

BISON TALES



Calendar of Events

May 10	Gr. 6 FLA Part A - PAT Exam School Council - 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
May 11	Emergency Evacuation Drill (p.m.)
May 12	Gr. 6 ELA Part A - PAT Exam
May 13	Professional Learning Day – No School
May 16/17	4K French Camp Van Es Field Trip
May 17	ECS Parent Orientation – 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
May 20	School Closure Day – No School
May 23	Victoria Day – No School
May 25	Habit 7 Assembly – ECS and Grade 3 Friends
May 26	Grade 4 and 5 – FarmSmarts
May 27	Beach Day/Journee de la plage
May 30	Emergency Evacuation Drill (a.m.)
June 1	Early Dismissal – Staff Meeting - 2:10 p.m.
June 3	Newsletter emailed
June 14	Gr. 6 FLA Part B PAT Exam - 9:00 a.m.
June 15	Gr. 6 ELA Part B PAT Exam - 9:00 a.m.
June 16	Gr. 6 Math PAT Exam - 9:00 a.m.
June 17	Gr. 6 Science PAT Exam- 9:00 a.m.
June 20	Gr. 6 Social PAT Exam - 9:00 a.m. Rocket Day - 12:30 p.m.
June 21	Sports Day Division 2
June 23	Sports Day Division 1
June 24/27	Sports Rain Out Day
June 28	Grade 6 Celebration/Last School Day for Students

May 2016 Message

Becoming a global citizen has great meaning when you are personally affected by an overwhelming disaster. Our hearts go out to all those affected by the fires around the province. Our bison community has come together with other Elk Island Public Schools in support of the Red Cross Relief Fund. We are accepting any cash donations and posting a note sharing our wishes and prayers of hope. Your children are imagining all kinds of ways to raise money in support of those in need. From bake sales to bottle collections, we all can contribute to a brighter tomorrow for those who have lost so much. You can contribute to the Red Cross here: <https://donate.redcross.ca/ea-action/action?ea.client.id=1951&ea.campaign.id=50610> Beginning Monday, we are welcoming several families from Fort McMurray who are joining our community. We will support them in any way we can. Bienvenue!

Education Week Takes Place Every Day at AEL! During this past week, schools throughout Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) celebrate the important role education plays in shaping the future of our province.

We value the commitment of our families who support the many extra-curricular programs and leadership and citizenship opportunities we encourage through the Seven Habits of Happy Kids – we see students develop the personal self-management skills and leadership skills that will prepare them for the world and for the world of work beyond the school walls. Citizens of our community!

AEL staff, with the tremendous support of our families and volunteers contribute daily to the learning opportunities that take place at the school. As always, thank you for your continued support. ☺

Great truly happens here!

Kindergarten

Registration Open!

To help families prepare, EIPS has compiled a wealth of information on its website (www.eips.ca/kindergarten). There you will find details regarding how to register, eligibility, dates to remember, how to find your designated school, programming options, what to expect, transportation and more. Additional information regarding **Ecole Ardrossan Elementary's** Kindergarten program can be found on the school website at: <http://ardrossanelementary.ca/council/registration>.

When registering your child, please remember to bring with you proof of residence, your child's name and date of birth and citizenship.

NOTE: To be eligible for the 2016–2017 Kindergarten program, children must be five years old on, or before, December 31, 2016.

Have You Considered French Immersion ECS?

If you would like more information on what French Immersion looks like at Ecole Ardrossan Élémentaire, contact Mme Helene Hewitt or Mrs. Judy Whetstone. We are happy to answer any questions you might have.

School Council

Please join us on Tuesday, May 10, 2016 from 10:30 - 11:30 p.m. in the Library. ☺ It is our last School Council meeting of the year. Your attendance, as always, is welcome!

May 2nd was Bus Driver Appreciation Day



We recognize and thank our school bus operators for keeping the safety of our students their first priority. We encourage you, and your children, to take a moment on May 2nd to say thanks to your bus operators—who often go above

and beyond the call of duty to provide safe and timely transportation to our students.

On behalf of Ecole Ardrossan Elementary, THANK YOU to our school bus drivers for a job well done. AEL treated our bus drivers Tim Horton's coffee as a small gesture of appreciation. Board Chair Trina Boymook, Trustee Skip Gordon and Director of Student Transportation, Lisa Weder handed out chocolate treats as well. ☺

Software Upgrade Notice: Online Payments

Are you currently using a computer with the operating system Microsoft Windows XP, Microsoft Windows Millennium, or earlier? If so, you will want to be aware of a new security upgrade that takes effect July 1, 2016.

