



# The Elkhorn Express

YOUR SCHOOLS' INFORMATION NEWSLETTER

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 28, 2016

## School dates for November/December

28

### Monday – Day 2

Gr. 5 Girls' Basketball @ 3:30 pm  
SAC Meeting @ 6:30 pm

29

### Tuesday – Day 3

Gr. 5 Boys' Volleyball @ 3:30 pm

30

### Wednesday – Day 4

Gr. 5 Boys' Volleyball @ 3:30 pm

01

### Thursday – Day 5

Gr. 5 Girls' Basketball @ 3:30 pm  
Gr. 5 Boys' Volleyball tournament

02

### Friday – PA Day

No School

## From the principal

Safety never takes a holiday. ~Author unknown

My message for the Express this week describes my absolute shock, dismay and frustration that we still have the safety of Elkhorn students/families compromised in the morning and afternoon for drop off and pick up.

I witnessed three different events in one morning alone. The first event was a child being left in alone in a car with no adult supervision and the car was in the fire lane.

The second event involved students being dropped off in a partial parking spot out in the front of the school. The children exited the car by stepping on the road before the sidewalk because it saved parking the car.

The third event involved a car which decided to go around another car in front of the school driveway and into oncoming traffic. The car had to swerve towards the sidewalk which our students and families were on in order to prevent colliding with another vehicle. I assume all in the name of convenience and time. There is no excuse that I can think of that would ever be able to justify compromising the safety of our children.

The Nine Days Of Giving has started. We encourage everyone to participate in this initiative that provides for those who are in need.

Just a reminder that the School Advisory Council (SAC) will be meeting on Monday, November 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.

*Holly Richards*

Holly Richards – Principal  
Holly.Richards@tdsb.on.ca

To report a student absence or late call 416-395-9505  
or email Kim at Kimberley.daley@tdsb.on.ca

## Dropping off and Picking up Students

The dropping off and picking up of students at Elkhorn continues to be a huge safety issue.

Due to recent events and a near collision in the driveway earlier this week and we are deeply concerned about the student's safety.

As a result of these ongoing issues we have contacted the police and they will be coming by and enforcing traffic rules for us in order to ensure the safety of our students.

Here is a reminder of our rules and please remember that they are there to protect your child/children as well as the other children and families in our community.

First, the parking lot is only for staff, volunteers and visitors only. At no time should it be used for a drop off area for your child. Unless you are going to the YMCA to drop off your child or are staying at the school for volunteering, etc. you should not be entering or using the parking lot area. Too many vehicles driving in and out pose a serious safety concern for our children walking to and from school. We also need to have the parking spots available for the people coming to and working at the school.

The fire lane is never to be blocked even if you are just "stopping for a second". You are not allowed to park or stop there at any time.

Due to the lack of parking in front of the building parents/guardians may use the bus loop as a pick up and drop off "kiss and ride" location in the morning only. **Drivers are required to stay in their vehicles** and to not block traffic for the school busses and other vehicles passing through.

Please help us to keep all the children safe by following these rules.



## Elkhorn School Council



The next Elkhorn SAC meeting is scheduled for this Monday November 28 at 6:30 pm. Come on out and get involved. Everyone is welcome.

## Nine Days of Giving

November 21 - December 1, 2016

Elkhorn students, staff, and parents are, working together to help needy people in our community and supporting the North York Harvest Food Bank by organizing a food and clothing drive called the Nine Days of Giving.



Each day from Monday November 21 through to Thursday December 1, students are encouraged to bring an item to school from our list below which are very useful for the homeless and families in need. Thank you for your support!

This week's items include:

1. **Monday, November 28:** Fruit (dried or canned), or juice
2. **Tuesday, November 29:** Canned beans
3. **Wednesday, November 30:** Shampoo or soap
4. **Thursday, December 1:** Gently used clothing (children or adults)

You may donate other items other than those listed. All donations are greatly appreciated.

## Autism Awareness

Last weekend some of our staff /parents/relatives participated in a charity volleyball tournament in support of the South Asian Autism Awareness Centre. Thanks to everyone who came out to support and sacrifice your bodies ☺ for this worthy cause.

A big thank you to Mr. Tang for organizing all of us and being the amazing captain of the Elkhorn team. The grade 5 boys' volleyball team should get Mr. Tang to demonstrate some of his great volleyball skills!!



## Sight and Sound Clinic

A letter has gone home this week with information regarding this year's Sight and Sound Clinic. The cut off date for signing up for the clinic is Monday, December 19th. All the information is on the letter and the registration form is on the back if you are interested in signing up.

Please return the form with payment by the due date as this determines if there are enough students participating for the clinic to occur.







Please have your child check the lost and found if they are missing any items.

We are getting quite a collection of clothing in the box including jackets, snow pants, and a lot of hoodies.

We are also getting quite a collection of hats, mittens and scarves.

## Cold Weather

As the cold weather is now upon us we ask that you please dress your children appropriately for the weather.



The children go outside at morning recess, lunch recess and afternoon recess.

If they are not wearing snow pants it is a good idea to provide an extra pair of pants, socks and a shirt in your child's backpack in case their clothes become wet from playing outside.

We cannot always guarantee that the children put on their snow pants even though they are asked to put them on at all recesses.



## Concussions

### What is a Concussion?

A concussion is caused by a jolt that shakes your brain back and forth inside your skull. Any hard hit to the head or body -- whether it's from a football tackle or a car accident -- can lead to a concussion. Although a concussion is considered a mild brain injury, it can sometimes leave lasting damage. This is more likely if you don't rest long enough to let your brain fully heal afterward and you reinjure your brain.



### How Do You Know It's a Concussion?

After a fall or hit to the head, you may be knocked out for a few seconds. But many people with concussions do not black out. A few telltale symptoms will show that you may have a concussion. Dizziness, nausea or vomiting, blurry vision, headache, and trouble thinking clearly are all signs that you need to see a doctor to get your head injury checked out.

As kids are always on the move and extremely active injuries such as concussions can occur at school although this is rare. We also realize that a lot of our students take advantage of many after school and weekend sports activities.

If your child suffers a concussion outside of school we ask that you inform us immediately. We can then give you a copy of the mandatory TDSB forms that need to be filled out by your doctor.

The administration and teachers MUST be made aware of any injuries suffered by a student so that we can be vigilant in following the concussion protocol.

Your child's health and safety is of the utmost importance to us.

