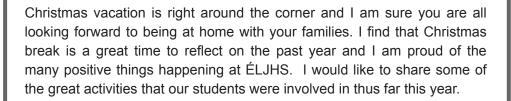
December Newsletter 2023-2024



Dear Parents and Caregivers,



- ★ Volleyball
- ★ Basketball
- ★ Cross Country Running
- ★ Wrestling
- ★ Art Club
- ★ Chess Club
- ★ GSA
- ★ Principal Advisory Council
- ★ Band
- ★ Anti Bullying Week Activities
- ★ Remembrance Day Ceremony
- ★ Christmas Concert
- ★ No Stone Left Alone
- ★ Winter Activity Day
- ★ Social Emotional Learning Presentations
- ★ High School Transition Presentations
- ★ Ski Club
- ★ Citadel Club
- ★ And more...

I would like to thank all of our students who participate in these many activities and thank our staff who provide our students with these awesome opportunities.

I hope that you all take the time to relax, reconnect with your families, and have an amazing Christmas vacation and a Happy New Year!

Mr. Chomlak



DECEMBER IMPORTANT DATES:

DECEMBER 4:

PD Day- No School

DECEMBER 7:

ÉLJHS CHRISTMAS CONCERT- 7:00 PM @ PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 8:

TERM 2 GR 8/9 OPTIONS BEGIN

DECEMBER 13:

Grade 9's Mean Girls Presentation @ LCHS (PM)

DECEMBER 22:

WINTER ACTIVITY DAY

- ► GR 7/8- LRC & LEDUC CINEMAS
- ►GR 9- MOVIE, DINNER, & DANCE

DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 7:

CHRISTMAS BREAK

DECEMBER 24:

CHRISTMAS EVE

DECEMBER 25:

CHRISTMAS DAY

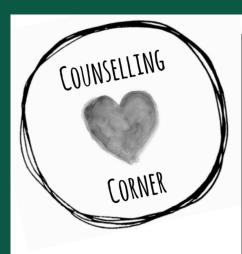
DECEMBER 31:

NEW YEARS EVE

JANUARY 8:

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL AFTER CHRISTMAS BREAK









LINK:

ÉLJHS Counselling Corner

Mrs. Severson ÉLJHS Counsellor

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

Leduc

City of Leduc Building Community

We host numerous programs, events and workshops to help residents connect with one another and enhance their quality of life throughout the year.

Workshops and Info Sessions;

We offer a variety of workshops and information sessions throughout the year to support Leduc residents.

GOOD NEIGHBOUR INITIATIVE:

The Good Neighbours Initiative encourages neighbourly behaviour and community building through a number of events and projects.

ASSET BUILDING:

The 40 Developmental Assets is an initiative that calls on the community to support our youth.

BLOCK PROGRAMMING:

Under the Good Neighbour initiative, we offer the Block Party and Connector programs to help neighbourhood leaders create connections.

ANTI-BULLYING INITIATIVES:

Each year, we host Pink Shirt Day to show our support and solidarity with those who are being picked on, excluded, shamed, assaulted or gossiped about.

https://www.leduc.ca/building-community

LEDUC UNPLUGGED:

Leduc Unplugged program encourages and assists people in unplugging from technology to connect with themselves, their loved ones and the community.

EMERGENCY SOCIAL SERVICES:

Emergency Social Services is an emergency response program provided to assist those affected by disasters or emergencies in our community.

EVERYBODY GETS TO PLAY:

Everybody Gets to Play is a national initiative to enhance the quality of life for families by offering subsidies and other forms of assistance for recreation, athletic and cultural opportunities.

SOCIAL PLANNING:

Through social planning, we help identify what is happening in the community, and the current social needs and gaps in services. We work with local and regional organizations as well as residents to build partnerships and create a greater sense of belonging for our community.



ÉLJHS Winter Activity Day December 22, 2023

The ÉLJHS Winter Activity Day is an important part of both creating a positive student experience in our school and giving our students the opportunity to enjoy community-related events together.

To celebrate the season, we have organized a special activity day for the last day of school before the Christmas Break.

