

BISON TALES



Fall Calendar of Events

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| August 31 | First Day of School – Welcome Back! |
| Sept. 2 | Staff Meeting - Early Dismissal |
| Sept. 7 | Labour Day – No School |
| Sept. 10 | Assembly: Leader in Me Habits 9:30 a.m. |
| Sept. 11 | Backwards Day/Journée à l'envers |
| Sept. 15 | Meet the Staff 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. School Council 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Followed by AEPSA Meeting |
| Sept. 18 | Terry Fox Run 2:15 p.m. |
| Sept. 22 | Emergency Evacuation Drill (morning) |
| Sept. 23 | Saffron Internet Safety Presentation Gr. 4-6 GYM Parent Internet Session – 6:30 p.m. LIBRARY - All parents invited to attend |
| Sept. 24 | Picture Day (Smile!) |
| Sept. 25 | Picture Day (Tues/Fri ECS) |
| Sept. 29 | Emergency Evacuation Drill (morning) |
| Oct. 2 | Newsletter Emailed Home |
| Oct. 6 | Assembly: Leader in Me Habit 1 (Grade 6) |
| Oct. 5-9 | Read In Week |
| Oct. 7 | Staff Meeting - Early Dismissal |
| Oct. 9 | Professional Learning Day – No School |
| Oct. 12 | Thanksgiving – No School |
| Oct. 13 | CPF 9:30 a.m. School Council 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. |

September 2015

The beginning of a new school year is always exciting, however, this year is different. Excitement does not begin to describe the many “firsts” we are experiencing. This September marks the first time in over forty years Alberta has a provincial government other than Progressive Conservative. Alberta has a new Minister of Education, The Honorable David Eggen, and EIPS welcomes a new Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Mark Liguori. A plan for the construction of our new replacement school and piloting of a new student progress report will also move forward this year. We are excited about piloting a new approach to communicating student learning ☺ Change is inevitable and yet, when multiple changes happen at once, it is challenging to know when one change impacts another.

Parents and community members are invited to the first student assembly. Staff will be highlighting the Leader in Me program and summarizing the “job opportunities” available within the school. Also new this year is an Alberta Treasury Branch program where students are invited to learn all about banking and saving money with an ATB Junior Branch opening up in our school library. Numeracy in action!! Meet the Staff takes place the evening of September 15th followed by School Council. This is an ideal opportunity to learn more about what makes this school a great place to learn and grow and how we can, as a community, create an even better learning environment.

As mentioned previously, we are piloting the new student progress report (i.e., communicating student learning) this year with 11 other schools. Information on the 5 point grading system is included in this newsletter. We have also sent home hard copies of the information. Finally, Saffron Internet Safety Presentation highlights how we, as parents, can help our children be safe online.

Great happens here!

Book the date....

Check the Backpack:

Please check your child's backpack for the following important documents:

- Correction Form (vital that information is correct so we can contact you in the case of an emergency)
- Website Consent Form
- Technology User Agreement Form
- School Fee Invoice – Payment due October 31 and can be paid online through the Parent Portal
- Information on Communicating Student Learning (New Report Cards) (See also Parent Information Presentation that will be shared at the first School Council meeting on September 15th at 7:00 p.m.
https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1ggZIODZJKX6JKVtjg7wMJSAP9okYaltbrMB1stpKoU/edit#slide=id.gb9bc2ba29_0_124)

Thank you for returning the forms as soon as possible.

School Council, Canadian Parents for French (CPF) and AEPISA:

The first **School Council Meeting** will be held on **September 15 at 7:00 p.m.** (Same evening as Meet the Staff). Executive positions will need to be filled at the September meeting. In order to encourage more parent involvement, the next **School Council** meeting will be at 10:30 a.m. on October 13th (before Hot Lunch). **Canadian Parents for French** will also meet at 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. on Oct. 13. This year's School Council has opted to alternate from evening to morning meetings to accommodate more parents. **Ardrossan Elementary Parent Support Association (AEPISA)** will also meet briefly after the meeting.

