

April 2023

Principal's Note:

Welcome Spring! We are excited to see the snow melting and are hopeful for green grass and all the beauty spring offers - including puddles. Please remember to send extra socks for students (and maybe a change of clothes for our younger students) when the puddles begin to form. Going outside is an important part of our day and a little water doesn't scare us away!

April begins with Spring Break and Easter holidays. We wish you a wonderful time with family and friends over the break. We will return to school on April 11.

March was a busy month with the wrap up of basketball (Thanks, Coach B!) and a pep rally, Purple Day (for Women Empowerment), time change, St. Patrick's Day fun, Twin Day, Grade 8 & 9 Field Trip, Report Cards and Parent Teacher Conferences. Let's not forget the Plamondon U15 Provincial Hockey Provincials that took place the last weekend in March. EPS got in on the fun by hosting a Hockey Pep Rally on Tuesday, March 21 to get things started! Our kids and families have been busy. Thank you to the organizers who did a fabulous job in organizing Provincial Hockey!

Spring break provides everyone with a time to relax, renew and have fun. So although our month begins away from our kiddos, we will be rested and ready for the remainder of the school year. Before we know it, it will be the end of June and our year will come to a close. In April we will continue to build our skills and further our knowledge with many different activities in our classes. Our Russian families will be celebrating Easter later in April. Badminton practices and meets will take place in April. One Act Drama Festival competitions will see our high school students competing in Fort McMurray. Five students will be attending Outdoor Education classes in Canmore. And the Students' Union will have a number of spirit days planned for us. Please check out the

calendar at the end of the newsletter for our many fun days.



This March was very unique and special for me. I was allowed time away from the school to go on a once in a lifetime trip. From March 4-19 I was traveling through Egypt and Jordan. I am excited to share my travels with the students as there were so many amazing things to see and do. A big thank you to Mrs. Rebkowich for covering my many duties while I was away and to the wonderful staff who helped ensure the school ran smoothly. Thank you to the division for allowing me to have this opportunity.



Wishing everyone a spectacular spring break and a Happy Easter!



Music Festival at EPS

The Lac La Biche Music Festival is coming to EPS! On Monday, April 17, starting at 9:00 am, the music students from Grade 2 and 3 (combined), Grade 4, Grade 5 and Grade 6 will perform in the EPS amphitheater. As this is a

public event put on by the Music Festival Association, there will be a small fee for all spectators who come to the event.

We are looking for a volunteer to help collect entrance admission at the door. Please let us know if you are able to help for about an hour that morning.

Thank You EPS PAC

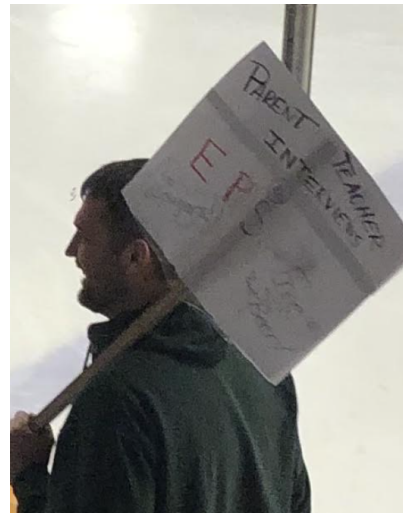


Thank you EPS PAC for your financial support for several activities. We are grateful for the E-Sports Gear, your support for the One Act Drama Festival, the Mikasa volleyballs required for next year (official

balls were changed in February), and the Sea Can to store the outdoor recess equipment. We appreciate your kindness to assist us with many areas of our programming!

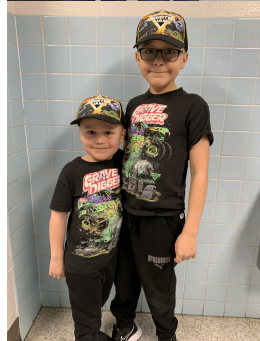
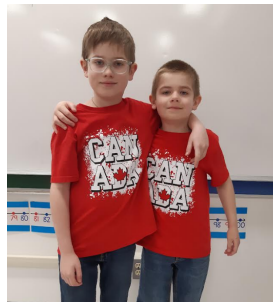
Parent Teacher Conferences

Thank you to all the parents who were able to attend our Parent Teacher Conferences on March 23. There were many good conversations to discuss students' successes, areas of growth and next steps in their learning. If you were unable to attend and would like to speak to your child(ren)'s teacher(s), please call the office to book an appointment.