Grade 7 & 8 Students:

- * Leduc Recreation Centre (AM)
- * Leduc Cinemas (PM)

Grade 9 Students:

- * Leduc Cinemas (AM)
- ÉLJHS Gymnasium (PM)
 Dinner and Dance

As our Winter Activity Day fast approaches, we ask that all parents complete the online permission form using your **PowerSchool Parent Portal:**https://powerschool.blackgold.ca/public/home.html

Permission Form Deadline: December 15, 2023

No late forms accepted, refunds given, or fees deleted from accounts once we have submitted our total numbers as of 3:30 PM on December 15, 2023.

We are unable to provide refunds since the activity is paid for in advance.

NO EXCEPTIONS!

NO STONE LEFT ALONE CEREMONY November 6, 2023

The annual ceremony, which continues a national tradition that started in Edmonton, saw our teacher leader Mrs. Kosowan and several of our students show their respect in an act of remembrance to those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Lest We Forget

Limited spots available!



LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE LLC:



Look WHO's Reading CONTEST



The Library Learning
Commons held a contest in
November to determine
which books staff are
currently reading or their
favourite book.

The student that matched the most books with their corresponding staff member won a candy jar from our Librarian, Mrs. Kern.

Contest Winner:



SHILOH BABIAK-7G

HAPPENING IN DECEMBER:

BOOKFLIX is a book promotion that mimics Netflix. Where students can discover a wide variety of new and exciting titles that are available in the library.

COME TAKE A LOOK!



CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS:

Cafe Style Book Talks in ELA

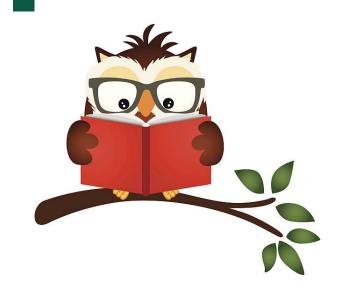
Mrs. Anderson's grade 7 and 9 classes have been talking about books! Students have been reading independently and creating engaging One Pagers to represent the big ideas that came up in their novels.

On November 10th, everyone enjoyed a cafe environment and a sweet treat as they discussed and curated a "read next" list.

See the highlights below.













ÉLJHS SPORT HIGHLIGHTS:



VOLLEYBALL TEAMS 🌣 🖈 🔯







COACHES:

- Mme Dockery
- Mrs. Wold
- Mme Ostapek

THANK YOU

COACH:

 Mrs. Fisher • Ms. Zucca

THANK YOU

for all of your support!



Congratulations to our **Senior Girls** Vollevball Team on their 2nd Place finish in the LDAA **League Championships**



WRESTLING TEAM







• Otto Hrabec

Shillah James







Congratulations to our ELJHS Wrestling Team on their outstanding performance in the **Golden Bears** Tournament on November 17-18th



for all of your support!

BASKETBALL TEAMS 🌣 💠 💠







COACHES:

- Lepage (Sr Girls)
- Baulkham (Sr Boys)
- Welz (Jr Girls)
- Schenk (Jr Boys)
- MacPhail/Kozuch (Gr 7 Girls)
- Mr Chomlak (Gr 7 Boys)

THANK YOU for all of your support!

ÉLJHS BASKETBALL TRYOUTS COMING SOON! Listen for announcements

ÉLJHS basketball tryouts are underway! Please watch our **Facebook and Instagram pages for** game nights and come cheer them on.

GO PANTHERS GO!



ATTENTION PARENTS/GUARDIANS



If you do not have access to PowerSchool Parent Portal please contact the office at 780-986-2184. The Parent Portal allows you to view your students' attendance, marks, pay fees online, among other features. If you have an existing account, you can add additional students to the same account. If you have moved, changed phone number(s), or have any changes to personal information, please contact the office at 780-986-2184. It is important that we have your most current information on file.

If your student will be absent from school, please notify the office so that we can enter the attendance accordingly. If it is after hours, please leave the message on the school's answering machine.



ELJHS PARKING

The parking lot on the South side of the school is reserved for:

STAFF PARKING ONLY

If you are dropping off your child or visiting our school, there are parking areas along the street that run along the East, West, and North sides of the school yard. We have very little parking for our staff so we appreciate any cooperation with this.



