

# February Newsletter 2025-2026



## Principal's Message



Greetings Parents and Guardians,

We are headed into Semester Two and we are officially half way through our school year! You would have received your child's progress report at the end of January and now you will have an opportunity to meet with our teachers at Parent Teacher Interviews on February 12th. This is an excellent time for you to discuss any concerns that you have regarding your child's progress and to get them on the right track for the remainder of the school year.

This month, our Grade 7 students and parents will be participating in the annual Alberta Education and Childcare Survey. I know for many of us, surveys are not the most exciting use of our time, however, I encourage all of our Grade 7 parents to take a moment to fill in the survey. Your feedback provides our school with valuable information on the areas that we can improve upon and the areas that you believe we are successful in. Of course, I would say that ÉLJHS is amazing, but clearly I am biased!

Have an amazing February and enjoy your time with your family on Family Day.

Mr. Chomlak

**HAPPY FAMILY DAY**

TO ALL OUR WONDERFUL

ÉLJHS FAMILIES

ON

FEBRUARY 16TH, 2026

### FEBRUARY IMPORTANT DATES:

**FEBRUARY 2:**

GROUNDHOG DAY

**FEBRUARY 5-6:**

TEACHER'S CONVENTION-  
NO SCHOOL

**FEBRUARY 12:**

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES:  
BRADLEY ~ BAULKHAM ~ SCHENK

**FEBRUARY 12:**

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

**FEBRUARY 14:**

VALENTINE'S DAY

**FEBRUARY 16:**

FAMILY DAY- NO SCHOOL

**FEBRUARY 20:**

SKI CLUB TO RABBIT HILL

**FEBRUARY 25:**

PINK SHIRT DAY

**FEBRUARY 27:**

SKI CLUB TO RABBIT HILL





Leaha Severson  
ÉLJHS Counsellor

- ☎ (780) 986-2184
- 🌐 [www.eljhs.blackgold.ca](http://www.eljhs.blackgold.ca)
- ✉ [leaha.severson@blackgold.ca](mailto:leaha.severson@blackgold.ca)
- 📍 École Leduc Junior High School



**LINK:**  
ÉLJHS Counselling Lounge

<https://sites.google.com/gshare.blackgold.ca/eljhscounsellingcorner/home>

## Beating the "February Blahs": A Note from the Counsellor

We are officially past the excitement of the holidays and deep into the winter blahs. It is very common at this time of year for students to experience a dip in motivation or a rise in fatigue. The days are still short, and summer break feels far away.

Here are three ways to help your child reset and build resilience this month:

- **Focus on "Micro-Wins":** When big projects or final grades feel overwhelming, help them break tasks down. Celebrating finishing *one* part of an assignment can provide the dopamine hit needed to keep going.
- **Prioritize Sleep Hygiene:** It sounds basic, but teenagers are chronically sleep-deprived. Using the "Tech Curfew" (phones charging in the kitchen overnight, not the bedroom) is the single most effective way to improve their mood and focus the next day.
- **Normalize the Struggle:** Remind them that it is okay to feel tired or unmotivated sometimes. The goal isn't to be perfect 100% of the time; the goal is to just keep showing up.

**Counsellor's Challenge:** Ask your child, *"What is one small thing you can do today that will make tomorrow morning easier?"*



Kind  
Vibes  
Only

# ÉLJHS PINK Shirt Day

February 25th



Bullying is a significant problem in our schools, workplaces, homes, and online. Over the month of February, and throughout the year, Pink Shirt Day aims to raise awareness of these issues, to support programs that foster children's healthy self-esteem.

Pink Shirt Day falls on the last Wednesday of February every year. Join us next Pink Shirt Day on February 25, in our mission to create a more kind, inclusive world by raising awareness and funds for anti-bullying initiatives.



## ÉLJHS PINK SHIRT DAY

### Pink Panther T-Shirts

Available for Purchase through  
Evolution Apparel Store Online:

[Evolution Apparel Pink Shirt LINK](#)

 **EVOLUTION APPAREL  
AND MORE**

**Order SOON!**

# LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE LLC:



## I SPY WINTER READING GAME

Get ready for some winter fun and a chance to win a prize with the "I Spy Winter Reading Game" at ÉLJHS! To join the game, start by picking up a game board from Mrs. Kern. Then, take on the challenges! First, check out the bulletin board and count the items you see, writing the total on your game board. Next, explore the school to count the books and record that number on your game board too.

