



# Elk Point Elementary School

## January 2024

Box 600, 5410—50 Street, Elk Point, Alberta, T0A 1A0

Principal: Ms. Leanne Vinge    Asst. Principal: Mrs. Reanne Mudryk

Phone: 780-724-3880

Text: 780-900-8288

Email: [epe@sperd.ca](mailto:epe@sperd.ca)

Website: [www.elkpointelementaryschool.ca](http://www.elkpointelementaryschool.ca)

Facebook: Elk Point Elementary SPERD

# Upcoming

EVENTS

## JANUARY

- 8        First Day Back—DAY 2
- 8-18    Bottle Drive Fundraiser
- 19       Stuffie Day
- 22       February Milk & Hot Food  
             Orders Due
- 31       Student Assembly



Jan. 11- Hot Dogs

Jan. 18—Subway

Jan. 25- Magic Pizza



Please call the office if  
you are able to help  
out with the hot food  
program!!

## 2nd Annual Bottle Drive Fundraiser

January 8 - 18        8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Drop off your recycle bottles/cans in the trailer in the staff parking lot!

YOUR GENEROSITY HELPS SUPPORT STUDENT ACTIVITIES @ EPE



Thank You to everyone who supported Santas Anonymous this year. You made Christmas special for so many!



# School F E E S

If you have not yet paid your school fees for 2023/2024 please do so as soon as possible.

Fees can be paid through  
Schoolcashonline or  
by cash or cheque

## Stuffie Day

Friday,  
January  
19th



**NO SCHOOL  
FRIDAY,  
FEB. 2**

## INSIDE RECESS

When the Temperature/Wind Chill reach  $-25^{\circ}\text{C}$  or colder, it is our Division and school policy that students stay in at recess time. This does not change the fact that students need to come dressed appropriately everyday! For bus cancellations, please listen to 840 CFCW, Real Country 97.7 or check the Division website at [www.stpauleducation.ab.ca](http://www.stpauleducation.ab.ca) or download the Bus Status app.



**Please ensure your child comes  
to school with appropriate  
winter clothing every day!**





## Skating Program Wrap-Up

Our school skating program has now concluded for this school term. Thanks to all those that submitted the Grade 3-6 skating fee of \$10.00. If you missed the opportunity, this fee can still be submitted through schoolcashonline or at the school office. Thank you.

A BIG SHOUT OUT goes to all of the following Skate Tying Coordinators. Your help was greatly appreciated and certainly did not go unnoticed:

Also, a HUGE thank you to all the family members who came out to help our students with skate tying and getting them on the ice quickly. Your help and support is the reason for the success of our Skating Program.

3A	Christine Smith
3/4	Krisean Aarbo
4A	Michelle Prymak

## Upcoming Events

BATTLE OF THE SIXES VOLLEYBALL - THURSDAY, JAN. 25<sup>TH</sup>

GRADE SIXES VS STAFF VOLLEYBALL – FRIDAY, JAN. 26<sup>TH</sup>

WINTER WALK DAY – WEDNESDAY, FEB. 7<sup>TH</sup>

# WINTER WALK DAY

On Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> the entire school will be meeting out in the parking lot at Success Time & taking part in our annual Winter Walk Day.

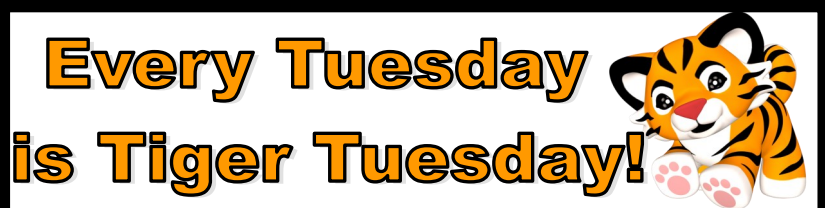
Every winter, thousands of Albertans celebrate winter and walking by participating in the Winter Walk Day in February & we will be joining them by walking for a minimum of 15 minutes in our EPE Families. Walking is great for our health, the environment, reducing traffic and building community.

