
- February's Hot Lunch staff: Stephanie Campbell, Iceis Dach, Jessica Gordon, Nicole Kammer, Erin Lewis, Krystyn Miller, Sarah Smith, Melissa Young
- BSC for providing babysitting during BSC meetings
- Wee Reads volunteers
- The Town Of Bruderheim for allowing us to skate for free
- Staples for their donation of a printer
- Bruderheim parents who supported "Running Room Games"
- Hot dog fundraiser lunch staff
- Mrs. Johnson for volunteering at YAC
- Mrs. Bartz for her donation of snack food



## **NEXT BSC (BRUDERHEIM SCHOOL COUNCIL) MEETING**

Please join us on Monday, April 9 at 5:30 in the library for the next BSC meeting. There are many important things happening and this is an excellent way to be involved in school life. Babysitting will be provided thanks to BSC. All parents are welcome!

## **SIGNING IN AND OUT OF SCHOOL**

Bruderheim School is a small school yet it is a very busy place. We have a number of volunteers and other visitors that come into our school and work with our students. PLEASE all volunteers, visitors AND parents stop at the office to sign in and remember to sign your child out if they are going to be arriving/leaving school premises. Student and staff safety is our #1 priority.

## **AMA SCHOOL PATROL**

Congratulations to Isabelle who is patroller of the month! Isabelle has shown great dedication and service which is greatly appreciated, especially during our brutally cold days! Thank you Isabelle!

## **SCHOOL FEES**

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. The school accepts cash or checks. If you are having trouble logging on to your parent portal, please contact Ms. Carlson at 780 796 3936 for assistance.

Don't forget to log in to the PowerSchool Parent Portal regularly throughout the year. Fees may be 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 you require assistance with paying your fees, payment plans are available. Contact the school directly at 780 796 3936 if you would like to employ a payment plan.

## SCHOOL AND DISTRICT SPEECH COMPETITION

We would like to congratulate our top five School Speech Competition speakers from grades 4-6. Students prepared and practiced their speeches and really impressed the judges! Our judges were Mrs. Vandelannoite, Miss Sereda, and Mrs. Pat Lee.

The final placing from each grade are:

Grade 4: Leah, Ashton, Marley

Grade 5: Mikka, Alexis, Eva-Jane

Grade 6: Brooklyn, James, Carver

The first place speaker from each grade will be speaking at the EIPS District Finals April 26 at Strathcona County Hall in Sherwood Park.

## YOUNG AUTHORS CONFERENCE

F.R. Haythorne Junior High School in Sherwood Park hosted the Young Authors Conference (YAC) on February 24. Hundreds of students chose topics of special interest to them and were able to meet their favorite authors and illustrators. There was wonderful representation of Bruderheim School by our attending students.



## COUNSELLOR'S CORNER

### *Technology and Your Child*

Last month, we recognized Pink Shirt Day (an Anti-Bullying Day) on February 28th. This year, they had a special focus on cyber bullying. Our children are exposed to technology every day, multiple times a day.

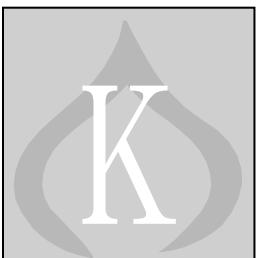
There are many wonderful uses for technology that provide convenience and education. There are also dangers in technology use that as parents and educators, we are tasked to protect our children from. With all the amazing advances in technology, we cannot forget to take precautions to protect our children from media that is not age-appropriate and from behaviours online that require guidance (cyberbullying, harassment, graphic language, etc).

It's important to remember that children's brains are not fully developed, specifically the part of the brain (prefrontal cortex) responsible for critical thinking, judgment, problem-solving, and impulse control. When a child or adolescent views media showing violence, sexual content, or harmful stereotypes, it often affects them more than an adult because they don't yet have the brain structures to critically analyze and process what they are viewing. We also have to help guide them through challenging social issues online so they can develop good digital citizenship. If you are looking for a great resource for parents about technology and media, check out [www.commonsensemedia.org](http://www.commonsensemedia.org).

**I have also included some tips for parents who want to set technology guidelines below.**

- Set a limit for how much time your child spends online each day. Usually 1 hour is more than enough time to spend on technology per day.
- Model screen-free activities for your children (ex: no devices at the dinner table, family game night with no devices, going for a walk together without devices)
- Preview media that your child is interested in before giving them access.
- Do your research about social media sites and have conversations with your children about appropriate online behaviour and privacy settings. Don't be afraid to monitor your child's online activities.
- Stick to rating recommendations...they exist for a reason. If a video game is rated T, M or A it means the content is not appropriate for children under the age of 12. Remember, while they may have fun playing

violent games, their brains are not yet equipped with the structures to help them process this violence and it can be harmful.