Want to go the extra mile? Take part in the bonus challenge by visiting the library to check out the "Winter Blues" book display. Choose a book that you think you might like to read, and write its title on the back of your game board. Once you've completed all the steps, submit your game board to Mrs. Kern by **February 28th** for your chance to win a prize. Don't miss out on this fun reading adventure—start playing today!



**PICK UP YOUR GAME BOARD IN THE LLC!**

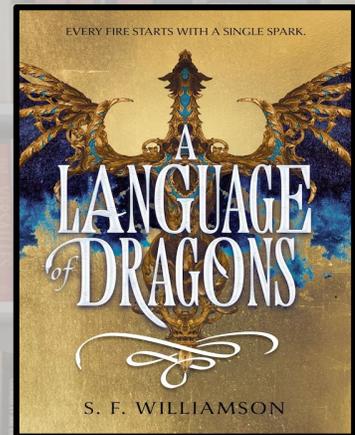
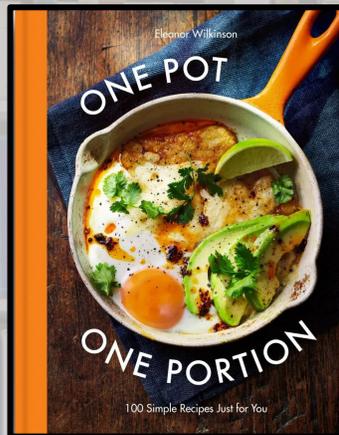
## **Candy Jar CONTEST WINNER:**

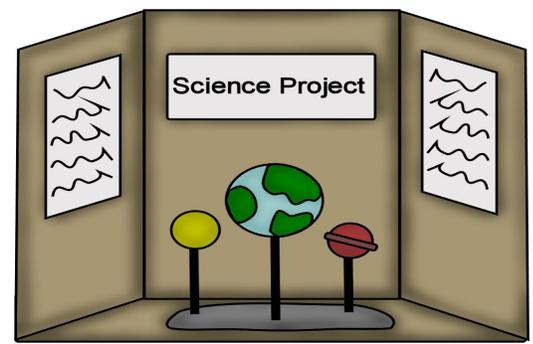
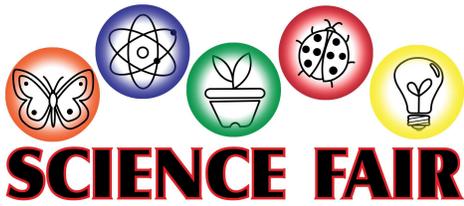


**Audrina Snow- 9A**

*Congratulations...*

## Mrs. Kern's Book Recommendations:





## ÉLJHS SCIENCE FAIR

- ★ **When:** March 26th
- ★ **Time:** 3:30- 5:00 PM
- ★ **Where:** ÉLJHS North (small) Gymnasium
- ★ **Projects Due:** March 23rd

PARENTS/GUARDIANS WELCOME! Make sure your child has their project ready to display for the public. We are excited to present a select group of science fair projects from our students in Grades 7-9, that positively affect our world through scientific innovation! Come and see what they have discovered!

## FEBRUARY *bucket list*

- Give Valentine's to Friends
- Make Heart-Shaped Cookies
- Make Thinking of You Cards
- Decorate Your Bedroom Door
- Host a Valentine's Day Party
- Make a Valentine's Photo Booth
- Create a Hot Chocolate Bar
- Have a Family Game Night
- Create Valentine Gift Bags
- Read a Romantic Novel
- Make Valentine's Day Crafts
- Make a Heart-Shaped Pizza
- Write 3 Things You Love About YOU!
- Watch a Rom Com Movie with Popcorn
- Make "Kindness Hearts" for Special People in Your Life



# BASKETBALL TEAMS



**Congratulations to our Sr Girls Basketball Team on their strong performances at the ÉLJHS Panther Pride & bronze medal in the Lindsay Thurber Tournaments in January and February**

**THANK YOU to all of the volunteers who helped with our Panther Pride Tournament on January 16-17.**

**We would also like to thank all of the families who brought snacks and lunch for the volunteers and reffing staff.**

**We could not have ran such a successful tournament without all of your support!**



# WRESTLING TEAM



**Congratulations to our ELJHS Wrestling Team on their outstanding performance in the 2026 Westmount Tournament on December 17, 2025**

- Sophie Thompson ~ Gold
- Robbie Thompson ~ Gold
- Paisley Hill ~ Silver
- Ryker Ashford ~ Bronze
- Janay Kapicki ~ Bronze



**COACH:**

- Mrs. Fisher
- Ms. Zucca

**THANK YOU for all of your support!**



# ELJHS PARKING

## ATTENTION PARENTS

Please **DO NOT** park or drive through the apartment parking lot across the street from the school. We have been asked several times not to. The owners have advised they will contact the RCMP if you utilize their private parking areas.