<u>ÉLJHS Leadership Food Bank Drive</u>

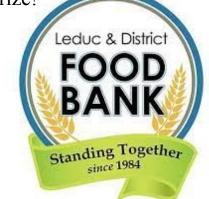
The Leduc Food Bank supplies Ecole Leduc Junior High School with food for our students in need, all year long. Please send in pantry items or a cash donation to your child's homeroom class if you are able. The homeroom class with the most will receive a prize!

IT'S TIME TO GIVE BACK!

Mr. Schultz's Leadership 8/9 classes are hosting our annual FOOD DRIVE:

November 27 - December 15





STAFF PARKING ONLY

STUDENT VERIFICATIONFORMS 2023/2024



2023-2024 Student Enrollment Verification Form for Black Gold School Division is available on the PowerSchool Parent Portal.

These were to be completed by **November 30th**, **2023**, so please fill out the form immediately if you have not. Completion of this form ensures that we have accurate information for emergency communication. If you fail to complete this form, your child's ability to leave school grounds for walking field trips, as well as participating in class/team photos or being recognized in other school materials may be compromised.

In order to confirm your child's registration with Black Gold School Division, you must have:

- An active PowerSchool Parent Portal Account.
- An Internet connected computer, tablet, or phone.

Important: If you do not already have a PowerSchool Parent Portal account please contact your school, during school hours, for assistance.

Thank you for your cooperation!



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 m⁻ in the school office:

Shoana Theriault: (780) 986-2184



GO SLEDDING OR ICE SKATING:

One of the best group activities to do in the winter with your friends! So grab a big sled, tube, or skates, and find the perfect hill to sled or outdoor rink. Warm up with a cup of hot chocolate or coffee after you are done. This is a great snow day activity for teens!

SET A FITNESS GOAL:

Do you want to get in shape for a spring or summer sport? Or you may want to improve your overall fitness health. Set a personal goal like a push-up or plank challenge. Then keep track of your improvements over the winter.

HAVE AN EPIC VIDEO GAME TOURNAMENT:

Do you and your friends like to video games? Set up a video game tournament with your friends or siblings! You can even award prizes for the tournament.

GET BOOKS FROM THE LIBRARY:

Stock up on some new good books by taking a trip to the library. Reading strengthens your brain, increases your ability to empathize, can build your vocabulary, and reduces stress.

MAKE GINGERBREAD HOUSES:

Another fun activity for teens in the winter is making gingerbread houses! You can make the base of the houses from scratch, or buy one of the pre-made Gingerbread House kits to make it a little easier. Ask your friends, siblings, or parents to join in the fun. You can have a gingerbread house contest including for creativity, skill and appearance! Once they are finished, ost them on your Instagram story and ask people to vote for their favourite.

HAVE A MOVIE MARATHON:

One of the most relaxing activities to do in the winter is to watch movies! Ask friends to come over and watch a movie series. Make some popcorn and have some cozy blankets on hand.

DECLUTTER OR REDECORATE YOUR ROOM:

Clearing the clutter from your room is a great way to reduce anxiety and feel less stressed. Grab a few garbage bags (one for a donate pile and one for a throw-away pile) and clean up your room! Once your room is decluttered, you can freshen up your space by moving things around or redecorating.

DO A FEW RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS:

The wintertime can get lonely for some. So, why not spread a little kindness to others? Here is a list of ideas: https://coffeepancakesanddreams.com/30-random-acts-of-kindness-for-kids-free-printable/

HAVE A NO-TECHNOLOGY DAY:

Do you want to know what life was like for your parents who did not have as much technology as teens? Pick a day to have a no-technology day and see what creative things you can come up with to do with your time!

VOLUNTEER OR DONATE TO CHARITY:

Want to feel good this winter? Helping others is an instant mood boost! Look for opportunities to help at charities near you. Local options might include animal shelters, senior centers, food pantries and homeless shelters. If you are not able to find a local charity to volunteer at, you can still do your part by donating to a charity. Round up old toys and clothes and take them to a donation drop-off near you!