Mr. Evdokimov went to the provincial game on Thursday night to advertise the Parent Teacher Conferences. We really want to meet with you to discuss your child and will stop at nothing!

Twin Day





Preschool

In March Preschool had visitors from the LLB Voyageurs Soccer Team. They showed us how to kick soccer balls and score on Mikey:) We had fun dressing up like Little leprechauns and then we set our traps to catch one, but all they did was mess up our room and steal our gold. Our room is decorated with hand painted rainbows. We had fun shopping at the book fair. And preschool has been learning their numbers and where farm and zoo animals live. Our favourite book has been I'm searching for my Pot of gold.



Kindergarten

Our Kindergarten students have been working hard this past month learning about cvc words and measurement! The students have been engaging in interactive activities that allow them to blend out sounds to read cvc words. Our version of “piggy in the middle” has encouraged students to use their knowledge of



**CARE TO LEARN
PRESCHOOL**

Learn through play with our caring and experienced early learning instructors!

PROGRAM FEATURES :

- ✓ Provincially licensed
- ✓ Play-based learning
- ✓ Co-located with local elementary schools
- ✓ Full-Day options at some locations (Duclos School in Bonnyville, Ecole Plamondon, and Vera M. Welsh Elementary School in Lac La Biche)

LEARN MORE

nlpsab.ca

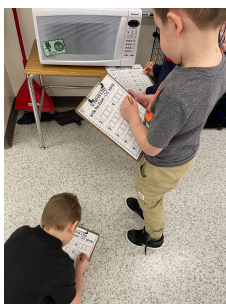
letter sounds to figure out what cvc word their teammate is holding up. The students have also gone on word scavenger hunts around the room with their very own clipboards!

The students participated in a challenge of creating the longest piece of paper they could with a poster sized piece of paper. Some groups were able to stretch their paper the distance of 2

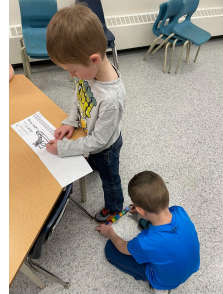
classrooms! They also used unifix blocks to measure how long their classmates' shoes were.

We are continuing to show kindness to our

friends
through
being



bucket fillers in the classroom!



Grade 1

Mrs. Sprecker's Grade One's had a busy March. The students continue to learn new strategies and sounds for reading. We have focused on some holiday writing. The students shared why they are lucky for St. Patrick's Day. The children said some of the things listed below :

- Lucky for great parents
- Lucky to come to school everyday
- Lucky to have great friendships
- Lucky to have cute pets

I am sure lucky to have such incredible students that work hard everyday. We are currently writing about the Day the Easter Bunny Came to School and the students are so creative. It is so nice seeing them getting their words on paper. Taking our reading skills and using them to support our writing skills. We also enjoyed practicing our visual skills to create pictures using a grid on the computer. We continue to work on addition and subtraction skills, shapes, and money this month.



Mrs. Ross' Grade 1

The Grade Ones have been busy learning how to measure length. They are measuring height, width, and depth of people and objects. The children are enjoying the different measuring activities, including working in groups to make a long train of paper, and then gluing all the trains together to make one long train. In the end, our paper train stretched from the outside door by our classroom to the gym door! In our Language Arts classes, we are reading books with digraphs and new sight words. We are continuing to do writing activities, too. We are ending our month with Easter activities that will continue after Spring Break.

Grade 2

March was a busy month in the Grade 2 classroom! From the excitement of trying to catch a leprechaun on St. Patrick's Day to chicks hatching in the classroom, there was a lot to do! We wrote letters to Mrs. Snyder to wish her a speedy recovery and let her know how we are doing at school. A favorite activity in Science with Mrs. Snyder was making Jello while learning about the different states of water: solid, liquid and gas. We were super excited to be the winners of a draw for \$100 for classroom books at the Book Fair. A HUGE

thank you to the anonymous donor who donated this money to the bookfair. We selected some wonderful books!



