

Uncie's Update



March 6, 2017



March Highlights

Mar. 3	No School - PD Day for staff
Mar. 7	Hot Lunch
Mar. 7	Tuesday Bus to Swim
Mar. 9	Thursday Bus to Swim
Mar. 10	Movie Night: Storks Doors 6:30 Movie 7:00pm
Mar. 12	Daylight Savings Spring Ahead
Mar. 14	Hot Lunch
Mar. 14	Last Tuesday Bus to Swim
Mar. 16	Last Thursday Bus to Swim
Mar. 17	St. Patrick's Day – Wear Green & Cakewalk
Mar. 17	Last Bus to Swim
Mar. 20	Uncas Speech Competition 8:30-10:30am
Mar. 21	Hot Lunch
Mar. 22	Report Cards Sent Home
Mar. 24	No School - Day-in Lieu
Mar. 27 - April 2	Spring Break
April 3	School Resumes
April 4	Hot Lunch
April 5	Early Dismissal – 1:31 pm



Principal's Message

As usual, February was an action packed month for Uncas School!

Four of our students (Quinn N grade 4, Jesse D grade 4, Brooklyn M grade 5, Seth R grade 6) enhanced their writing skills at the Young Authors' Conference held for EIPS students at F.R. Haythorne Junior High School in Sherwood Park. Thanks to Ms. Hayes for organizing our participation and also to Mrs. Devereux for supervising at this Saturday event.

Our Running Club competed at the Running Room Games at the University of Alberta Butterdome in February. The students practice hard under the direction of coaches Ms. Wiley and Mrs. Stokes, and have a great experience representing our school at the relay races. Congratulations to our team (Ethan P, Doran S, Meaghan A, Seth R, Jenna M, Doug H, Kenna E and Brook D) for a job well done!

Our participation in the International Pink Shirt / Anti-Bullying day continued this year. Many thanks to all Uncas staff and students who work to develop and support positive relationships at our school each and every day.

Our grades 1 to 3 students went cross country skiing at the Strathcona Wilderness Centre in February, and the grades 4 to 6 students finally got our downhill ski trip in as well.

Many thanks to parents who joined with our staff and participated in the Blanket Exercise, led by representatives of the Alberta Teachers' Association. The Blanket Exercise is an element of the federal government's Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC) Call to Action, an outreach strategy resulting from the TRC study of Residential Schools impact on indigenous youth and families. As part of our Safe and Caring school and Citizenship goals, Uncas school is committed to enhancing the understanding of our staff, students and community members of the role of Reconciliation in our society.

Uncas celebrates St. Patrick's Day by wearing green and enjoying our 'Cake Walk', and the annual Uncas Speech Competition for grades 4 to 6 students is underway this month, culminating with the presentation of speeches to the entire school population on March 20.

Report cards will be sent home on Wednesday, March 22, and were preceded by early interviews held in February. Our staff appreciated the collaborative sessions with parents and students together as we continued our focus on successful student learning! Our Spring Break begins on Friday, March 24th and we come back to school on Monday, April 3rd! And finally, although it is not yet spring, planning for next year has begun. We are sending a form home next week requesting parents' declaration of intent for the upcoming school year. Thank you in advance for helping us plan for the future at Uncas School!

Daylight Savings Time

Just a reminder to "Spring Ahead" one hour on **March 12th, 2017**.



Library News

Battle of the Books is heating up with just over a month to our School Competition!

Please see attached page for more information. Practice questions will be sent home this week. Keep reading your novels and practice those questions.

Students listen to the announcements calling you to our next meeting.

Thank you,
Ms. O'Gorman

New Safety Lights Put a Spotlight on Rural School Bus Safety

Students who live in rural areas throughout Strathcona County recently received a pedestrian safety light, thanks to the Strathcona County School Traffic Safety Partnership and Shell Canada. The lights are easy to attach to a backpack and are meant to help rural bus operator see children



during dusk and dawn hours. Make sure to encourage your child to light up and be visible when getting on and off the school bus and crossing street intersections.



We all have a part to play in road safety. Here are a few simple rules to help keep everyone safe:

Look out for one another.

Slow down and watch for pedestrians when driving or cycling, particularly in areas where there are no sidewalks or streetlights.

Help Drivers see you.

When walking on the road, always walk against the traffic. Wear brightly coloured or reflective clothing when walking in low light or poor weather conditions.

Cut this paragraph out, print your name on the back, and return it to the office by March 10th for a chance to win a family swim pass to Millennium Place.

Happy Spring Break

March 24 – Day-In-Lieu
 March 25 – April 2
 First day back is April 3

Boundary Exemption Request Process: Now open

- The Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) boundary exemption request process for the 2017–2018 school year is now open.
- EIPS students—in kindergarten to Grade 12—wanting to attend a non-designated school in the upcoming school year can now apply to do so. All interested families must fill out a Boundary Exemption Request Form and submit it directly to their requested school. The application deadline is April 7, 2017. Boundary exemption requests received after April 7, 2017 will be declined. There is no late or secondary process.
- The Boundary Exemption Request Form and additional information about the boundary exemption request process, schools with closed boundaries and frequently asked questions can be found by visiting www.eips.ca/schools/boundaries/boundary-exemption-request-process.
- Final decisions will be made by April 12, 2017.



Watch for Thin Ice

Elk Island Public Schools, along with our community partners, want to remind families about the dangers of thin ice during 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 on ice safety, visit www.lifesaving.org.



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*.

St. Patrick's Day

4th Annual Cake Walk
March 17, 2017

Watch for the Newsletter
being sent home on
March 10th.