All encryption securities around the globe are being upgraded on July 1. The upgrade will improve security for all online banking and online purchasing systems. However, if you are using any operating system less than Microsoft Windows 7, you will no longer be able to use online banking nor use any online purchasing tool, including the Division's online payment system, ACORN.

If you are using an operating system that came out earlier than Microsoft Window 7, you will need to either upgrade your operating system or purchase a new computer to conduct any online banking or purchasing. *NOTE:* The security upgrade doesn't affect Apple users.

For more information, please visit: <https://support.cloudflare.com/hc/en-us/articles/205043158-PCI-3-1-and-TLS-1-2>.

Little Elk Island Adventure: Registration

Elk Island Public Schools is once again offering Little Elk Island Adventure, a fun and informative program for **first-time school bus riders**.

Annually, Student Transportation offers the Little Elk Island Adventure to new riders and their parents. The program's aim is to help ease any anxieties a family may have about riding the bus before even starting school. Through a series of activities, riders learn about: school bus safety, danger zones, tips on boarding, and how to sit



properly on the bus. After that, both the children and parents hop on the bus to practice what they've learned and then adventure out on a short ride.

The Little Elk Island Adventures are for **first-time school bus riders** entering the 2016-2017 school year. Sessions and times are available in these locations:

Location	Time	Date
EIPS Central Office	5 p.m.	August 23
EIPS Central Office	6:30 p.m.	August 23
EIPS Central Office	5 p.m.	August 24
EIPS Central Office	6:30 p.m.	August 24
EIPS Central Office	10:30 a.m.	September 2
Fort Christian/ Fort Elementary	6 p.m.	August 25

EIPS Central Office is located at 683 Wye Rd., Sherwood Park. Fort Christian School is located at 9806 101 St., Fort Saskatchewan

Space is limited and pre-registration is required. To register for this year's Little Elk Island Adventure, visit <http://goo.gl/forms/cJIUleWobq>. Additional information regarding busing for Kindergarten students can be found at: www.eips.ca/transportation/kindergarten-busing-faq.

Student Transportation: 2016–2017 Registration Now Open

If your child plans to use Student Transportation for the 2016–2017 school year, please make sure to register as soon as possible.

Families currently accessing transportation will soon receive tentative route schedules and invoices. Transportation fees are due by June 30, 2016.

If you have questions about registration, invoicing, or if your child isn't currently registered for bus service and you have plans to access transportation for the 2016-2017 school year, please contact EIPS Student Transportation at 780-417-8151 or email st@eips.ca.

NOTE: Student Transportation is open in the summer, so if you have any questions about registration or invoicing please contact EIPS' Student Transportation at 780-417-8151 or by using the online contact form at www.eips.ca/contact.

Grade Group Composition

Ecole Elementaire Ardrossan Elementary is genuinely concerned for the welfare and success of your children.

Every staff member strives to have students do their best and to feel comfortable in their surroundings.

One of the goals we have is to maintain well-balanced classrooms. Classes should be academically, socially, behaviorally, and emotionally well balanced. Our staff has an essential role in establishing the most effective classrooms for learning, and they have consistently done a great job in preparing classes for each new school year.

As students change grades, they are naturally exposed to new friendship groups. An important benefit to being in a class with a variety of students is social growth and exposure to a variety of personalities. This helps foster independence and develops social skills. We ask for your support in allowing teachers to develop next year's grouping in the fairest way possible. We take into account many factors, including academic performance, work habits, learning styles, interpersonal/social skill development, etc.

We thank you for trusting our professionalism, expertise and experience as we develop student classroom lists for the upcoming school year.

Parents and students will be informed of class placements on the last day of school. In compliance with FOIP, class lists will not be posted in August. Parental requests will only be considered in a written format which outlines extenuating circumstances by May 27th. Please note, staff changes are anticipated throughout the division and within the school from now until the end of June.



Three Reasons Attendance Is Still Important!

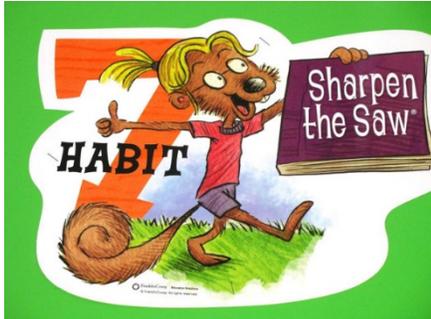
The last two months of school are upon us with so much student learning yet to be accomplished. With the sunshine extending longer into the evening and the understandable desire to be outdoors to enjoy the awesome weather we appreciate your assistance in helping children remain focused on their studies....

