



# FEBRUARY

## MESSAGE FROM ADMIN

### Celebrations this month:

- PBIS Monthly Focus: WE BELONG - Kindness & Empathy
- Black History Month
- Literacy WEEK
- Human Scrabble Day!
- Valentine's Celebrations
- Have a Heart Day
- Pink Shirt Day

As we think about the February school expectation of "We Belong/Nous Appartenons" we are filled with immense pride in celebrating how we see our students embrace kindness and support one another with empathy. February is also an exciting time for **Student-led Clubs - with 22 Club Requests!**

**Black History Month is in February!** This is an important way for us to honour the incredible black men and women who made a lasting impression on **Canada's history**, each creating a **memorable legacy**. It is also a time for us to honour Black people and recognize the terrible past and current conditions involving racism and discrimination. **Teaching this to students is important**, in order to build a future filled with love, compassion, and understanding of differences and lived, personal truths.

Our celebration of **Literacy Week during the first week of February** is a wonderful week of fun with reading. One special highlight is **Human Scrabble Day! All students and staff wear their first name letter on their chest and the letter of their last name on their back - and all day long students can try making words together!** Literacy Week is always full of joy, the halls have beloved **literary characters** as students dress up to share their favourite books, **Stop Drop and Read Times, reading picnics, and reading with flashlights.** Thank you Edwards students and staff for your participation.

In our commitment to **community engagement and citizenship**, our students will participate in **Have a Heart Day**, writing heartfelt letters to our local MLA and **advocating for the rights of Indigenous children.** Their actions exemplified the power of empathy and solidarity in effecting positive change.

One gentle reminder - **we are a scent-aware school**, and due to staff or student medical needs, please limit strong colognes and perfumes worn, for both staff and students.

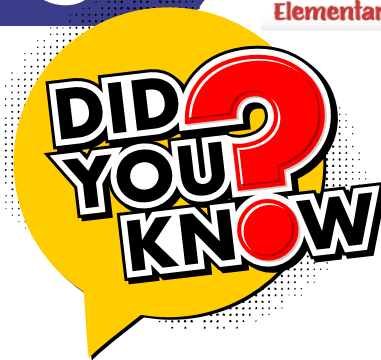
**Please help us at the front of the school** by ensuring safety at all times. **NO U-Turns, NO parking in the bus parking, and NO J-walking.** Our bus parking at the front of the school is reserved for students with medical or physical needs. Please Please Please! Let's be role models and leaders for our amazing kids. THANK YOU!

**Yours in Learning** - Rachele & Alanna



Literacy Week!





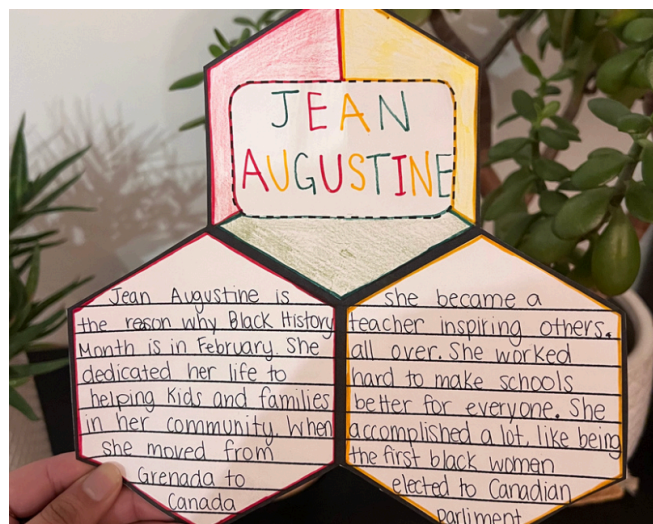
During the month of February, Edwards students will learn about Black Canadian Athletes at the start of gym classes and will learn about 24 historical Black Canadians. Classes will make a collaborative quilt representing various Black Canadians who have made an impact in our country and history.

## February is Black History Month

Each year, Black History Month is an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of Black communities in Canada, listen to their stories, and learn more about their history and contributions to Canadian society. The Honourable Kamal Khera, Minister of Diversity, Inclusion and Persons with Disabilities, determined the theme for this year's Black History Month: "Black Legacy and Leadership: Celebrating Canadian History and Uplifting Future Generations." Minister Khera announced the theme on January 21st, on Lincoln Alexander Day, which commemorates the legacy of Canada's first Black Member of Parliament and Cabinet Minister, Lincoln Alexander.

