



HERITAGE HILLS ELEMENTARY

Heritage Hills Parent Weekly

October 2 - October 16, 2023

This Week at Heritage Hills:

Monday, October 2

- Read In Week Kick-Off - PJ, Slippers and Stuffed Animal Day!
- Ms K in the School
- Senior Ukulele

Tuesday, October 3

- Read In Week - Strathcona County Youth Librarian - Great Reads for Gr 4-6
- Ms K in the School

Wednesday, October 4

- Read In Week
- Ms K in the school
- ECS Bus Evacuation Drill & Little Elk Island Adventure Program- 1:30 pm
- Early Dismissal

Thursday, October 5

- Read In Week
- World Teachers' Day
- ECS Bus Evacuation & Little Elk Island Adventure Program - 1:30 pm
- Gr 1-6 Bus Evacuation - 2:30 pm

Friday, October 6

- Professional Learning Day - School Closed

Monday, October 9

- Thanksgiving School Closed

Tuesday, October 10

- Ms K in the school

Wednesday, October 11

- Ms K in the school
- Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences
- Book Fair Family Night 3:30-7:30

Thursday, October 12

- Parent-Teacher - Student Conferences
- Book Fair Family Night 3:30-7:30

Friday, October 13

- Last day for buying at the book fair- First Recess
- Junior Ukulele

Monday, October 16

- Ms K in the school

Principal:

It's hard to believe our first month of the school year has passed us by. It's been a busy month for both students and staff. October brings us Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences, Thanksgiving and our Halloween Dance. We look forward to seeing you at these events.

This year, we have made a change in our Parent Weekly. When we have a short week, we will be putting out our weekly for two weeks. This means staff don't have to do weeklies on long weekends.

There has been an unexpected delay accessing your child's school photos. We will advise you as soon as Lifetouch has resolved the problem and photos are ready for families to view online.

Counsellor:

Parents and caregivers play an essential role in helping their child or teen manage anxiety. When coping skills and brave behavior is rewarded and practiced in the home, children and teens can learn to face their fears, take reasonable risks, and ultimately gain confidence. At HHE, we build upon a strength based approach to support students through challenges, reward their efforts, and celebrate their successes.

For even more information and tools, visit [MAP for Children](#). My Anxiety Plan (MAP) is a free, self-paced, online anxiety management program designed to help with anxiety. MAP includes 6 easy to navigate units with 45 lessons.

Anxiety Canada [video](#) for children, parents, and caregivers helps create meaningful discussions.

HHE Spirit Wear - Online store closes Sunday at midnight:
<https://heritagehillsspiritfall23.itemorder.com/shop/sale/>



Parent-Teacher Student Conferences

Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences will be happening on Tuesday, October 11 and Wednesday, October 12 between 4 and 8 pm.

10 minute interviews will be IN-PERSON in your child's classroom. Please wait outside the room until the teacher comes to greet you.

The site will open for parent bookings on Wed, Oct 3 at 9 am.
<https://schoolinterviews.ca/code/8kebf>

First Nations, Métis and Inuit

This past week, students have been learning about Residential Schools and talking about why we wear orange shirts. Even if students did not have an orange shirt, we appreciated all their good thoughts. HHE Students created paper hearts and planted them along the front sidewalk. Our heart garden got a little wet, but the sentiment was there. We remember and honour residential school survivors because **Every Child Matters - Chaque Enfant Compte**.

The hearts will remain on display until Monday. Stop by and visit our heart garden along Heritage Drive or [enjoy this short excerpt from the video we created](#) and shared with classes. Thank you to the 4/5K French Immersion class who performed and sang the Cree song featured in our video.

Save the date for an upcoming parent event! HHE will be hosting a Blanket Exercise for parents on the evening of November 16. If you have not participated in a Blanket Exercise before, it is a very impactful experience where you learn more about the history of Indigenous peoples in Canada. More details to come.

Read In Week 2023 is taking place October 2-6.

