



March 2021 Newsletter

École James S McCormick School

What's going on?

Month At A Glance

March 3rd: Subway Hot Lunch

March 3rd: Be A Light Literacy Blitz with ELUES

March 11th: Leto's Spaghetti Hot Lunch

March 12th: PD Day

March 17th: Boston Pizza Hot Lunch

March 18th: Color Day!

March 22nd-24th: Portfolio Walks

March 24th: Joint School Council Meeting 6:30pm

March 25th: Booster Juice Special Snack

March 26th: PD Day

March 29th - April 5th: Spring & Easter Break

Important Reminders:

- Morning outdoor supervision begins at **8:20am**; students should not arrive at school until then
- The first bell rings at **8:35am** - students should remain outside for morning recess until the first bell has rung to come into the school

Thank You!





Wolf Creek Public Schools

**BRIGHT
FUTURES**

PLAY ACADEMY

SAVE THE DATE

Welcome to

Bright Futures Play Academy!

Come check out our 2021-22

upcoming

VIRTUAL ONLINE

OPEN HOUSES



Info for
Parents!

Will your child be 3 or 4 years old by December 31, 2021? Have you already registered or are considering enrollment with BFPA this coming Fall?

Please join us for a **LIVE Google Meet Presentation**, hosted by our Early Years Program Staff this coming March 2021!

Sign up
here or on
your schools
website!

To register, click the link below:

[VIRTUAL PARENT MEETING SIGNUP](#)

Dates Offered	Times
Fri, March 5, 2021 Register by 6 PM Mar 4	10:30 AM - 11:30 AM
Tues, March 9, 2021 Register by 6 PM Mar 8	2:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Thurs, March 11, 2021 Register by 6 PM Mar 10	7:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Additional date to be determined	TBD

JOIN US ONLINE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS

For more information go to: www.brightfuturesplayacademy.ca

Or Call: 403-783-5441 x. 1340



**Wolf Creek Public Schools
Lacombe School Councils
presents**



Positive Mental Health

**Noah Boakye-Yiadom
Health Promotion Coordinator
Alberta Health Services**

An information session for parents

This workshop deals with a life promotion perspective to understanding health. Participants understand the importance of maintaining positive mental health and its connection to our wellbeing.

Wednesday, March 24 @ 6:30 pm

Online via Google Meet

<https://meet.google.com/grk-afxc-ban>



Extras!

Be A Light Literacy Blitz - Partnership Lesson Plan

This year instead of their traditional Family Literacy Project, ELUES are having a "Be A Light" Literacy Blitz and would like to include the students of EJSM in our plans. "Be a Light" is this year's theme. For this project a class from ELUES will buddy up with a EJSM class to share a picture book. On March 3rd, classes will do a virtual meet with their assigned EJSM class to share a picture book. The book will be selected by the ELUES class and will be read to the EJSM students by the ELUE students in a Google Meet. After the reading, snacks will be passed out by the homeroom teacher for the two classes to enjoy together. The snacks will be a little fruit snack package that is allergy free. The two classes will virtually eat together and students will share their favorite book titles with each other. Thanks LUES for setting up this fun project!



**ANNOUNCING... another new
addition to our extended EJSMS Family!**

Congratulations to Mme. Drolet!

Hendrix Van Drolet ~ February 25th ~ 7lbs 9oz





School Council Update



Upcoming Hot Lunch & Special Snack Items!

March 3rd: Subway

March 11th: Leto's Spaghetti

March 17th: Boston Pizza

March 25th: Booster Juice

Thank you!

The students were incredibly excited for the amazing February items organized by School Council! Check out our new Dieleman Fundraiser information attached to this Newsletter email!





Around the School

On February 24th, the students & staff of EJSMS participated in Pink Shirt Day in recognition of anti bullying. It was great to see the fantastic support made visual by a plethora of PINK! Here is some great information on bullying and bullying prevention.

What is Bullying?

Bullying is a repeated and hostile or demeaning behaviour intended to cause harm, fear or distress, including psychological harm or harm to a person's reputation. It often involves an imbalance of social or physical power.

Bullying Behaviours

Bullying behaviours are a form of aggression and can be:

- Physical – For example: poking, elbowing, hitting
- Verbal – For example: name calling, insults, racist, sexist or homophobic comments, put- downs or threats
- Social – For example: gossiping, spreading rumours, excluding someone from the group, isolating, ganging up
- Cyber – For example: social or verbal bullying through the use of email, text messages or social media



<https://education.alberta.ca/bullying-prevention/what-is-bullying/>



Identifying Bullying Behaviour

Below are some warning signs to help identify if a person may be engaging in bullying behaviour:

- Not understanding or caring if someone is hurt
- Unexplained increase of money, clothing or other items
- Boasting about taunting someone
- Passing off teasing as a joke
- Laughing when others get hurt
- Demonstrating aggressive behaviour
- Grouping together with some individuals and intentionally leaving others out (e.g., isolating, shunning)
- Name-calling



Bullying is the misuse of power intended to harm or humiliate someone else. People of all ages may engage in bullying behaviours.