The month of February gives us all the chance to celebrate the diversity and achievements of Black people in Canada. However, it is also a time to reflect on Canada's painful history and the distinct challenges that Black people in Canada continue to face in their daily lives, such as systemic barriers, racism, and discrimination.

Source: Government of Canada Website/ Canadian Heritage





# SCHOOL SWAG STORE!



YOUTH and UNISEX everyday sweatpants.  
Direct to film right thigh. Available in Black  
CAD\$27.75 - CAD\$33.75



Pom-pom toques. Center embroidery. Available  
in Red/Black  
CAD\$17.00



YOUTH and UNISEX hoodies. Full front direct  
to film. Available in Red  
CAD\$35.75 - CAD\$41.75



Check your email for the link  
to our online store!

Please note: Items will take  
time to arrive, as the orders  
are completed in batches.

# Pink Shirt Day!

Pink Shirt Day is an annual event dedicated to raising awareness and taking a stand against bullying.

**On February 26th, students are invited to wear pink to symbolize solidarity and support for creating a culture of kindness, acceptance, and inclusion.**

It serves as a powerful reminder that together, we can make a difference by promoting empathy and standing up against all forms of unkindness and bullying.



## REMINDER SURVEY DUE MARCH 1, 2024

Grade 4 parents are invited to complete an annual government survey to support OUR school Goals.

<https://public.education.alberta.ca/APOS/>

**ONCE YOU COMPLETE THE SURVEY, CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE BY EMAIL TO LET US KNOW, AND WE WILL ENTER YOUR NAME INTO A DRAW FOR A**

**SCHOOL SWAG PRIZE**

**WE APPRECIATE YOU TAKING THE TIME FOR THIS.**



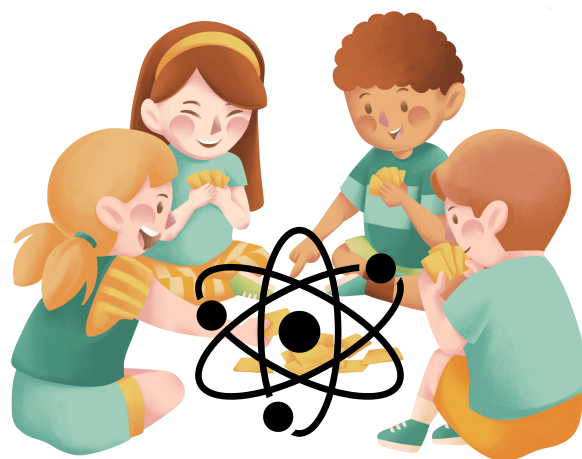
# Learning Spotlight

## NEW Inclusive Learning Group

We are excited to introduce a new program at our school called The Play Lab! This initiative is designed to help students develop essential problem-solving skills, build positive peer relationships, and learn strategies to manage big emotions—all through fun, play-based learning activities.

Groups will meet on Fridays in the school's Wellness Center. As the weather improves, we hope to incorporate outdoor sessions. Each session focus on fostering social-emotional learning through engaging, hands-on activities and games. If you have any questions about this program or how it can benefit your child, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Classroom Teachers & our Learning Support Teachers:  
Shelley and Marissa



## Edwards Learning Groups

Meghan Farrar is our Literacy and Numeracy Teacher, working part-time to support our school's teachers in the data collection and analysis of literacy and numeracy achievement, supporting students as well in one-on-one time or small groups, and providing expertise and coaching in best practices for literacy and numeracy.

Elisha Danielson is multi-talented. She teaches and leads our gym (physical education) programming and provides support and expertise for French Literacy assessments and achievement.

Kerri Butler is our Child Development Advisor. She has a wealth of knowledge, expertise, and experience working with students and families to support their social and emotional well-being. She organizes school partnerships such as Big Brothers & Big Sisters for mentoring students, and soon Edwards will have a therapy dog!