## Kindergarten News

The Kindergarten students had a lot of fun learning about Rainforest Animals last month. This month our theme is First Nation, Metis and Inuit. We are excited to try out the centers with our new theme.

Our letters of the week this month are: G, W, E & Z

We will continue practicing counting forwards and backwards to ten starting at any number. The kindergartens have been starting to learn basic adding and subtracting skills.

### Important Dates:

Spring Break - March 23 – April 2 (inclusive)

Kindergarten Fridays: March 9

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Grumbach



## Grade 1 News

Happy March and top o' the month to you all! February was our shortest month of the year in a couple of ways but lots of learning still took place! In Language Arts we continued with a weekly poem that goes home on Friday to be read. I hope you are all enjoying these poems and taking the time to read them with your child over the weekend. We have also continued with Phonics and Spelling, and focus on both of these areas during our weekly Literacy centers. Students have been listening to reading on Raz Kids and reading to self on the mat, finding "good fit" books. In Math, we celebrated out 100th day of school by dressing up like we were 100 years old! The students looked great! We counted to 100 in many ways- by 1s, 2s, 5s and 10s! We counted the objects we brought to school using out number mats and sorted them into groups of ten. We also made a tasty 100 day snack necklaces! In science we finished exploring "Creating Colours". In gym we worked on our basketball skills. We have some awesome dribblers in this class! We also made some cute 100 day and "Love" art this month.

As luck would have it, March is sure to be just as busy! We started the month with Space day and some great costumes filled out seats! We will be continuing out Literacy centers, spelling, phonics and poetry in March. We are wrapping up out Numbers to 100 unit this month and will start addition and subtraction to 20. We have started our "Building Things" unit in science. This is tied into fairy tales so we will be reading lots of stories and building things like the 3 little pigs houses, a chair for baby bear, a vehicle to get Cinderella to the ball, a boat for Captain Hook and more! We will also do some fairy tale art! As a special treat on St. Patrick's day, students can bring in a leprechaun trap so we can try to catch a leprechaun and get his gold. This is perfect during our "Building Things" science unit! A continuation on communities will be our focus in social studies. In gym, we will play some floor hockey in our gymnasium.

Please continue to read with your child every night and fill in their page in their home reading book. Please remember to also fill in the monthly reading reflection (blue pages) at the back of the book. Many families are not doing this step and helping their child to think about their reading goals and how to be a better reader.

Make sure that your child is sent to school in a warm winter jacket with snow pants, a hat and mittens. I have extra supplies at school but they are not being returned and I don't have near enough for the amount of students who need a pair of mittens or snow pants.

**Congratulations to our award winners: Ally, Austyne and Carter!**

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Secrist



## **Grade 2 News**

Let's hope that this lovely warm weather continues and that Spring will be here soon! I have enjoyed getting to know all of my students as well as all of the staff and parents of Bruderheim School. My final week of teaching Grade Two will be the week before Spring Break as Mrs. Brady will be returning from her maternity leave. I have enjoyed every moment of my time here...thank you for helping me to be a better teacher. I will miss you all.

**Language Arts:** We have been reading The Mouse and the Motorcycle novel and enjoying it thoroughly. Reading is always a focus, with students reading to both Mrs. Desabrais and me. **Remember to read at home as this supports your child's reading strategies and comprehension.**

Spelling words are stapled in agendas on Monday. This word list is to stay at home and be studied over the course of the week. I have also sent home a tic-tac-toe spelling homework sheet that will be due on test day. The test is given on Fridays (Thursdays if no school Friday). Your child's test may be modified so he/she will have the most success. If you see an "M" or the word "assisted" at the top of the page, your child is sitting with me or Mrs. Desabrais to do the test with three different words for the child to choose as the correct spelling before writing it down.

Winter writing will continue this month with transitional words such as first, next, then and finally. Also descriptive writing using the five senses about Winter and reading responses to a variety of books.

**Math:** We continue with the "Measurement" unit, where students use direct and indirect measurement to solve problems, such as calendar, length, and mass of objects. Please continue to practice adding numbers up to  $9+9=18$  and subtracting numbers up to  $18-9=9$ . Mental math practice is strongly encouraged.



