

Shark Bites NEWSLETTER

SouthPointe School

Principal's Message

I hope everyone was able to enjoy a well-deserved break and is feeling recharged as we move into the final stretch of the school year. As we begin to look ahead, we are starting to plan for the upcoming year, and we have some important updates to share.

Next week, our junior high students will receive information about their elective course choices for next year. **Elective registration for next year will take place through the Parent Portal from April 9-16.** More details and information will be posted on our website next week.

In addition to academic planning, we are excited about the extracurricular opportunities coming up in April and early May. Our Junior High Badminton teams, Elementary Running Club, Elementary Badminton, and our Night of Music are just a few of the events we have planned. These activities are a wonderful way for our students to stay engaged and showcase their talents.

Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to all that we will accomplish together in the weeks ahead.

Warm regards, Laurie Caine Principal

NEXT WEEK

Monday (7)	Recorder Club @ First Recess Jr Badminton Practice @ 3:00-4:15PM
Tuesday (8)	Choir @ Lunch Recess Sr Badminton Practice @ 3:00-4:15PM Grade 6 & Jr High Band @ 3:00-3:45PM
Wednesday (9)	Recorder Club @ First Recess Jr Badminton Practice @ 3:00-4:15PM
Thursday (10)	Gr 6 Hand Chimes @ Lunch Recess Sr Badminton Practice @ 3:00-4:15PM
Friday (11)	Jr & Sr Badminton Practice @ Lunch Jr High Pizza Lunch



April

Coming Up this Month

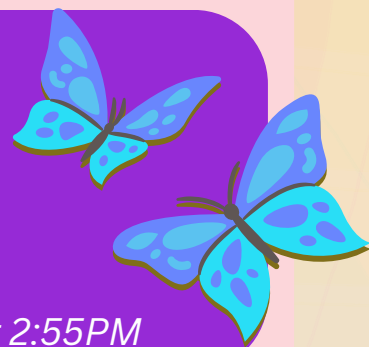
April 5	RHJ Jr Badminton Tournament
April 5	FTV Sr Badminton Tournament
April 7-11	<u>Education Week</u>
April 11	Jr High Pizza Lunch
April 16	Pick Up of Purdy's Chocolate Orders
April 16	SPS Night of Music
April 17	Deadline to Order Hot Lunch
April 18	No School (Good Friday)
April 21	No School (Easter Monday)
April 22	<u>Earth Day</u>
April 23	Gr 1-3 and Mon/Wed Kindergarten Hot Lunch
April 23	School Council & FASS Meeting
April 24	Wacky Hair Day
April 24	Gr 4-6 and Tues/Thur Kindergarten Hot Lunch
April 25	Gr 7-9 Hot Lunch



School Start & End Times

8:10AM - School Begins
11:08AM to 11:48AM - Lunch
2:46PM - School Dismissed
(1:46PM - Early Dismissal Days)

Please note supervision begins at 7:55AM and ends at 2:55PM



PIZZA DAY FOR JR HIGH STUDENTS!

FRIDAY, APRIL 11TH @ LUNCH

\$2.00 PER SLICE

\$5.00 FOR 2 SLICES & A DRINK

Note:

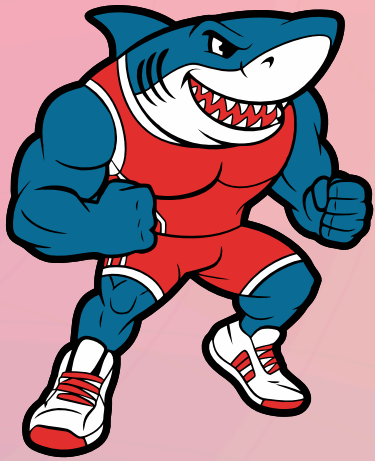
April (BPs) & May
(Tim's & Papa John's)
Hot Lunch online
ordering is now open

April Hot Lunch

Grades 1-3 and Mon/Wed K	23 Apr
Grades 4-6 and Tues/Thur K	24 Apr
Grades 7-9	25 Apr

To order next month's hot lunch, go to
<https://spschool.hotlunches.net/admin/>





SHARKS ATHLETICS

Monday (7)

Jr Badminton Practice @ 3:00-4:15PM

Tuesday (8)

Sr Badminton Practice @ 3:00-4:15PM

Wednesday (9)

Jr Badminton Practice @ 3:00-4:15PM

Thursday (10)

Sr Badminton Practice @ 3:00-4:15PM

Friday (11)

Jr & Sr Badminton Practice @ Lunch (11:08-11:48AM)



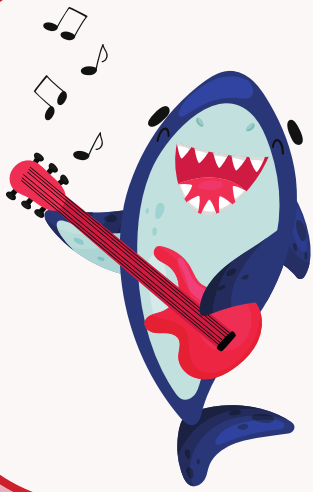
Good luck to our Jr & Sr Badminton athletes this weekend as the Jr's compete in Rudolph Hennig's tournament and our Sr's compete in Fultonvale's tournament.