We love volunteers! Please consider joining School Council, AEPISA and/or Canadian Parents for French (CPF).



What Happens When I press SEND? Internet Safety

Sept. 23 Klym Gym

Gr. 4-6 Student Presentation

All Parents/Caregivers Presentation – 6:30 p.m.

Saffron Centre will discuss what the Internet is and why we need to protect our information online, as well as about having boundaries and accountability online. Cyber Bullying is also touched upon in this presentation. All parents/guardians are invited to this evening presentation in the Library.

Leader in Me – Parent Information

The 7 Habits is a combination of universal, timeless principles of personal and interpersonal effectiveness, such as responsibility, vision, integrity, teamwork, collaboration and renewal, which are secular in nature and common to all people and cultures. Over the course of the year, your child will be introduced to the 7 Habits and each grade level will have the opportunity to showcase their understanding of the habits in an assembly. Watch the calendar and please participate in learning all the ways we are leaders in school and at home. See the parent handbook on the website:

<http://www.ardrossanelementary.ca/index.php?page=936>

Counsellor Corner

Do you know how to handle your child's school anxiety?

Last year, your child could hardly wait to get to school. But this year, he doesn't want to go. At one time or another, many students show some anxiety about school.

Here are three reasons why your child may be anxious—and some ways you can help:

1. The work is harder and he/she is afraid that he won't be able to figure it out. Each year, the work will be more challenging. That's why it's important to reassure your child that he can do harder work. Researchers say that brains get stronger with use.
2. He/She is worried about friendships. It's a sad fact that last year's best friend may suddenly shift loyalties and leave your child out in the cold. You can't change that. But you can remind your child that he's a great kid who will find other friends. Encourage him to spend time doing things he really enjoys. It's the surest way for him to connect with new people.

3. He/she is afraid of getting bad grades. Sometimes children who have always earned good grades start to worry if grades slip. Help your child put grades into perspective. Are they doing their best work? Are they learning? That's what is most important. And remind them that their teacher is there to help.

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Picture Day! Smile 😊

The ICON EXPERIENCE will be taking individual student photos for students in Grades K – 6 on **Thursday, September 24**. Students in our Tuesday and Friday Kindergarten classes will have their photos taken on **Friday, September 25**.



This service allows you the opportunity to have quality studio-style portraits of your children. The purchase of pictures is optional; however all students will have their picture taken.

Student Agendas

Organization extraordinaire! The Student Agenda provides numerous tips and strategies to assist your child to be organized and proactive in their studies. The student agenda also has a wealth of information about school policies and procedures. Parents are requested to “sign off” in the parent acknowledgement portion of the agenda and return to the child’s teacher. There is also a spot to sign up for volunteering at the school.

Lost and Found Items



We would love to have an empty lost and found this year. You can help us by ensuring that all clothing items and school materials are labeled with your child’s first and last name.

Library

Welcome back to books! We are ready to have a great year in our library. There are many incentives for those students who consistently return their books. "Sir Booksalot" is a Bison puppet mascot travelling to classrooms that have returned their books on time, as well as, numerous contests and fun activities over the course of the year.

Students may choose to exchange their library books or stay in both recesses and at noon for quiet reading. Classrooms visit the library once every two weeks which they may borrow for up to two weeks. After two weeks the books are overdue and must be returned to the library before students can choose another book. If students would like to search for library books at home they can access our library by using the following address:
<https://destiny.eips.ca>
 user name: ael student
 password: student

Stay tuned for upcoming events for Read-In during the week of October 6th – 9th with the theme *The Power of a Story - Books that Inspire, Connect, & Ignite!* Happy reading!

PowerSchool Correction Forms

Throughout the first week of school, all families will receive *PowerSchool Correction Forms* for each of your children. Please review all of the information on these forms; confirm, update, and/or add information as necessary; and return them to the school by **Friday, September 11**.

