



# The Elkhorn Express

YOUR SCHOOLS' INFORMATION NEWSLETTER

WEEK OF JUNE 19, 2017

## School dates for **June**

- 19** **Monday – Day 4**  
SAC Meeting
- 20** **Tuesday – Day 5**
- 21** **Wednesday – Day 1**  
Volunteer Appreciation
- 22** **Thursday – Day 2**
- 23** **Friday – Day 3**  
Elkhorn T-shirt day

### *From the principal*

“Accept and Respect. We are all different.”  
(Anonymous)

We have had another incredible week of learning and activities at Elkhorn. We had the opportunity to have Earth Rangers do an assembly. Next week's Express will have more details about the experience.

A huge thank you to Ms. Lee, Ms. Dawe, Ms. Tiernay and Ms. Jenkin's and our students for a fantastic Canada 150 Assembly. The performances were great and demonstrated how talented our students are. I have found myself all week humming “This Land Is Your Land, This Land is My Land”.

We have had a number of people pick up their Silent Auction items and hope by early next week the rest will be picked up. You will be able to collect the item in the main office and payment can be made with cash or cheque.

It is hard to believe there is only 2 weeks remaining of school!

Have a great weekend.

*Holly Richards*

To report a student absence or late call 416-395-9505  
or email the school at [elkhorn@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:elkhorn@tdsb.on.ca)

## Lost & Found

All of the items in the Lost & Found are now on display in front of the office. Please remind your children to check the table so they may reclaim any of their lost items.

If you are in the school feel free to look through the table to find your child's missing items. The items will be on display until the end of the school year at which time any unclaimed items will be donated to a local charity.



## Grade 5 Graduation Reminder

The Grade 5 Graduation ceremony will take place on Tuesday, June 27th at 9:30 am.

As we have limited seating available there will only be 2 seats available per graduating student. Please advise teachers of exceptional circumstances.

## Elkhorn School Advisory Council

The *final* SAC meeting for this school year will be held on Monday, June 19th.

The time of the meeting is from 6:30 – 8:00 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend and free babysitting is provided.

## International Languages Parent Survey

We value the input of parents/guardians who register their child in the International Languages Elementary Program. Please assist us by completing this 5 minute, anonymous survey. It is available online at

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ILEenglish>.

If you prefer to do the survey by hand, please contact 416 338-4100 and we will mail you a paper copy. We kindly ask that you complete the survey by July 15th, 2017.

The pdf of the survey with more information is below.



Parent Survey Online  
Reg Flyer.pdf

## Volunteer Appreciation

At this time of the year we would like to thank all the volunteers who have helped out during the school year.

If you have helped out during the school year please come and attend the appreciation event.

The Appreciation thank you will be held in the Learning Commons from 3:00 – 4:30 pm.





## **\*\*2017 Elkhorn Fun Fair\*\***

Ahh... I just LOVE going to fun fairs, don't you? The booths, the food, the games-all amazing! This year, we used the fun fair to raise money for not only a new playscape, but for First Nations' right to go to proper schools.

\*

The grade 5's made slime, stress balls, and lemonade in order to raise money. They took turns taking shifts at their booths and told people about Shannen's dream. Shannen Koostachin was a First Nation citizen who realized they needed a better school. Please see the article included in the Express for more information about Shannen's dream.

While the grade 5s informed people about Shannen, elsewhere on the pavement were booths with candy, crochet critters, art supplies, massages, makeovers/cosmetics, and even cookie samples! This year Elkhorn parents, helpers and staff went all out so we could have a good time.

The money from the silent auction and Elkhorn-handled/made booths all were donated to our new playscape money box (the old playscape was torn down).

In the gym, the silent auction was really firing up! Many people were bidding for different things, like baseball tickets, gift cards, and most of all, the chairs. They were a big success, showing the different types of artistic talent in each class.

Hungry yet? On the field, food trucks were parked to give the fun fair's food a bit more... pizzazz, while customers munched on their tasty food.

Bouncy castles were set all across the field, and even from there you could hear hushed screams of delight from the pony rides. From the same people who brought the pony rides, they also brought a petting zoo! Goats, goats, goats galore! So generous!

I think every kid (and adult) loved the fun fair!  
-Tessa Norenus



## Shannen's Dream

On Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup> Elkhorn had their annual Fun Fair. There were many things to choose from and many things to buy. So our Grade 5's thought of planning a charity to give back to our Nation by making Shannen's Dream come true.

Shannen's dream was officially passed as a law in 2011 which orders every child in Canada to have proper schools. Shannen Koostachin, a youth education advocate from the Attwaspiskat First Nation in Ontario, had a dream: safe and comfy schools and culturally based education for the First Nations children and youth.



Their current school consisted of portables built on a toxic field. Shannen went to Parliament to give speeches and raise awareness about the lack of 'safe and comfy' schools for Aboriginal children in Canada. She was nominated for the Children's peace prize for her amazing efforts.

Many First Nations schools receive less funding per student than provincial and territorial schools, and zero dollars for things like libraries, computers, languages or extracurricular activities. Many also do not provide a safe and appropriate learning environment, and may pose serious health concerns, including mold contamination, high carbon dioxide levels, rodent infestations, sewage, and inadequate or lack of heating.

Shannen worked tirelessly to try to convince the federal government to give First Nations children a proper education. Unfortunately Shannen passed away in a car accident at the age of 15 before her dream could come true. But it did. On June 22, 2012 the day Shannen would have graduated, construction started for a new school in Attawapiskat. The new school opened in August 2014.

The grade 5's raised \$703.75 to help make Shannen's Dream come true: safe and comfy school's for all First Nation children in Canada!

We would like to thank everyone who helped and supported this event.

For more information you can visit these sites:

<https://fncairingsociety.com/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Gy38grr35c>

*By: Golshid S., Even S., Essien D.*



Thank you to everyone who came out and supported Elkhorn's 12<sup>th</sup> annual Fun Fair – and thank you so much to all the volunteers who helped out! A special thanks to all the parents involved with the planning of Fun Fair from the very beginning: The time and efforts committed by Bill, Julie, Veronica, Erika, Susan, Shadi, Maria, Andrei, Rowena, Theresa and Melody were fundamental in making this year's Fun Fair a success!

The last Pizza Lunch of the 2016/17 school year was held yesterday. A BIG thank you to Melody, our Pizza Lunch Coordinator, for being present during these lunches every two weeks throughout the school year and ensuring all goes well. Thank you to all the pizza lunch volunteers who assisted with the Costco runs, prepared the class baskets, and supervised the students – we could not have done it without you!

In honor of all the Elkhorn parent volunteers this year, Elkhorn P.S. and the SAC are hosting a Volunteer Appreciation Event on Wednesday, June 21 from 3:00-4:30 pm in the Learning Commons at Elkhorn P.S. (Pssst...Grade 1 teacher Mrs. Green – she's retiring! – she will be there! Come by and send her your best wishes!). We look forward to seeing you there!



## **OPEN CHAIR POSITION FOR ELKHORN SAC FOR 2017/18 SCHOOL YEAR**

The term of the current Elkhorn SAC co-chair positions is coming to an end. The Elkhorn SAC is seeking a new chair or co-chairs for the 2017/18 school year. This is a great opportunity to promote parent engagement and be the liaison between parents and the school administration.

The SAC election will take place in September 2017. If you are interested in the chair position and would like to learn more, please send an email to [chair@elkhornschoollcouncil.ca](mailto:chair@elkhornschoollcouncil.ca).

