



# École Springfield Elementary News

## September 2024

### **Important Dates to Remember:**

Sept 16th-

**École Springfield Meet the Family Barbecue 4:30 - 6:00 & First Full Day of Kindergarten**

Sept 17th-

**Terry Fox Run**

Sept 18th-

**School Council Meeting**

**In library at 6:30pm**

**All parents are welcome to join!**

**(babysitting provided)**

Sept 20th-

**PD Day- No School**

Sept 25th-

**Orange Shirt Day**

Sept 30th-

**No School-**

**National Day for Truth and Reconciliation**

Oct 4th-

**No school for Kindergarten- Planning Day**





## ***Did you know.....***

Attendance is one of the indicators of a child's academic success?

Students who missed 2 to 4 days in September are 5 times more likely than those who missed fewer than 2 days to be chronically absent for the year.

We love all of our students and look forward to seeing them every day!

## **Why is School Attendance Important?**



## **Walking Field Trips**

There are times throughout the year when teachers take classes outside for learning or exercise. Walking field trips **within 900 meters** of the school do not need parent permission as long as the activity is not high risk.

We do try to let families know if an offsite walking field trip is scheduled but there are also times when an opportunity arises last minute that we like to take advantage of.

Any field trip that is outside the 900 meters distance from the school, is high risk or field trips that use transportation will always require an informed consent signed by parents before a child is allowed to participate.

# Principal's Message

**Welcome to the 2024-2025 School Year!!** We are so happy to see all of our returning students and getting caught up on their happenings over the summer. A special welcome to students and families new to our school. We look forward to getting to know you and working in partnership as your child learns and grows in their time here at École Springfield! We aim to keep everyone updated on what's happening in the building. If you have checked off the box when registering your child, you will receive weekly School Messenger updates through your email. Stacy - our lovely office manager sends these out Fridays to let families know of any upcoming events or other pertinent information. We also have a monthly newsletter that is sent through Messenger which includes articles, links and important dates to remember. Many teachers also use an app or agenda to communicate with families about classroom information. In addition, we are always happy to answer any questions you may have so feel free to contact us at the school.

This year we are happy to have most of our teaching staff returning from last year. We do have a few grade level assignment and classroom location changes. You can see these on the next page.

The month of September is always a busy one, and this year is no exception. We hope to see all families out at our Meet the Family Barbecue September 16th from 4:30 - 6:00. Our first school council meeting is set for September 18th @ 6:30. This is an opportunity to get involved and let your voice be heard regarding school matters. Please consider joining us for our monthly meetings. September 20th is the first Staff Professional Development day of the year and students have the day off. September 25th students will participate in the Terry Fox Run / Walk. September 30th is National Truth and Reconciliation Day and while we will be involved in some Truth and Reconciliation activities at the school, there is no school on the 30th.

I know that by working together, we are going to have an amazing year of learning together!

Gail McNabb  
Principal,  
École Springfield Elementary School



September 2024





## 2024-2025 Ecole School Staff

Gail McNabb - Principal  
Audrey Senft - Vice Principal  
Stacy Bushie - Office Manager  
Michelle Dickie - Office Manager

### **Kindergarten:**

Mrs. Laura Munch - 107  
Mrs. Andrea Hogan - 108  
Mme. Kimberley Jeffs (FI) - 109

### **Gr 1:**

Mrs. Lenore Black - 111  
Mrs. Elaine Lombard - 112  
Mlle. Arzouma Kalsongui (FI ½) - 110

### **Gr 2:**

Mrs. Elaine Leer - Portable 1  
Mrs. Darla Robinson - Portable 3  
Mlle. Arzouma Kalsongui (FI ½) -110

### **Gr. 3:**

Mrs. Christine Sleger - 106  
Ms. Neve Aspeslet - 114  
Mr. Dillon Pare (3 / 4) - 113  
Mlle. Cassandra Luce (Gr 3 / 4 FI) - 105

### **Gr 4:**

Mrs. Ashlea Huberts / Mrs. Jenny Harpe - 102  
Mrs. Heather Aquino - 103  
Mr. Devin ZoBell - 104  
Mr. Dillon Pare (3 / 4) - 113  
Mlle. Cassandra Luce (Gr 3 / 4 FI) - 105

### **Other:**

Mrs. Jennifer Lamont-ICoach  
Mrs. Jeri Viel - ICoach  
Mme. Catherine Schneider - Intervention and English to FI Gr. 3  
Mrs. Shaunna Dallyn - Music