We would like extend an invite to all our EPE family members to come out and join us on our Winter Walk Day on February 7<sup>th</sup> at 12:38pm after noon recess. Hope to see you there!





EPE received a  
generous donation from the  
Elk Point Auto Club  
towards the Breakfast Program.



Mrs. Holland-Hughes & Mrs. MacKinnon

Breakfast items are provided to our students every morning. If you or someone you know would like to make a monetary donation to help cover the cost of these items please contact the office.



*This is not goodbye,  
This is not farewell...*



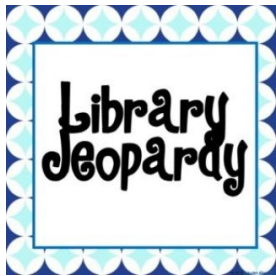
MS. SMITH & MRS. SCHAUMLIEFFEL



# News from the Learning Commons



Welcome back! I hope you all had a well deserved break! Things are busy in the Learning Commons this month!!



WE ARE CONTINUING  
LIBRARY JEOPARDY  
WITH THE GRADE 5 & 6'S!!

*The Grade 3's are continuing to learn how the Dewey Decimal works!! (Ask them who created the Dewey decimal system). As they make their AR goal they will be able to take out NON Fiction books!*



Book Fair

**our book fair is  
COMING in March  
so keep an eye/  
ear out for more  
info!**



Our ECS and Grade 1 classes have been enjoying our new Makerspace room!!

Ask them about it!!



# **AFTER SCHOOL ATHLETICS** **JANUARY SCHEDULE**

january 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			
			Athletics			
			Athletics			
			Athletics			



# HOW SICK IS TOO SICK FOR SCHOOL?



## SEND TO SCHOOL

- A runny nose or just a little cough but no other symptoms.
- Sore throat but no other symptoms.
- No fever in the past 24 hours without fever-reducing medicine.
- No vomiting or diarrhea for 24 hours.



## KEEP AT HOME

- Fever higher than 100.4 degrees F (38 degrees C).
- Sore throat, with other symptoms such as a persistent cough.
- Vomiting or diarrhea in the past 24 hours.
- Eyes are pink and crusty.
- Has been exposed to an illness where isolation is recommended.





# EXTREME WEATHER

## Is my child's bus running? Coming home early?

Throughout the winter, weather and road conditions are constantly monitored with the safety of students and staff at the center of all of our decisions. We strive to inform parents of any delays or cancellations as quickly as possible. Here's how you may be notified:

- Bus driver contact
- Call/text from your school
- Local radio stations
- Bus Status app
- Division social media (Facebook and Instagram)
- Division website  
<https://www.stpauleducation.ab.ca/transportation/bus-status>



### How we decide:

When temperatures and/or wind chill is -40 or colder, buses are CANCELLED. Notice may be given the night before or in the morning.

-40°C

Buses may run in the afternoon during extreme cold weather under certain circumstances.

Weather checks start very early with The Weather Network and phone calls to designated staff living in each local area.

Even if buses are cancelled schools remain **OPEN**.

- If your child attends: meaningful learning still occurs
- If your child is absent: efforts will be made to ensure they do not fall behind



Decision is based on:

- Local road conditions
- RCMP travel advisories
- Weather and wind warnings
- Local municipality

Your bus driver also has complete discretion to cancel a route should they feel travel is unsafe.



If a decision is required around temperature and/or road conditions, the Director of Transportation consults with:

- Local bus drivers
- School principals
- Superintendent of Schools



Parents always have the final say about their child's safety and well-being and can always choose whether or not to have their child take the bus.