## JOIN OUR ÉLJHS SKI CLUB

On these nights, we will be traveling by bus and leaving the school at 4:00PM to return at 9:00PM. Please watch your email or PowerSchool to register your child to join us for one or more trips to the hill!

Organizer: Mrs. Hekkink

- February 20
- February 27
- March 11

**LIMITED SPOTS!**



# High School Registration



High school registration is just a few months away!

Continue to encourage your Grade 9 student/s to stay focused and work hard in their classes.

## IT DOES MATTER!

If you or your child has questions about high school courses or planning, please reach out to our Learning Support Teacher, Venessa Carroubourg, for more information:

[venessa.carroubourg@blackgold.ca](mailto:venessa.carroubourg@blackgold.ca)

<https://www.blackgold.ca/plan-your-future-with-myblueprint/>



## SCHOOL FEES

School Fees have been placed in student's accounts. Please ensure to check your child's PowerSchool Parent Portal for fees that may have been added and need to be paid. Fees should be paid ASAP. Outstanding fees may be sent to collections if not paid by end of April. If you require financial support please contact:

Patty Burak: (780) 986-2184  
Finance Admin Assistant  
780-986-2184





**EDMONTON**      **VS**      **WENATCHEE**  
**OIL KINGS**                      **WILD**

**March 11, 2026**

**@ Rogers Place**

Hockey Hooky is an annual event hosted by the Edmonton Oil Kings at Rogers Place. Students from our Grade 8 classes will get to join them for an afternoon of hockey, education, and fun. We wish those who sign up an amazing day away from school!

**GO OIL KINGS GO!**

## ÉLJHS Parent/Teacher Interviews:

Parent-Teacher Conference bookings are now open. Please visit <https://eljhs.schoolappointments.com/> to book an interview with your child's teacher.

SCHOOL APPOINTMENTS ON-LINE 

English 

LOGIN    HELP    FORGOT PASSWORD    REGISTER

Welcome to the on-line parent teacher interview booking system for École Leduc Junior High School. You will be able to create an account, enter your children and then schedule interview times for you to meet with their teachers.

Appointments scheduling will start at specified times, see the schedule listed below. You will find the system very easy to use and it will take only a few minutes to setup your account, your children and your appointments. To register for an account, click on the "REGISTER" tab above.

**École Leduc Junior High**  
Leduc, AB

**Login**

Email Address:

Password:

**Login**

[\[Click Here to Register\]](#)

[\[Forgotten Password Recovery\]](#)

### Upcoming Appointment Schedule

Schedule	Schedule Start Date	Booking Start
February 12, 2026 - Parent/Teacher Conferences	Feb 12	Feb 2 9:00 am
February 9- Baulkham   Bradley   Schenk ONLY	Feb 9	Feb 2 9:00 am



**LEDUC & DISTRICT**  
MINOR FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

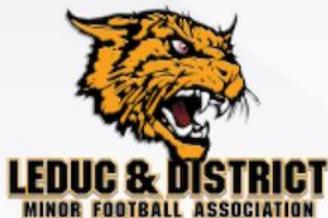
**U16, U19 (FEMALE TACKLE)**  
**U10 U12 U14 U16 (SPRING FLAG)**



**REGISTER NOW**



catsfnthall.ca



 **HEADCHECK  
HEALTH**





# FREE TRY RUGBY JUNIORS CAMP



Feb 14 & March 14  
10-11 am ~ U5 - U9  
11-12 pm ~ U11 - U18  
Leduc Rec Center  
4330 Black Gold Dr.  
Leduc, AB



April 13 & 20  
6 - 7 pm  
U5 - U18  
Nisku Turf Center  
1030 - 34 ave  
Nisku, AB

No Experience  
Necessary  
Bring a Friend



For More Info email [lacrudejuniorvp@gmail.com](mailto:lacrudejuniorvp@gmail.com)



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Calmar Collegiate Secondary School celebrates grand opening of new trades-focused addition**

**Calmar, Alberta (January 15, 2026)** - Trustees, government officials, division and school administrators, industry and community members, and students have celebrated the grand opening of a new addition to Calmar Collegiate Secondary School (CSCS). The 5000-square-foot addition, and the equipment inside of it, will support skilled trades training for students.