If you have any technical questions regarding PowerSchool, please contact the school office at 780.922.2066.

Thank you for your assistance in helping us ensure we have the most up-to-date information about your child on file.

Student Transportation

If you have questions, please contact Student Transportation at 780.417.8151 or the following websites:

<http://www.eips.ca/student-tran>

Secure online payment option

<https://www.eips.ca/student-transportation/>

Video Monitoring on School Buses

In accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FOIP Act), Section 33 and in conjunction with the enforcement of Student Transportation bus rules, video monitoring equipment is in place on all Elk Island Public Schools' (EIPS) buses. Video/audio recordings of individuals on buses are for the safety and security of all passengers, drivers and property. Recordings may be used as evidence in a disciplinary matter.

If you have any questions about the collection, use, and disclosure of personal information, please contact EIPS'

FOIP Coordinator, 683 Wye Road, Sherwood Park, AB T8B 1N2 780.417.8204.

School Cleanliness

In order to assist our janitorial staff in keeping the school as clean as possible, we kindly request that all students change their shoes at the door. **Shoes are required at all times for safety reasons and** white soles are preferred. We also ask that guests in our school remove wet or dirty foot wear as well. Thank you!

Severe Allergies to Peanuts/Nuts



Food allergies are a growing concern in schools. Millions of children – children who are perfectly healthy in every other way – must watch every single bite they eat, or risk suffering a severe or even life-threatening reaction. A major health issue such as this one needs to be taken very seriously and it has always been the

policy of this school to make the safety and well-being of students our top priority.

A child with a serious peanut allergy can suffer a reaction merely by touching a peanut-containing food or being exposed to peanut residue on surfaces. This reaction may be life-threatening and may require anaphylaxis medication. In view of the consequences, we are seeking the cooperation of parents in ensuring that they do not send any lunches or snacks that contain peanuts, peanut products or nuts, particularly if your children are in the same classes. (If a child with such an allergy is part of your child's class, a letter will be sent home to help inform you.) If your child has allergies to other foods, such as seafood or eggs, and you have included this information in the registration form, we will let the homeroom teacher know as soon as possible.

In addition to avoiding peanut and nut products in the school we also discourage all students from trading lunches. Please feel free to contact the office if you have any questions or concerns.

Student Medication

If your child is taking any kind of medication, we require the following information:

- name of medication and dosage; and
- purpose for the medication.

A pharmacist's print out would be handy for monitoring side effects. Medications must be left with the office and

will be administered by the office staff, according to the instructions left with staff. In special instances, a student may need to carry their medication with them. We would be pleased to help arrange this with parent written consent. We have forms available in the office for these purposes that need to be filled out yearly. Also, please be sure to check the expiry dates on all medications that you leave with the school. We want to ensure the availability and efficacy of any medicine when it is needed.

Student Absences

Your child must be in school in order to succeed in school

Your child's most fundamental school-related responsibility is to get to school on time every day.

When kids miss school or arrive late unnecessarily, everyone suffers. Teachers spend time collecting makeup work and re-teaching. Meanwhile, other students—who are ready to learn—must wait.

Research shows chronic absence (missing 10% or more of school days) hurts success in school. To prevent it, families can:

- Stick to a schedule. Help your child develop habits that prepare her for school each day.
- Schedule carefully. Make medical and other appointments during non-school hours when possible. School should be a priority when planning family trips, too. If your child must be absent, work with her teacher to help your child complete makeup work.
- Seek help when needed. Many problems contribute to missing school. If your family struggles with health, transportation, work, child care or other issues, talk with school staff. Our shared goal is to help kids get to school and do their best.

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If your child is to miss school for whatever reason, please make sure that you inform the office. This can be done by simply calling 780.922.2066 and leaving a message on our voice mail.

Update: Kindergarten Programming Survey

As many of you are aware, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) has been exploring the community's interest in a full-day Kindergarten program operating on alternating days. Over the past year, some parents within Sherwood Park and Fort Saskatchewan have posed questions regarding bus-

ride times and transportation fees for Kindergarten students attending half-day Kindergarten programs, which are the predominant options in these communities. These questions led to discussions within the division about current Kindergarten programming offered within EIPS.