GO SHARKS!

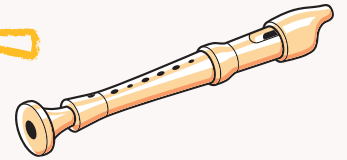
BRING YOUR OWN WATER BOTTLE

Starting Monday, the office will no longer provide cups for water. To stay hydrated throughout the day, please ensure your child brings a labeled, non-glass water bottle to school. There are numerous water fountains with water bottle dispensers around the school, so refilling is easy! This not only helps keep them refreshed but also reduces waste, making a positive impact on our environment! Thank you for your support!





MUSIC



Gr 4-6 Recorder Club on Mondays & Wednesdays at First Recess

Gr 4-6 Choir on Tuesdays at Lunch Recess

Gr. 6 Hand Chime Club on Thursdays at Lunch Recess

Gr. 6 & Jr High Band on Tuesdays from 3:00-3:45PM

NIGHT OF MUSIC

Featuring
Band
Choir
Hand Chimes
Recorder Club

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16 6:00 PM
SOUTHPOINTE SCHOOL GYM



Counsellor's Corner...

Spring Cleaning for the Mind

"Spring cleaning your mind" is a metaphor for decluttering your thoughts and emotions, much like how you tidy up your living space during spring cleaning. It means taking the time to clear away mental "clutter," such as negative thoughts, unresolved worries, or unproductive habits, to create space for clarity, positivity, and renewed focus.



If you have any question, please feel free to reach out: Kofi.Frimpong@eips.ca

There are many activities that you can do to clear and refresh your mind. Here are examples of activities that can help to enrich your lives:


- Create a to-do list of short-term and long-term goals that you want to complete. Having a set of goals can give you a sense of purpose in life and guide you toward your desired path.
- Try to improve your physical health
- Engaging in physical activity has been scientifically proven to play an important role in sustaining mental health and well-being.
- Begin to renew your spirit
- Practicing yoga and/or meditation can do wonders for the cleansing of the mind.
- Work on improving your stress management skills
- Try your best not to dwell on issues that are out of your control. Learning to accept the situation for all that it entails is an important skill in reducing stress.
- Actively contribute to your community
- This may include volunteering for a cause or issue that you truly care about. Helping out a neighbor, or tending a community garden can help you feel good about yourself and your place in the world. An effort to improve the lives of others is surely going to improve your life too.


And last but not least, **live in the here and now**. Take a moment to notice the sun and wind on your face, and notice the air you are breathing. Sometimes we are distracted with tasks and responsibilities and we forget to appreciate life's precious moments. Learn how to bring your attention into the moment using mindfulness meditation or any other mental exercises you see fit. Making a conscious effort to notice and understand your inner and outer world at this very moment can improve your mental health.


(Courtesy of <https://keltymentalhealth.ca/blog/2019/03/spring-clean-your-mental-health>)

What's Happening AROUND SOUTHPOINTE...

Vroom, Vroom! Grade 6s Race to Victory in Our Energy Car Challenge!

Hold onto your seatbelts, because the Grade 6s just revved up their engines in an epic car race as part of our Energy unit in Science!  Working in groups, students were given different supplies by Mr. Henderson to design and build their very own race cars. They explored the concepts of energy, force, and motion while testing out their creative ideas and engineering skills. From brainstorming to the final race, these young scientists were hands-on in every part of the challenge!

The excitement was unmatched as teams raced head-to-head, using all the energy they could muster to speed their cars across the finish line. Who would take home the gold?  Check out the action-packed photos of the cars in motion, the proud builders, and all the science fun!

Let's keep the momentum going and celebrate their awesome achievements in this high-speed challenge! 



Semi Final Races...



CHAMPIONS!



Final Race...



What's Happening AROUND SOUTHPOINTE...

SouthPointe School YEARBOOK

ybpay.ca

Order Deadline:
May 11, 2025

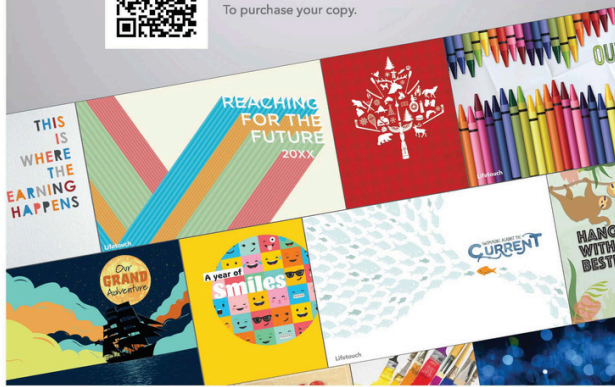
Price:
\$20.00

Yearbook ID Code:
14214925

Don't miss out!
Order your yearbook today!