Grade 3

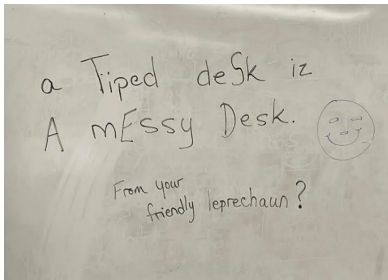
Grade 3's prepared and presented four shadow plays to their parents and our younger students. Each shadow play featured a folktale from one of the four countries that we study in our Social Studies class: a Peruvian folktale "Llama saves the people", a Ukrainian folktale "The birds' gift", an Indian folktale "Ram saves Sita" and a Tunisian folktale "Jha and his donkey". The shows were a huge success! Grade 3's enjoyed entertaining diverse audiences and manipulating their puppets! You did a wonderful job, grade 3's!



The students were shocked to learn that in the early hours of March 17th a leprechaun entered the grade 3 classroom and left a note on the whiteboard. The note had spelling and punctuation mistakes. As a class we took the opportunity to learn from the leprechaun



by reviewing the message and correcting all the mistakes.



Grade 4

On March 17th we had an

unknown suspect break into the grade 4 class! At 8:35 AM we entered the classroom to find it in disarray! Leprechaun traps were tripped and all of our shiny leprechaun bait was taken or disturbed.

There were green



footprints tracked from one side of the classroom to the other!

We took the morning to investigate the crime scene. The grade fours did an excellent job lifting prints using paint brushes and tape, sketching the scene, measuring the footprints and conducting interviews. Unfortunately, we did not catch the suspect and our case went cold.

Also, If you have any boxes or cardboard you'd like to send to school, we'll take them! We are working through our simple machines unit in science and are continuing to build. Thank you!

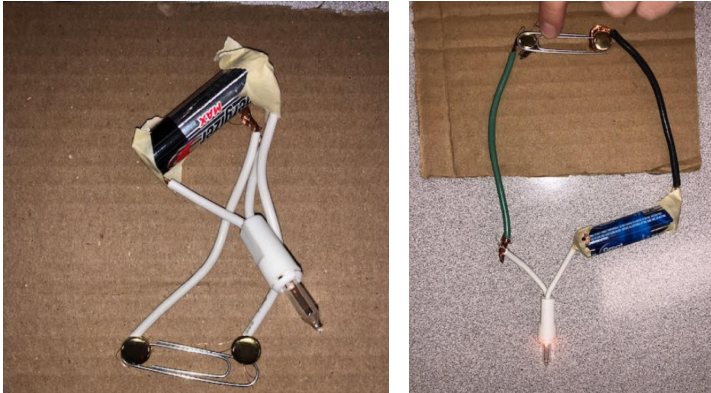
Have a great spring break!

Ms. Delorme



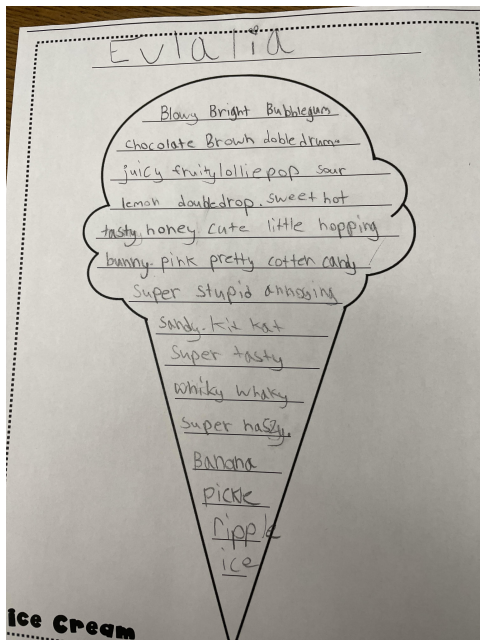
Grade 5

Grade 5 students built electrical switches to develop understanding of schematic symbols, and how to construct open and closed circuits. Students added electric motors, lights and other electrical powered devices into their circuits.

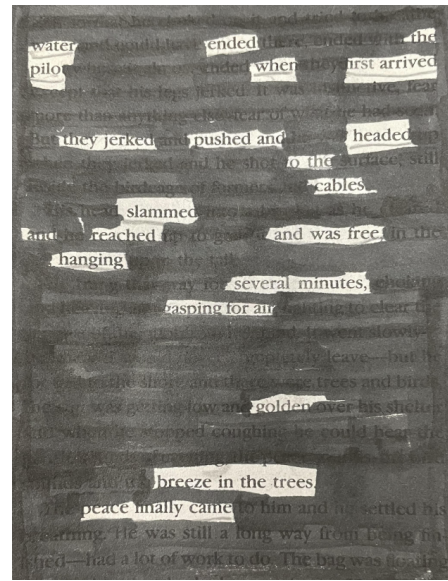


February and March have been exciting months for the Grade 5 class. Some of them attended a basketball tournament and also badminton started. Ms. Williams has been teaching the English language arts class and they have been learning about figurative language and poetry. We've also been doing some fundraisers for our field trips and the students have been participating well in these. Thanks for the help, everyone!