**Science:** "Boats and Buoyancy" is the unit we will begin this month. Students explore what sinks and what floats, and what makes an effective watercraft. Through building and testing a variety of floating objects, students learn the importance of selecting appropriate materials and the importance of workmanship. They will engage in a variety of experiments.

**Social:** The students are learning about Iqaluit, Nunavut now. Here the students will encounter the Inuit people and their traditions and culture, both from the past and present day.

**Congratulations to our award winners: Emmett, Karson, Degan**

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Bochek



## Grade 3 News

Thank you to the many parents who came out to help the grade three's get on the ice and even skate with them. It was a joy having you participate in some fun with us. I am looking forward to meeting again with parents during our parent/student/teacher interviews. Your child is excited to be able to show you what they have learned, working on and are learning currently. This is a great time of the year where we get to celebrate the tremendous growth students have done within just a few months.

In Language Arts, we have completed our Sarah, Plain and Tall novel and enjoyed watching the movie. Next we will be working on poetry and then soon after delve into fables. In Math we are closing our large addition and subtraction unit. If your child is still struggling on their basic math facts to twenty and you are in need of resources, please send me a note or come in to visit. I have many strategies that I have been working on with your child, however working at home for just ten minutes in the evening would do wonders for them. As we move into multiplication, it will get more difficult and frustrating if they still don't have their facts down.



In Science, we are going to begin our ever-popular unit, "Testing with a Variety of Materials". Here we are in high hopes of being "hired" by Mr. Brown and complete many testing jobs for him. As we move through the unit, we will be able to build our own projects in class.

Please continue to check your child's agenda nightly. Signing and ensuring all responsibilities are complete for the next school day is important to your child's organization not only in grade three, but upcoming years.

As always, if you feel you need support in any area or have any concerns, my door is always open.

***Congratulations to our award winners: Iain, Liam E. and Denver!***

Have a wonderful month of March!

Mrs. V and the Grade 3's ☺



## Grade 4 News

✓ Language Arts: Congratulations to all of our Grade 4, 5, and 6 students for the hard work they put into researching, writing, practicing, and presenting their speeches! They were all very well done and a lot of fun to listen to! Now that speeches are completed, our focus this month will be on our whole class book club. As a part of our book club, students will read and respond to texts, both individually and in small groups. We will also discuss and apply reading comprehension strategies.

- ✓ Math: We are starting our unit on measurement where students will record time using digital and analog clocks, record calendar dates, and explore area. I continue to encourage students to practice their basic multiplication and division facts each night.
- ✓ Social: We will be exploring the fur trade and its impact on Alberta.
- ✓ French: In French class we have covered the alphabet, days of the week, months of the year, greetings, colors, weather, and seasons just to name a few! In March and April, we will look at vocabulary and phrases relating to body parts, clothing, our family, and question words.

- ✓ Important dates to remember:
- Library is on Wednesday
- Senior Center visit is March 12<sup>th</sup> at 10AM
- Report cards go home on March 16<sup>th</sup>
- In-school field trip the morning of March 19<sup>th</sup>. We need several volunteers to help out on this day, so if you would like to volunteer, please let me know!



***Congratulations to our award winners: Marley, Shay and Lyndon!***

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](mailto:ashley.michalchuk@eips.ca)



### **Grade 5 News**

February seemed to pass us by quite quickly and we are settling in to a longer March. Our grade 5 class has worked diligently on our speech presentations and kudos to all the speakers on presentation day. As well, a congratulation goes out to all those whom earned top 5 honours and the opportunity to compete at the district level. We are also pleased to have a guest speaker joining us via video call highlighting her on-going experiences as an out-post nurse in Iqaluit. This is an excellent opportunity to learn about Inuit culture, education and health care systems, and everyday life.



Congratulations to the boys and girls basketball teams on a fantastic season and all their hard work. After spring break, we are hoping to start up the outdoor track and field club. This club will give athletes the opportunity to compete at a district level against peers from various schools.

Report cards are quickly approaching and parents will have the opportunity to book parent-teacher interviews in the upcoming weeks. Please note that interviews will be on Tuesday and Wednesday, March 20 - 21 from 4:30 – 7:30 pm.

