



OCTOBER

It seems like we have blinked and we are in the middle of October already.

Volleyball season has begun; please come out and cheer our teams on throughout the season if you are able. Good luck to all of our teams and thank you to all of the coaches and volunteers that make our programs successful!

During the 2023/2024 school year, students at Fox Creek School will again be completing Provincial Achievement Tests (Grade 6 and 9) and Diploma Exams (Grade 12) as part of Alberta Education's provincial testing program. NGPS continues to use PowerSchool for live, up-to-date access to your child's grades, class schedules and attendance. You will want to ensure that you are familiar with checking PowerSchool throughout the year. Students in JR/SR high will also have a PowerSchool account to access information. Information is available about how to log on to a private account and access real-time information. The system includes a student and parent portal, enabling students and parents to see similar information such as attendance, grades, assignments and teachers' comments. Students and parents will be able to log on anywhere there is internet access such as home, work or school. To get an account, or reset a forgotten password, please contact the school office.

Mark your calendars! The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to our school! Our school's Scholastic Book Fair will take place October 23 – 26.



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ALBERTA
EDUCATION

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Calgary - Bow*

Dear Parents,

Another school year has started and as Alberta's new Minister of Education, I want to introduce myself and give you a quick update about some of the things your government has been doing to ensure our students are set up for success.

A top priority for my parents was getting me a high-quality education, since I'm a second generation Calgarian. Having immigrated to Calgary in the 1970s their educational opportunities were limited, and they firmly believed that a strong education is the path to greater success and prosperity. I took their advice to heart and went on to earn my PhD in political science and conflict resolution. I'm passionate about education and will work hard to set our students up for success.

As the 2023/24 school year gets underway there are several important highlights I want to share with you.

I firmly believe that the upcoming school year will give students the tools and resources they need to succeed.

Here are some of the things that we are working on:

1) We are injecting new funding to start the school year off on the right foot.

For the current school year, Alberta's government has increased funding to many of our school divisions to make sure they have the financial resources they need to give our kids a world-class education. Funding has increased by seven per cent from last year increasing the total amount of taxpayer dollars going directly to our school divisions to \$7.4 billion. In addition, a new Classroom Complexity Grant will be implemented which provides \$126 million over three years in new funding to help school authorities hire more educational assistants to help our teachers manage classrooms that are increasingly more complex with more students with diverse learning needs. As well, our hardworking teachers will also receive a two per cent salary increase this September as part of a deal reached with teachers last year and finally, we are providing \$414 million in new funding, a 32 per cent increase, to help bus another 80,000 students to school.

2) We are hiring more teachers and staff in our classrooms.

As students head back to class, they may start to see new friendly faces in their school. Budget 2023 provided funding to hire up to 3,000 new educational staff over three years, including teachers, educational assistants, bus drivers and other school support staff such as speech language pathologists and psychologists. Ensuring students have the supports they need to succeed in and out of the classroom is a top priority of mine.

3) We are focused on improving student mental health.

Alberta's government is supporting almost 80 mental health pilot projects across the province, with an investment of \$50 million. These projects will encourage student well-being through new and innovative approaches to providing supports and services like counselling, social and emotional learning, student assessment and training for school staff. For more information, please click [here](#).

4) We will continue to lead the country in early literacy and numeracy assessments.

As a father of two, I want to know how my girls are progressing in their academic journey and I know many of you want the same. In September of 2022, Alberta's government implemented new mandatory literacy and numeracy screening assessments for all students in Grades 1 - 3. These assessments will help identify students who are struggling with literacy and numeracy skill development and inform teacher intervention lesson plans and techniques to improve student skills. Based on school reporting, these interventions are working. I am very proud of the work that is being done here. Please know Alberta is leading the country with this type of early assessment and screening and will continue to foster new and improved ways to improve the education system. For more information, please click [here](#).

In closing, I want to thank and acknowledge all our hardworking teachers, educational assistants, principals, and other school support staff. The work that you do is deeply acknowledged and appreciated by Alberta's government and I want to express my personal appreciation for your work. I look forward to serving as our province's Minister of Education for our great province and am confident we can continue to provide every student with a world-class education.

Best,

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Demetrios Nicolaides ECA PhD
Minister of Education

IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

Oct. 23-26 - Book Fair in LLC

**Oct. 25 - Jr/Sr. High Parent Teacher Interviews
(Gr.7-12) @ 5:30-8PM**

Oct. 26 - Jr. /Sr. High. Halloween Dance

Oct. 26 - Elementary Assembly @ 2:30

**Oct. 26 - Parent Teacher Interviews
(K. - Gr.6) @ 5:30-8PM**

Nov. 9 - PD Day > NO SCHOOL (Support Staff/Students)

Nov. 10 - Day in lieu > NO SCHOOL for ALL

Nov. 13 - Day for Remembrance > NO SCHOOL for ALL

School FEES

School fees are now past due.

