

Shark Bites

NEWSLETTER

SouthPointe School

Principal's Message

As we end our second week of school, I want to thank you for a fantastic start to the year. Our Welcome Week was filled with excitement, laughter, and connection as students from Kindergarten to Grade 9 participated in a variety of fun, school-wide activities. It's been wonderful to see our community come together again.

This week, our staff also gathered for our first meeting of the year. We're excited to use our weekly early dismissals for collaborative time—working in grade groups and as a whole staff to plan engaging, meaningful learning for all students.

We also want to share a heartfelt farewell to our amazing librarian, Ms. Gauchair. She has accepted a full-time position at Strathcona County Library. Ms. Gauchair has been a valued part of our school—her passion for literacy, dedication to students, and leadership with book fairs will be greatly missed. We wish her all the best in this new chapter.

Thank you for your continued support as we begin what promises to be a great year!

Laurie Caines, Principal



NEXT WEEK

Monday (8)	Sr Boys & Girls Volleyball Practice @ 3:00-4:30PM
Tuesday (9)	Jr Boys & Girls Volleyball Practice @ 3:00-4:15PM
Wednesday (10)	Early Dismissal @ 1:50PM Sr Boys & Girls Volleyball Practice @ 3:00-4:30PM
Thursday (11)	Canteen Helpers Meeting @ Lunch Jr Boys & Girls Volleyball Practice @ 3:00-4:15PM EIAA Sr Volleyball Tournament (Girls @ ABJ & Boys @ Lakeland)
Friday (12)	EIAA Sr Volleyball Tournament (Girls @ ABJ & Boys @ Lakeland) Dungeons & Dragons Meeting @ Lunch

SEPTEMBER

Coming Up this Month

September 10	Early Dismissal
September 12	Dungeons & Dragons Meeting @ Lunch
September 17	Early Dismissal
September 18	Deadline to Order Hot Lunch
September 19	Terry Fox Run
September 24	Grade 1-3 Hot Lunch
September 24	Early Dismissal
September 25	Grade 4-6 & M/Th K Hot Lunch
September 26	Grade 7-9 & T/Fr K Hot Lunch
September 30	National Day for Truth & Reconciliation (No School)
October 1	Early Dismissal
October 3	Professional Learning Day (No School)
October 8	Early Dismissal
October 13	Happy Thanksgiving! (No School)



Terry Fox Run

Our school will be participating in the Terry Fox Run on Friday, September 19th. More details to come on how you can be a part of our fundraising efforts and how to support our Here's a video for you to enjoy: [Terry Fox Video](#)



“I wanted to set an example that would never be forgotten.” - Terry Fox

Hot Lunch details to come...keep looking back here for information.

September Hot Lunch

☀ Grades 1-3	24 Sept
☀ Grades 4-6 and Mon/Th K	25 Sept
☀ Grades 7-9 and Tues/Fr K	26 Sept

STUDENT SAFETY

Welcome, Constable Ann – Our School Resource Officer!

We're excited to welcome Constable Ann from the Fort Saskatchewan RCMP as our School Resource Officer again this year! She'll be visiting our school throughout the year to connect with students and staff, helping to build positive relationships and support a safe, welcoming school environment.

We're also incredibly grateful to Constable Ann and the Fort Saskatchewan RCMP for generously collecting and donating school supplies to support our students. Your kindness and community spirit are truly appreciated—thank you!



Arrival, Dismissal, and Early Pick-Up Reminders



To help keep everyone safe and our school running smoothly, here are a few important reminders:

All doors to the school are locked during the day. In the mornings, teachers greet their classes at their assigned doors and bring students into the building together. Please make sure your child uses their designated door when arriving and leaving school.

If your child arrives after 8:05AM, they'll need to come through the main entrance on Allard Way, as all other doors will be locked. They must stop by the office to sign in before heading to class.

Picking your child up early? Please let both your child's teacher and the office know in advance by emailing us at general.sps@eips.ca. When you arrive, you can come into the main office to sign your child out.

Thank you for your support in helping us keep our school safe and organized!

We Are a Nut-Aware School

A friendly reminder to all families that we are a nut-aware school. To help keep all of our students safe—especially those with severe allergies—we ask that you avoid sending foods that contain peanuts or tree nuts in your child's lunch or snacks.

Thank you for helping us create a safe and inclusive environment for everyone!



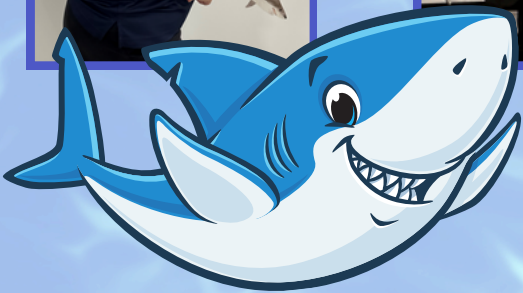
Our SPS Shark Family



We're diving into a new school year with smiles, energy, and a team that's ready to support every student—every step of the way!

Our incredible SPS staff is here to make this year one to remember, and we kicked things off by coming together for a welcome photo—because we're not just a team, we're a family. A special shoutout goes to our amazing custodian, Miss Mary, whose hard work and heart help keep our school shining every day!

