

# March

## MESSAGE FROM OUR ADMIN TEAM

As we reflect upon our learning and celebrations for March, **we feel proud to be part of the amazing École Edwards Community.** We are truly a school family because we care for one another and show kindness toward each other. **Thank you,** parents, for the many ways you show us support and how we work well as a team together. **You are an important part of your child's support team,** helping them experience success. In March, we celebrate our learning efforts and set new goals for the rest of the year, as we begin to also prepare for next year!

**March has many unique learning opportunities that show our diversity as Canadians -** St. Patrick's Day fun dress-up day and learning activities, Ramadan learning about the Muslim faith and important traditions for them, and celebrating Women's History Month by learning about the history of women in our country and world who have made a positive impact. We will also celebrate World Down Syndrome Day on March 21st by Rocking our Socks! We love to celebrate diversity!

**We also have a special way to make a difference in our local community this month with GEAR -** gathering enrichments for Airdrie Residents. Every year Edwards School surpasses our goal to bring in 1500 items, which is only 2 items per child. Let's give generously this month and make an impact together!

We are excited to have for the second time this year **our Book Fair during the week of conferences** March 3-7 during the day, and evenings March 5-6th.

**We are so proud of our students** and love seeing them grow in their learning journey! **During March conferences,** parents will see samples of student work, literacy and numeracy games, myBlueprint online portfolio, and other curriculum outcomes. Thank you for being there for your kids!

Yours in Learning - Rachele & Alanna



## Celebrations this month:

- PBIS Monthly Focus: WE CARE & Learning about HONESTY
- GEAR Month - collecting donations for Airdrie residents
- Kindergarten learning conferences and Gr. 1-5 Celebration of Learning Nights!
- Book Fair Week!
- Staff learning together on PL Days



# G.E.A.R Month

**Gathering Enrichments for Airdrie Residents**

**Our school's goal for GEAR Month is to collect 1500 items! And this year, grade teams are competing for the top # of items brought!**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS!**

**Do you and your family want to make a difference in our community?**

Teach your child or children about how giving to others is an act of kindness, care, and selflessness. It builds character and strength in us, and makes a positive impact in our community.



Our March PBIS Focus is...

**Honesty**

Telling, and not hiding, the truth

♥ Strength of heart

**Honesty**

Honesty is telling the truth and not hiding it. Honesty builds trust, and trust creates a healthier social fabric.

# Learning Spotlight

## Ramadan 2025

March 1 or 2, 2025 is the first day of Ramadan 1446 AH.



The Noble Quran was revealed in this blessed month. Muslims diligently recite the Quran for its rewards.

### How is Ramadan Observed?

Pray, visit mosques & read verses of the Quran

Refrain from eating or drinking (even water) daily from sunrise to sunset

Wake up early for Suhur to eat a "power meal" before fasting begins

Celebrate Iftar, the breaking of the fast at sundown, by gathering with family, friends, and neighbors for a meal

Give money, food and time to those who are less fortunate

### When Ramadan Ends, Eid al-Fitr Begins!

Eid al-Fitr, or Eid for short, is the festival of the breaking of the fast. After 30 days of fasting, this is a time to:

Pray & read the Quran

Eat special foods

Buy gifts for family & friends

Decorate homes with lights

Donate money & volunteer

### Traditions Around the World

Ramadan and Eid traditions vary across Muslim cultures!

**INDONESIA**

Drumming and singing wake everyone up for Suhur

**SAUDI ARABIA**

Gargee'an is celebrated on the 15<sup>th</sup> night of Ramadan. Children dress in traditional attire, go door to door singing songs, and receive sweets from neighbors.

**EGYPT**

Children are given fanus (decorative lanterns) for evening walks with family and friends.

**IRAQ**

The Mihalbas game is played during celebrations. Two teams hide a ring from the other and must guess who is hiding it!

**BANGLADESH, PAKISTAN, & INDIA**

Chaand Raat is celebrated. Friends, family, and neighbors gather in open areas on the last night of Ramadan to spot the new moon!

## Women's History Month



Canada

learn more at: <https://www.hrpa.ca/hr-insights/celebrating-womens-history-month/>

## MARCH 8 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY



Imagine a world free of bias, stereotypes, and discrimination. A world that's diverse, equitable, and inclusive for all people.

Celebrate women by saying thank you and celebrate their unique strengths as women, grandmothers, mothers, aunts, sisters, daughters, and girls.

## St. Patrick's Day

### Shamrocks, saint and shillelaghs

St. Patrick's Day, celebrated on March 17, honors Ireland's patron saint who died on that day in 461. Icons of the Irish holiday and the history of St. Patrick:

#### Shamrock

■ Small, three-leafed herb appears on United Kingdom's coat of arms with English rose, Scottish thistle

#### Irish flag

■ Green stands for Catholics; orange for Protestants; white for wish for harmony

#### Leprechauns

■ Fairies who work day and night mending shoes of other fairies

#### Shillelagh (shi-lay'-lee)

■ Walking stick; word is Irish for stout oak club or cudgel; also name of a forest that once stood in County Wicklow



### Patrick: Saint and legend

**387:** Born in Britain to a Roman family; his father served as a magistrate; his original name was Maewyn

**Early 400s:** Taken to Ireland as a slave; after six years, he escaped to France where he studied for priesthood

**432:** Sent to Ireland as a Christian missionary by Pope Celestine I, who named him Patricius, which means noble in Latin; he introduced Roman alphabet, Latin literature; Christianized land