Log on to School Cash Online to find out the amount you owe the school. Access to extra-curricular activities may be removed if there are outstanding fees to be paid.

We strongly recommend the use of School Cash Online to pay your past due amounts.

Partial payments can be made if need be. We will still accept cash, cheques, interac, or credit cards at the counter. If you use an interac card or a credit card at the counter, we will be adding a surcharge to the amount you are paying to cover the cost of using the machine.

Why Use School Cash Online?

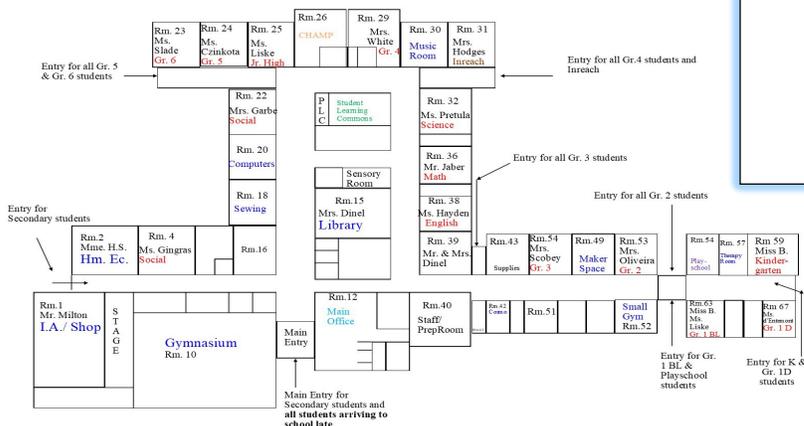
Convenient - Make secure payments 24/7 from the comfort of your home

Easy To Use - Online shopping with various payment methods

Safe - Your child won't be carrying cash or checks to and from school

Saves Time - Manage your school expenses and view payment history in one place.

Fox Creek School
2023-2024



COMMUNITY EVENTS



SET CONFERENCE

Discover you have a place in science, engineering and technology.

Sat., Nov. 25, 2023
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

A special, one-day conference at the University of Alberta for grades 10, 11 and 12 young women and gender diverse students.

- ▲ Hands-on experiments
- ▲ Meet STEM-minded peers
- ▲ Discover potential careers
- ▲ Get fun swag
- ▲ Explore the U of A
- ▲ Engage with role models and mentors

Registration Opens October 4, 2023.
Cost: \$50 - Designated spaces and subsidies are reserved for rural and Indigenous students. For more information and to register: www.uab.ca/WISEST

WISEST For more information and to register: www.uab.ca/WISEST
 @WISESTualberta | 780-492-7774 | wisest@ualberta.ca

The Whitecourt & Area Family Support Program Hosts

Fear-Less Triple P



REGISTER

Fear-Less Triple P is a program for parents experiencing difficulties managing the anxiety of their child aged 6-14 years. Fear-Less aims to increase the capacity of parents to use positive parenting strategies to help children overcome anxiety.

This 6-session course explores the theoretical causes of anxiety, the contributing parental responses to anxious behaviours and provides parents with practical tips and strategies to promote resilience and emotion coping skills.



Please note this course will be offered virtually via ZOOM:

Wednesdays from 5:30pm - 7:30pm

September 27 – November 1

Please contact Michelle Robinson to register at 780-778-8755

Available to families within the SPARK Family Resource Network




HALLOWEEN DANCE

OCTOBER 26TH

\$5 PER TICKET

COSTUME CONTEST
HAUNTED HOUSE

The CHAMP Team

The CHAMP Team had so much fun partnering with the Fox Creek RCMP Detachment to offer students the “Paint a Police Car” event. Students in Grades 1-6 were given some paint and a brush and told to create! And create they did! This awesome event focused on being creative and building positive connections between the students and the members of the RCMP.

Thank you, Cst. Dorsey and the Fox Creek RCMP Detachment for this fantastic event.
It was truly wonderful!

Check out our Facebook page:

MHCB CHAMP Team Community Helpers and Mentoring Program for more exciting pictures of this event.



SCHOOL EVENTS



Grade 1-6
Cross
Country



**Junior High.
Awards
2022/23**







EVERY CHILD MATTERS



EVERY CHILD MATTERS



Every
Child
Matters



Elementary Assembly



MONTHLY WINNERS

Certificate Winners from School Council.

ECS - Vanessa Khorko
Gr. 1BL- Jaxton Bear-Walsh
Gr.1D – Joyce Tran
Gr.2 - Harleen Kaur
Gr. 3 – Danika Olij
Gr.4- Kaiden Kildare
Gr.5 – Ellie Slocum
Gr. 6 – Darina Osipova



Winners of \$5 gift cards from Rexall for SPARKS (showing good citizenship and responsibility).

K. - Parker Burki
Gr. 2 - Thea Donovan
Gr.2 - Kinslee Milne
Gr. 2 - Nathan George