Mrs. Shawna Ford - **Information Specialist**  
Ms. Vannah Anderson - **Indigenous Support Worker**  
Mrs. Shannon Sutherland - **Success Worker**  
Mrs. Bonney Wieler - **Speech EA**

### **Educational Assistants**

Ms. Kaitlin Armstrong  
Mrs. Angela Bentt  
Mrs. Sharleen Canning  
Mrs. Susan Creighton  
Mrs. Elaine Darling  
Mrs. Mal Deenkumar  
Mrs. Janna Dyck  
Mrs. Alix Elter  
Mrs. Cathy Hewitt  
Mrs. Megan Hulbert  
Mrs. Nola Jorgensen  
Mrs. Ashley Knisely  
Mrs. Robin Neufeld  
Mrs. Barbara Paul  
Mrs. Sharon Pinard  
Mrs. Tracy Poulin  
Mrs. Angela Rosin



# Springfield's Project PEACE Success Coach

Hello Springfield student care givers,

Welcome back to the 2024 - 2025 school year. I am excited to get back into the classrooms to present SEL to promote Mental Health. I will provide links for parents in future newsletters for you to view the programs being facilitated throughout the year.

The My first nest egg App. below was recommended to me from parents that found it to be working very well for her children.. Hover over and click on the dialogue box below and it will lead you to more information. This App is free and is a great motivational tool to encourage children to help with chores.

September is World Suicide Awareness month. I have provided a link below for anyone that is curious to learn more about how to support survivors and those living with Suicide loss. Awareness in itself can save lives.

<https://suicideprevention.ca/events/world-suicide-prevention-day/>

## Welcome to My First Nest Egg -

### Financial Literacy for Young ...

My First Nest Egg

<https://myfirstnestegg.com>

The **My First Nest Egg App** is a fun way to systematically teach young kids financial literacy, goal-setting, perseverance, and self-sufficiency with money ...



Always be kind,

Success Coach

Shannon Sutherland

780-624-2143 ext. 14151

September 2024







## Our first assembly of the school year!



# First Nations, Metis, Inuit



Tansi,  
Tawaw (Welcome) to the 2024- 2025 school year.

We are so happy to see all the returning and new students. We hope you all had a great fun filled summer with family & friends! I would like to introduce myself, My name is Vannah Anderson (Ms.Vannah), I am the Indigenous Support Coach for Springfield/TA Norris School. I will providing support for our Indigenous students/families. I help provide support for the school staff to infuse Indigenous content into their classrooms. Please feel free to text/call me if you have any questions. My work cell is 780-617-3037.

Springfield will be commemorating Truth and Reconciliation Day and Orange Shirt Day on **September 25th, 2024**. Wear your orange shirt.

Orange Shirt Day is on Monday, September 30th and there will be no school. This is an annual national event that is held on September 30th every year. This special event grew from Phyllis Webstad telling her story about her experience with residential school. Phyllis's Kookum bought her a new orange shirt for her first day of school and it was taken from her. Phyllis was only 6 years old. The events were designed to commemorate the residential school experience, to witness and honour the healing journey of the survivors and their families, and to commit to the ongoing process of reconciliation.

(Credits- <https://orangeshirtday.org/>)



September 2024





# MEET THE SPRINGFIELD FAMILY!



4:30-6:00 pm

**Monday, Sept. 16th**

BBQ hotdogs & juice boxes provided

**Springfield  
School Tarmac**





ALBERTA  
EDUCATION

*Office of the Minister  
MLA, Calgary - Bow*

June 20, 2024

Dear parents:

On June 17, Alberta's government introduced [new restrictions](#) on the use of cellphones and access to social media in schools. Beginning this fall, we will no longer permit the use of personal mobile devices in classrooms, or access to social media sites on school networks. In recent months and years, Ontario, Quebec, British Columbia, and Nova Scotia have all done the same.

Alberta's new standards were developed following months of consultation with those most impacted, including students, parents, and teachers. The feedback was clear: more than 90 per cent of 68,000 survey respondents said they are concerned about cellphone use in schools.

In addition to our stakeholder engagement, my department reviewed recent research and statistics regarding the impact of mobile devices and social media use in classrooms and found reports of increased distraction, instances of inappropriate usage, negative impacts on learning and mental health, and an increase in cyberbullying.

According to the [2023 UNESCO report on Technology in Education](#) it can take up to 20 minutes for a student to refocus on learning after checking their phone, which in turn impacts recall and comprehension.

A 2023 Statistics Canada report found that one in every four Canadian teens has experienced cyberbullying, ranging from online or text message threats, to hurtful information posted about them online, to being excluded from virtual communities. Another Statistics Canada study reported mental wellness rates dropped from 77.9 per cent in 2015 to 62.3 per cent in 2021 in young Canadians between 12 and 17.