## DID YOU KNOW?

**Across the school we have a variety of small learning groups happening. From interventions and support for literacy and/or numeracy skills, to social and emotional groups to encourage strong interpersonal skills and positive peer connections.**



# February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 <u>Black History Month</u>  <u>Gr. 5 Explore Classes Today!</u>  <u>Literacy Week</u>  <u>PBIS Focus: We BELONG (Kindness &amp; Empathy).</u>  <u>Student-led Clubs Start!</u>	4 <u>Grade 4-5 Choir at Lunch</u>	5 <u>HUMAN SCRABBLE DAY!!!</u>  <u>World Read Aloud Day.</u>	6 <u>Grade 4-5 Choir at Lunch</u>	7 <u>AM Kindergarten Only.</u>  <u>Healthy Hunger orders are DUE TODAY BY NOON</u>	8
9	10 <u>Gr. 5 Explore Classes Today!</u>  <u>Staff Spirit Days this week! Can you guess them?</u>	11 <u>Grade 4-5 Choir at Lunch</u>	12 <u>100th Day of School</u>  <u>Have a Heart Activities</u>  <u>Healthy Hunger Fun Lunch: Taco Time</u>	13 <u>Grade 4-5 Choir at Lunch</u>  <u>RVS Board of Trustees Meeting</u> 10:00 am  <u>Dare to Care Parent Learning Night</u> 6:00 pm	14 <u>PM Kindergarten Only.</u>  <u>Valentine's Day</u>	15
16	17 <u>Family Day (No classes)</u>	18 <u>February Break (No classes)</u>	19 <u>February Break (No classes)</u>	20 <u>Teachers' Convention (No classes)</u>	21 <u>Teachers' Convention (No classes)</u>  <u>Healthy Hunger orders are DUE TODAY BY NOON</u>	22
23	24 <u>Gr. 5 Explore Classes - Round 4 starts today!</u>	25 <u>Grade 4-5 Choir at Lunch</u>	26 <u>Healthy Hunger Fun Lunch: Extreme Pita</u>  <u>AHS Vaccinations (ONLY with consent forms signed)</u>  <u>Pink Shirt Day</u>	27 <u>Grade 4-5 Choir at Lunch</u>	28 <u>AM Kindergarten Only.</u>	

# MARCH IS G.E.A.R MONTH

## ARE YOU LOOKING TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY?

École Edwards G.E.A.R. month is March (Gathering Enrichments for Airdrie Residents), which is École Edwards' turn to help the Airdrie Food Bank.

Our goal for the last couple of years has been to collect at least one item per person at Edwards and we have continued to CRUSH that goal so this year we are asking anyone who is able to please send in **AT LEAST TWO** non-perishable items! With our goal of at least two non-perishable items per person at Edwards we should be able to collect approx. 1500 items to donate!

Non-perishable food items are things that come in boxes or cans and can be kept in a cupboard instead of the fridge. Did you know that non-perishable items can include things like toothpaste, soap, Kleenex, or diapers? The food bank even collects food for pets!

Please be sure that the items are acceptable for donation which means that they are not expired, they have their label, the packages aren't broken, and boxes of items are not opened and sent in separately (ex. granola bars need to be in a box and not separated).

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT THIS MONTH HELPING OTHERS!**

## AIRDRIE FOOD BANK - MOST NEEDED

Thank you for helping us help our community!

### STAPLES

- Beans & Legumes
- Boxed Cereal (Cold and Hot)
- Canned Tomatoes, Fruit & Vegetables
- Condiments
- Dry Pasta
- Flour
- Jam & Honey
- Juice (1 Litre Boxes)
- Meat, Canned
- Milk, Evaporated and Powdered
- Milk Alternatives
- Oats
- Pancake Mix
- Peanut Butter
- Rice
- Side Dishes or meal kits (Rice-a-roni, Noodles, Rice etc.)
- Soup, Dried Large Packages
- Soup, Single Serve Cups
- Sugar
- Sugar free items (for diabetics - Splenda, Diabetic Boost etc.)
- Syrup
- Bathroom Tissue
- Facial Tissue
- Feminine Hygiene Items
- Household Cleaning Supplies
- Toothpaste & Bar Soap

### SCHOOL PROGRAMS

- Juice Boxes 250 ml (No Sugar Added)
- Pasta Microwavable
- Peanut-Free, Non-Dipped Granola Bars
- Spreadable Cheese & Cracker Packs
- Tuna & Crackers Packs

### BASICS FOR BABIES

- Formula
- Diapers
- Pull-ups
- Baby food