Summer vacation is on the horizon. But it's not here yet. Here are three reasons to make sure your child comes to school on time every day:

1. Learning hasn't stopped. Teachers are still planning lessons and teaching new content. Kids who aren't in school won't learn this information. Students who miss just 10% of the school year in the early grades are still behind their peers when they reach high school.
2. Teachers often plan group projects for the end of the year. These projects help students learn cooperation, problem solving and responsibility. These are skills they'll eventually need in the workplace. If your child isn't in class, your child won't benefit from these lessons.
3. Regular attendance teaches kids to be dependable—which is an important quality for everyone to develop.

Reprinted with permission from the May 2016 issue of *Parents make the difference!*® (Elementary School Edition) newsletter. Copyright © 2016 The Parent Institute®, a division of NIS, Inc. Source: H.N. Chang and M. Romero, *Present, Engaged, and Accounted For: The Critical Importance of Addressing Chronic Absence in the Early Grades*, National Center for Children in Poverty, niswc.com/elem_attend.

Leadership Ledger: Habit 7



The May Focus is **Habit 7: Sharpen the Saw**

Key learnings for students are:

- I take care of my body by eating right, exercising and getting sleep;
- I find meaningful ways to help others;
- I spend time with family and friends; and
- I learn in lots of ways and places, not just at school.

Join us May 25 at 9:30 a.m. for the ECS and Grade 3 friends Habit 7 Assembly. For more information please visit: <http://ardrossanelementary.ca/leaderinme/leader-in-me-parent-handbook>

Persistence Will Help Your Child Stay Motivated All Year Long

It took Thomas Edison more than 1,000 tries to invent the light bulb. Imagine what would have happened if he'd called it quits at try #999. Perhaps we'd still be reading books by candlelight! So when your child starts losing their motivation to do schoolwork before the end of the year, encourage her to keep going.

Researchers have studied successful people in many fields, from athletics to science to business. You may be surprised to learn what these people all had in common. It wasn't their intelligence. It wasn't their talent. Instead, it was their persistence—their ability to keep going when things were challenging.

Regular, daily practice is important for success. That's true whether people are learning to play the piano or kick a soccer ball. And it's just as true for people learning to read or solve math problems.

So help your child set some goals for what they want to accomplish before the end of the year. Write those goals down and post them where they can see them. When they feel a lack of motivation, remind them of how good it will feel to reach their goals.

Reprinted with permission from the May 2016 issue of *Parents make the difference!*® (Elementary School Edition) newsletter. Copyright © 2016 The Parent Institute®, a division of NIS, Inc. Source: A.L. Duckworth and others, "Grit: Perseverance and Passion for Long-Term Goals," *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, niswc.com/elem_perseverance.

Don't Let Your Child Waste The Summer In Front Of A Screen!

The lazy days of summer can often lead to lazy hours in front of the TV, computer and other electronic devices. But experts say it's important to limit recreational screen time—even in the summer. For most families, that's easier said than done!

Replace screen time with activities such as:

- Acting. Instead of watching a show, your child can create one! She can choose a story line and act it out with friends or stuffed animals.
- Classic games. Fill a bucket with traditional summer toys, including sidewalk chalk, balls, bubble stuff and water sprayers. When the weather is right, your child can take it outside for hours of fun.
- Scavenger hunts. Give educational instructions, such as, "Let's find an oak tree leaf." "Pick three daisies." Or, "Find three things that are round." Remember, you can have a scavenger hunt anywhere, even in a store or on vacation.

Reprinted with permission from the May 2016 issue of *Parents make the difference!*® (Elementary School Edition) newsletter. Copyright © 2016 The Parent Institute®, a division of NIS, Inc.

School Supplies 2016/17

It is that time already! Order your school supplies for the next school year. Back to school solutions offers brand name school supplies at wholesale prices. Please visit their website at orders.backtoschoolsolutions.ca
Online order code is: **013AESS**

Library Tales

Congratulations to our April winner of our library treasure chest draw Jimmy B. from room 1S. Way to go Bisons! Sir Booksalot visited the following classes: 2P, 2K, 1S, 3F,4K. 1G and 6C both had a visit from Sir Booksalot twice in the month of April.



Our winners of the “Battle of the Books” school battle are:

Grade 4: Kaitlyn S., Kali S. and Danica S.
Grade 5: Eli S., Micayla R. and Kaylee M.
Grade 6: Samantha C. and Jackson B.

The final battle took place on May 2nd. Our teams did a fantastic job, we are so very proud of all of our students. Congratulations to: Glen Allan School for winning the trophy.