Decembell

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	PD DAY No School	5	6	ÉLJHS BAND/CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT @ PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH 7:00 PM 7	TERM 2 OPTIONS BEGIN- GR 8/9	9
			GRADE 9'S MEAN GIRLS PRESENTATION @ LCHS PM			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
					ÉLJHS WINTER ACTIVITY DAY	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
CHRISTMAS EVE	CHRISTMAS DAY	BOXING DAY		*		
NEW YEAR'S		— 🧸 Сі	HRISTMAS BR	EAK 🥭 💳	1	-
Eve 31	25	26	27	28	29	30



IMMUNIZATION INFORMATION:



Children who are eligible for immunizations may be immunized in the school setting with parent/guardian consent. Please check your child's school bag for a package which contains information about the vaccines, along with a consent form for each vaccine. For your child to be immunized in school, consent must be provided to AHS staff verbally or each consent form must be signed and returned to your child's school by the date indicated on the envelope.

For tips on preparing your child for immunizations, please refer to https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/info/hp/cdc/if-hp-cdc-ipsm-tips-make-imm-easier-child.pdf

The immunization round dates at Leduc Jr High School will be Thursday, January 25, 2024.

*If your child is not present on the round dates they may receive immunizations on other dates throughout the school year.

***If you are new to Alberta OR if your child has been immunized at your doctor's office or pharmacy, AHS Public Health may not have a record of your child's immunizations. To ensure your child is up to date with all recommended immunizations refer to the schedule at https://www.alberta.ca/immunization-routine-schedule.aspx

To provide an up to date immunization record or if you have any questions you may contact the nurse assigned to your child's school at 780-980-5026



CONNECTIVITY DANCE LTD

IT'S YOUR TIME TO SHINE!

JOIN US FOR SOME WINTER FUN!









December 16 ~2pm - 5pm

\$15 PER ATTENDEE



#102 4709 51 Ave Leduc, AB

connectivity dance.com 780-739-1142

dance@connectivitydance.com



FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM/FACEBOOK

@CONNECTIVITYDANCE



CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD

year all over the world and every we are going to take a look at how other cultures celebrate and talk means to us.



From giant piñatas in Mexico to bright and colourful lanterns in something special to everyon.

We will look at the cultures and some of these unique traditions



WE ARE EXPANDING

We are excited to announce we are opening a second location in spruce Grove. It will be open in January 2024, as we will be offering new programs.

As we expand, we are also hiring and will have our new staff job shadowing and training with Miss V at the

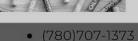
We are also hiring a part time staff to help with some of the programs at our Leduc location and look forward to introducing them during November / December.

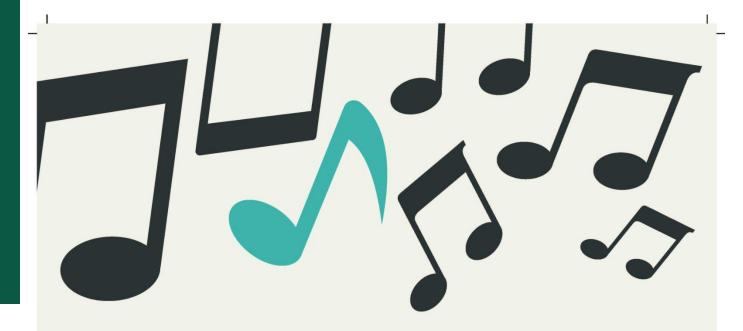
IN THE NEW YEAR

We offer afyer school programs for ages 4-9 &10+ Mondays: Ages 4-9 4-5:30 & 6-7:30 Tuesdays: Ages 10+ 4-5:30&6-7:30 Thursdays: Adults 7:30-9:30

IN THE NEW YEAR

In the new year we are going to explore some new mediums such as oil pastels and have an expert in the medium joining us. She has many years experience and is excited to show us the ropes.