What Bullying is Not

Bullying behaviour is not the same as hurting someone's feelings if there is no misuse of power or a deliberate intent to cause harm. It is important to support individuals to understand the difference between these behaviours as part of learning how to build healthy relationships.

Bullying behaviour is sometimes confused with conflict. Conflict is a disagreement about different beliefs, ideas, feelings or actions. It is a normal part of healthy relationships. For example, friends may disagree over which movie to see or what game to play. Learning skills to resolve conflict appropriately is very important for building and maintaining positive relationships.





Coach's Corner

MARCH 2021

Did you know...

Fun facts about the benefits of physical education classes & outdoor activities at EJSMS.



Why students need physical education on a regular basis:

Health benefits: Participation in physical activity can improve fitness—muscular strength, flexibility and muscular endurance.	Self Confidence & Self-Esteem: Physical activity can instill a strong sense of self-worth in students. They can become more confident, assertive and independent.
Active Lifestyle: Physical education promotes personal responsibility for health and fitness and for students to develop a desire to participate for life.	Goal Setting: Physical education provides opportunities for students to practise goal setting as they participate.
Skill Development: Physical education develops physical skills that allow for enjoyable and successful participation in movement activities.	Economic: Physical activity can improve health, which reduces the cost of healthcare for individuals and the community.
Positive Interactions: Physical education provides a natural learning environment in which to develop cooperation and fair play skills.	Academic Achievement: Time allocation for physical education programs does not limit academic achievement; in fact, it can contribute to increased achievement levels; i.e., active bodies/active minds.

Melissa Rogers ~ Physical Education Specialist





Healthy Living Committee - Family Games Night!



HOW TO PLAY!

- 1) Print off the following page showcasing the classic game of Snakes & Ladders
- 2) Play the game with your family and snap a photo or take a quick video of the fun! Then, tag EJSMS on Facebook or Instagram for a chance to be entered into a draw for a fun prize!

Facebook: Ecole James S McCormick School Parents

Instagram: @swiftyfriends

We look forward to seeing all of the family fun! Stay tuned for next month's Family Game Night activity, brought to you by the Healthy Living Committee at EJSMS!





CLASS PLAYGROUND

Snakes and Ladders



A 10x10 grid representing a board game. The grid is colored in a repeating pattern of red, yellow, blue, and green. Numbers 1 through 100 are placed in the grid, starting from the bottom-left (1) and moving in a boustrophedon pattern (left-to-right on odd rows, right-to-left on even rows). The top-left cell (100) is red and labeled 'Finish 100'. Several snakes and ladders are placed on the grid. Snakes are located at: (100, 92), (89, 90), (74, 73), (53, 52), (32, 31), (27, 28), (13, 12), and (8, 9). Ladders are located at: (100, 99), (81, 80), (79, 78), (62, 61), (59, 58), (42, 41), (39, 38), (22, 21), (19, 18), (16, 15), (14, 13), (10, 9), (8, 7), (6, 5), (4, 3), (2, 1), (85, 86), (76, 75), (67, 66), (56, 55), (45, 44), (36, 35), (25, 24), (15, 14), (12, 11), (9, 8), (7, 6), (5, 4), (3, 2), (1, 1), (8, 9), (13, 12), (18, 17), (23, 22), (28, 27), (33, 32), (38, 37), (43, 42), (48, 47), (53, 52), (58, 57), (63, 62), (68, 67), (73, 72), (78, 77), (83, 82), (88, 87), (93, 92), (98, 97), and (100, 99).





Early Learning Readiness - Literacy



REACH OUT AND READ WISCONSIN

WHAT CHILDREN LIKE IN BOOKS

Here is a simple guide to the kinds of books most suitable for children at different ages.

INFANTS (6-12 months)

- Board books with photos of babies
- Sturdy, brightly-colored board books to touch and taste
- Books with pictures of things they see every day – balls, bottles, chairs, dogs
- Small books sized for small hands

YOUNGER TODDLERS (12-24 months)

- Sturdy board books they can handle and carry
- Books that show children doing familiar things – sleeping, eating, playing
- Goodnight books for bedtime
- Books about saying goodbye and hello
- Books with only a few words on the page
- Books with simple rhymes or predictable text

OLDER TODDLERS (24-36 months)

- Books with pictures and names of many different things
- Books with board pages – but also books with paper pages
- Silly books and funny books
- Books with rhyme and rhythm, and repeated text they can learn by heart
- Books about children and families
- Books about food, animals, trucks, and other favorite objects

PRESCHOOLERS (3-5 years)

- Books that tell stories
- Books about kids who look like and live like them – and also books about different places and different ways of living
- Books about going to school or daycare
- Books about making friends
- Books with simple text they can memorize
- Counting books, alphabet books, search and find books





where great stories begin™

MILESTONES OF EARLY LITERACY DEVELOPMENT

Babies learn best from caring adults. From birth, it's important for parents to notice and *respond* to what interests their child. Reading aloud and talking together *every day* creates secure relationships and a strong foundation for learning. Books should be part of *every* family's naptime, playtime, and bedtime routines.



