



Elmer Elson ELEMENTARY

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NEWSLETTER - December 2023

ADMIN CORNER

Once again the generosity of our community overwhelms us as a staff at EEE. We raised \$369.20 for the Cross Cancer Institute for November.

Many businesses have contributed to the applEs for EveryonE program, breakfast club, and Meal of the Month program to keep the students in our school full. We can't thank you enough for your on-going support.

We welcomed Jaxson Parks, Mason Parks, and Colton Sheppard in to our school family in the month of November.

POWERSCHOOL STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS

The parent portal is open so you can access information regarding your child's learning.

Please let us help you sign up for a Powerschool account if you have not already done so. It is very important that all parents are accessing this information to know how your child's skills are progressing and areas of growth.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT



Christmas Concert

Parents, get ready for a great show! Your children have been working hard to perfect their performances for the Christmas Concert on December 14th. There will be two shows: 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Elmer Elson will once again be helping with the Community Christmas Hamper program, coordinated by the local food bank.

The intent of hampers is to ensure every family in our community has a Merry Christmas. Therefore, **we ask that you consider sending items that are more Christmas oriented rather than your regular food bank items such as noodles or soup.**

Breakfast items are also recommended.

We are collecting food items and cash donations from December 8th to 15th. Donations can also be dropped off at the Christmas Concert.

Thank you for your continued support of this very important community project.



THEME DAYS

We have declared
Tuesday, December 19th as
"HOLIDAY HEADGEAR DAY"

Wednesday, December 20th as
"PAJAMA DAY"

Friday, December 22nd as
"FESTIVE CHRISTMAS SWEATER DAY"
Wear a sweater if you have one, or wear something festive, red, or green.

BOOK FAIR

Thank you for supporting our recent Book Fair. It was a resounding success raising a total of \$1629.95. We look forward to hosting another Book Fair in early March.



MOVEMBER

On Tuesday November 28th, students and staff took part in Movember. Donations were collected for the opportunity to wear a stick on moustache for cancer awareness. Through this activity we collected \$369.20 for cancer research. Thank you everyone for your generous support.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

From all of us on the School Council, we wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May the joy of this time of year remain in your hearts today and in the new year.

We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting on January 22nd, 2024.

Jill Stoney
School Council Chairperson

NGPS TECHNOLOGY ACCESS AND MAINTENANCE FEE

The mandatory technology fee of \$32.00 for full time students and \$16.00 for ECS students is now due. This fee is used towards replacement of devices in schools throughout the division.

Thank you to everyone who has already paid. We kindly ask you to pay this fee as soon as possible.

CHANGES to AFTER SCHOOL PLANS for STUDENTS

If after school plans change for your child near the end of the day, we ask you to please contact the office to inform us of any changes if you do not hear back from the teacher. Teachers are often unable to check remind or texts during class time.

Please remember, dismissal time is 3:10 for our students with buses loading promptly thereafter. Thank you.

BOOKS FOR GIFTS

"The Gift that Keeps on Giving"

Many years ago a member of our Parent Council proposed a "Books for Gifts" program. The purpose of this program was to enable a parent or guardian to have a book purchased in honor of a staff member at EEE and have it placed in the school Library. Staff members appreciate this donation to our Library in place of gifts at Christmas or year end. If you are Interested in this program, please contact Mrs. LeClercq. Payment may be made by cheque, cash, or through School Cash online.



STAY CONNECTED



Access student schedules, attendance, and grades online at any time with PowerSchool. Please contact us to receive your individual username and password if you have not yet created an account or have misplaced the information.



Like our Facebook page
Elmer Elson Elementary



Pay for student items online

Pay school fees, school activities and more at

<https://schoolcashionline.com>



Enter (587)316-2959
Text @eesch
Contact us directly at:
780-786-2268
nolan.andriuk@ngps.ca
leanna.feser@ngps.ca

BUS LANES

We respectfully ask that during bus times you do not walk between the buses. For the safety of our students we ask you to follow this important rule and walk around the buses or wait until they leave the parking lot.

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTERS

If you would like to receive your newsletter electronically, please e-mail Mrs. LeClercq at the following email address:

carolyn.leclercq@ngps.ca

EEE PARENT FUNDRAISING UPDATE

Elmer Elson parent fundraising has been busy behind the scenes with various projects. Our board reviewed and approved the following funding requests:

1. Student yearbooks - \$3509.20
2. Student agendas - \$2499.84
3. Last year's swimming - \$2336.26
4. Learning a-z - \$2500.47

These funding requests are examples of how fundraising dollars go right back to our school and benefit every student.

Mom's Pantry and Gourmet Perogies will be ready for pick-up on December 18th.

We would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Falon Boll
Parent Fundraising Chair

EEE LOST & FOUND

Please encourage your children to check the lost and found for their items. There are a lot of items that want to find their owner!

**The regular winter weather we usually get has not yet arrived
but we should be prepared.**

The following chart explains the process used to decide whether buses run or not.





Advent calendars have a way of producing both excitement and anxiety for me. As a child, I loved the anticipation of the chocolatey countdown but as a busy mom, it makes me panic!

Right after Remembrance Day, comes the familiar pressure of preparing for the "perfect Christmas". Finding the right gifts, coordinating decorations, preparing delicious treats, creating unique crafts, flamboyant lights, exciting activities, entertaining, school concerts, Christmas outfits, family time, travelling to relatives, staying within a budget, and on and on goes the pressure. It causes a frantic tornado of red and green swirling around my brain. I feel like I want to skip it all and go on a solo trip to Mexico!

As the Student Support Facilitator, I frequently see evidence of higher levels of stress (good and bad) with many students (and staff!). Christmas can be a difficult time with shared parenting, health concerns, grief, loss, financial difficulties, job loss, family stress, etc.

Sometimes the "happiest time of the year" is nothing but dread, fear and anxiety. For many children, the structure and predictability of the school day, as well as not seeing teachers and friends for two weeks can be frightening. This is all more the reason to PAUSE, BREATHE and REFLECT.

Christmas is so much more than presents, decorations and entertainment. Take time this holiday season to focus on the gifts that you have been given that are not under the tree. Let's be intentional on building and celebrating the gift of relationships with those in our lives: big and small, young and old. If we have learned anything from these past 2 years, it is that family and friends are really what is most important.



This article was written by Tammy Charko BA, BSW, RSW. Tammy is Northern Gateway Public School's Student Support Facilitator. She is a support for schools, students, parents and caregivers to promote wellness and success in school. Tammy has been a Registered Social Worker for more than 23 years and is a mother to 4 children; 2 in high school and 2 in university.