48th Annual

Music Festival

April 2-18, 2024

PIANO VOCAL INSTRUMENTAL CHOIR BAND SPEECH

Registration opens Dec 1 - Jan 26, 2024 Late registration ends Feb 2, 2024

Open to performers of all ages from the City of Leduc & Leduc County

Register at: leducmusicfestival.ca





Board Highlights

October-November, 2023

Wild Rose/Black Gold Collaboration

In a move to responsibly manage resources and to ensure uninterrupted and high-quality education for students, the Black Gold School Division (BGSD) and the Wild Rose School Division (WRSD) are collaborating to facilitate the temporary relocation of Breton High School's grade 7-12 students to Warburg School during the anticipated Breton High School modernization project.

Remembrance Day Presentation

Matthew White from the Devon Legion presented the first poppy for BGSD to Board Chair Eckert. Board Chair Eckert presented a cheque to the Devon Legion on behalf of the Black Gold School Division Board of Trustees. Black Gold School Division Board of Trustees makes the same monetary donation to all of the Legions within our Division boundaries.

2024-25 Modular Classrooms Request

After reviewing school utilization rates and modular classroom conditions, BGSD identified that the Division's modular classroom priority for the 2023-2024 school year is four new modular classrooms at École Beau Meadow School to evergreen the existing modular classrooms from 1982.

Leduc Schools Boundary & Grade Reconfiguration

At the Special Board Meeting on November 3, 2023, the Board of Trustees voted to approve the Administration's recommendations for boundary and grade reconfigurations.

For detailed information about the approved changes, please refer to the <u>2023 Leduc Schools Boundary & Grade Reconfiguration Review Recommendation Report.</u>

New Superintendent Named

The Black Gold School Division's Board of Trustees is pleased to announce that Michael Borgfjord has been appointed as the Superintendent of Schools/CEO for the Black Gold School Division effective June 1, 2024.

"Our Canada-wide advertising resulted in a significant number of applications," said Board Chair Esther Eckert.
"Mr.Borgfjord was selected from a strong group of candidates because his experience ties solidly into our strategic goals.

His skill set complements the already great work being done within Black Gold, and the new and diverse perspectives he brings will move the Division forward and enhance the great culture we enjoy."

Michael Borgfjord has 18 years experience as Chief Superintendent in both Manitoba and Alberta. He was most recently the Superintendent of Pembina Hills School Division.

BGSD Annual Audit

On November 23, 2023, the Audit Committee met with management and Black Gold School Division's auditors, MNP LLP, to review the Audited Financial Statements, the Audit Findings Report and the Auditor's Management Letter for the year ended August 31, 2023. Black Gold School Division's Finance department prepared the financial statements, including all schedules and notes, in the standard format required by Alberta Education. MNP LLP audited these statements and has issued an unqualified opinion.

MNP LLP has found that in all material respects, the financial position of the School Division as at August 31, 2023, and the results of its operations, its remeasurement gains and losses, changes in its net financial assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Transportation Fee Schedule

Under the new transportation funding model, the funding formula for students attending a school of choice has changed. Students attending a school of choice are now funded based on the distance to the school they are attending, rather than the distance to their designated school. This increases the funding the Division receives for students attending a school of choice.

AERR Approval

At the November 29, 2023 Regular Board Meeting, the Board of Trustees approved the <u>2022-2023 Annual</u> Education Results Report (AERR) as presented.

Highlights of this report include the following:

- Our current results have increased over the last year in most measures
- Our number of students achieving the standard of Acceptable for PAT and Diploma results continues to be an area of strength
- Our high assessment participation rates
- · Our low drop-out rates
- Continued improvement in all measures related to Indigenous Students
- Our successful Curriculum implementation strategies
- Success in all local measures results

École Champs Vallée School (ÉCVS) Excursion

The Board of Trustees granted Approval in Principle students and staff from École Champs Vallée School to travel to Quebec, Ottawa and Montreal from June 20-26, 2024 (inclusive).

This excursion provides students first, the opportunity to further learn about Canada's political, cultural and historical fabric. Second, travel to Québec and the national capital expands the students' practical use of French language skills learned in the classroom. Third, activities are designed to supplement the grade six curriculum – mostly Social Studies and Science courses.

