



Uncie's Update

December 8, 2017

December Highlights

- Dec. 12 Hot Lunch
Stawnichy's Food Pickup:
1:00-5:00pm
- Dec. 14 Last Day for Bus to Swim
Thursday Group
- Dec. 19 Hot Lunch
Last Day for Bus to Swim
Tuesday Group
Christmas Concert Details:
Morning 10:00am
Evening 6:30pm
- Dec. 21 Christmas Concert
Back-up Day
Ardrossan Band Sing-a-long
- Dec. 22 Wear Christmas Hat or
Wear an Ugly Christmas
Sweater
- Dec. 23, 2017 to Jan. 7, 2018
Christmas Holidays
- Jan. 8, 2018 1st day - Back to School
- Jan. 10, 2018 Early Dismissal-1:31pm



Principal's Message

I am honored to be filling in for Doug while he is away for the next few months and I have to say a big THANK YOU to everyone in the school community for welcoming me with open arms and making my transition to Uncas as smooth and seamless as possible.

I have a wealth of experience teaching in rural schools and I'm always amazed at the sense of family and community that

they offer our children. The saying "It takes a village to raise a child" comes to mind.

Ho Ho Ho, let's dress for the snow! We thank parents for ensuring that our students are properly dressed for the cold weather that is now fully upon us.

We are very pleased to welcome two new staff members to Uncas School. Mrs. Wait is an Educational Assistant who will be working in grade 2, and Mrs. Gawley will be our grade 5 teacher until Mrs. Hurl returns. Thank you for welcoming them to our community.

Mrs. Soltys will be returning from her maternity leave in January. We'd like to thank Mrs. Chabot for her dedication and hard work this year and wish her the best of luck in the future!

This year's Christmas Concert has an animal theme (Rudolph develops "tinsilitis") and will be presented on Tuesday, December 19th at 10:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. At night, doors will open at 6:00 p.m. so please keep an eye to the weather if you are coming early to stand in line. Our weather make-up date is December 21st.

Due to the growing number of families at Uncas School (good news!) we are facing issues with Fire Regulations and Christmas Concert seating & standing availability (bad news!).

In order to keep our kids and parents safe by adhering to the Fire Regulations, we request that families have no more than the 3 members attend the evening concert. All other family please attend the morning concert. We appreciate your help in this very important safety matter!

Thank you very much to our families who are so generous and supportive of the Strathcona Christmas Bureau and are *Celebrating the Season of Giving* with their donations. Our volunteer students have been collecting the donations every morning from our classrooms, and will continue until Friday, December 8th. You can also support the Christmas Bureau by purchasing a \$2 ticket for our Preferred Seating Draw for front row seats at the Christmas Concert!

Our Christmas Break is from Saturday, December 23rd to Sunday, January 7th, 2018, inclusive. Classes resume on Monday, January 8th.

On behalf of the Uncas School staff, I would like to wish you and yours a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and a safe and wonderful holiday season!

Allergy Alerts!

We are a "Nut & Scent Aware School!" Let's be diligent to ensure we are refraining from sending known peanut/nut products to school or wearing perfume products if you are working as a volunteer!



Uncas Christmas Concert

The Christmas season is upon us and your children are working feverishly to get ready for the Christmas concert. Here is some information that you may be wondering about:

Date: **Tuesday, December 19, 2017**
 Times: **10:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.**
 Location: **Uncas Elementary School**

How is my child to dress?

Everyone is to wear their Sunday best for both concerts. Please avoid wearing sweaters as it can get very hot underneath the stage lights.

Grade 6 students need to wear black clothing. Navy is acceptable but black is ideal.

Grade 4 students need to bring a baseball cap to school in preparation for their costume.

If you already know that your child cannot attend, please write a note in your child's agenda so that we can plan accordingly.

Thanks so much and have a Merry Christmas!

Mrs. Hill
 Music Teacher

Reminder

Parents picking up children from After School Care, please re-enter the building and line up at the front outside doors.



Lost and Found

Lost articles are piling up in our bin. Please remind your children to look through the Lost & Found. We have many items that will be required once the colder weather arrives. Please look through the items when you come for the Christmas concert.

Cut this paragraph out, print your name on the back, and return it to the office by December 14 for a chance to win a family swim pass to Millennium Place.

Kindergarten Registration Starts Soon!

Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2018? If so, it's almost time to register for Kindergarten.

Kindergarten registration opens for the 2018-19 school year on Jan. 15, 2018. To register, simply complete the online registration form at:

www.eips.ca/kindergarten.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION CHECK LIST:

- Determine your child's designated school
- Scan and upload all required documents: proof of name, residence, date of birth and citizenship.
- Additional documents to scan, if applicable include: Guardian Letter and Parental Custody Agreement if restrictions on access.
- Once the online registration is complete and submitted, a confirmation notice will be sent to the given email address.

NOTE: The online registration form is available as of Jan.15, 2018—the paper version is no longer available.

To help families prepare, Elk Island Public Schools has put together an online toolkit to make the transition as smooth as possible. The kit includes information on registration, important dates, programming options, what to expect, eligibility, how to find your designated school, transportation and more.

Find it by visiting:

<http://www.eips.ca/programs-services/kindergarten>.

Additional information regarding kindergarten can be found on our school website at www.uncas.ca



Changes Coming to Kindergarten Programming

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) is changing its kindergarten program. Starting in the 2018-19 school year, all elementary schools will offer one kindergarten option, alternating full-day programming. Children will attend two full-days a week and occasionally, three days a week to meet the required 475 instructional hours—the quality and hours of education will remain the same. Already, more than half of EIPS'

elementary schools offer the alternating full-day kindergarten, which have all seen positive results around preparing students for successful transitions to Grade 1.

The decision to standardize kindergarten programming is based on available funding to sustain the noon-hour bus service. The alternating full-day program allows the Division to keep education dollars in the classroom rather than subsidizing transportation.

The complete kindergarten program schedule will be available prior to registration on January 15. For more information, visit www.eips.ca.

Enjoy the Winter Break

Uncas Elementary will close for the winter break at the end of the day on Dec. 22, 2017 and will reopen on Jan. 8, 2018.

During this time, if you have any school-related questions or concerns, contact the Central Administration office at Elk Island Public Schools.

EIPS Central Administration Office Winter Break Hours

Closed December 25-29
Open January 2-5
 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

*for location and contact information visit www.eips.ca.

From everyone at Elk Island Public Schools, we wish all of you a happy holiday season and a wonderful New Year.

Happy Holidays from the Board of Trustees

It's the holiday season once again and the winter break is just around the corner. Before we take time off to enjoy with our loved ones, I want to extend warm holiday wishes to all our students, staff and families, on behalf of the Elk Island Public Schools Board of Trustees. We hope you have a wonderful and safe holiday, and a new year filled with joy.

We look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Monday, Jan. 8, 2018.

Thank you and best wishes,

Trina Boymook, EIPS Board Chair