Grade 5 Poetry



Blackout Poem by Carter

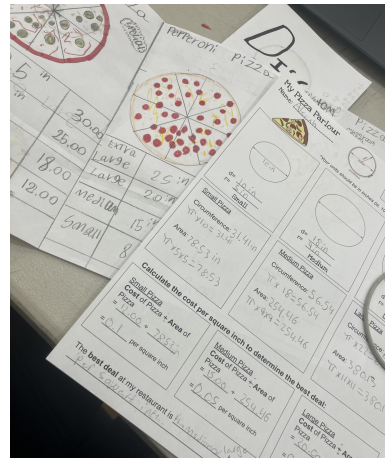
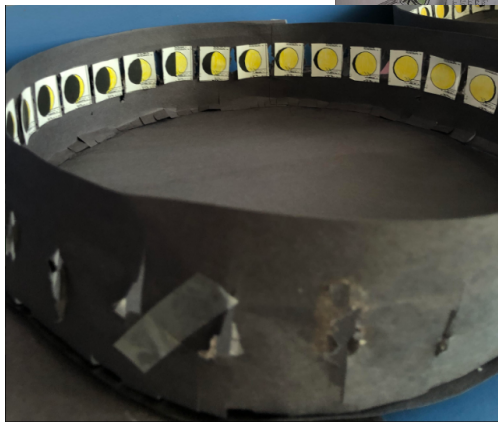


Grade 6

Grade 6 students participated in a Canada Public Health Agency poster contest to bring awareness about West Nile Virus, Hantavirus and Lyme Disease.



Grade 6 students built Moon Phase Animation zoetropes to build on their learning about moon phases and how to fuse together aspects of science, mathematics and art together.



Grade 8 & 9 Fieldtrip

The grade 8 and 9 English classes went to The Citadel on March 22nd. We watched an amazing production of *Pride and Prejudice* and finished the day off with some laser tag. The students had lots of fun and were able to have thoughtful discussions about the play.

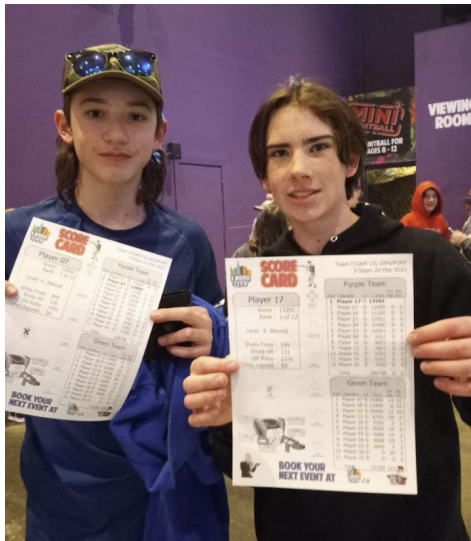
Grade 7

Students in grade 7 celebrated pi day on March 14th. After working through math centers involving the use of pi to answer questions about circle geometry, they enjoyed some pizza! They are now practicing calculating radius, diameter, circumference and area of circles by designing their own pizzeria and menu.





<https://libguides.asu.edu/MarchMammalMadness/HowToPlay>



Science 14

This month we have been following “March Mammal Madness”, which is an annual tournament of simulated combat competition among animals, put on by Arizona State University. We tied this in with our unit on ecology, and have been discussing animal adaptations and attributes, predator and prey relationships, food webs, and biomes. This past week we had Jaclyn Denman from Alberta Parks come for a visit, and she brought her collection of furs, skulls, tracks, and even models of various animal scat for the Science 14 and Science 10 classes.

If you want to get in on the March Mammal Madness action, check out



School Council

School Council - We Need You!
Join us in supporting the students and staff of EPS!

Executive

President - Connie Williams

Vice President - Anntonina Martushev

Secretary - Lindy Forbes

Treasurer - Colleen Shapka

Division Representatives

Div 1 - Heather Gauthier

Div 2 - Debbie Nipshank-Johnson

Div 3 - Destiny Alisby

Div 4 - Charlene Rutledge

Thank you to the parent volunteers listed above who have taken on positions. Although all positions are filled, we invite and encourage all parents to be a part of EPS School Council and PAC so you can be kept up to date on what is happening at our school and help guide our decision making.