To top off our welcome week, the whole school joined in to spell out "SPS SHARKS" in true team spirit! It was a perfect way to celebrate the sense of connection, community, and school pride that makes SPS such a special place to be. Here's to a fantastic year ahead—GO SHARKS!

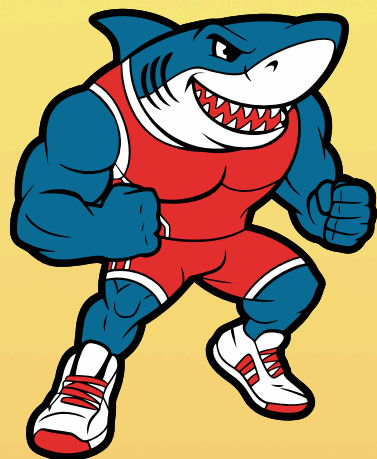


Just like sharks, our students are diverse and unique, and we celebrate that every day!

At a recent staff meeting, our team explored what it means to be a SHARK—learning fun facts (did you know there are over 500 species of sharks?) and connecting them to our work in education.



To capture this, each staff member decorated a wooden shark to reflect their individuality and role in our SPS Sharks family. Together, we're swimming strong into a great year ahead!



SHARKS ATHLETICS

Monday (8)

Sr Boys & Girls Practice @ 3:00-4:30PM

Tuesday (9)

Jr Boys & Girls Practice @ 3:00-4:15PM

Wednesday (10)

Sr Boys & Girls Practice @ 3:00-4:30PM

Thursday (11)

Jr Boys & Girls Practice @ 3:00-4:15PM
EIAA Sr Volleyball Tournament (Girls @ ABJ & Boys @ Lakeland)

Friday (12)

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*GOOD
Luck!*

**BRING YOUR
OWN WATER BOTTLE**

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!



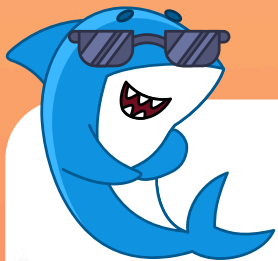


School Start & End Times for 2025-26

Due to recent changes related to early dismissal every Wednesday and transportation needs, our start and end times have changed for this school year.

School will start at 8:05AM and end at 2:50PM each day.

- Outdoor supervision will begin at 7:50AM.
 - School doors open at 8:00AM.
 - Afternoon supervision ends at 3:00PM, so we kindly ask that students are picked up by that time.
- Please see below for our 2025-26 Bell Schedule.



South Pointe School
Bell Schedule
2025/2026

Wednesday

Regular Day		
	7:50 AM	Outside supervision begins.
	8:00 AM	Students may enter the school.
Period 1	8:05 - 9:00	
Period 2	9:00 - 9:55	
AM Break	9:55 - 10:10	
Period 3	10:12 - 11:07	
Lunch	11:07 - 11:47	
Period 4	11:49 - 12:44	
Period 5	12:44 - 1:39	
PM Break	1:39 - 1:54	
Period 6	1:56 - 2:50	
Dismissal	2:50pm	Supervision until 3:00 pm

Early Dismissal Day		
	7:50 AM	Outside supervision begins.
	8:00 AM	Students may enter the school.
Period 1	8:05 - 8:50	
Period 2	8:50 - 9:35	
AM Break	9:35 - 9:50	
Period 3	9:52 - 10:37	
Period 4	10:37 - 11:22	
Lunch	11:22 - 12:02	
Period 5	12:04 - 12:49	
PM Break	12:49 - 1:04	
Period 6	1:06 - 1:50	
Dismissal	1:50pm	Supervision until 2:00 pm.

News from EIPS



Download these bus apps for a successful ride!

Is your child riding the bus this year? If yes, download the My Ride and Bus Status apps to stay in the know about your child's bus stop location, route, pickup time and whether their bus is running on schedule.



Sync Your Calendar

Did you know you can sync the school calendar to your own calendar? Simply, visit <https://www.southpointeschool.ca/about/calendar>, click on "Subscribe to Calendar" and follow the instructions. Within seconds, your calendar will contain all SouthPointe's important dates including holidays, school-closures days, planned activities and events, and it will remain synced with all the latest updates throughout the school year.



Pay School Fees Online!

Wondering when and how to pay for school fees? School fee information for the 2025-26 school year will be posted on the PowerSchool Parent Portal in late September. All fees are due within 30 days of being posted. NOTE: Additional fees may be added throughout the year—for example, at the beginning of each semester, as your child takes part in various activities, or they may be adjusted by changes in selected optional courses in junior and senior high school. If you're unable to pay your school fees, you can apply to have certain fees waived. **The application deadline is Dec. 15, 2025.**

For more information, visit SouthPointe's School Fees page on our school website. Alternatively, contact Chantelle Grieve at SouthPointe at 780-998-2747.

Video Surveillance at Schools and On Buses

Did you know each EIPS bus is equipped with video surveillance, and many school sites have video monitoring equipment?

Video surveillance and equipment help:

- ensure the safety of all students, staff, drivers and property; and
- discourage destructive acts.

As needed, EIPS school administration and Student Transportation staff review video recordings, in accordance with the Protection of Privacy Act. The recordings assist schools and the Division with monitoring student and driver conduct and may be used as evidence in a disciplinary matter.

For more information about the collection, use and disclosure of personal information, contact the EIPS Privacy Officer at 780-464-3477.