The 26th annual “Maybeary” will be held in the library on Friday, May 27th, 2016. Students are invited to bring a bear from home that they have dressed as a character from a book they have read. The bears will be put on display for the day in the library. Prizes will be awarded to the best dressed bear from each grade. The students are reminded that in order to qualify, they must complete and submit their own entries. Entry forms will be available in advance from the library for those students who would like to participate. All bears must have an entry form attached with the character and story that the bear is representing as well as the student’s name, grade, and room number. Bears can only be brought into the library on the morning of “Maybeary” and must be



picked up at the end of the day. For more information, please contact Mrs. Mischuk.

Read a beary good book!

Tidbits from the LunchBox...

Can you believe that we are sending out the last hot lunch schedule order for the 2015/16 year?? Insane how quickly this year flew by!

Ordering for the June Schedule begins today!

Menu Orders and Payments are due by Thursday, May 12th!

Important Notes:

- **Little Caesars’ Pizza Day - June 10th!!** (available for Grades 1, 3, 4, 5, 6) **
- **Hot Lunch will be available for the entire week of June 20 - 24!!**
- KMR - lunch will be available on Monday, June 20th instead of Thursday, June 23 (last day of kindergarten)
- KTR - lunch will be available on Tuesday, June 21 (as normal)

All Grade 6 Classes: Sundae & Movie – Wed., June 22:

Over the past few years, it has become a tradition to formally thank the Grade 6 students for participating in our program by us funding a 'FUN' Sundae & a Movie afternoon. Our grade 6 student volunteer work was absolutely amazing this year. We wish you all much success as you move forward to grade 7 and junior high! Thank You!!

* **Remittance forms** are important as it summarizes your entire account and determines your balance owing by your new order(s) and any credits or debits from previous orders.

There have been many lunch / item refunds over the past few months...so please keep this in mind when you send in payment without a remittance form.

This has been a milestone year for all of us at The LunchBox. We learned very quickly in the first 3 months (ok, in October ;-)) what would work and what would definitely **not** work with our HL program without the use of our own kitchen. A big 'Thank You' to Fresh Healthy Cafe for stepping up to be our exclusive vendor for our program. and a HUGE 'THANK YOU' to all of you - parents, students, AES Staff.... for your continued support and love of our program.

We would like to take this opportunity to invite you to come and join **The LunchBox Board**. We have many members who have Grade 6 students and would like to move forward to new volunteer opportunities with their children.

If you would like more information, please contact Allison Usher at info@aeslunchbox.com.

On behalf of all of us at The LunchBox, have a safe and fabulous Summer Break, and please look for our 2016/17 correspondence in late August!!

Pull Tabs

Calling all families with pull tabs! Are you collecting pull tabs but don't know where to put them or how to use them? Mr. Frederickson has been collecting them for the last 12 years, for different organizations, and is now collecting them on behalf of Ronald McDonald House® Northern Alberta. The tabs are sent to Maple Leaf Metals where they are recycled. If you would like to help Ronald McDonald House® Northern Alberta, please drop off pop tabs at the school. Thank you very much for your time and effort.



Campbell's Labels

We are still collecting *Campbell's Labels for Education™*. If you would like to help with our Labels for Education collection drive, please contact our parent program coordinators, Mrs. Terri-Ann Trohubiak and Roxanne Dunham at ttrohubiak@yahoo.ca. Please visit www.labelsforeducation.ca for more information about the program.

Our Little Friends Playschool

Our Little Friends Playschool is excited to be working with the Ardrossan United Church to have a new home for our preschool. We are currently taking registrations for the 2016/2017 school year.

For more information and current updates check out our website at www.ardrossanfrenchplayschool.ca, or call Kari at 780.922.4447

Are You Helping Your Child Think And Plan Ahead?

Brain scientists now know what parents have always suspected: Most children aren't very good at planning ahead. But that doesn't mean parents can't help them develop this skill.



Answer yes or no to the questions below to see if you are teaching your child to think ahead:

- Do you talk with your child about all of the steps involved when your child has a big project for school?
- Do you help your child make a list of the things needed to be complete every day?
- Do you help your child make a plan to earn and save the money needed to purchase something special?
- Do you make sure your child does homework before relaxing with TV or playing games?
- Will you make a plan with your child of things you want to do together this summer?

How well are you doing?

Mostly yes answers mean you're helping your child learn to think and plan ahead. For each no answer, try that idea in the quiz.

Reprinted with permission from the May 2016 issue of *Parents make the difference!*® (Elementary School Edition) newsletter. Copyright © 2016 The Parent Institute®, a division of NIS, Inc.