*The Nations of Saddle Lake, Whitefish Lake and Frog Lake make independent decisions about their buses. Please contact them directly for any questions regarding their transportation policies.*

**December 13, 2023**

# **BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**



**St. Paul Education**

## **Alberta Education Results Report (AERR)**

Trustees passed a motion to approve the Division's Annual Education Results Report. This annual document provides an overview of our progress in advancing the Division's educational priorities and those of the province. The results highlighted in our AERR are used to identify the Division's goals, outcomes and strategies within the annual Education Plan. The full document can be found on our division [website](#).

## **Research Grant Proposal**

The Division is currently participating in research with Grant MacEwan University to promote pathways to post-secondary education for Indigenous students. To continue this work, the Division is pursuing an additional grant opportunity from the federal government. The Board approved a motion supporting the Division's application for the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) grant. If successful, the funding will support the Division in working with other partners to identify common learnings and promising practices in education.

## **2024-25 School Calendar**

Trustees reviewed two draft calendars. Calendar A is very similar to the 2023-24 calendar. Calendar B has a full week break in November. Trustees passed a motion to circulate the calendars for feedback in January.

## **Community Consultations**

The Board will begin phase one of the community consultation process by reaching out to parents and school communities. Municipalities will be included in phase two.

## **Financial Report**

Secretary-Treasurer Champagne summarized the results of the 2022-23 audited financial statements approved at the November 23, 2023 meeting. The Division incurred a deficit of \$617,136. This was better than the budgeted deficit of \$1,093,027 and an improvement over the previous year's deficit of \$1,795,306. Division reserves have been drawn down to minimum levels, and the Division needs to continue to align expenses with revenues which are a function of enrolment. Financial statements are posted on the Division's website.

## **Mallaig School Design**

The design committee has explored numerous options and has now settled on a draft schematic layout. The Division is also collaborating with the County of St. Paul to assess the demand for childcare in the Mallaig area and identify a suitable operator. Childcare falls outside the K-12 education mandate, and the Division is actively engaging with various stakeholders to explore viable options.

## **Family School Liaison Worker Program**

Thank you to the Two Hills FCSS and the County of St. Paul for their ongoing financial support of this valuable program for the 2023-24 school year.

## **Holiday Activities**

The Division wishes to express gratitude to staff for their efforts in making Christmas concerts a memorable experience. Dates and times of school concerts are available [here](#). As we prepare for the Christmas break, schools are also working to ensure students and families are aware of the supports available over the holidays. Please visit the Mental Health and Wellness [page](#) on our website for a list of local and provincial resources.

For more information, contact:

Mr. Peter Barron

Superintendent of Schools

barrpete@sperd.ca

***Learning Together, Growing Together***



**The new year brings new opportunities to speak to your kids about the harmful effects of smoking and vaping.**

Tobacco products put people at risk for many diseases. All tobacco products have many chemicals that are harmful to your lungs and nearly every organ in the body. Nicotine comes from tobacco and presents many harmful effects to physical and emotional health.

Quitting all forms of tobacco and nicotine is the best choice you can make for your health.

**Nicotine Products**

With the rise in electronic cigarettes, vape pens, hookahs and smokeless tobacco, there are more ways than ever for youth to get hooked on nicotine. And kids are more likely to see these smoke-free alternatives as a cooler and safer way to smoke. Parents should pay attention to an unusual attachment to a USB stick, sharpie, pen, lipstick, key fob, etc. These items may be a type of e-cigarette disguised as everyday items.

**Talk to Youth About Smoking & Vaping**

Talk to your kids about smoking and vaping early, even as young as age 10.

Know the facts so you can discuss the health risks and nicotine addiction.

Focus on the short-term effects of nicotine use: it can change the way your brain works, may make it harder to breathe and it costs a lot of money. Youth are the target of big companies looking for lifelong customers.

Calmly correct misconceptions and take time to listen.

**Talking to Youth Matters**

Research shows that youth who learn about drug risks from their parents are less likely to start using them. If you don't talk about it, your child may think it's okay to smoke or vape.