**Familiar legend**  
He drove the snakes from Ireland by beating a drum

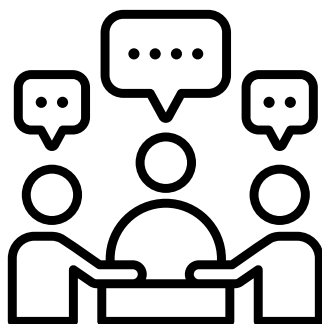
Source: "Shamrocks, Harps and Shillelaghs" by Edna Barth, "All About American Holidays," World Book



# Parent Updates



Thank you for attending our Dare to Care Parent Learning Night on Feb. 13. We had 50 parents RSVP and almost 20 kids in the child care. It was a great night to connect and learn together about bully awareness and prevention.



All parents are welcome to attend School Council Meetings. Our next meeting will be on Thursday March 20th at 6pm. Come in person or on Zoom!

This is a great way to feel connected and involved, and be well-informed!



We have begun to make plans for changes next year, as we will be adding grade 6! We have had committee planning meetings and have started to gather feedback. Stay tuned in your email for updates and opportunities to give input.



## SCHOOL SWAG STORE!



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

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.

# Reminders

## ALBERTA SURVEY DUE MARCH 21, 2025

**Attention all grade 4 parents!** YOU are invited to complete an annual government survey to support Edwards School Goals.

**ONCE YOU COMPLETE THE SURVEY, HAND IN TO THE OFFICE YOUR NAME AND EMAIL - AND WE WILL ENTER YOUR NAME INTO A DRAW FOR A**

**SCHOOL SWAG PRIZE**

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



Survey Opens: February 18, 2025 (access to online student, teacher and parent surveys)  
Survey Closes: March 21, 2025 (all student, teacher, and parent surveys close)

**Need Help? [EDC.SystemAssurance@gov.ab.ca](mailto:EDC.SystemAssurance@gov.ab.ca)**

(780) 643-9193 (in Edmonton) or 310-0000 (Toll-free within Alberta)

See <https://www.alberta.ca/alberta-education-assurance-survey> for details.



# Celebrate

## Secret Staff Spirit Week!

### Feb. 24 -28... revealed!

Monday Monochrome - choose one colour day!	Tuesday Decades Day!	Wednesday Socks, Sandals, Crocks & Pink!	Thursday Anything but a cup - for your coffee!	Friday PJ Day!
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Look at those cute and wacky socks! Lots of purple outfits and radical-looking 80s staff! And some very unusual water or coffee cups!





# March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	<p><u>GEAR (Gathering Enrichments for Airdrie Residents)</u></p> <p><u>Ramadan Month</u></p> <p><u>Scholastic Book Fair</u></p> <p><u>Women's History Month</u></p> <p><u>PBIS Focus: We CARE (Honesty.)</u></p>	<p><u>Grade 4-5 Choir at Lunch</u></p> <p><u>Scholastic Book Fair</u></p>	<p><u>100 Days of Kindergarten</u></p> <p><u>Scholastic Book Fair</u></p> <p><u>Gr. 1-5 Conferences: Celebration of Learning</u> 4:30 pm</p> <p><u>Kindergarten 3-Way Parent/ Teacher/ Student Conferences</u> 4:30 pm</p>	<p><u>Scholastic Book Fair</u></p> <p><u>Grade 4-5 Choir at Lunch</u></p> <p><u>Kindergarten Conferences ALL Day - No School for Kinders</u></p> <p><u>RVS Board of Trustees Meeting</u> 10:00 am</p> <p><u>Gr. 1-5 Conferences: Celebration of Learning</u> 4:30 pm</p> <p><u>Kindergarten 3-Way Parent/ Teacher/ Student Conferences</u> 4:30 pm</p>	<p><u>Healthy Hunger orders are DUE TODAY BY NOON</u></p> <p><u>PM Kindergarten Only.</u></p> <p><u>Scholastic Book Fair</u></p>	8 <u>International Women's Day!</u>
9	<p><u>Professional Learning Day (No classes)</u></p>	<p><u>Alien Inline Skating (Phys. Ed.)</u></p> <p><u>Grade 4-5 Choir at Lunch</u></p>	<p><u>Healthy Hunger Fun Lunch: Domino's Pizza</u></p>	<p><u>Grade 4-5 Choir at Lunch</u></p>	<p><u>AM Kindergarten Only.</u></p>	15
16	17	<p><u>Grade 4-5 Choir at Lunch</u></p>	19	<p><u>Grade 4-5 Choir at Lunch</u></p> <p><u>RVS Board of Trustees Meeting</u> 10:00 am</p> <p><u>School Council Meeting</u> 6:00 pm</p>	<p><u>Healthy Hunger orders are DUE TODAY BY NOON</u></p> <p><u>PM Kindergarten Only.</u></p> <p><u>World Down Syndrome Day: Rock Your Socks</u></p>	22
23	24	<p><u>Grade 4-5 Choir at Lunch</u></p>	<p><u>Healthy Hunger Fun Lunch: Boston Pizza</u></p>	<p><u>Grade 4-5 Choir at Lunch</u></p>	<p><u>AM Kindergarten Only.</u></p>	29
30	<p><u>Eid</u></p> <p><u>Professional Learning Day (No classes)</u></p>					