



# FEBRUARY

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

EAST EXPERIENCE

SC/PA NEWSLETTER

GIRLS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

GRADE 6 NEWS

JANUARY CALENDAR

PARENT INFORMATION



# EAST ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

February brings continued opportunities for learning, kindness, and connection at East. As the school year progresses, I am grateful for the dedication of our students and staff and the growth we see each day.

Report cards were available in PowerSchool last week. You can keep up to date on your child's successes at <https://powerschool.blackgold.ca/public/> Finding time and opportunity to discuss what happened during the school day is one of the most effective ways you can support your child's learning at home. Review their report card with them. Celebrate the goals they achieved and make plans for continued improvement. Additionally, PowerTeacher Pro is now open for viewing. Entries are updated monthly and provide insight into what your child is learning and how they are progressing throughout the year.

This month, we are focusing on learning intentions in Visible Learning, helping students understand what they are learning, why it matters, and how to take ownership of their progress. We encourage you to ask your child about their learning goals and celebrate their achievements at home!

All students and staff are encouraged to take part in "Pink Shirt Day" on February 25th. Pink Shirt Day is an annual event against bullying, held in Canada and New Zealand. Participants wear pink shirts to raise awareness about bullying, particularly in schools. Pink Shirt Day was started in 2007 in Canada, where it is held on the last Wednesday of February each year. The focus for 2026 campaign focuses on the theme of "Sprinkle Kindness", encouraging simple, everyday gestures to combat bullying and foster inclusivity.

Our parent groups would love to welcome you! The East Elementary School Council is a volunteer-based organization registered with the Alberta School Councils' Association. School Council serves as a connection between families and school administration, providing a space to share information and discuss school and community topics. Meetings are open to all parents and caregivers of students at East Elementary and are held in the school wellness room. Dates and times are shared through the school calendar and newsletter. Participating in School Council is a great way to stay informed, share your voice, and be involved in shaping the school experience for our students. Our next parent night will be held on Tuesday, February 3, and will include a round-table discussion. We hope you can join us!

Our school yard is currently very icy. We kindly ask that students wear appropriate footwear and are reminded to walk carefully and slowly while outside. We have made school-wide announcements and shared a short video with students demonstrating how to walk safely on ice—"walking like a penguin," with feet pointed outward and hands held out in front for balance. Students are also being encouraged to stay off visible ice patches whenever possible.

We appreciate your ongoing support in creating a welcoming and supportive school environment for our students. If you have any questions or need assistance, please don't hesitate to connect with us.

C. Fisher  
Principal



# HOT LUNCH



# EAST EXPERIENCES

## ★ Did You Know? ★

Our school offers Hot Lunch Fridays through Healthy Hunger! 🍕 🍷

Parents can place orders online at [www.healthyhunger.ca](http://www.healthyhunger.ca), with weekly ordering available and a deadline each Sunday.

★ New this year! We've added Hot Dog Days on select weeks. Hot dogs are just \$2.00. ★

Getting started is easy! Simply create an account on the Healthy Hunger website and you're all set.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out. We're excited to offer this tasty option for our students!



## East Elementary Essentials

### Winter Wear Reminder

As the temperatures drop, please make sure your child comes to school dressed in weather-appropriate winter gear. Warm jackets, hats, mittens, boots, and snow pants help keep our students comfortable and ready to enjoy outdoor play safely. Thank you for helping us keep everyone cozy this season! ❄️



### Gently Used Clothing Donations Needed

East Elementary is collecting gently used clothing to keep on hand for students who may need extra items during the school day. If you have any gently used clothing that could benefit our students, please bring your donations to the school office.

Thank you for your kindness and support!