“We are pleased to celebrate this new industry-standard facility,” says Michael Borgfjord, Superintendent, Black Gold School Division. “As it opens, we are anticipating the valuable experiences that will benefit students as they experience and prepare for careers in the skilled trades.”

“Thank you to the Alberta Government for its investment in this facility, in trades training, and in our students. We are excited about the opportunities this new facility will provide for our students as they gain skill and experience in the trades,” Devonna Klaassen, Board Chair, Black Gold School Division.

The cost of the building is \$3.3 million. Industry-standard equipment inside the facility brings the project cost to almost \$3.5 million total. The provincial government provided the funding. Students from across Black Gold, as well as from Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools and Wild Rose School Division, will be able to access career pathways experiences at CSCS.

“The vision for this project started with the need for career pathways opportunities for students within their own communities,” says Justin Klaassen, Principal, CSCS. “We have created a program that starts with wide exposure to trades, and then refines the student experience when they learn what they are most interested in.”



In Grade 10, students visit industry sites to learn more about carpentry, electrical, and pipe trades as well as iron works, welding and brick laying. They receive high school and post-secondary credits at the completion of the class. In Grade 11, students experience hands-on learning within their new facility, with a refined focus on carpentry, electrical and pipe trades, while also earning high school credits. Grade 12 students take a class that focuses on single trade, and prepare to challenge industry technical exams. Instructors are journeymen from trade unions.

“We are grateful for our partnerships with industry partners and with our community,” says Erin Tisdale, Director of Curriculum Development, Black Gold. “Because of industry connections, students have access to high quality careers training without having to leave their home community.”

Currently 65 students are participating in the program, and it is anticipated the number will grow.

The name of the school has also changed to reflect the school’s trades focus. Calmar Secondary School is now Calmar Secondary Collegiate School. A [collegiate program](#) in Alberta offers specialized programming in a particular subject or field and provides all students with a clear pathway into post-secondary education and careers in their chosen field. CSCS will continue to provide excellent academic programming, in addition to specialized learning in the trades.

Before and after the Grand Opening event, students were able to access a job and career resource fair at the school. The Leduc / Nisku / Wetaskiwin Regions Chamber of Commerce organized the event in partnership with the school, to provide students with a chance to connect with industry representatives.

“Thank you to so many in our community who have supported us, our work in the trades, and especially our students. Your partnership is important and appreciated,” says Norm Dargis, Associate Superintendent, Black Gold.



**For more information, please contact:**

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Communications Officer  
Black Gold School Division  
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C: 780.203.6337  
[laurette.woodward@blackgold.ca](mailto:laurette.woodward@blackgold.ca)



# Board Highlights

January 21, 2026

## Quarter 1 Financial Report

The Board of Trustees received the 2025-2026 Financial Report for September to December 2025, as presented.

## City of Leduc Attendance Boundary Allocation – Fraser Neighbourhood

The Board of Trustees approved the designation of the Fraser development to East Elementary School (Grades K-6 English), École Corinthia Park School (Grades K-6 French Immersion), École Leduc Junior High School (Grades 7-9 English and French), and Leduc Composite High School (Grades 10-12 English and French).

## City of Leduc Attendance Boundary Allocation – Andersen Neighbourhood

The Board of Trustees approved the designation of the Anderson development to Linsford Park School (K-6 English), École Leduc Estates School (Grades K-6 French Immersion), École Leduc Junior High School (Grades 7-9 English and French Immersion), and Leduc Composite High School (Grades 10-12 English and French Immersion).

## Board Policy 7 – Board Operations

The Board of Trustees that the Board approve Board Policy 7 – Board Operations, as presented with the following amendments:

Section 12: change 'compensation' to 'honoraria' and add 'Any such adjustment will take effect on the same date as the increase provided for in the collective agreement for currently elected trustees'.

All Board Policies are available on the Black Gold website at [www.blackgold.ca](http://www.blackgold.ca) – Board – Board Policies

## Calmar Secondary Collegiate School Celebrates Grand Opening

Trustees, government officials, division and school administrators, industry and community members, and students have celebrated the grand opening of a new addition to Calmar Collegiate Secondary School (CSCS).

