



# February 2021 Newsletter

## École J. S. McCormick School

### MONTH AT A GLANCE

**Feb 3rd:** Global School Play Day & World Read Aloud Day

**Feb 5th:** PD Day

**Feb 15th-19th:** No School for Students

**Feb 24th:** Pink Shirt Day

**Feb 25th:** Online School Council Meeting @ 7:15pm

**Feb 26th:** Jersey Day!

Thank you so much for all your vigilance with following protocols at home. Staff, students, and parents/guardians all deserve big appreciation for keeping COVID out as best we can.

The students have been coming to school bundled right up in the cold weather now. Thank you parents and guardians for making sure they are dressed for winter. Being dressed properly means the children can enjoy one of the best things about being Canadian - the snow!



# 2021 / 2022 KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION



Kindergarten Registration is now open online!

ÉJSMS is a dual-track school that is proud to offer programs in both English & French Immersion.

The choice is yours:

## English:

Mon/Wed Full Days  
Tues/Thurs Full Days

## French Immersion:

Mon - Thurs Mornings  
*\*wait list\**

Mon - Thurs Afternoons

\*Kindergarten classes may be required to attend on the occasional Fridays as well\*

## To Register:

- Register online - click the link on our website!
- Students must be 5yrs old as of December 31st, 2021 to register
- A copy of the student's birth certificate is required to complete the registration process

If your child is currently enrolled in the Bright Futures 4 Year Old Program and you would like them to enroll into our Kindergarten Program, a registration form needs to be submitted. To register - please login to your Parent Portal account. Click on "School Engage" on the bottom left, select your student's name, and fill out the 2021/2022 Returning Student Registration form.



# WCPS DIVISION INFORMATION

## Dual Instruction

COVID-19 cases have skyrocketed in Alberta. While Alberta teachers are taking every precaution available to them to make classrooms safe for themselves and their students, some families are choosing not to send their children to in-person classes, even if they are not under quarantine orders. This can create a very challenging teaching environment, and many teachers are left wondering if they should be expected to plan both online and in-person lessons for those students who quarantine or whose parents refuse to send them to school.

Teachers cannot be expected to separately plan lessons for, instruct or assess both students in the classroom and those who choose to obtain their learning exclusively at home. In situations where students are unable to return to school, the schools will need to work with parents to find alternative delivery methods for these students. Direct instruction augmented by student completion of tasks outside classroom attendance can be accommodated. Just like students who miss school for illness and vacation, teachers should be prepared to send home curricular activities or assignments arising from direct instruction as much as they would in those instances. Teachers need to plan for in-school instruction. An expectation to plan fully for both in-person and online instruction would be an unacceptable increase in expectations and workload for teachers.



# TRANSPORTATION 2021/2022

## **TOWN (URBAN) BUS STUDENTS**

**Students living in Lacombe**

**MUST re-register for busing each spring for the fall**



User Pay fees are applied to students who live less than 2.4 km from school.

User Pay students are accepted on a first come first served basis

AND only if there is space available on a bus.

User Pay students will be put on a waiting list if their registrations are

received late and/or the bus in that area is full.

If you have moved you must notify the school of the address change PRIOR to registering for busing.

Cross Boundary students must re-apply each year by filling out the regular application and the cross boundary application.

Please note that cross boundary fees will apply.

Fees are currently under review and will be released by the School Board in late spring 2021.  
(Distances are calculated using a routing software and Alberta Education criteria)

**REGISTER ONLINE USING YOUR PARENT PORTAL  
OR THROUGH SCHOOLENGAGE**

**DEADLINE FOR REGISTERING IS JUNE 15, 2021**

*For more information please contact Wolf Creek Public Schools Transportation Services*

E-mail - [transportation@wolfcreek.ab.ca](mailto:transportation@wolfcreek.ab.ca)

Phone - 403-785-0726 (Direct) or 403-341-4153 (Red Deer) or 403-782-8726 (Lacombe) ext. 1332

Website - <https://www.wolfcreek.ab.ca/school-division/transportation/bus-status-page2>



## **COUNTRY (RURAL) BUS STUDENTS**

**Lacombe students who live in the country and are new to  
busing (i.e. kindergarten students or students changing schools)**

**OR have moved to a new rural location are required to  
register for transportation.**

To register your full legal land description AND complete  
blue sign (911 address) are required on the application.

*\*Unsure of which school your child should attend,  
please call us with your legal land description.*

If you have moved you must notify the school of the address change

PRIOR to registering for busing.

