



# The Elkhorn Express

YOUR SCHOOLS' INFORMATION NEWSLETTER

WEEK OF JANUARY 30, 2017

## School dates for *January & February*

- 30** Monday – Day 5
- 31** Tuesday – Day 1
- 01** Wednesday – Day 2
- 02** Thursday – Day 3
- 03** Friday – Day 4
- 06** Monday – Day 5
- 07** Tuesday – Day 1  
Kindergarten registration starts
- 08** Wednesday – Day 3
- 09** Thursday – Day 4  
Pizza Day
- 10** Friday – Day 5



## *From the principal*

“We create our tomorrows by what we dream today.” (Anonymous)

The Dragon Parade today by our Kindergarten classes was very entertaining and the children seemed to love it.

Today, I met with TDSB Sustainability Office staff to discuss next steps in moving forward with the Playscape replacement project. It was a very productive meeting. I received confirmation that the project will proceed to the next stage which will require school information. As discussed in the fall at a School Advisory Council meeting, it is important that a “Playscape Committee” be established to assist in the process. Further information will be forthcoming to determine the role and function of the committee. It feels great to start things rolling!

Have a great weekend.

*Holly Richards*

## **Notice**

There will be no Express for the week of January 30 – February 3 so this issue has dates, etc. for the next 2 weeks.

## **Upcoming Events**



### **Pizza Days**

The next pizza day for the school will be February 9<sup>th</sup>. If you have not signed up and wish to do so please visit the council’s online store to place your order.

[www.elkhornschoolcouncil.ca/store](http://www.elkhornschoolcouncil.ca/store)

## **Valentine’s Day Dance-a-thon**

Elkhorn students are heading for the dance floor.

The annual Valentine’s Day Dance-a-thon will take place on Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>.

Throughout the day, every class will spend time in the gymnasium dancing up a storm and raising money to support school initiatives.

We will be announcing closer to the date what the students will be aiming to raise money for. We hope that parents, family and friends will pledge some money to support students for their efforts.

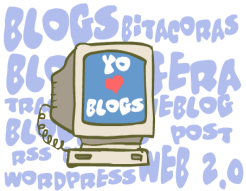


## **Report Cards**

Report cards for will be going home on February 14th. Parent teacher interviews will be occurring on February 17th.



## **From the Tech Squad**



There is an new exciting website called Elkhorn Voices. This website is about blogs. Some of the grade 3’s & 4’s made fun blogs to share with our parents and family members. We have cool code names for our blogs so ask your kids what their code name is. You can find our website here: <https://elkhorntech.wordpress.com/>

Please read and comment. Hope you Enjoy!!! By: Aiden and Ethan #TechSquad"

# Kindergarten Registration

It's that time of year again when we will be registering new students to Kindergarten.

Registration will begin starting February 7, 2017. Children who will be 4 years old before December 31, 2017 (born in 2013) may enter Junior Kindergarten this September 2017.

**Please call the office to book an appointment.**  
**Registration times will be from 10:00 – 11:30 in the am and from 1:30 – 3:00 in the pm.**

**Please bring these items with you when you are registering your child/children.**

**Proof of age** - (birth certificate or passport)

**Proof of address** - two (2) pieces of identification that show your address, such as a phone bill, lease agreement, utility bill, etc.

**Proof of immunization** (the card that shows a list of needles your child has received)

**Health card**

**Verification of date of arrival - if your child was not born in Canada**

Families who are permanent residents and refugee claimants may register directly at the school. To register, please visit the International Programs and Admissions Office at 5050 Yonge Street, Toronto, for a TDSB school admission letter.

**\* Please note that your child does not need to be with you when you are registering.**

**If you know of a neighbor with children ready for JK in September 2017 please pass on this information to them.**



# Chinese New Year – Spring Festival



**Chinese New Year**, known in modern Chinese as the "**Spring Festival**" is an important Chinese festival celebrated at the turn of the traditional lunisolar Chinese calendar. Celebrations traditionally run from the evening preceding the first day, to the Lantern Festival on the 15th day of the first calendar month. The first day of the New Year falls on the new moon between 21 January and 20 February. In 2017, the first day of the Chinese New Year is on Saturday, 28 January.

Although there are many interesting legends and stories explaining the start of the Chinese New Year festival, the main two reasons for the festival are:

To celebrate a year of hard work, have a good rest, and relax with family

To wish for a lucky and prosperous coming year

Chinese people believe that a good start to the year will lead to a lucky year. Chinese traditionally celebrated the start of a new year of farm work, and wished for a good harvest (when most were farmers). This has now evolved to celebrating the start of a new business year and wishing for profits and success in various vocations.

The main traditional celebrations of the festival include eating reunion dinner with family, giving red envelopes, firecrackers, new clothes, and decorations.

Chinese New Year is a time for families to be together. Wherever they are, people come home to celebrate the festival with their families. The New Year's Eve dinner is called "**reunion dinner**", and is believed to be the most important meal of the year. Big families of several generations sit around round tables and enjoy the food and time together.

Every street, building, and house where CNY is celebrated is decorated with red. Red is the main color for the festival, as it is believed to be an auspicious color. Red lanterns hang in streets; red couplets are pasted on doors; banks and official buildings are decorated with red New Year pictures depicting images of prosperity.

Most of the decoration is traditionally done on Chinese New Year's Eve. Certain foods are eaten during the festival (especially at the New Year's Eve dinner) because of their symbolic meanings, based on their names or appearances. **Fish is a must** for Chinese New Year as the Chinese word for fish sounds like the word for surplus. Eating fish is believed to bring a surplus of money and good luck in the coming year. Other Chinese New Year foods include dumplings, spring rolls, glutinous rice cakes, and sweet rice balls.

# ***First Nations School of Toronto***



Our goal is to empower students with a strong cultural identity to be tomorrow's leaders in our global society.

**Pooshoo Aninhshiniwag Ishkooniiwikamik Ohomaa Kitch-ootenaawan.**

First Nations School of Toronto (FNST) teaches the Ontario Curriculum while centering Indigenous knowledge, perspectives and cultures.

Our approach to education is based on Indigenous ways of being, knowing, teaching and learning.

We currently serve students in Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8.

In the 2017–18 school year, we are proud to be expanding into the secondary school grades. In September 2017, we will be welcoming our first class of Grade 9 students.

While a large base of the FNST student population is of Anishinaabe ancestry, we welcome children of all backgrounds.



# *In the gym...*

## Girls' Volleyball Practices

Feb 1	Feb 3	Feb 6	Feb 8	Feb 10
3:30 pm	3:30 pm	3:30 pm	3:30 pm	3:30 pm



## Boys' Basketball Practices

Jan 31	Feb 2	Feb 7	Feb 9	
8:00 am	3:30 pm	8:00 am	3:30 pm	