Scan the QR code or visit:
<https://ybpay.lifetouch.ca/>
To purchase your copy.



YEARBOOK

Hey, families! The school year is almost over, and it's time to grab your very own yearbook! It's full of fun photos and special memories from the year. Yearbooks are only \$20 each. Be sure to order before **May 11** - don't miss out on this cool keepsake!

Order your yearbook [HERE](#) and use the code 14214925.

SOUTHPOINTE'S "OG'S"



**2017
STAFF**



**FLASHBACK TO THE FIRST
YEAR...OUR CURRENT GRADE
9 STUDENTS WERE JUST IN
GRADE 2 WHEN OUR SCHOOL
FIRST OPENED—RELIVE THE
MEMORIES AND SEE HOW
FAR THEY'VE COME! DON'T
MISS OUT—ORDER YOUR
YEARBOOK TODAY!**



What's Happening AROUND SOUTHPOINTE...

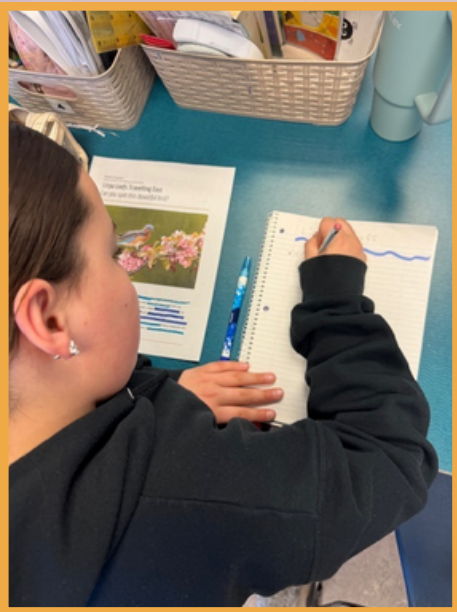
APRIL

FOOLS

DAY

April 1st brought lots of laughter and creativity to our classrooms! One of the highlights was the "Lirpa Loof Bird" research project. 5B Students dove into the fascinating world of this mysterious bird, taking notes, creating illustrations, and practicing their best 'Lirpa Loof' bird calls. Afterward, they ventured outside, marshmallows in hand, hoping to attract one of these mythical creatures to land on their hands!

Meanwhile, Mr. Epp had a playful prank up his sleeve, convincing many teachers that Google Earth was flying over our school that morning. Some classes even went outside to wave at the "Google Earth" satellite as it "passed by"! It was a day filled with fun, laughter, and a lot of learning—especially about the art of being a good April Fool!



[Click Here for EIPS' First
Nation Metis Inuit April
Newsletter](#)

Frog Moon

April

FASS/School Council Info

The FASS is planning a **BOTTLE DRIVE for later this month. Start saving your bottles, and we'll provide more details as the date approaches.**

These fundraisers will help support the purchase of 40 Chromebooks and a charging cart for our students, which will greatly enhance their learning experience.



Growing Smiles Spring Plant Fundraiser

The Growing Smiles Spring Plant Fundraiser offers a beautiful selection of hanging baskets, patio planters, vibrant flowers, herbs, and vegetables—perfect for brightening up your home and garden. **Order now** to support our school and get high-quality plants just in time for spring!

Fundraising Association for SouthPointe School

Order Deadline: May 7 at 12PM

Pickup Date: May 22 @ SPS

Mark your calendars! Our next School Council Meeting is APRIL 23 at 5:00PM in the Large Flex Space.

HOT LUNCH

Hot Lunch is OPEN for April & May!

To order hot lunches, we use the spschool.hotlunches.net website.

Deadline to order for APRIL is coming up on April 17th at NOON.

Failure to pay for the order by the deadline will result in the order being cancelled.

If your child is sick on the day of their hot lunch, please call the office **before 10:30AM** and let them know. No refunds will be given if a student is absent on the day of their hot lunch.

Once the deadline has passed orders cannot be changed or cancelled.

Should you have any comments, suggestions, or questions you can reach out via email at spschoolhotlunch@gmail.com.

REMINDER:
Please still send
SNACKS on Hot
Lunch Day

Hot Lunch Volunteer Opportunity:

We're looking for volunteers to assist with our hot lunch program! As a thank-you, each volunteer will receive a \$5 discount on one child's hot lunch account for their help.