Cross Boundary students must re-apply each year by filling out the regular application and the cross  
boundary application. Please note that cross boundary fees will apply.

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# SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATE

## Hot Lunch News

Schools in Wolf Creek can now have hot lunches as long as specific protocols are followed. For example, the orders have to come straight from the restaurants to the schools and be individually packaged and named for students. Please stay tuned for some upcoming hot lunches at EJSMS!

**NEXT SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING: February 25th @ 7:15pm**

**The online link will be available on our Facebook page on the day of.**

**Joint Council Meeting** - On March 24, 2021, all parents/guardians are invited to join an online session with Noah Boakye Yiadom who will be speaking on Mental Health First Aid.

## Budget and District Video Review in Anticipation of Budget Release

Superintendent Jayson Lovell sent out an invitation for school council parents/guardians to participate in a Thought Exchange on prioritizing budget dollars in light of the anticipated shortfall of funding. There is an informative video from Wolf Creek [here](#). The Thought Exchange is located [here](#). It will be open until February 12.



**A reminder that outstanding fees on accounts must be cleared before upcoming hot lunch items may be purchased.**

# SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATE

There will be a joint school council meeting between the Lacombe WCPS Schools on **March 24th**. This year's speaker is Noah Boakye-Yiadom, speaking on **Mental Health First Aid**.



Noah Boakye-Yiadom is a health promotion facilitator with Alberta Health Services. He received his Bachelor of Health Sciences (BHSc) degree from University of Western Ontario, Master of Public Health (MPH) from Lakehead University and currently pursuing his doctorate in mental health promotion at the University of Calgary. He provides facilitation, consultation and support service through the development, implementation and evaluation of programs, activities and resources that promotes mental health, prevents addiction and suicide to the communities in Lacombe County, Ponoka County and Clearwater County.

This will take place virtually and is open to all parents/guardians from all schools. We hope to see you in this online session!

# COACH'S CORNER

## Whole School Fitness: Look How Far We've Run!

Students discovered that 20 laps of our gym = 1km of distance travelled. Each class takes part in a 3 minute run once a week and we keep track of how many laps their whole class did. We are adding the laps together and posting it so that each grade level can see how far of a distance they have travelled. We are also making a chart to mark when they have reached certain land locations within Lacombe, Alberta and potentially beyond. The Fitness challenge will continue until spring break.



If you have any questions, please contact  
Melissa Rogers @ 403-782-3096 ext. 4032



# MUSIC UPDATE



## Music with Mrs. G.

We started January off with a bang and a boom as Boomwhackers, musical cups and mallets have been the order of business in Grades 1-3! We have been working on keeping steady beat, playing rhythms and following music notation. Due to the amount of sanitization required only the Grade 3 classes are currently working with Boomwhackers but don't you worry, all grades will have a chance to create music with these amazing pitched percussion tubes!

The Kindergarten classes traded their mittens and toques in for snorkels and swimsuits as we dove under the sea to explore music in a variety of forms. The students have had a great time learning to use their voices in different ways with Fin the Fish and we have been exploring the Aquarium (from Carnival of the Animals) with our wavy water scarves. They have also been learning about rhythm as we clap the names of our underwater friends!

**DOUBLE BUBBLE**, there's going to be some trouble once we start drumming up a storm with these bubblegum buckets! *Thank you (again)* to Riley Kay and the folks at **Clantro** and **Chive** for their donation! We are sure to have a great time drumming with these sweet pails!





# AROUND THE SCHOOL

**READING**

*is to the*

**MIND**

*what*

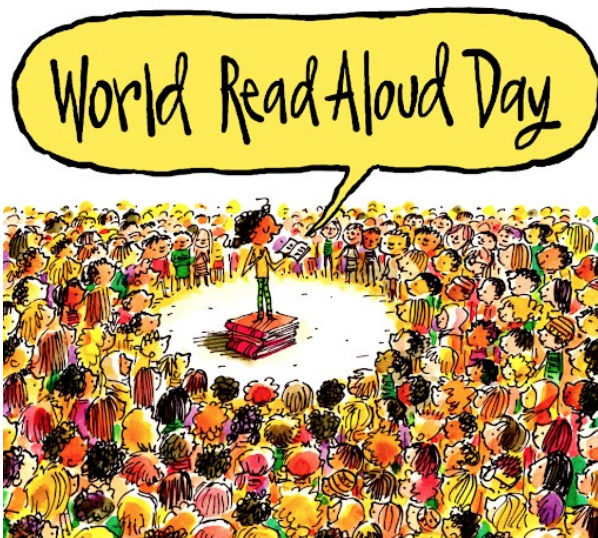
**exercise**

*is to the* **BODY.**

Sir Richard Steele



**February 3, 2021**



**February 3, 2021**



## SWIFTY'S SNIPPITS

Check out the links below for some great  
information and resources!