The next meeting is scheduled for **April 25 at 6:30**. To make attendance easier, you can either attend online. Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/jsy-mraw-bec>

EPS PAC has several **Bingos** to work throughout the year. If you are able to work one of the Bingos listed below, please contact Connie Williams at connie.williams@nlsd.ab.ca or at the school office 780-798-3840. Start time is 5:00 pm at the Lac La Biche Bingo Hall.

June 4 (Sunday)

July 7 (Friday)

August 11 (Friday)

September 22 (Friday)

November 30 (Thursday)

EPS PAC is amazing! Thank you PAC for helping support our students and bring fun activities to our building!

Learning Commons

By Rhonda Plamondon

Space Book Fair!!

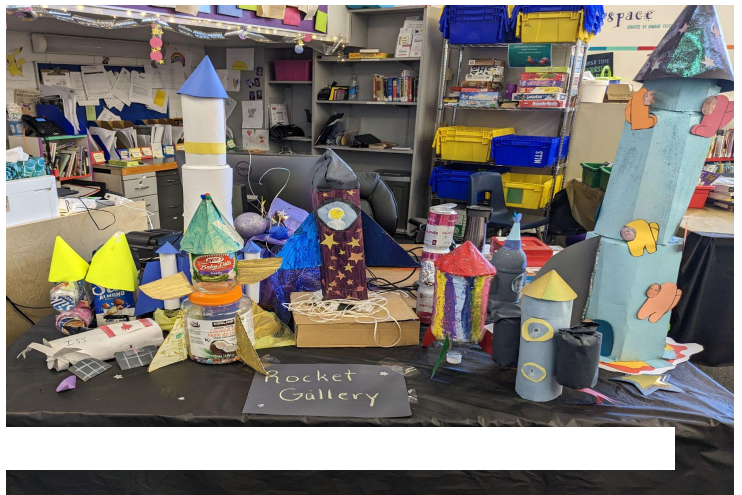


We had a very fun and successful outer space Book fair this month! Thank you to all the students and parents for supporting our Learning Commons by shopping at our book fair. Without your support, we

would not be able to have so many new books and makerspace activities. Thank you to our special student helpers, Eli and Alexis for all your help running the bookfair, and for Eva E. for the help cleaning it up.

Thank you to all the students that entered our Recycled Rocket Contest for a chance to win free books from the bookfair!

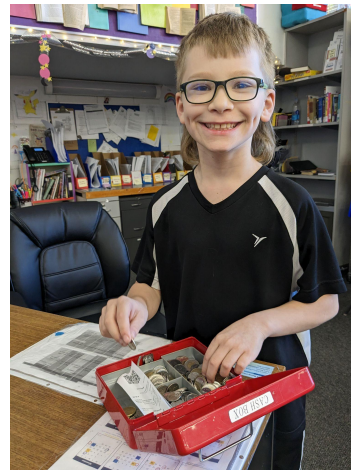
Your amazing rockets brightened up the Learning Commons!



Our school was given a very generous \$100 anonymous donation for a class shopping spree, which was won by Madame Doucet's



Grade 2 class!



Eli B.- our hard working library helper!



Elizabeth and Isabelle Jenkins- rocket contest winners with their humongous Among Us rocket!



Arian and Evlalia Martushev with their rocket and winnings!



Graduation 2023

Grad Meal Tickets: Tickets will cost \$35.00 each and will be available for purchase online or in the office starting April 11 until May 11th. Each student has the option to purchase up to 12 tickets (2- for the graduate and their escort and 10 for their family). Extra tickets may be available after every graduate has purchased their tickets. You will be able to purchase tickets through School Cash online. You will be issued a receipt for the tickets purchased; hard copy of your tickets will be available the day of the event.

Guest Speaker: Mrs. White was honored to be asked as guest speaker this year. She will be joining us for dinner and the evening portion of the ceremonies.

Invitations: A Google Form went out for students to vote for their choice of invitation design. Invitations will be ordered prior to the break and should be available to graduates by the end of April.

Reece and Matthew are still waiting for pictures from many students (10 to 12). Please make sure that you bring them in to Ms. Kim or email them to kim.gauthier@nlsd.ab.ca and she will ensure that they get to the team. Also, remember that if you would like individual music please fill in the Google Doc that was shared in the Google Classroom.