In late 2014, the Board of Trustees directed administration to complete public consultations within Sherwood Park and Fort Saskatchewan to determine the community's interest in a full-day Kindergarten program operating on alternating days. In the spring, the division conducted a series of focus groups—comprised of both teachers and parents—discussing the advantages and disadvantages of both a half-day program and an alternating full-day Kindergarten program. A survey followed, which gathered additional feedback from teachers, parents, community members, and staff within Sherwood Park and Fort Saskatchewan.

Overall, more than two-thirds of the 1,517 survey respondents agreed EIPS should explore offering more alternating full-day Kindergarten options in their communities. Close to two-thirds of the respondents indicated the division shouldn't eliminate the half-day program and only offer alternating full-day Kindergarten.

Based on all of the responses and suggestions gathered, the Board of Trustees has asked EIPS administration to further explore offering more alternating full-day programming in Sherwood Park and Fort Saskatchewan. As such, throughout the 2015-2016 school year, EIPS will be reviewing where additional alternating full-day programming possibilities may exist. EIPS will continue to keep families updated on any new developments.

Ardrossan's Musical Notes



Grade 6 Drama Club- Any grade 6 students wanting to act in the Christmas musical "Surfin' Santa" will meet in the music room at lunch on Monday, September 14th.

Website

Don't forget to keep checking out our website at www.ardrossanelementary.ca/ There is always new and important stuff to be found here!

Terry Fox Run – Help Us Celebrate!



Terry Fox is a Canadian hero. He gives us hope and inspires us to continue to strive to find a cure for cancer.

In his memory, our students will be participating in the Terry Fox School Run scheduled for **Friday, September 18** at **2:15 p.m.** Students will have the choice of walking or running the course and, of course, all our parents are invited to participate too!! We are encouraging students to bring in a "Toonie for Terry". Donations will be accepted at the office until October 2nd with funds going to The Terry Fox Foundation. Our goal is to raise student awareness for cancer research as well as to enjoy some physical activity. Please bring your runners!

Dress for Success

Thank you for helping us set a respectful tone in the school by monitoring your child's clothing and ensuring that it is appropriate.

The following is **inappropriate** school and work attire:

- spaghetti straps
- bare bellies
- muscle shirts
- very short shorts or skirts
- bare feet
- inappropriate slogans on clothing
- see-through clothing

Fridays are "casual" days for staff at École Ardrossan Elementary. Staff pay \$2.00 to our Denim for Dollars fund. Over \$960.00 was donated to Lou Gehrig's Disease (ALS) during the 2014-15 school year.

Les Petits Amis/Our Little Friends Playschool

Come join the fun learning atmosphere where children sing, dance and play their way through the alphabet, counting, shapes, colours, sharing and more! We are located in Ardrossan United Church. Any questions can be directed to Kari Weins at 780.922.4447

School Bus Lanes at Ardrossan



A reminder that, in order to enhance safety, Student Transportation has placed signage stating: **No through traffic except for school buses between 8:25 a.m. – 8:35 a.m and 3:05 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.**

All buses are timed to arrive at the school by 8:30 a.m. Buses will then park at an angle (like they do in the afternoons) and students will be released – beginning with the High School students. Once buses have exited the parking lot, our bus monitor will then allow general traffic to enter the parking lot.

Please note that children are not to be dropped off at the school before 8:30 a.m. on any given day. Supervision will begin at this time. Children will be encouraged to enter directly into the school from their buses and will not be playing outside in the morning.

Pay school fees easily using PowerSchool

The 2015–2016 school fee information will be available through PowerSchool beginning September 2. To access your fee information, simply login to your Parent Portal account (<https://powerschool.eips.ca/public/home.html>) and click the green dollar sign symbol. Once logged in you will be able to view fees and have the ability to pay online using Visa, MasterCard, or INTERAC Online (if available from your financial institution).

