

Cougar Chronicles - February 18th, 2024

Alberta Education Assurance Survey

Each year the Alberta Education Assurance (AEA) survey gathers feedback on the quality of education provided by school authorities and their schools. Schools and school authorities use this information to understand how they are doing and plan for the future.

Parents or guardians of students in Grades 4, 7, and 10 will receive a survey invitation package by mail and have the option to complete the survey on paper or online using the provided Random Access Code (RAC). We urge you to complete the survey, as it provides us with useful information for planning. Please contact Mme Russett should you have any questions about the survey or require additional information.

Pink Shirt Day - February 28

Pink Shirt Day is held in Canada and other parts of the world, when people wear a pink-coloured shirt to take a stand against bullying. The initiative was started in Canada, where it is held on the last Wednesday of February each year. Help us create a kind and caring school and community by wearing pink on February 28.

Attendance Survey for the 2024-25 School Year

To assist in planning for the next school year, a registration intent survey has been sent out to all families to complete. There will be many changes with the new attendance boundaries. Please complete the survey to ensure that we have the most accurate information to begin our class planning for the fall. This helps us to know where students will be attending next year and assists in transition planning for students. Please complete the appropriate survey(s) by February 23.

For students currently in Kindergarten - Grade 5, <u>fill out this survey</u>. For students currently in Grade 6, <u>fill out this survey</u>.

Spell-a-thon Fundraiser

Information about our Spell-a-thon (Grade 1-6)/Learn-a-thon (Kindergarten) fundraiser was sent home with students on Monday, February 12. From now until March 14, students are to practice their words and seek pledges. The Spell-a-thon will take place on March 15. Click <u>here</u> for more information.

School Division Photos and Parent Consent

The School Division has hired a photographer to update the photo collection that we use for Facebook and website posts, promotional brochures, and other school division purposes. The photographer will be at ÉCPS on Friday, March 1, and will be taking photos of students and staff at each grade level. These photos will be used for the next 5-10 years.

Consent is required for your child to be photographed for this purpose. If you consent to have your child included as a model for school division photos, please complete the 2024 School Division Photo Consent form on your PowerSchool Parent Portal before March 1.

Free LRC Pass

Spend some fun time with your family! We have a **FREE family LRC pass** that can be borrowed from the school library to use. You can check it out just like a library book! Contact our librarian, Mrs. Bendfeld, to get your name on the list to borrow the pass. Her email is: jennifer.bendfeld@blackgold.ca

School Council & Parent Association News

Our next School Council and Parents' Association Meeting takes place on Wednesday, February 21st @ 7:00 pm in the library. Come and meet our executive and find out what they are doing to support ÉCPS students! They are always happy to welcome new faces and hear new ideas - thank you to everyone who has come out to a meeting so far this year.

Nut-Free Bake Sales

Thank you to all of the parents who have provided items for our bake sales so far this year. We have had a tremendous response! All items at the bake sale are priced at 50¢ each.

Our next Bake Sale is on Tuesday, February 20 and will be hosted by **Gr. 1/2 Huber & Gr. 2 Boisvert** - **18 items each.** Click <u>here</u> to see the full schedule for this year's bake sales.

Bakers: Please

- Our Bake Sale is "NUT-FREE" so please don't send things with nuts.
- Label your baking if it is catered to certain dietary needs (gluten free / dairy free).
- Label containers & reusable bags so they can be given back to the students.
- Cookies, brownies, squares, etc. need to be individually packaged (ex. Ziploc bags, plastic wrap) for safe food handling and distribution.

Buyers: Please

• Try to only send change for your child to purchase items. No bills (especially \$10/\$20 bills). We aren't always able to make change for bills.

Hot Lunch

Hot Lunch takes place each Friday (Thursdays if there is a PD day). Hot Lunch is available for students **GRADE 1-6 ONLY.** If you would like to order lunches for your child, please go to <u>Healthy</u> <u>Hunger</u>. **Hot Dog** orders are open for **Kindergarten - Grade 6** students. The order deadline is five days before the lunch date (Saturdays for Friday lunches). No refunds are available. If your child is absent on a hot lunch date, you may come and pick the lunch up at noon or donate it to the school to feed a child in need.

If you have any questions, concerns or feedback about the Hot Lunch Program, please email <u>marleemoreau@hotmail.com</u>.

Volunteers Needed for Hot Lunch, Bake Sales and Popcorn Days

We are in need of volunteers to make these programs a success. Click on the link below or sign up on our website under the Parents tab and then Bake Sale, Hot Lunch, Hot Dog, or Popcorn Day. One time or on a regular basis - everything helps! The school requires that you have a Volunteer Form completed prior to starting. Thank you for your support! Popcorn Day Volunteer

Hot Lunch Volunteer

Bake Sale Volunteer

Hot Dog Day Volunteer

Popcorn Day

Our next Popcorn Day will be Thursday, February 29. Students can purchase a bag of popcorn for 50¢ with a maximum of two bags per child. Money can be sent with your child prior to or on the day of the sale.

Popcorn Day Schedule.

Community & Parent Information

Family Oriented Programming

The Black Gold Occupational Therapy Team is presenting three topics related to supporting children from PreK through Grade 3. The next topic - Supporting Toilet Training - will be presented at ÉCPS on March 14. Click <u>here</u> for more information.

AMH Caregiver Education Jan/Feb 2024 Newsletter

To find more information on Virtual Education Sessions that are offered, please click the link below. <u>AMH Caregiver Education</u>

Free Maclab Centre Events

- The Maclab Centre offers free family events throughout the year. These events are free, however, tickets are required and are available at the library. All events take place at the Maclab Centre. Please click on the links below for more information:
- <u>Daniel Gervais Free Event</u> Mar. 11/24
- BachTots-Zoo Dance Free Event April 7/24

See below for upcoming Important Dates!

- Feb 19: Family Day No school
- Feb 20: Nut-Free Bake Sale (Grades 1/2H & 2B to provide the treats)
- Feb 20: Grade 4/5R to Extendicare (in the morning)
- Feb 21: School Council & Parents' Association meeting (7pm)
- Feb 23: School Spirit Mix & Match Day (Dress in mismatched clothing, backwards pants, clashing socks, wild colors, or mixed patterns.)
- Feb 23: Hot Lunch Day
- Feb 26: No Pre-K classes (PD Day)
- Feb 26: Hot Dog Day
- Feb 28: Pink Shirt Day
- Feb 29: Popcorn Day
- Mar 1: 6C to City Hall (in the morning)
- Mar 1: Hot Lunch Day