The decorating committee met with Mrs. Rebekowich relating that the graduates are moving ahead with a rustic garden theme - creams and lavender are the main colors but will be bursting with vibrant flowers of various colors.

Toasts: A Google Form went out to students to see who was interested in writing and giving a toast at the graduation. We will also be looking

for a parent or parents to provide a toast to the graduates. If you are interested please call Mrs. Rebekowich at the school.

Hawks Athletics

Hawks Athletics Update - April



Hawks Curling Team: Coach Reid & Coach Watson

The Hawks Curling Team had an amazing 2023 season highlighted by a strong showing at NE Zones and making the semi-finals in the 10-Team Plamondon Open League Playoffs earlier in March. The entire team was extremely dedicated to improving their skills during our practice sessions and put their knowledge to great use during our weekly games, improving their performance steadily from week to week. Coach Watson and Coach Reid had a wonderful time working with this amazing group of student athletes and are very proud of their accomplishments!



Hawks Badminton Club: Coach Reid, Coach McCullough & Coach Williams

We are very pleased at the great turnout we've seen for Hawks Badminton in 2023. We have 24 Tyro & Novice players (Grade 5/6) practicing after school on Thursdays from 3:30-5:00 and 26 Jr. High/Sr. High students practice on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:30-5:00 and are looking forward to a very busy tournament season in April!



2023 Badminton Tournament Dates:

- ☐ Senior Districts (Gr. 10-12)
Wednesday, April 19 (Lac La Biche)
- ☐ Junior West Wards (Gr. 5-9)
Thursday, April 20 (Lac La Biche)
- ☐ Senior Zones (Gr. 10-12)
Wednesday April 26 (Lac La Biche)

- ☐ Junior Districts (Gr. 5-9)
Saturday, April 29 (Lac La Biche)

May Dates to Remember:

- May 5 No School - PD day for staff
- May 11 Kindergarten and Class Photos
- May 15 Grade 6 and Grade 9 ELA PAT
- May 19 Family Friday
- May 22 Victoria Day - No School

NEXT GENERATION TEEN VOLUNTEER GROUP
Next Gen Teen Volunteers will be coming to Golden Sands to play PRICE IS RIGHT along with other games. Join us and win some prizes and have some fun!!

Wednesday, April 5
Time: 2-4 pm

Call/text 780-520-7183 or email christine.martin@laciabichecounty.com

GRASSLAND OUTDOOR SOCCER ASSN.

Outdoor Soccer Season 2023

Registrations deadline: April 28

Start date and End Date: May 1 to June 21 (May 1 is tentative start date depending on state of the field and weather)

Days: Mondays and Wednesdays

Times: tentative start times are 5:30pm-6:30pm

Where: Grassland School field

Fees: U5-\$55 (Born in 2019-2018)

U7- \$80 (Born in 2017-2016)

U9- \$90 (Born in 2015-2014)

U11- \$90 (Born in 2013-2012)

***tournament fees not included**

Coaches: We are in need of coaches at all levels! Coaches get to register one child for free! If you can spare 2 hours or so each week please register online or contact Sally. Some coaching courses may be needed. Criminal Record check is required.

Equipment: Soccer shin-pads, secured and covered with socks are mandatory for all players. Soccer shoes are recommended but running shoes are ok too.

Online registration link: [Grasslandoutdoorsoccer.rampregistrations.com](https://grasslandoutdoorsoccer.rampregistrations.com)

**If you have any questions, please contact Sally 780-404-3552 or
ksally22199@gmail.com or Grassland School @ 780-525-3733**

***Fees include the cost of a team t-shirt. Parent participation is critical to the success of this program. Parents must be in attendance during the duration of the practice for U5 and U7.**

JODY CARRINGTON PHD

Over 50,000 Copies Sold

kids these days

A GAME PLAN FOR [RE]CONNECTING WITH THOSE WE TEACH, LEAD, & LOVE

Join different local professionals each week, as we gather together with other parents to discuss the content of the bestselling book by Dr. Jody Carrington, *Kids These Days*.

You will receive a copy of the book to keep.

The evening includes snacks and refreshments.

Wednesdays,
 • April 19, 26 and May 3, 10.
 • 7-9 pm • Bold Center • FREE

**You will be signing up for all four sessions.*

To register:
 Call the Bold Center at 780-623-3829, or stop in at the front desk.

