



October 2020

Dear É.W.E.S. Families,

We are fully into fall now with the beautiful autumn landscape, cooler temperatures and into the 'routine of school' once again!

This weekend, in taking time to pause and reflect on our school, our students and staff...feelings of *pride and joy* surround us. Thinking of our students, who have come so far, adapted to new routines and are working hard in class each day and developing new relationships...*we feel such joy*. Thinking of our staff, who have learned, pivoted, persevered and been flexible all the while maintaining high expectations with a caring wrap-around approach...*we feel such pride*.

This week, we get to meet with families alongside our students to check in, to see how everyone is doing at home and school and to set goals. We are *thankful* for this time and know that when students know we are all "on the same page" and there to support them from home and school, *together, they will no doubt succeed*.

On behalf of Your School Family at ÉWES, we wish you all a wonderful Thanksgiving long weekend with your families!

Your Administrative Team,

Mrs. Lacoursiere (Vice Principal) and Mrs. Olson (Principal)



DATES TO REMEMBER

October 6

Grades 1 – 5 Conferences

October 6

SCC Meeting

7p.m

October 8

Grades 1-5 Conferences

October 9

Day in Lieu / No School

October 12

Thanksgiving/ No School

October 16

Virtual Book Fair Begins!

October 26

Prep Time / No School

October 30

Halloween Dress Up

November 2

Picture Day

November 3

Picture Day

Virtual Book Fairs
Safe • Easy • Essential



Virtual Book Fair
Coming October 16-29
Stay tuned!
More Information and
details to follow.

In Saskatchewan, immunization programs for young children are provided by public health nurses through local public health clinics. For Immunization Resources from Public Health please click this [link](#).



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Happy Halloween

Friendly Halloween Reminders!

- ~Students are able to dress up on Friday October 30st for Halloween
- ~Dressing up is *optional* but must be school-appropriate (no weapon replicas, gory costumes, etc.)
- ~Regular masks (for COVID) must still be worn by staff and grade 4,5 students (and bus students of all grades) as per usual *despite* whether the costume has a mask or not.
- ~Students will not be able to gather in the washrooms this year to get costumes on at noon so **come dressed this year for the whole day IF you choose to dress up.**
- ~ If students do not have a costume, or prefer not to wear a costume to school, they are able to participate by wearing **Orange and Black** for the day.
- ~ At this time we are asking families to **refrain** from sending any treats to school that would be shared in the classroom.



School Picture Days

Monday November 2nd and Tuesday November 3rd.

Your child's classroom teacher will let you know which day has been set for your child's class closer to picture day.

Lifetouch has been approved by the school division to come in to take our school photos. They will be following all the necessary COVID protocols. Here are some things you should be aware of:

- When posing the students, the photographers will continue to adhere to Lifetouch policy of "No Touch" posing and appropriate social distancing of 2 meters will be implemented at all times
- Each photography staff member is supplied cleaning tools (sanitizing wipes, hand sanitizer, sanitizing spray, and alcohol wipes) to ensure the school and camera locations are sanitized and safe for students and staff throughout the day
- Lifetouch has discontinued the use of posing aids / props
- Lifetouch has discontinued traditional group photography (Class Photos) for Fall 2020 as it cannot be done well while following social distancing guidelines. They will review this in the spring of 2021 and at that time look at the conditions and consider groups in the spring or alternative products to offer.
- Due to COVID-19 only one class will be in the photography area at a time and specific schedules will be developed to ensure a safe photography day
- The use of PPE is mandatory for all photography team members. Photographers will wear a facemask at all times while in our school and also practice social distancing.



Prairie Spirit Bus Policy Change

Starting this school year, a bus route that is cancelled in the morning due to extreme cold **will run in the afternoon, if conditions have improved.** In the past, if a bus route was cancelled in the morning due to cold weather, it was automatically cancelled for the entire day.

Bus routes cancelled at 6 a.m. due to cold weather will operate on their regular routes at the end of the school day, provided that temperatures reported at 12 noon are warmer than -40 degrees Celsius (combined temperature/windchill). Please see the notes at the end of this message. If the bus will run at the end of the school day, parents will receive notifications through the [Versatrans My Stop app](#) and the update will be posted on the Division's [website](#) and phone hotline (306-683-2805).

Educational tours and/or extra-curricular travel by bus will operate in the afternoon provided that temperatures reported at 11 a.m. are warmer than -40 degrees Celsius (combined temperature/windchill).

Wheelchair lift equipment will be operational in the afternoon if the combined temperature is above -35 degrees Celsius at 12 noon. The driver will contact the student's family if the lift equipment is operating for the afternoon route.

Notes: · Please see the Division's updated [Admin Procedure 805 - Bus Service Cancellation Due to Inclement Weather.](#)

· The Prairie Spirit Transportation Department uses Environment Canada's data only.

REMINDER : PLEASE UPDATE YOUR STUDENTS DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

Prairie Spirit School Division Parent Portal

You are being asked to update your student(s) demographic data on-line. The PowerSchool Parent Portal provides a Demographic Change option where parents will see the information currently on file with the school for their student(s). Correct only data that has changed. Creating an account and completing the Demographic Change requires the parent to be on a computer (it does not work on a phone or other device). The parents do need to select the dropdown menu at the bottom right, select 'Information has been updated/verified' from the dropdown and Submit, even if changes are not required.

If parents do not currently have an existing account in the division, a new account is required. The instructions are in the 'Creating a Parent Portal Account' section below. A 'Create Parent Account' document and a 'To the Parents/Guardians of (student name)' letter from your school are required to do this. (This letter was sent home earlier this year).

Further instructions for parents with existing Parent Portal accounts follows in the 'For Parents with an Existing Parent Portal Account' see below. Only the 'To the Parents/Guardians of (student name)' letter is required to connect additional students for parents with existing accounts.

Creating a Parent Portal Account from the Spirit webpage start page

Or <https://prairiespirit.powerschool.com/public/home.html>

- Select Create Account Tab
- Select Create Button
- Enter name and email, exactly as on the form entitled Parent Create Account
- Re-enter Email
- Enter the Desired Username and Password (your choice)
- Re-Enter Password
- Scroll down enter the student's name
- Enter Access Id and Access Password from the letter that starts with To the Parents/Guardians of (student name):
- Enter the Relationship to the student, example, Mother, Father
- A parent 'email verification' is sent to the email entered to verify the email is real, before account is set up. The email will have a link to the Parent Portal to login.

For Parents with an existing Parent Portal Account at any school in the division including Graduated Students, you do not need to Create a new account to attach a student at the same or a different school.

- Parents need an Access ID/Access Password for each new or additional student they are adding to their account
- The Access Letter which includes a unique User Access code and User Password for the student, starts with To the Parents/Guardians of (student name) and is required to attach a student to your existing account.
- Log in to the existing parent account
- Go to Account Preferences
- Student Tab
- Select Add at the top right
- Enter the student's name
- Enter Access Id and Access Password from the letter that starts with To the Parents/Guardians of (student name):
- Enter the Relationship to the student being entered, example, Mother, Father
- Submit

The student's name(s) will appear across the top when they've been added to a parent account and the parent can move from one student to another, and have a different view for each student depending on settings chosen by the school.

The student's account moves with the student. If the parent has access at one school and the student transfers to another, the account switches to the student's current school.