Youth who choose not to use substances are **less** likely to:

- Have serious trouble in school
- Get hurt in a car accident
- Be a victim of crime
- Have substance use problems as an adult

**MORE RESOURCES**

[Kids and Smoking \(for Parents\) - Nemours KidsHealth](#)

[Talk to Your Kids about Tobacco, Alcohol, and Drugs - MyHealthfinder | health.gov](#)

Information on mental health, community supports, programs and services in your area:



Addiction Services Help Line  
1-866-332-2322

Mental Health Help Line  
1-877-303-2642





# What Am I Missing?

Tuesday

**January 30**

6:45 - 8:45 p.m.

**Two Hills**  
Curling Rink  
(upstairs)

5303-45 Ave.

Wednesday

**January 31**

6:45 - 8:45 p.m.

**St. Paul**  
Regional High School  
Fine Arts Theatre

4701-44 St.



All those who attend will be entered for a door prize!

## A session designed for parents to learn about:

- ✓ Impact of social media & the internet (anxiety & conflict)
- ✓ What's happening in kids brains? (typical development & behaviour)
- ✓ The continuum of mental health challenges through to mental illness (What's the difference?)

\*Please note this session is intended for an adult audience.

Registration is not required, however we do want to know if you will be joining us for pizza?



Please let us know by going to this link:

<https://bit.ly/48IqvAN>



Ariel Haubrich, M.Ed Psych

Knowledge is Power  
Consulting & Wellness Services



St. Paul Education

2024

Elk Point LOCATION

WHICH PROGRAM IS FOR ME?

child development &amp; well being

ages 0-6 (blue)

ages 7-18 (red)

caregiver support, building, classes

all ages (Grey)

community events

all ages (White)

## January

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

01

**HAPPY  
NEW YEAR**Find a snow  
hill and go  
sledding!

02

Office  
**OPEN**8:30am - 12:30pm  
1:30pm - 4:30pm

03

Office  
**OPEN**8:30am - 12:30pm  
1:30pm - 4:30pm

04

Youth Group  
Painting Fun  
2:00pm - 4:00pm  
**DROP IN**

05

Matching Pattern  
Games  
Winter edition  
10am - 12pm  
**DROP IN**

08

Enjoy a hot  
chocolate with a  
friend!

09

Office  
**OPEN**8:30am - 12:30pm  
1:30pm - 4:30pm

10

Office  
**OPEN**8:30am - 12:30pm  
1:30pm - 4:30pm

11

Youth Group  
Growing Minds  
Big Life Journal  
3:30pm - 5:30pm  
**REGISTER**

12

Story & Craft  
10am - 12pm  
**DROP IN**

15

Take a  
wintry hike with  
family or friends!

16

Office  
**OPEN**8:30am - 12:30pm  
1:30pm - 4:30pm

17

Office  
**OPEN**8:30am - 12:30pm  
1:30pm - 4:30pm

18

Youth Group  
Growing Minds  
Big Life Journal  
3:30pm - 5:30pm  
**REGISTER**

19

Icky Sticky  
Messy Play  
10am - 12pm  
**DROP IN**

22

Mail a handwritten  
card to an old  
friend!

23

Office  
**OPEN**8:30am - 12:30pm  
1:30pm - 4:30pm

24

Office  
**OPEN**8:30am - 12:30pm  
1:30pm - 4:30pm

25

Youth Group  
Growing Minds  
Big life Journal  
3:30pm - 5:30pm  
**REGISTER**

26

Rhymes That Bind  
Winter Edition  
10am - 12pm  
**DROP IN**

29

Try something  
**NEW**  
this week!