## SCHOOL COUNCIL & PARENTS' ASSOCIATION



## ASSURANCE SURVEY

*Grade 4 parents your opinion is needed.*

*Please watch for the Assurance Survey to arrive in your e-mail and take the time to fill it out. Your opinion matters.*

*The Assurance Survey is issued by Alberta Education every year as part of its goal of continuous improvement of education in Alberta and at East Elementary.*

*Survey results are used by our Principal, School Council and the Black Gold School Board to set and adjust goals to better meet the needs of our students.*

## SPRING FUNDRAISER EVENT

The Parents Association is working on a **Paint Night or Customize Your Sweater** event. **Details TBD.** Keep an eye out for the event announcement and make sure to register!.



Invite your friends,  
invite your family!  
Have fun, socialize  
and support the  
Parents'  
Associations  
fundraising efforts  
for East Elementary.

## NEXT MEETING

Tuesday Mar. 3, Art/Science Room #110

**School Council** (6:30 - 7:30pm)  
Special Guest - BGSD Trustee Werner Fisher  
School Budget Overview &  
Input for next Year's School Budget

## VOLUNTEER

**Hot Lunch** - Available Fridays 11:30 - 12:30 pm? check 'yes' at the top of your Healthy Hunger order or email  
[eastelementaryhotlunch@gmail.com](mailto:eastelementaryhotlunch@gmail.com)

**Upcoming Staff Appreciation Days**  
Tues. Mar 17 - Pastries, Coffee & Tea  
Tues. May 26 - Sit down lunch

Everyone is invited to help make these days wonderful. Watch for the sign-up to be announced this month.

## RAISE MONEY & WIN!!!

**Online 50/50!**

Win big bucks this year! Enter online via rafflebox now through Sat, Jun 20. The jackpot is already ~200, winner takes \$100.

**Scan the QR to enter.**



## Upcoming Bingos

Sat. Feb. 28, 5:30pm-9:30pm (4 of 9 filled)  
Sat. Mar 21, 5:30pm-9:30pm (2 of 11 filled)  
Sat. May 2, 11:30am-3:30pm (2 of 11 filled)

Help earn your child's grade team pizza party! Team - 3M,4/5G is in the lead. Teams Kindy,4K and 2D,6A really need some help this round!  
[eastbingos@gmail.com](mailto:eastbingos@gmail.com)

**BINGO SIGN-UP**





*Congratulations on*

**4<sup>th</sup> PLACE!**



**EAGLES**



**GREAT JOB!**

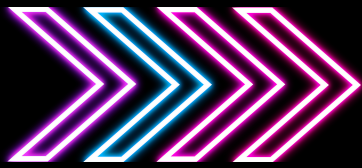
# **GIRLS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT**







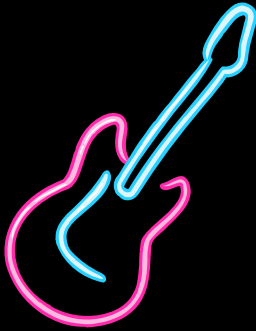
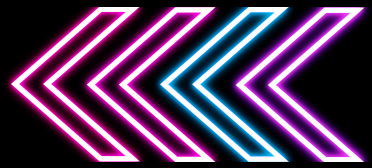
# HELP OUR GRADE 6'S



6

LEVEL  
UP!

7



A big thanks to the Hekkink family for organizing and planning a small bottle drive. A few students got together and raised over \$400 for us.



## BOTTLE DRIVE

Help support our Grade 6 students as they prepare for their big send-off! You can donate anytime by taking your bottles directly to the Leduc Bottle Depot and dropping them off under "East Elementary Grade 6."

Every bottle donated helps our amazing 6's turn into confident 7's, making their year-end celebrations extra special. Thank you for supporting our students and helping them finish the year strong!