	Monthly Calendar		Teacher Days	Student Days	Dates & Details
AUGUST 2023	SUN MONTUESWEDTHUR 1 2 3 6 7 8 9 10 13 14 15 16 17 20 21 22 23 24 27 28 29 30 31	FRI SAT 4 5 11 12 18 19 25 26	4	2	August 28 & 29 - Teacher Workdays (No Students) August 30 - School Commences for ALL Grades 1 - 12 Students
PTEMBEF 2023	SUN MON TUES WED THUR	FRI SAT 1 2 8 9 15 16 22 23 29 30	19	18	September 4 - Labour Day (Schools Closed) September 15 - PD Day: (No Students): (AM) Welcome Back & LSA Ceremony (To follow) PD Day September 29 - Day in Lieu - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (Schools Closed) September 30 - National Day for Truth & Reconciliation
CTOBER 2023	SUN MON TUES WED THUR 1 2 3 4 5 8 10 11 12 15 16 17 18 19 22 23 24 25 26 29 30 31	6 7 13 14 20 21 27 28	21	20	October 9 - Thanksgiving Day (Schools Closed) October 10 - PD Day (No Students) Diploma Exam
OVEMBER 2023	5 6 7 8 9	3 4 10 11 ★₹ 18 24 25	17	16	November 1 - PD Day (No Students) November 5 - Daylight Savings Time (clocks backward) November 11 - Remembrance Day November 13 - 17 - Midterm Break (Schools Closed) Diploma Exam
ECEMBER 2023		1 2 8 9 15 16 22 23	16	15	December 4 - PD Day (No Students) December 25 - 29 - Christmas Vacation (Schools Closed)
ANUARY 2024	SUN MON TUES WED THUR 7 8 9 10 11 14 15 16 17 18 21 22 23 24 25 28 29 60 31 aug 31, 2023 - Jan 31, 2024	FRI SAT 5 6 12 13 19 20 26 27	18	17	January 1 - 5 - Christmas Vacation (Schools Closed) January 8 - School Resumes January 31 - PD Day (No Students) Provincial Achievement Tests (PAT) Diploma Exam & Provincial Achievement Tests (PAT) Diploma Exam Semester 2 - Commences Feb 1, 2024
EBRUARY 2024	SUN MON TUES WED THUR 4 5 6 7 8 11 12 13 14 15 18 29 20 21 22 25 26 27 28 29	FRI SAT 2 3 9 10 16 17 23 24	95 20	18	February 1 - Semester 2 Commences February 8 & 9 - ATA Teachers' Convention (No Students) February 19 - Family Day (Schools Closed)
MARCH 2024	3 4 5 6 7 10 11 12 13 14 17 18 19 20 21 24 25 26 27 28	1 2 8 9 15 16 22 23	16	15	March 10 - Daylight Savings Time (clocks forward) March 11 - PD Day (No Students) March 25 - 29 - Spring Break (Schools Closed)
APRIL 2024	SUN MON TUES WED THUR 2 3 4 7 8 9 10 11 14 15 16 17 18 21 22 23 24 25 28 29 30	5 6 12 13 19 20 26 27	21	20	April 1 - Easter Monday (Schools Closed) April 2 - School Resumes April 19 - PD Day (No Students) Diploma Exam
MAY 2024	SUN MON TUES WED THUR 1 2 5 6 7 8 9 12 13 14 15 16 19 20 21 22 23 26 27 28 29 30	3 4 10 11 17 18 24 25 31	22	21	May 17 - PD Day (No Students) May 20 - Victoria Day (Schools Closed) Provincial Achievement Tests (PAT)
JUNE 2024	SUN MONTUES WED THUR 2 3 4 5 6 9 10 11 12 13 16 17 8 19 20 23 24 25 ©26 27 30	7 8 14 15 21 22 28 29	20	18	June 21 - National Indigenous Peoples Day June 26 - Last School Day with Diploma Exam & PAT June 27 & 28 - Teacher Workday (No Students) Diploma Exam & PAT Diploma Exam
THE RESERVE TO SHARE THE PARTY OF THE PARTY	ebruary 1 - June 28, 2024		99	92	

Approved - February 22, 2023