If you are able to volunteer, please email spschoolhotlunch@gmail.com.

News from EIPS



Explore Collegiate Pathways

In 2025-26, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) will be expanding its Collegiate Pathways programming to provide more opportunities for more students across the Division. Opportunities are available for students entering or returning to Grade 12 in the fall. For students entering grades 10 or 11 next year, the available information will help with course planning throughout senior high.

[Learn more about Collegiate Pathways](#)

[Planning for Grade 12](#)

[Course planning for grades 10 and 11](#)

Pre-Kindergarten Programming at EIPS

Is there a preschooler in your life experiencing identified developmental delays or challenges with speech-language—big or small? If so, Elk Island Public School's Play And Learn at School (PALS) program could help.

Early learning lays the foundation for success in primary grades and beyond. As such, EIPS offers the pre-kindergarten PALS program in five of its elementary school locations. Applications are now open for free speech-language assessments for those interested in registering in the PALS program this fall. The assessment helps determine if PALS is appropriate for your child.

If you know a preschooler, born in 2021 or 2022, who could benefit from pre-kindergarten programming or want to book an assessment, fill out the [PALS Program Request Form](#) or call 780-417-8219. For more information, visit eips.ca.

A big THANK YOU to EIPS Volunteers

National Volunteer Week takes place April 27 to May 4. On behalf of the Board of Trustees at Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS), I want to say a giant thank you to all EIPS volunteers. This year's theme is Volunteers Make Waves, and that's certainly true in our Division. No matter whether you've chaperoned a field trip, helped out at a hot lunch day or provided support in a classroom—every time you've stepped in a school—you've made a ripple effect that washes over your community. These waves of positivity, hard work and dedication build up and make a momentous impact on a student's experience at school.

So, thank you again for being a part of our ocean at EIPS. The waves you've made—and will continue to create—all contribute to our collective goals of ensuring learning and working environments sustain student learning and amplifying the importance of public education in our province. This National Volunteer Week, I encourage everyone to celebrate the hundreds of volunteers and thousands of hours put into supporting student growth and achievement at schools across the Division.

Cathy Allen Chair, EIPS Board of Trustees

News from EIPS



Every year, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) publishes an Annual Education Results Report, which outlines the Division's Four-Year Education Plan, growth opportunities, and how it supports students in achieving the best possible outcomes. Read through this year's [EIPS Annual Education Results Report 2023-24](#) and discover how EIPS fosters learning environments for all students to learn, grow and thrive—and why it matters.

March Spotlight: Student Growth and Success

- [Early Learning](#): Ensuring early learners reach developmental milestones
- [Culture of Literacy](#): Dive deep into the data and learn how students are developing strong literacy skills
- [Math Matters](#): Enhancing reasoning, understanding and achievement through numeracy-rich classrooms
- [Boosting Educational Outcomes](#): How EIPS supports the growth and achievement of self-identified First Nations, Métis or Inuit students.
- [Beyond High School](#): Supports and strategies that are creating real-life career pathways for learners

RELATED INFORMATION

[EIPS Four-Year Education Plan: 2022-26](#)

[EIPS Three-Year Capital Plan: 2025-28](#)

Kindergarten Registration

NOW OPEN

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2025? If so, it's now time to register for kindergarten. To register, simply complete the online registration form at eips.ca/kindergarten. To help families prepare, Elk Island Public Schools has put together an [online EIPS Kindergarten Tool kit](#) to make the transition as smooth as possible. The kit includes information on registration, important dates, programming options, what to expect, eligibility, how to find your designated school, transportation and more.

Additional information regarding SouthPointe's kindergarten program is available at <https://www.southpointeschool.ca/>



News from EIPS



DID YOU KNOW?

EIPS prepares a budget in the spring based on projected enrolment, funding, estimated costs and Board of Trustees budget priorities. Before the Division can finalize its budget for the next school year, we need to wait for the provincial government to provide the funding manual for school authorities and EIPS' funding profile. This year's funding manual is expected to be released in early April and the funding profile should be available mid-March. EIPS plans to publish its spring budget in May. [Learn more](#)



Make the most of your summer with EIPS Summer School

With more than 40 senior high courses, students can earn credits, upgrade marks, lighten their workloads or finish needed prerequisites.

Bev Facey Community High
99 Colwill Blvd, Sherwood Park

4-WEEK SESSIONS

JULY 7-31 8:30 AM to 1 PM

2-WEEK SESSIONS

JULY 7-18 8:30 AM to 1 PM

JULY 21-31 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM

Courses include:

- Core Senior High Courses
- CALM
- Physical Education
- Land-Based Learning
- Work Experience & RAP
- Workplace Safety

Plus, online options for English and Social Studies, as well as other complementary courses



Registration opens March 17
eipsnextstep.ca/summer-school