6 TO 12 MONTHS	12 TO 24 MONTHS	2 TO 3 YEARS	3 TO 4 YEARS	4 TO 5 YEARS
MOTOR DEVELOPMENT <i>What your child is doing</i> holds head steady sits in lap without support grasps book, puts in mouth drops, throws book	holds and walks with book no longer puts book in mouth right away turns board book pages	learns to turn paper pages, 2 to 3 pages at a time starts to scribble	turns pages one at a time, and from left to right sits still for longer stories scribbles and draws	starts to copy letters and numbers sits still for even longer stories
COMMUNICATION AND COGNITION <i>What your child is saying and learning</i> smiles, babbles, coos likes and wants your voice likes pictures of baby faces begins to say "ma," "ba," "da" responds to own name pats picture to show interest	says single words, then 2- to 4-word phrases gives book to adult to read points at pictures turns book right-side up names pictures, follows simple stories	adds 2-4 new words per day names familiar objects likes the same book again and again completes sentences and rhymes in familiar stories	recites whole phrases from books moves toward letter recognition begins to detect rhyme pretends to read to dolls and stuffed animals	can listen longer recognizes numbers, letters can retell familiar stories can make rhymes learning letter names and sounds
ANTICIPATORY GUIDANCE <i>What parents can do</i> Ask questions and wait for your child to answer Read and speak in your first language	smile and answer when your child speaks or points let your child help turn the pages; keep naming things use books in family routines: naptime, playtime, bedtime; on the potty, in the car, bus use books to calm or distract your child while waiting	ask "Where's the dog?" or "What is that?" be willing to read the same book again and again as you read, talk about the pictures keep using books in daily routines	ask "What happens next?" in familiar stories point out letters, numbers point out words and pictures that begin with the same sound together, make up stories about the pictures	relate the story to your child's own experiences let your child see you read ask your child to tell the story encourage writing, drawing point out the letters in your child's name
WHAT TO READ	board books; rhyming books; picture books; books that name things	rhyming books; picture books that tell stories; search and find books	picture books that tell longer stories; counting and alphabet books	fairy tales and legends; books with longer stories; fewer pictures

LET YOUR CHILD CHOOSE WHICH BOOK TO READ. FIND STORIES ABOUT THINGS YOUR CHILD LIKES.



where great stories begin™

READING TIPS FOR YOUR FAMILY

Read aloud every day!

It's **FUN**. It's **SPECIAL TIME** with your child.
It helps children learn
LOTS of **NEW WORDS**.



IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO START!

Babies love to be held and to hear your voice.
Cuddle up together and look at board books.

MAKE THE STORY COME ALIVE

Read with fun and excitement in your voice.
Try loud, or soft, or silly voices.

A FEW MINUTES IS OKAY

Young children may sit still for only a few
minutes. They will listen longer as they grow.

TALK ABOUT THE PICTURES

Make up stories to go with the pictures.
Let your child join in!

LET YOUR CHILD TURN THE PAGES

Babies and toddlers need help to turn board book
pages. A three-year-old likes to turn paper pages
without help.

READ ANYWHERE, ANYTIME

Read at playtime, bedtime and naptime. Read any
place you have to wait. Read at the playground
or under a tree, in the car or on the bus.

READ FAVORITE STORIES OVER AND OVER

Children love to hear the same stories again
and again. This is how they learn.

GO TO YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY TO GET MORE BOOKS

Your local library has lots of free books. Let
your child choose which ones to bring home.

ASK YOUR CHILD QUESTIONS ABOUT THE STORY

Where is the moon? What do you think will happen
next? Be sure to give your child time to answer!

**When children are read
to by people they love,
children learn to love books!**

www.reachoutandread.org



**READ TO
YOUR CHILD
20 MINUTES
EVERY DAY**

©2013 Reach Out and Read, Inc. All rights reserved. RT_FLYER_EN_0613

MARCH 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Subway Hot Lunch Literacy Blitz!	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 Spaghetti Hot Lunch	12 PD Day	13
14	15	16	17 Boston Pizza Hot Lunch	18 Color Day!	19	20
21	22	23	24 School Council Mtg	25 Booster Juice Snack	26 PD Day	27
	Portfolio Walks					
28	29	30	31			
	Spring Break					

What is coming up?

.....

April 2nd: Good Friday
 April 5th: Easter Monday
 April 28th: Decade Day
 April 30th: PD Day