Read In Week returns on October 2. Some of the activities planned for Read In Week at HHE include:

PJ Day - wear pajamas, slippers and bring a stuffed animal to kick off the week



Get caught reading and get entered into a draw for a free book. Guest readers will be reading in classes throughout the week and Grades 4, 5 and 6 will enjoy a presentation featuring great reads in French and English from the Youth Services Librarian from Strathcona County Library.

HHE invites all families to participate in Read In Week by reading yourself, with your child or with someone in the community. Don't forget to share what you've learned. Throughout the week, you can post your own stories about Read In Week using the hashtag #eipsreads. For more information, visit the Read In website.

Pay School Fees Online!

School fee information for the 2023-24 school year is now posted on the PowerSchool Parent Portal. 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.

Don't forget to also log in to the PowerSchool Parent Portal regularly throughout the year. Fees are often added to your child's account to cover the cost of various school activities such as field trips, class projects, extracurricular activities fees and more.

If circumstances exist where you're unable to pay your fees, you can apply to have certain [fees waived](#) by submitting an [Application for a Waiver of Fees](#). The application deadline is Dec. 15, 2023.

For more information about school fees, waivers and payment deadlines, visit www.eips.ca/schools/fees and <https://www.heritagehillselementary.ca/about/fees>. Alternatively, contact Amanda Trach at HHE at 780-467-7447.

Celebrating World Teachers' Day: October 5

October 5 is World Teachers' Day! Launched in 1994 by the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Teachers' Day is celebrated annually around the world as a way to recognize teachers and the integral role they play in providing quality education to students. On October 5, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) encourages all of its students, parents, caregivers and community members to show their appreciation for their teachers and the positive impact they make on our lives.

EIPS extends its heartfelt thank you to all Division teachers for their dedication, hard work and commitment in guiding and educating students through their kindergarten to Grade 12 years.

School Bus Safety Week: October 15-21

Schools throughout Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) are celebrating School Bus Safety Week October 15-21. The theme: 'Stand Back From Yellow and Black,' which focuses on proper school bus safety behaviour. Throughout the week, various activities are planned, including information sessions, bus-safety lesson plans and bus-evacuation drills.



As part of School Bus Safety Week, Heritage Hills Elementary reminds students and families all Division school buses are equipped with a Tyler Drive tablet, bus-pass scanner, GPS technology, the Child Check-Mate system and surveillance equipment, which allows Student Transportation to better monitor and manage its more than 175 buses. Families and students also have access to the Traversa Ride 360 app, a mobile tool to help determine the location of a bus, projected arrival times and when a child is scanned onto a bus.

For more information, visit [EIPS Student Transportation](#) or contact 780-417-8151.

Enhancing literacy and numeracy

As part of Elk Island Public Schools' (EIPS) ongoing efforts to enhance the literacy and numeracy of students in all grade levels, the Division is once again administering the Star Early Literacy, Star Reading and Star Math assessment tools in the 2023-24 school year. These tools focus on literacy and numeracy, are digitally based and offer an opportunity for students to demonstrate their learning. The goal: To provide timely information to teachers, help enhance classroom instruction and identify student learning needs.

Three times a year, EIPS students in Grade 1 complete the Star Early Literacy assessment and students in grades 2-12 complete the Star Reading assessment. Both assessments are administered electronically and take about 20 minutes. Students in grades 2 through 10 also complete the Star Math, a mathematic screening tool. It, too, is administered electronically and takes about 30 minutes for students to complete. The results offer teachers a clearer picture of a student's learning needs and help determine if subsequent instructional planning is required.

In addition to the Star assessments, Alberta Education now mandates all students in grades 1-3 complete additional literacy and numeracy assessments. Students in Grade 2 and Grade 3 complete these provincial assessments in September. Grade 1 students will complete the assessments in January 2023.