For more information:
 Call Christine at 780-520-7183, or email Christine.martin@laclabichecounty.com

Book club
 What has changed since our parents raised us?

It Starts with Hope Parent Group

Getting your teenager to cooperate

During this discussion, parents share some of their experiences and ideas about dealing with non-cooperation and discuss reasons behind it. Learn positive parenting strategies, to develop a plan to motivate your teenager to cooperate.

April 20 • 6 - 8pm
 The Viewpoint room, The Bold Center.

*Childcare and snacks will be provided.

To register: Call the Bold Center at 780-623-3829 or stop in at the front desk.
For more information: email Cornelia.fechner@laclabichecounty.com or call 780-520-9868

Partnership with Successful Families-Successful Kids

Jr. Family Night

Simple Connections, Stronger Families

A program to help families connect with each other through fun activities. In partnership with: Light of Christ Catholic School, and Successful Families, Successful Kids.

Winter Dates and Themes:
 Jan. 11 - A sense of Togetherness
 Feb. 1 - Positive Parenting style
 Mar. 1 - Strong Partner Relationships
 Apr. 12 - Connections to extended family
 May 3 - Connections to Community

For youth ages 7-12 & their families

5:30-7:30 pm • Light of Christ Catholic School • Includes a free meal

For more information: Call 780-520-9868 or 780-623-6743 or email cornelia.fechner@laclabichecounty.com

ALBERTA CLASS 7 LEARNER'S LICENCE PREP COURSE

A free interactive course at the Bold Center for youth aged 14+ who want help preparing for the written Learner's Licence test!

TO REGISTER:
 Email Christine.martin@laclabichecounty.com, call/text 780-520-7183 or sign up at the Bold Center front desk.

Saturday, April 22
 10 AM - 4 PM
 Bold Center, Viewpoint Room



Active April 2023

MONDAY



3 Listen to your body and be grateful for what it can do

TUESDAY



4 Eat healthy and natural food today and drink lots of water

WEDNESDAY



5 Turn a regular activity into a playful game today

THURSDAY



6 Do a body-
scan meditation and really notice how your body feels

FRIDAY



7 Get natural light early in the day. Dim the lights in the evening

SATURDAY



1 Commit to being more active this month, starting today

SUNDAY

8 Give your body a boost by laughing or making someone laugh

9 Turn your household or chores into a fun form of exercise

10 Have a day with less screen time and more movement

11 Set yourself an exercise goal or sign up to an activity challenge

12 Move as much as possible, even if you're stuck inside

13 Make sleep a priority and go to bed in good time

14 Relax your body & mind with yoga, tai chi or meditation

15 Get active by singing today (even if you think you can't sing!)

16 Go exploring around your local area and notice new things

17 Be active outside. Dig up weeds or plant some seeds

18 Try a new online exercise, activity or dance class

19 Spend less time sitting today. Get up and move more often

20 Focus on eating a rainbow of multi-coloured vegetables today

21 Regularly pause to stretch and breathe during the day

22 Enjoy moving to your favourite music. Really go for it

23 Go out and do an errand for a loved one or neighbour

24 Get active in nature. Feed the birds or go wildlife-spotting

25 Have a 'no screens' night and take time to recharge yourself

26 Take an extra break in your day and walk outside for 15 minutes

27 Find a fun exercise to do while waiting for the kettle to boil

28 Meet a friend outside for a walk and a chat

29 Become an activist for a cause you really believe in

30 Make time to run, swim, dance, cycle or stretch today


















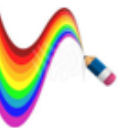
ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together



April

2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 April Fool's Day
2 Spring Break 	3 Spring Break 	4 Spring Break 	5 Spring Break 	6 Spring Break 	7 GOOD FRIDAY 	8
9 HAPPY EASTER 	10 Hoppy Easter 	11 Welcome Deck SU Easter Egg Hunt 	12 SU Easter Egg Hunt 	13 SU Easter Egg Hunt 	14 SU Easter Egg Hunt 	15
16	17	18	19 SR Badminton – District 3 Qualifier 	20 LSAA Badminton Wards 	21	22
23/30	24 Canmore Trip Begins 	25	26 Sr. Badminton – Zone Playoffs 	27 ELAA at EPS 	28 Colour by Grade Day 	29 JR Badminton – LSAA Championship 