



Friday, December 4, 2020

Dear FSE Families,

**Welcome** to December at FSE!

For the month of **December**, we are looking forward to our grade 3 and 4 virtual assembly! Also, we will be hosting our first virtual **Family Night in December**, on **Monday December 21**. This will be exciting! Please be sure to complete the permission form, as the Family Night will be online.

The Winter/Christmas Break begins **Wednesday December 23**. FSE school opens and all classes resume **online** for **ALL** students **Wednesday December 6, 2021**. Please review the information shared by Elk Island Public Schools' Communication Department to all families. On **Monday December 11** all in school learners return to classes, in school. Our online learners will return to online learning, with their online teachers **Wednesday January 6, 2021**.

Some families are beginning to think about gifts for the class and staff. Based on the times we are in, and wanting to ensure safety for all, we ask that if you choose to give gifts to staff that it be virtual. In addition, as per the EIPS handbook, we ask that families **NOT** send in treats of any kind to share with the class. Thank you for all that you are doing to ensure students, staff and families stay safe and healthy for the holiday season!

In preparation for the **January 6-8, 2021** online learning we are setting up, in AESOP, forms for Chromebook loans. We are accepting requests for our Chromebook Loan Program from **December 4 to 18**. To opt into the program, log into your Parent PowerSchool Portal and access your student's school fees. Click on the "Chromebook Loan Agreement" box and complete the form. Once the form is submitted, **you must go to your cart and pay the \$50 deposit** to complete the process. The completed form and payment must be received by **December 18** to be eligible. Your student will bring home their assigned Chromebook on **December 22**. At FSE, for the best learning, we recommend each student has a device for

learning, therefore we encourage you to register for the Chromebook Loan Agreement for each of your students.

In addition, Elk Island Public Schools has set up Brightspace Tutorials for families, so everyone is comfortable and ready to move forward **January 6, 2021**. The information sessions for parents on how to navigate Brightspace is located at [EIPS Information Session: Navigating Brightspace](#). It is also located on the EIPS website along with other information regarding *Temporary Online Learning* at <https://www.eips.ca/school-re-entry-planning/temporary-online-learning>.

### **Virtual Book Fair**

Check out The [FSE Family Virtual Book Fair](#) event! Our **Virtual Book Fair** is on! Click on this [link](#) to find out more!

### **Noon Supervision Fees**

Noon supervision fees for Quarter 2 are now posted and payment is due within 14 days. If any credits were present on the account, they have been applied and any outstanding balance will show as due. Please log into your PowerSchool account to see credits, fees, and make payment. Thank you in advance.

### **School and Transportation Fee Waiver Applications: Deadline extended**

Elk Island Public Schools recognizes the global pandemic has put a strain on some families' finances and available income can change quickly in the current situation. As such, the Division has extended the deadline for requesting a waiver of your 2020-21 school and transportation fees. If you encounter circumstances where you're unable to pay your fees, you can apply to have fees waived by submitting an Application for a Waiver of Fees. Because of the pandemic, the new deadline is Feb. 15, 2021—if you're new to EIPS, the deadline is the latter of Feb. 15, 2021, or 45 days after registration.

Each quarter—or trimester, as applicable—you'll receive an email notification letting you know fees are posted on the PowerSchool Parent Portal. To access your fee information, go to "Student Fees" on PowerSchool. There you can view your fees and pay online using Visa, MasterCard or INTERAC Online—when available from your financial institution. All fees are due within 14 days of being posted. **NOTE:** School Fees apply to in-school learners only.

For more information about school fees, transportation fees, waivers and payment deadlines, visit [eips.ca](http://eips.ca) or <https://www.fortelem.ca/about/fees>. Alternatively, contact the school at 780-998-7771.

### **Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from the Board of Trustees**

As we draw closer to the end of 2020—a year like no other—I want to extend warm holiday wishes to all our students, staff and families on behalf of the Elk Island Public Schools Board of Trustees. Thank you for your partnership, cooperation and understanding throughout the past

year. The holidays are often a time of reflection and gratitude, and we want you to know how much we appreciate the contributions you make to the Division on an ongoing basis. By working together, we're making a difference in the learning experiences and opportunities of all students within EIPS.

While this Christmas will undoubtedly look very different than past years, we hope you have the opportunity to celebrate the season—whether that be an intimate holiday meal with your immediate family or a virtual celebration with extended family and friends.

Stay safe this holiday season, and we look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Jan. 6, 2021.

Merry Christmas and happy holidays,  
Trina Boymook  
EIPS Board Chair

### **Christmas Break**

Fort Saskatchewan Elementary School will close for the Christmas break at the end of the day on Tuesday, Dec. 22, 2020. The school will reopen on Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2021. During this time, if you have any school-related questions or concerns, contact Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) Central Services at 780-464-3477. EIPS Central Services Christmas Break Hours:

Closed	December 23–25
Open	December 28–31; 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Closed	January 1
Open	January 4–5; 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

\*For location and contact information, visit [www.eips.ca](http://www.eips.ca).

From everyone at Elk Island Public Schools, we wish all of you a happy holiday season and a wonderful New Year.

### **Discounted Software for EIPS Students**

All Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) students now have access to discounted software through the new EIPS OnTheHub webstore, available at [eips.onthehub.com](http://eips.onthehub.com). Through OnTheHub, students can purchase software at significant discounts off standard retail prices. Users must sign in using their EIPS email address and password to access the product selection and take advantage of discount pricing. Included in the discounts is student-only access to Windows 10 for Education completely free! More information is available through the Help menu within OnTheHub.

### **No Child Without: Free MedicAlert for students**

In our ongoing effort to provide safe and caring schools for our students, Fort Saskatchewan Elementary School is registered in the [Canadian MedicAlert Foundation's No Child Without program](#). The program is a national initiative that provides no-cost MedicAlert services to

children—between the ages four to 14 years—who have chronic health conditions. The goal is twofold: to help children with severe allergies, medical conditions or special needs and to assist schools with medical-emergency plans for students.

Once a child is registered, the school is provided with advice on a medical-emergency plan for that student and given a list of medications, allergies and medical conditions the student has. If your child has a serious medical condition or allergy and could benefit from MedicAlert services, contact the school office at **780-998-7771**. To learn more about the No Child Without program, visit [www.nochildwithout.ca](http://www.nochildwithout.ca).

In Partnership for Student Learning,  
Jacqui Holmes, Principal



OPPORTUNITY  
+ MASTERY