67



# FEBRUARY



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2 Groundhog Day  DIV 1  Popcorn Day	3	4	5 ATA Teachers conference  NO SCHOOL	6 conference  NO SCHOOL	7  
8	9  DIV 2  Popcorn Day	10	11 it's a good day to have a good day 	12	13 Valentine's Dress-up Day  Hot Lunch:  THE SANDWICH CO	14  HAPPY VALENTINES DAY
15 	16 HAPPY family DAY  NO SCHOOL	17	18	19	20  Hot Lunch: 	21
22	23	24	25  PINK SHIRT DAY	26	27 Assembly 8:40 am Kindness  Hot Lunch:  Carl's Jr.	28 Be Kind 

ALWAYS  
CHOOSE  
KINDNESS



# Absence Reporting/ Student Sign Out

## SafeArrival -Reporting Student Absences

Dear Parents / Guardians,

To enhance our existing absence-checking procedure, we are introducing *a new, more efficient* student absence reporting system called ***SafeArrival***. This new system will reduce the time it takes to verify student attendance, make it easy for you to respond your child's absence and easy for staff to respond to unexplained student absences.

With ***SafeArrival***, you are asked to report your child's absence in advance using any of these 3 convenient methods:

**On your mobile device:**

- Using your mobile device, download and install the ***SchoolMessenger Home*** app from the *Apple App Store* or the *Google Play Store*.



- The first time you use the app, select ***Sign up*** to create your account.
- Select ***Attendance*** then ***Report an Absence***.

**Use the SchoolMessenger Website:**

- Go to the ***SchoolMessenger Website***. <https://go.schoolmessenger.com/#/home>
- The first time you use the website, select ***Sign Up*** to create your account.
- Select ***Attendance*** then ***Report an Absence***.

**By Telephone:**

- Call the toll-free number ***780-955-4526*** to report an absence using the automated phone system.

These options are available 24 hours/day, 7 days a week. Future absences can be reported at anytime.

The automated notification system will attempt to contact the parents at multiple contact points (email, text, push notification & phone call) until a reason is submitted for the absence. If our system is unable to reach the designated contact's, office staff will follow up. If you report your child's absence in advance using the ***SafeArrival*** toll-free number, website or mobile app, you will NOT receive these notifications.

Starting Wednesday, August 27, 2025, please report absences in advance using ***SafeArrival*** instead of sending notes or calling/emailing the school.

Starting Wednesday, August 27, 2025 staff will begin using the ***SafeArrival*** notifications to let you know if your student is absent and the absence is unexplained.

Please download the ***SchoolMessenger Home*** app or sign into the website. If you are having trouble logging in, please contact your school.

If you do not already receive text messages from your school and would like to start, please ensure your school has your mobile phone number and then text "Y" to 987338. (Standard message and data rates may apply.)

Thank you for your patience and cooperation as we implement this new system.





# LEDUC RECREATION CENTRE FREE FAMILY PASS

Sign out a Family Pass to the  
Leduc Recreation Centre at the Library!



## How does the pass work?

- The LRC Family Pass is valid for 2 adults and all children living in the same household.
- Sign out your LRC Family Pass for FREE from the Library.
- This pass will provide you and your family with access to all of the amenities at the LRC. Enjoy the Aquatic Centre, Arenas, Courts, Fieldhouse, Fitness Centre and Indoor Track.
- Passes are valid for a one week time period.
- After your one week rental, return the LRC Family Pass back to the Library for other families to enjoy.

Visit [Live.Leduc.ca](https://Live.Leduc.ca) for the latest drop-in activity schedule.

Get moving. Start having fun. Be connected - today!



*Sprinkle Kindness*

**CKNW KIDS' FUND  
PINK SHIRT DAY**

**[HTTPS://WWW.PINKSHIRTDAY.CA/](https://www.pinkshirtday.ca/)**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2026**

PRESENTED BY



**#SprinkleKindness**



# PiNK SHiRT DaY



*February 25, 2025*





**Kindergarten registration is underway for the 2026-27 school year!**

We are ready to welcome your child to a happy classroom, filled with opportunities to learn through exploration and discovery.

Your child will grow socially, academically and physically - and have fun!

Our school offers:

Half day - morning or afternoon classes (Registrant dependant)

To register, click [here](#). If you have questions, please call us at 780-986-8421.

We are happy to help!