The new restrictions announced June 17 will answer the call for a standard approach to how schools navigate these policies in Alberta, while still affording those authorities the autonomy and flexibility needed to implement policies that best meet the needs of their students and communities.

.../2

While schools *must* make exceptions for health or medical reasons, or learning needs, these restrictions are decisive and clear. This fall, students will return to class, but their devices will not. By doing this, we're prioritizing learning and protecting student mental health.

Your school authority will communicate the specific details of their personal mobile device and social media policy in the coming months. This will include information on whether access to personal mobile devices is being limited during class or whether the school will be going further and not allowing them to be used during the school day. School authority policies will also outline where and how mobile devices will be stored during class time, how to apply for an exemption if your child has health or medical needs that require the use of a mobile device during class time, and the consequences for violations of the policy.

If you have specific questions regarding your school's specific policy, please contact your school authority, as they will be best positioned to speak to how these restrictions will be implemented at the local level.

As a parent, I am happy to know that when kids head back to the classroom this fall, their devices won't be with them. Students should be fully focused on learning and developing healthy social skills away from screens.

I'm proud of the world-class education system we've built in Alberta. I trust these changes will only make that system stronger by minimizing distractions and protecting our children's mental health and well-being.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Demetrios Nicolaidis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Demetrios Nicolaides ECA PhD  
Minister of Education

## Placing an order in School Cash

We require the **Student's Name** to be listed not the person placing the order  
If you encounter any problems please contact School Cash at 1-866-961-1803

Link for School Cash- <https://prsd.schoolcashonline.com/>



## Register for SchoolCash Online today

It's fast, easy & free

Create an account today so that you can be notified via email and pay for your child(ren)'s school activity fees online.

### Why register?

- 24/7 shopping convenience
- Secure, contactless & easy-to-use
- Receive email notifications as new items are available for purchase
- Manage all of your child(ren)'s school activity fees from a single account
- Check your account history at any time
- View & print receipts as needed
- Eliminates the need for your child(ren) to carry cash

### How to register

- Go to <https://prsd.schoolcashonline.com> and click Register.
  - Enter your first name, last name, email address, and create a password
  - Select a security question
  - Select Yes to receive email notifications (note that you will not receive any promotional emails)
- You will receive a confirmation via email. Check your Spam folder if you don't receive it.
- Use your email address and password to log in to your account.

### How to add children to your account

- Sign in to SchoolCash Online: <https://prsd.schoolcashonline.com>
- At the top of the page, navigate to My Account.
- From the dropdown menu, select My Students.
- Click to add a child:
  - Type your school board name.
  - Choose your school from the list.
  - Enter your child's details. You may add up to 8 students to your account.
  - Click Confirm.

### How to make a payment

- Select the item which you would like to purchase & click Add to Cart.
- Once you have finished adding items to your cart, click Continue to make a payment.

Issues Call 1-866-961-1803





Springfield School  
Office #  
780.624.2143

# September 2024 Calendar

Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
1	2 Labour Day	3 First Day of School!	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 First Full day of Kindergarten	12	13	14
15	16 Meet the Family BBQ 4:30-6:00pm	17 Terry Fox Run	18 School Council Meeting 6:30pm in Library. Babysitting provided. Please come and have your voice heard.	19	20 PD Day- No School	21
22	23	24	25 Orange Shirt Day	26	27	28
29	30 No School - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation					

**BECOME A BUS DRIVER TODAY!**

Due to a bus driver shortage, PRSD is facing the possibility of having to cancel various routes within the division

**Benefits of Becoming a Bus Driver:**

- All Holidays & Summers Off
- No Childcare Costs
- All Training Paid & Provided by PRSD
- Immediate Employment
- Extended Health Benefits & Health Spending Account

**If you or someone you know may be interested in driving a school bus, please contact:**

Merlin Lee at:  
780-624-3006 ext. 11104  
LeeMer@prsd.ab.ca



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780.624.2143

# October 2024 Calendar

Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
		1	2	3	4 Kindergarten Planning Day- no school	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 <b>No School</b>	12
13	14 <b>No School- Thanksgiving Day</b>	15	16	17 <b>Numeracy Night- 5:30-7pm in school gym. All families welcome!</b>	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 <b>PD Day- No School</b>	26
27	28	29	30	31 <b>Halloween Parade! Please pack costumes, Parade will be at 1:10pm in the gym.</b>		



# FREE RESOURCES

Storyline Online