Please keep in mind, school fees may change. School fees may also be added to your child's account throughout the year for various school activities including field trips, class projects, athletic team fees, and more—so be sure to login to your account regularly in case new fees are added.



For more information about school fees and payment deadlines please visit www.eips.ca/fees.

If you have additional questions regarding your child's fees, or if you are new to the school and need assistance, please contact **Mrs. Shauna Hart, Business Manager at 780.922.2066.**

Building Update - Stay Tuned!

Demolition of the oldest part of the building is expected to occur at some point in the Fall.

CPF *Canadian Parents for French* Ardrossan Chapter

Canadian Parents for French

Welcome Back! Bon Retour!

CPF Membership Drive. All parents, regardless of whether your child is in French Immersion, are encouraged to join CPF.

Did you know over 65% of all membership fees come directly back to the school? CPF promotes the French language and culture with events such as Carnaval, Year End BBQ, French performers and many more. Can't beat that! Please consider a membership!

<http://cpf.ca/en/membership/>

CPF Alberta website: ab.cpf.ca

National CPF website: <http://cpf.ca/>

First meeting of the year is **Oct. 13 at 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.** before School Council. *Join us!*

Year End BBQ

A HUGE thank you goes out to all of the parents and volunteers who assisted with the yearend BBQ!! Wow! It was great to have so many families out and enjoying the LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!! Many thanks to the Lunch Box Staff for their assistance and use of facility as well.

Tidbits from The LunchBox

Welcome Everyone!

The AES LunchBox ended the 2014-15 year knowing we needed to move out of our school kitchen at the end of August. For months, our board members and kitchen staff have tried to formulate a 2015-16 game plan. Finding a new location for our program has proved to be quite a challenge. We have searched under many rocks, talked to many people and very recently, we were ready to sign a contract until we ran into some last minute issues that we were not able to resolve.

We will continue our search to find a new location to house our program.

Until we find a permanent solution, we will arrange for outside restaurants to cater in weekly so we can offer some type of program to our kids. Please understand, we do not believe this is the ideal plan...but it is better than not offering a hot lunch program.

To answer a few questions that we have received...

We are currently working on updating the on-line website for this year. Registration & Ordering information will be released shortly.

It is illegal for our program to have accounts for families with children who no longer attend our school. For those of you who have forgotten your user name/password from last year, don't fret, you get to start all over again. It is easier and more efficient to delete **all accounts** and start fresh. Once we reset the system (sometime this week), existing user names/passwords will not work and you will need to register again. Until you receive notice to register, please do not go on the website and add students etc...or you will just have to redo it.

If you had a credit on file at the end of last year, that credit will show up on your 2015/16 account **providing you use the same email and/or phone number to register.**

Just a quick note...the AES LunchBox board is always looking for new members. As we wait for the new school to be built, our program has a lot of hurdles to endure over the next couple of years. Join today by emailing info@aeslunchbox.com.

Tips and Guidelines for Home-School Communication

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) has developed a Communication Protocol for Schools to provide a framework for communication between schools and our families. The purpose of this document is to guide, manage, and improve school-home communication by offering a standard format, structure, and sequence for regular, ongoing communication.

This document outlines how EIPS' schools use a variety of communication formats, such as face-to-face meetings, email, Synrevoice, and social media. It also provides a process for parents/guardians to use if they need to bring forward a question or concern. We encourage families to review this information so they know what to expect and what we expect of families. As communication changes, this document may also evolve. We will work to keep parents informed as any processes evolve and change.

The full EIPS Communication Protocol for Schools document is available at <http://www.eips.ca/parents>.

Alberta Education Curriculum Information for Parents

Please check these excellent resources from Alberta Education regarding your child's curriculum.