30

Office  
**OPEN**8:30am - 12:30pm  
1:30pm - 4:30pm

31

Office  
**OPEN**8:30am - 12:30pm  
1:30pm - 4:30pmHappy  
New Year  
2024

Lakeland

FAMILY RESOURCE NETWORK

4906 - 48 St

Elk Point AB T0A 1A0

Call: 780-724-3800

Text: 780-614-1941

Web: stpaulfcss.ca



st.paul\_fcsc

St. Paul Regional  
FCSS & Family  
Resource Network





**AGES 0-6**

LFRN Elk Point 4906-48 St

Encouraging  
speech and  
language  
development,  
attention span,  
listening skills and  
bonding.

# Storytime & Craft

## Winter Edition

Friday  
January **12**

**10am-12pm**

DROP IN

780-724-3800



*Lakeland*

FAMILY RESOURCE NETWORK

Connect with us for more information.

Call **780-724-3800** or visit our website at **stpaulfcss.ca**

Providing services and support for ages 0-18yrs, parents and caregivers.







Help your child explore the world through their senses & encourage their curiosity. They learn through play & **WE** take care of the mess!!

**AGES 0-6**

LFRN Elk Point 4906-48 St

# Icky, Sticky, Messy

Friday 19  
January

10am-12pm

DROP IN

780-724-3800



Encouraging sensory development, and helps build social-emotional skills.

*Lakeland*

FAMILY RESOURCE NETWORK

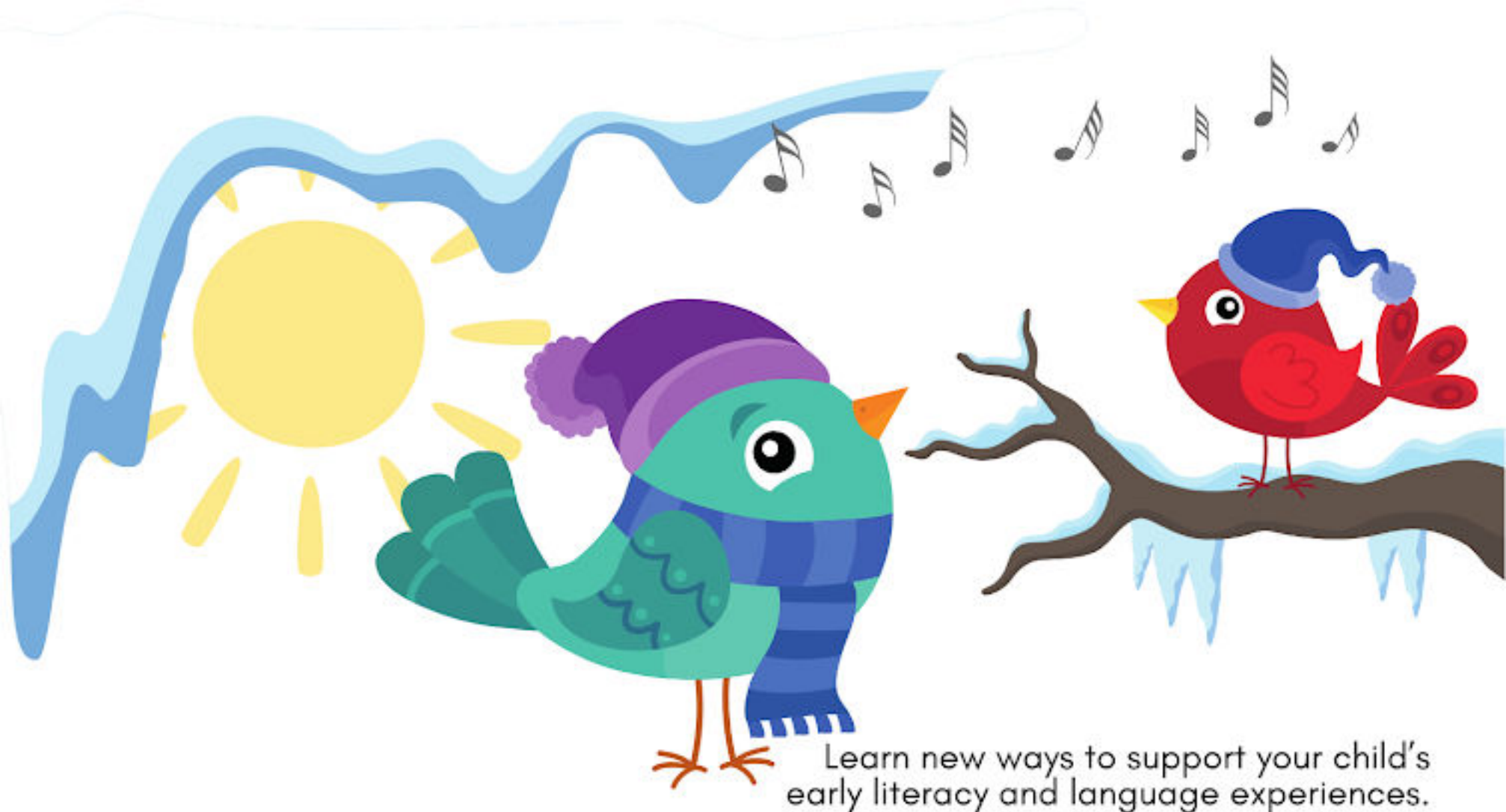
Connect with us for more information.