The scores of the assessments aren't used toward a student's grade, and there is no need to study ahead of time. The tools simply provide the teacher with information to better understand where each student is in terms of reading comprehension and mathematic ability. If, after analyzing the results, it's determined a student can benefit from extra support, the teacher will contact the family to discuss possible support strategies.

For more information about the Division's Star assessment tools, contact EIPS Supports for Students at 780-464-3477.

From Alexa to Algorithms: Parenting in the era of AI:

Join the University of Alberta and Amii for an engaging 45-minute online webinar designed to boost AI literacy for parents of kids of all ages, from kindergarten to graduate students. The session will focus on global citizenship, online safety, and education and career guidance.



Don't miss this fun and informative opportunity to empower your parenting in the age of AI, ensuring your kids thrive in tomorrow's tech-driven world.

Event Details:

Date: Nov. 2, 2023 Time: 10:30 a.m. to 11:15 p.m.

Location: Virtual [REGISTER NOW](#)

HHE Athletics:

We are into our X-country runs. Students that had their permission forms in on September 27th were able to run on the trails. This proved to be an enjoyable way to practice for the upcoming race on Oct 14th. There will be an additional permission click form for the race.

HHE Athletics [schedule](#) for the 2023-24 school year including tryouts, practices and meets. **This schedule will be updated as events progress. Please check back regularly.

Coaches will need to complete the following forms prior to working with Heritage Hills Elementary students. They are available in the office upon request.

1. Confidentiality Undertaking and Declaration for Volunteers (Form 490-2)
2. Request to Waive Fees for Criminal Record and Vulnerable Sector Check (Form 490-3)

3. [Administrative Procedure 491: Volunteer Coaches and Supervisors](#)

School Council and FAHHE News:

Next Meeting: November 15th @ 7:45pm following the school council meeting.

FAHHE UPDATES

We are so excited to be able to offer the Bear Tracks Ice Melter fundraiser again this year. Ordering information came home this week, and can be found [here](#).



\$30/16kg pail

Deadline: Monday, October 23rd at 4:00pm

Delivery to the school middle of November

Save-the-Date

Our 2nd annual Halloween Dance will be held Friday, October 27th. Stay tuned for more information.

Membership

Every year membership in FAHHE must be renewed. Membership allows you to hold a position on the executive or exercise a vote during meetings. Please click [HERE](#) to complete the membership form for 2023-2024.

Coyote Compliment a staff member

Would you like to recognize a staff member for something they have done that you truly appreciated? Complete the google form below and we will send a card and small treat to the staff member on your behalf, thanking them for what they do.

<https://forms.gle/UUmGCxBCJZs3cCRY9>

Treat Day

We will be having a Confetti Sweets Cookie Treat Day on October 18th/20th. Cookies will be \$2 each. **Deadline, Thursday, October 5th.**

Hot Lunch

All lunches must be ordered through healthy hunger at www.healthyhunger.ca, all families must create an account and register their children.

Returning families need to re-register their children into their new teacher for the school year

Any questions or concerns, please email Jaclyn at hhehotlunch@gmail.com

Did you know there is a universal hot lunch fund to assist families who can't afford the special lunch at this time. If you would like to access the fund, please email hhehotlunch@gmail.com.

KFC

Thursday, October 12th - Kinder B (Ordering closes Oct 7th)

Friday, October 13th - Kinder A and Grade 1-6 (Ordering closes Oct 8th)

COBS

Thursday, October 26th - Kinder B (Ordering closes Oct 21st)

Friday, October 27th - Kinder A and Grade 1-6 (Ordering closes Oct 22nd)

Fundraising Focus

Our fundraising focus for the 2023-2024 school year is the completion of our outdoor play space. We currently have about \$17,000 raised to go towards this project. We are hoping to reach a goal of at least \$120,000. To help reach this goal, we will be applying for a provincial matching grant in the spring so every dollar we raise until then counts!

Enjoy a Great Week Everyone

**"Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap, but by the seeds
you plant."**

-Robert Louis Stevenson