Kindergarten at a Glance:

<http://www.learnalberta.ca/content/mychildsllearning/gradeataglance/kinderqarten.pdf>

Kindergarten at a Glance French Immersion:

http://www.learnalberta.ca/content/mychildsllearning/gradeataglance/fr_kinderqarten.pdf

Grade 1 at a Glance:

<http://www.learnalberta.ca/content/mychildsllearning/gradeataglance/grade1.pdf>

Grade 1 French Immersion:

http://www.learnalberta.ca/content/mychildsllearning/gradeataglance/fr_grade1.pdf

Grade 2 at a Glance:

<http://www.learnalberta.ca/content/mychildsllearning/gradeataglance/grade2.pdf>

Grade 2 French Immersion:

http://www.learnalberta.ca/content/mychildsllearning/gradeataglance/fr_grade2.pdf

Grade 3 at a Glance:

<http://www.learnalberta.ca/content/mychildsllearning/gradeataglance/grade3.pdf>

Grade 3 French Immersion:

http://www.learnalberta.ca/content/mychildsllearning/gradeataglance/fr_grade3.pdf

Grade 4 at a Glance:

<http://www.learnalberta.ca/content/mychildsllearning/gradeataglance/grade4.pdf>

Grade 4 French Immersion:

http://www.learnalberta.ca/content/mychildsllearning/gradeataglance/fr_grade4.pdf

Grade 5 at a Glance:

<http://www.learnalberta.ca/content/mychildsllearning/gradeataglance/grade5.pdf>

Grade 5 French Immersion:

http://www.learnalberta.ca/content/mychildsllearning/gradeataglance/fr_grade5.pdf

Grade 6 at a Glance:

<http://www.learnalberta.ca/content/mychildsllearning/gradeataglance/grade6.pdf>

Grade 6 French Immersion:

http://www.learnalberta.ca/content/mychildsllearning/gradeataglance/fr_grade6.pdf

Campbell's Labels

We are collecting *Campbell's Labels for Education™*. Save the full label from eligible Campbell products and send them to the school. Products eligible include:

- Campbell's condensed soups
- Campbell's Easy Cooking Sauces
- Gardennay
- Healthy Request soups and microwavable bowls
- Prego Sauce
- Campbell's Ready to Use Broth
- Pepperidge Farm Goldfish Crackers
- V8 beverages and soups
- Pace Salsa

If you have any questions, or 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. Visit www.labelsforeducation.ca for more information about the program.

2015–2016 Grade 3 Student Learning Assessments Pilot

This fall Alberta Education will continue the Grade 3 Student Learning Assessment (SLA) pilot. An announcement was made recently by the Minister of Education, David Eggen, indicating that participation in the 2015 administration of the Grade 3 SLA Pilot is "optional at the school authority level" but he strongly encouraged school authorities to participate in this year's pilot. Elk Island Public Schools has carefully considered this and determined that we will proceed with the 2015 pilot as originally planned. Some of the considerations that influenced this decision included: The tremendous intrinsic value of the SLAs, which are more inclusive in their scope than PATs as an assessment tool; that the SLAs will accord teachers and parents important information early in the school year that will be of great benefit to learning and instruction, and that the Ministry acted upon detailed feedback

following the 2014 pilot provided by teachers and administrators throughout the province to significantly revise the SLAs and streamline the procedures, therefore reducing the time required to administer and assess.

The pilot will include all Grade 3 students in EIPS and will take place between September 14 and November 1. The assessments will focus on numeracy, literacy, and critical thinking, be digitally based, and offer an opportunity for students to show their learning in ways not possible with paper-based tests. The goal is to provide timely information to parents and teachers, help enhance classroom instruction, and ensure any student learning needs are identified.

Further information regarding SLAs excerpted from the Alberta Education Website is below.

What are Student Learning Assessments (SLAs)?

The Student Learning Assessments (SLAs) are digitally-based beginning of the year "check in" provincial assessment tools that Alberta is developing to enable both parents and teachers to identify student strengths and areas of growth at the start of the school year. The SLA3 is a new, digitally-based provincial assessment focused on "literacy and numeracy", which are defined as follows:

- Literacy is the ability, confidence and willingness to engage with language to acquire, construct and communicate meaning in all aspects of daily living.
- Numeracy is the ability, confidence and willingness to engage with quantitative or spatial information to make informed decisions in all aspects of daily living.