### Parents As Partners in Reading

<https://cccf-fcsge.ca/ece-resources/topics/literacy-books/parents-partner-reading/>

### Healthy Habits Include Fitness

<https://cccf-fcsge.ca/ece-resources/topics/child-health-safety/healthy-habits-include-fitness/>

### Supporting Science Learning At Home

[https://3c3uo993kq32frgqdtj53hhl-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/RS\\_72-e.pdf](https://3c3uo993kq32frgqdtj53hhl-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/RS_72-e.pdf)

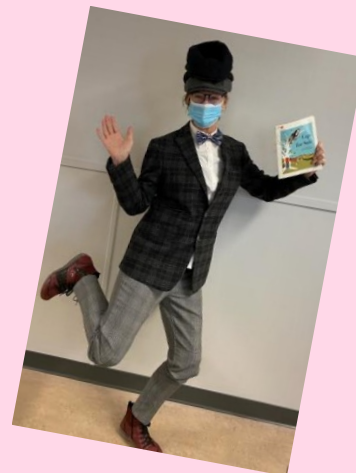


# SPECIAL EVENTS DAY!



What a FUN day filled with our  
Favorite Book Characters!  
It was so wonderful to see all the  
variety & creativity in bringing  
literature to life!

Thank you to our Special Events  
Committee for planning another  
amazing day for EJSMS!





# ANNOUNCING...

Our EJSMS extended family has grown by a few tiny feet! Both Mr. Fullarton & Miss Leibel have welcomed their new babies into the world!  
The baby girls are doing beautifully ~



**Hilda Isla Harriet Fullarton**

**January 20th**

**8lbs 15oz**



**Maelie Laura Cull**

**December 12th**

**5lbs 11oz**



sugar &  
SPICE  
AND EVERYTHING  
**NICE**  
THAT'S WHAT  
little girls  
ARE MADE OF

# COMMUNITY EVENTS



McMan

## Lacombe and Area - Family Resource Network Programs –February 2021

Alberta

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
'Like' and 'Follow' our Facebook page for daily program updates: LacombeFRN						
	<b>1</b>  Kids Have Stress Too-Caregivers 7-9	<b>2</b> Baby Buddies 10:30-11:30	<b>3</b> Preschool Pals 10-11  Workshop with Tammy 7-9	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>  Family Law Night 7-9 Kids Have Stress Too-Caregivers 7-9	<b>9</b> Baby Buddies 10:30-11:30 Special Guest: Lindsey from E-motion Therapy	<b>10</b> Preschool Pals 10-11  Workshop with Tammy 7-9	<b>11</b>  Moms Matter 1-2:30	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>  IGNITE Details TBA
<b>14</b>  	<b>15</b>  	<b>16</b> Baby Buddies 10:30-11:30	<b>17</b> Preschool Pals 10-11  Workshop with Tammy 7-9	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>  PAINT BY NITE WITH NIC 10-12 (age 7-11) 1-3 (age 12+)	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>  Kids Have Stress Too-Caregivers 7-9	<b>23</b> Baby Buddies 10:30-11:30	<b>24</b> Preschool Pals 10-11  Workshop with Tammy 7-9	<b>25</b>  Moms Matter 1-2:30	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>  IMPACT Details TBA
<b>28</b>				Lacombe and Area Family Resource Network #4-4725 49B Ave. Lacombe, AB 1-877-994-5465 or 403-896-3408 karen.white@mcmancentral.ca www.mcmancentral.ca Facebook: LacombeFRN		



# February 2021

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1	2	3 Global Play & Read Aloud Day!	4	5 PD Day	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 	15 Family Day!	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 Pink Shirt Day!	25 School Council Mtg	26 Jersey Day!	27
28						

No School for Students

## What is coming up?

March 12th: PD Day

March 18th: Color Day!

March 22, 23 & 24th: Portfolio Walks

March 24th: Joint School Council Session

March 26th: PD Day

March 29th - April 1st: Spring Break