If you ever have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at school, 780-796-3936, or via email, [Emily.burton@eips.ca](mailto:Emily.burton@eips.ca)

***Congratulations to our award winners: Emerson, Tanner, Mikka***

Sincerely,  
Emily Burton



### **Grade 6 News**

It has been such a busy month in February in and out of the classroom! Our grade 6 runners ran very hard and represented our school with pride at the Butterdome. The day before we had 4 girls and myself at the WISEST Choices Conference at the University of Alberta learning about polymers, building structures, and chemical reactions. Basketball has also been very busy with practices and games students are really playing their hearts out. Speeches were presented and the students did an exceptional job this year. We are

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now focusing on newspaper article writing and continuing with short writing pieces. In Science we have finished our Evidence unit and are moving on to Sky Science. Provincial government has been our focus in Social Studies, and soon Federal government. Data Analysis and Probability was a short unit in Math, learning about theoretical and experimental probability. Challenge your child to determine the theoretical and experimental probability of a bowl of Fruit Loops! As always, thank you for reading and signing your child's agenda, practicing math facts with them, as well as reading with them.

*Congratulations to our award winners: Brooklyn, James*

**Lynsay Atchison**  
**Bruderheim School**

## In and around the District

### **Have Your Say! EIPS Parent Survey Opens March 5**

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) wants to hear from you. Make sure to complete the 2018 Parent Survey—open from March 5-23.

Annually, EIPS conducts a parent survey to gauge its progress towards meeting the goals and priorities outlined in its Three-Year Education Plan. Families are asked a series of questions about their experiences with EIPS and the school their child attends, the overall performance of the Division, the quality of education being provided to students and areas for improvement. The survey feedback helps the Division develop new strategies to better serve students and the wider community.

**VISIT [WWW.EIPS.CA](http://WWW.EIPS.CA) TO TAKE THE SURVEY**

Survey closes March 23, 2018

**NOTE:** The survey is anonymous and only takes a few minutes to complete. If you want to share the experience of more than one child attending an EIPS school, simply complete the survey again.

### **Complete the Pre-Enrolment Process: March 1-15**

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) is launching a new pre-enrolment process to simplify the way it registers students for the upcoming year, collects information and manages requests to attend a non-designated school. On March 1, all EIPS families received an email from the Division asking them to confirm their child's enrolment in a school for the upcoming year by completing the online Returning Student Registration Form—available by logging in to the PowerSchool Parent Portal. Using the form, families can indicate the school their child plans to attend; apply to attend a non-designated school, if applicable; and update any required student information—such as phone numbers, addresses and emergency contacts.

**All returning EIPS students are required to complete the form prior to March 15, 2018.**

### **Applying to attend a non-designated school?**

The new pre-enrolment process also eliminates the former Boundary Exemption Request Process. Now, returning students who want to apply to a non-designated school can do so through the pre-enrolment process by indicating on the form the school they want to attend. Acceptance is not guaranteed; rather, it's based on available space. Some EIPS schools have [closed boundaries](#) because of high enrolment numbers and will not accept non-designated students for the 2018-19 school year. All families who apply to attend a non-designated school will be contacted and advised of the outcome in April.

**NOTE:** Any requests to attend a non-designated school or out-of-boundary program for returning students in grades 1-12 must be completed during the two-week pre-enrolment process to be considered for the next school year. The only exception: Students who move into the Division from outside the geographic area, or another community within the Division, following the deadline.

For more information visit [www.eips.ca](http://www.eips.ca).

### **Kindergarten Registration**

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2018? If so, it's time to register for kindergarten! Kindergarten registration is now open 2018-19 school year. To register, simply complete the online registration form at [www.eips.ca/kindergarten](http://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 now available—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>.

Additional information regarding Kindergarten can be found on our school website at <https://bruderheimschool.ca/>

### **Watch for Thin Ice**

Elk Island Public Schools, along with our community partners, want to remind families about the dangers of thin ice during this time of year. Depending on changing temperatures, ice can form and melt to varying degrees on outdoor bodies of water. Please remind your children about the dangers of thin ice, to obey all posted signs and to take the proper care to remain a safe distance from the ice.

For more information on ice safety, visit [www.lifesaving.org](http://www.lifesaving.org).

### **Did you know?**

The way ice forms affects the way it melts in spring. Minerals in the water actually become concentrated in vertical veins throughout the ice as it freezes. Warm temperatures cause these veins to melt more quickly and weaken the ice, a process known as *candling*.

### **Stay Connected: Subscribe to EIPS email 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](http://www.eips.ca/contact/synrevoice). Once subscribed 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.

**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.



**Be Your Best!**