What are the purposes of SLAs?

The SLAs have three main purposes

- To improve student learning (primary purpose).
- To enhance instruction for students.
- To assure Albertans our education system is meeting the needs of students and achieves the outcomes of the Ministerial Order on Student Learning.

With these purposes in mind, the SLAs have been developed primarily as a tool for teachers and parents to help inform and support student learning.

Provincial assessment programs, including SLAs, are meant to complement, not replace, day-to-day teacher observations and classroom assessment. They are sources of information that must be interpreted, used, and communicated within the context of regular and continuous assessment by classroom teachers.

Why the change to SLAs?

SLAs are designed to be a start of the school year "check in" or formative assessment tool. Knowing early in the school year, rather than at the end, what students know

and are able to do and areas for growth will serve as useful reference and enable collaboration between parents and teachers to help students learn and grow during the year. Also, the SLAs are flexible and can be completed over a number of days rather than on a specific day and time, thereby giving teachers greater flexibility and students the opportunity to take the assessment “when ready”. Also, as provincial programs of study continue to evolve to place a greater emphasis on literacy and numeracy development in all subject areas, as well as competencies (an inter-related set of knowledge, skills and attitudes), provincial standardized tests must also evolve.

What is the structure of the SLA3?

The four components of the SLA3 are:

- digital interactive literacy questions (45 questions)
- literacy performance task (4 activities)
- digital interactive numeracy questions (44 questions)
- numeracy performance task (2 activities).

The SLA3 is available in English and in French. The French versions are designed to meet the needs of Francophone and French Immersion students.

Further information on the 2015–2016 Grade 3 SLA pilot, visit www.education.alberta.ca/sla.

Promote effective study habits for a successful school year



Helping your child strengthen his/her homework and study skills is one of the most important ways you can help him do better in school. And the start of a new school year is the perfect time to get started.

Here’s how:

- Choose a regular time and place for homework. It should be a quiet, comfortable location free from distractions. Stock it with necessities such as paper, pencils and a dictionary.
- Allow for some free time first. Many kids need to blow off steam after school by exercising or talking about their days. Many also head straight for a snack. Keep healthy options available that will energize your child for work and play.
- Postpone screen time. Watching TV and playing video games are privileges that often take time away from priorities, including reading, homework and chores. Save all screen time for after homework and studying.
- Encourage organization. Productive studying starts with a to-do list. Older elementary school students should make one each day.
- Pay attention. Homework time is a chance for you to learn about your child. Do they excel at reading? Have trouble with spelling? Struggle with multiplication?
- Be supportive. Don’t ever do your child’s homework for him/her. But do stay nearby to supervise. It’s okay to answer questions and guide your child through problems. However, if he/she needs too much help, talk with his teacher.

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Community News

Family Movie Night!



The 153rd Ardrossan Scout group invite you out for an Outdoor Family Movie night in Ardrossan across from the Ardrossan Rec Center.

Bring your lawn chairs, your blankets and help us support our local food bank.

We will be showing two family movies Scout Group from Dream Works: The family film "HOME" followed by a classic: "The Princess Bride".

Instead of charging an admission we are looking for donations. Please bring 2-3 non-perishable food items per person to help support our local food bank and help make this a successful event.

There will also be a cash-only concession, with all proceeds going to the Strathcona Food bank.

Please visit Our Event Page for a wish list from The Strathcona Food Bank. Movies start at approximately 7:15 p.m.

The 153rd Ardrossan Scouts are now accepting registrations for the 2015-2016 Scouting year. Boys and girls aged 5 to 18 are welcome to register. Registration is online at myscouts.ca, put in your postal code and choose the appropriate age group. Our first meeting is September 9th, so don't delay!