Call **780-724-3800** or visit our website at **stpaulfcss.ca**

Providing services and support for ages 0-18yrs, parents and caregivers.







Learn new ways to support your child's early literacy and language experiences.

**AGES 0-6**

LFRN Elk Point 4906-48 St

Helping  
promote  
healthy family  
relationships.

# Rhymes that Bind

## Winter Edition

Friday  
January **26**

**10am-12pm**

DROP IN

780-724-3800



*Lakeland*

FAMILY RESOURCE NETWORK

Connect with us for more information.

Call **780-724-3800** or visit our website at **stpaulfcss.ca**

Providing services and support for ages 0-18yrs, parents and caregivers.





# BIG Life JOURNAL

FOR KIDS

## WEEKLY THEMES

- ▶ **WEEK ONE**  
BELIEVE IN YOURSELF;  
MISTAKES HELP YOU GROW
- ▶ **WEEK TWO**  
BE PRESENT;  
BE GRATEFUL
- ▶ **WEEK THREE**  
BE UNIQUE, BE YOU;  
CHALLENGES MAKE YOU STRONGER
- ▶ **WEEK FOUR**  
EFFORT IS KEY;  
LOVE LEARNING
- ▶ **WEEK FIVE**  
BE KIND;  
MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD

Created specifically for 7 to 10 year-olds.  
A 5 week program that teaches children  
how to develop a growth mindset through  
inspiring stories, colorful illustrations  
and engaging guided activities.

# YOUTH 7-10

LFRN Elk Point 4906 48 ST

## Growing Minds Junior Edition

Thursday's  
3:30-5:30pm

JANUARY 11,18,25,  
FEBRUARY 1,8  
CALL TO REGISTER  
780-724-3800

**FREE**

*Lakeland*

FAMILY RESOURCE NETWORK

Connect with us for more information.

Call **780-724-3800** or visit our website at **stpaulfcss.ca**








Providing services and support for ages 0-18yrs, parents and caregivers.

Snacks & your  
very own  
Big Life Journal  
included.







Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	DAY 2	DAY 3 KA 	DAY 4	HOTDOGS	DAY 6	
Bottle Drive Fundraiser						
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	DAY 1 KA 	DAY 2	DAY 3 KA	SUBWAY	Stuffed Day 	
Bottle Drive Fundraiser						
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	DAY 6 FEBRUARY MILK/HOT FOOD ORDERS DUE	DAY 1 KA 	DAY 2	DAY 3 KA MAGIC PIZZA 	DAY 4  Gr. 6s VS Staff	
28	29	30	31	2024		
	DAY 5 KA	DAY 6 	DAY 1 KA STUDENT ASSEMBLY			