## **KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION UNDERWAY FOR 2026-27**

[blackgold.ca/kindergarten](https://blackgold.ca/kindergarten)







## Services We Offer

### *For Students:*

- Group Therapy
- Furry Foundations
- Individual Counselling
- Pen Paw Pal Program
- Volunteer Experience
- Animal or Nature Yoga
- Fur Fun Days (Field Trips)
- Skill Building Day Camps
- Recreation Day Camps
- Work Experience

### *For Faculty:*

- Corporate Team Buildings
- Individual or Group Counselling
- Certification in Animal Assisted Education



**dreamcatcher**™  
nature assisted therapy

780.809.1047 ext. 1  
[info@dreamcatcherassociation.com](mailto:info@dreamcatcherassociation.com)  
53044 RR #213, Ardrossan, AB



**LEDUC & DISTRICT**  
MINOR FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

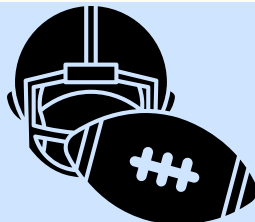
**U16, U19 (FEMALE TACKLE)**  
**U12 U14 U16 (SPRING FLAG)**



**REGISTER NOW**



[catsfootball.ca](https://catsfootball.ca)





# Anything Goes

*Music and Lyrics by Cole Porter*

*Original Book by P.G. Wodehouse & Guy Bolton  
and Howard Lindsay & Russel Crouse*

*New Book by Timothy Crouse & John Weidman*

**Maclab Centre for the Performing Arts**

4308 50 St, Leduc

February 13th 7:00pm

February 14th 2:00pm

February 14th 7:00pm



Tickets available  
for \$25  
[ticketpro.ca](https://ticketpro.ca) or  
from the QR Code





# BRAD AGOTNES

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER



780-920-1893



bagotnes@leduc.ca

**My name is Brad Agotnes, and I am a Community Peace Officer with the City of Leduc.**

I currently serve as the School Resource Officer (SRO) for both the Black Gold and STAR Catholic School Divisions, working with students from Kindergarten through Grade 6 in schools across the City of Leduc.

I want to build strong relationships with students, staff, and families, while promoting safety, respect, and community engagement.

My mission is simple: *to help create a fun, safe space where all students are able to succeed.*

I have several responsibilities while serving the schools. They include:

- School visits with students and staff
- Patrols of the school halls and playgrounds
- Interacting with parents inside and outside of the the school
- Proactive safety enforcement in the school zone
- Safety presentations
- Attending school events

If you wish to speak to me about specific visits, presentations, or concerns, you may contact me by either telephone or email.



# DISCOVERY NATURE PLAY

A Year-Round Outdoor Learning Adventure!




 Learn more: [www.discoverynatureplay.com](http://www.discoverynatureplay.com)

 Launching in September at Telford Lake!

 Class Times: Tuesdays & Thursdays

 9:00am–12:00pm or 12:30pm–3:30pm

 Ages 3–7 years

## WHO ARE WE:

We're Erica Frick and Amry Gavin, Directors of Discovery Nature Play — a play-based outdoor exploration program for children ages 3–7.

## WHAT WE OFFER:

Hands-on outdoor learning  
Nature-based play and discovery  
Builds confidence, independence, self-regulation, motor skills, communication & leadership



FUN  
THIS  
WAY





**Families have the option to purchase Voluntary Student Accident Insurance through our Division's insurance partner, StudyInsured.**

**This extra insurance can help cover costs if your child is injured in an accident.**

**To learn more about the plans available and what they cover, please visit:**

**👉 [www.studyinsuredstudentaccident.com/compare-plans](http://www.studyinsuredstudentaccident.com/compare-plans)**

## **A plan for every need**

Whether your child is a star athlete, naturally rambunctious, or just accident-prone, we've got you covered. Choose the plan that works best for you, your family, and your wallet.

Family pricing available when insuring 3 or more siblings at the same school board.

Follow StudyInsured™ on Social Media:

[LinkedIn](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**Please note:**

**This insurance is completely optional and is separate from the coverage already provided by the Division. It is for families who would like extra protection for their child.**

