



Uncie's Update

April 5, 2019



Important Dates:

April 9	Hot Lunch
April 16	Hot Lunch
April 18	1 st Bus to Swim
April 18	EIPS Speech Competition
April 19	No School /Good Friday
April 22	No School /Easter Monday
April 23	Hot Lunch
April 25	Bus to Swim
April 25	Math Games Night
Apr 28-May 3	Education Week
April 30	Hot Lunch
May 1	Pizza Day
May 1	Early Dismissal – 1:31pm
May 2	Classroom Picture Day
May 2	Bus to Swim
May 3	Gr. 1 Arbor Day Field Trip to Sherwood Park



Principal's Message

Spring is finally here, and now all we need are the warm temperatures that we should be enjoying at this time of year. We hope that you had a refreshing Spring Break, and now we return in April to begin our third and final term of the school year. We have some exciting times ahead of us at Uncas School!

The annual District Speech Competition will be held April 18th at the Agora Centre in Sherwood Park. Our student representatives are Morgan K. in

grade 4), Ryan V. (grade 5), and Natalie v. (grade 6). Congratulations to them and all the best when you represent us at the District Competition!

Our staff will be organizing field trips in the upcoming months. If there is an opportunity for parents to participate as chaperones they will be notified in the permission slips that will be coming home with their child.

Education Week is celebrated annually in the first week of May. The continuing theme is "Learning is a Journey". Celebratory activities planned at Uncas include recognition, participation and competition events as well as Community School Grounds Clean-up and Library Learning Buddies. These events will make this week a highlight for us all!

Our Bus to Swim program will be starting its final session on April 18th. It is run by our Parents Advisory Council and led by volunteer organizers, and this year we will have had three groups of students taking advantage of the opportunity to learn the valuable lifeskill of swimming. This fully subscribed PAC led program is made possible by parent volunteers and we are very grateful for their efforts!



Gearing up for Kindergarten

Do you have a child registered in kindergarten next year? If so, make sure to attend our upcoming Kindergarten Information Night on May 23, 2019 from 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm:

- meet the teachers;
- gain insight on play-based learning; and
- see what a typical day looks like.

Elk Island Public Schools has also put together an online toolkit to make the transition to school as smooth as possible. The kit includes information about registration, important dates, programming options, what to expect, eligibility, how to find your designated school, transportation and more. Find it by visiting www.eips.ca/programs-services/kindergarten.

NOTE: To be eligible to attend kindergarten in the 2019-20 school year, children must be five years of age on or before Dec. 31, 2019.

Math Games Night

Come and join us at Uncas Elementary on April 25 from 6:00 to 7:00 pm for a fun and informative evening of math games.

News from the Library

For the month of April, the library is holding a Reading Contest, where students can earn tickets and exchange them for prizes. Students can earn tickets by:

- Reading for fun for 20 minutes.
- Talking about their book with Ms. Gamache, friends, or filling out a review once they are finished the book.

Parents can help by signing their child's reading log whenever they read for 20 minutes. Students will receive their reading log on April 1st.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Ms. Gamache.

Happy Reading!

New Bus Status App Available

A new version of the Bus Status app is now available. If you haven't already, we encourage all families to download the new version from the App Store or Google Play. After downloading, make sure to delete the older version from your device.

All information from the [Division Bus Status page](#) is currently pushing out to both the old and new versions of the app, so you'll receive updates regardless of the app you're using.



However, at the end of the school year, the old version of the app will no longer work. Families will need to ensure they've downloaded the new version of the app to receive updates about bus delays and cancellations in 2019-20.

The changes aren't specifically related to the overall functionality of the app—it's much the same as the current version. What is changing is it's now one unified app available for download rather than each school division having a separate app. The first time you open the new app, it will prompt you to select Elk Island Public Schools from the list of school divisions. After that, you will use the app the same way you have in the past. You can reselect your favourite routes and update them as needed. You'll also continue to receive push notifications about delays and cancellations the same way you do now.

A big *THANK YOU* to all of our volunteers

On behalf of the Board of Trustees at Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS), thank you to all of our volunteers within the Division who help make our schools and programs successful. Whether it's assisting at an athletic competition, co-ordinating a fundraising initiative or helping at a school event, the impact you make within our school community is profound. Together, we've created a relationship that allows us to rally behind one clear vision: Providing exceptional education for all students.

In recognition of National Volunteer Week, which runs April 7-13, EIPS extends a heartfelt thank you to the hundreds of volunteers across EIPS who offer their knowledge and dedicate countless hours in our schools.

Trina Boymook
Chair, Board of Trustees

Watch for Thin Ice

Elk Island Public Schools remind families to be cognizant of thin ice this time of year. Depending on changing temperatures, ice can form and melt to varying degrees on outdoor bodies of water. Please remind your children about the dangers of thin ice, to obey all posted signs and to take the proper care to remain a safe distance from the ice. For more information about ice safety, visit the [Canadian Red Cross](#).



Did you know?

The way ice forms affects the way it melts in spring. Minerals in the water actually become concentrated in vertical veins throughout the ice as it freezes. Warm temperatures cause these veins to melt more quickly and weaken the ice, a process known as *candling*.