The 5000-square-foot addition, and the equipment inside of it, will support skilled trades training for students.

You can read the full article on our website at [www.blackgold.ca](http://www.blackgold.ca) - News



## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION UNDERWAY FOR 2026-27

[blackgold.ca/kindergarten](http://blackgold.ca/kindergarten)



\*Don't forget to check out the Black Gold School Division Board of Trustees' [Advocacy webpage!](#)

## BLACK GOLD SCHOOL DIVISION 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

Monthly Calendar							Teacher Days	Student Days	Dates & Details		
<b>AUGUST 2025</b>	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	5	3	August 25 & 26 - Teacher Workdays (No Students) August 27 - School Commences for ALL Grades 1 - 12 Students	
							1				2
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9				
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16				
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23				
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30				
31											
<b>SEPTEMBER 2025</b>	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	20	19	September 1 - Labour Day (Schools Closed) September 19 - PD Day: (No Students): (AM) Welcome Back & LSA Ceremony (To follow) PD Day September 30 - National Day for Truth & Reconciliation (Schools Closed)	
			1	2	3	4	5				6
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13				
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20				
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27				
	28	29	30								
<b>OCTOBER 2025</b>	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	22	21	October 13 - Thanksgiving Day (Schools Closed) October 14 - PD Day (No Students) Diploma Exam	
				1	2	3	4				
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11				
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18				
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25				
	26	27	28	29	30	31					
<b>NOVEMBER 2025</b>	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	15	14	November 2 - Daylight Savings Time (clocks backward) November 3 - PD Day (No Students) November 10 - 14 - Midterm Break (Schools Closed) November 11 - Remembrance Day (Schools Closed) Diploma Exam	
							1				
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8				
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15				
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22				
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29				
30											
<b>DECEMBER 2025</b>	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	15	14	December 1 - PD Day (No Students) December 22 - 31 - Christmas Vacation (Schools Closed)	
			1	2	3	4	5				6
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13				
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20				
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27				
	28	29	30	31							
<b>JANUARY 2026</b>	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	20	19	January 1 - 2 - Christmas Vacation (Schools Closed) January 5 - School Resumes January 30 - PD Day (No Students) Provincial Achievement Tests (PAT) Diploma Exam & Provincial Achievement Tests (PAT) Diploma Exam	
							1				2
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10				
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17				
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24				
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31				
<b>Semester 1: Aug. 28, 2025 - Jan. 30, 2026</b>							97	90	<b>Semester 2 - Commences February 2, 2026</b>		
<b>FEBRUARY 2026</b>	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	19	17	February 2 - Semester 2 Commences February 5 & 6 - ATA Teachers' Convention (No Students) February 16 - Family Day (Schools Closed)	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14				
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21				
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28				
<b>MARCH 2026</b>	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	20	19	March 8 - Daylight Savings Time (clocks forward) March 9 - PD Day (No Students) March 30 - 31 - Spring Break (Schools Closed)	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14				
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21				
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28				
	29	30	31								
<b>APRIL 2026</b>	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	18	17	April 1 - 3 Spring Break (Schools Closed) April 3 - Good Friday (No Students) April 6 - Easter Monday (Schools Closed) April 7 - School Resumes April 24 - PD Day (No Students) Diploma Exam	
							1				2
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11				
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18				
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25				
	26	27	28	29	30						
<b>MAY 2026</b>	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	20	19	May 15 - PD Day (No Students) May 18 - Victoria Day (Schools Closed) Provincial Achievement Tests (PAT)	
							1				2
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9				
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16				
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23				
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30				
31											
<b>JUNE 2026</b>	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	20	18	June 21 - National Indigenous Peoples Day June 24 - Last School Day with Diploma Exam June 25 & 26 - Teacher Workday (No Students) Diploma Exam & PAT Administrative Window Diploma Exam	
			1	2	3	4	5				6
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13				
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20				
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27				
	28	29	30								
<b>Semester 2: February 2 - June 26, 2026</b>							97	90			
<b>TOTAL = Operational Days-Teachers / Instructional Days-Students</b>							194	180	Aug-Dec/25: 77 -T & 71 -S; Jan-June/26: 117 -T & 109 -S		

Approved - February 22, 2023