

February Newsletter 2023-2024



P rincipal's Message



Greetings Parents and Caregivers,

We made it! January always seems like a long month to work through, both for our kids, and our staff. I think it is a combination of a few factors like the cold, darkness, and post holiday melancholy, but we persevered and now we are rolling into better days.

This month, our Principal Advisory Committee, which is made up of any students who wish to join, will be making some exciting decisions. At our last meeting, the students were trying to determine if each grade should have a designated washroom and also a new motto for the school. This was sent out to all of our students in a survey and the votes are coming in. This was a great process to ensure that our students have a voice in our school and that they are part of the decision making process. Check with your child in the coming weeks to find out what happened! Have a great month and enjoy the sunshine!

Mr. Chomlak



FEBRUARY IMPORTANT DATES:

FEBRUARY 1:

SEMESTER 2 COMMENCES

FEBRUARY 2:

GROUNDHOG DAY

FEBRUARY 6:

PROGRESS REPORTS AVAILABLE ON POWERSCHOOL

FEBRUARY 7:

SKI CLUB TO RABBIT HILL

FEBRUARY 8-9:

TEACHER'S CONVENTION-
NO SCHOOL

FEBRUARY 14:

VALENTINE'S DAY

FEBRUARY 15:

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

FEBRUARY 19:

FAMILY DAY- NO SCHOOL

FEBRUARY 21:

HOCKEY HOOKY @
ROGERS PLACE

FEBRUARY 22:

SKI CLUB TO RABBIT HILL

FEBRUARY 28:

PINK SHIRT DAY

FEBRUARY 28:

PARENT'S ASSOC. /
SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING



Mrs. Severson's ÉLJHS Counselling Corner



LINK:

ÉLJHS Counselling Corner

<https://sites.google.com/gshare.blackgold.ca/eljhs-counsellingcorner/home>

Mental Health Monthly

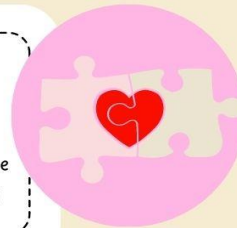


Healthy Relationships

Building and maintaining healthy relationships is essential to our mental health. Healthy relationships can be found in friendships, work relationships, or romantic relationships. Each type of relationship can provide you with someone to experience/share life with. However, it is important to know what makes a healthy or unhealthy relationships and how to spot red flags.

Healthy:

Healthy relationships are built on mutual trust and equality. We should choose to surround ourselves with people that are supportive, encouraging, and honest. Additionally, we should be willing to reciprocate these same behaviors to others. Putting our energy into fostering quality relationships with a few people that share our same interests and that we feel a connection with is much more fulfilling (quality over quantity).



Unhealthy:

Unhealthy relationships are marked by an imbalance of control (one person is always making the decisions), poor communication, and distrust. Other red flags/signs to look out for are jealousy, pressured into activities, being treated disrespectfully, and invading your personal boundaries.



Prevention:

- Know who YOU are.
- Know what's important to you.
- Know who is important. Who supports and influences you.
- Know your boundaries.
- Know what you want in a friendship or partner.



If you or someone you know is experiencing abuse call the National Domestic Abuse Hotline 1-800-799-SAFE (7233)

Kind
Vibes
Only

ÉLJHS PINK Shirt Day



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; so join us next Pink Shirt Day on February 28nd, 2024, 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 at Our
Panther Wear Store Online:

<https://elijhstudents2021.itemorder.com/shop/home/>

DEADLINE: February 15th



Pink Shirt Day Cotton Tee

\$20.00

NOW OPEN

PANTHER WEAR ONLINE STORE



<https://eljhsstudents2021.itemorder.com/>

**ORDER DEADLINE:
February 15th**



<https://eljhs.blackgold.ca/>



@ELJHS



<https://www.facebook.com/eljhsbgsd>

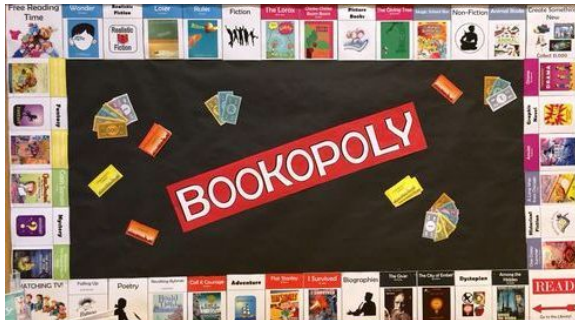
LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE LLC:



BOOKOPOLY READING CHALLENGE

Check out the Bookopoly bulletin board by the library to join in the February and March reading challenge!

Read just 5 books to be a BOOKOPOLY READER and have a chance to win the grand prize. (Sorry - books assigned by your teacher don't count)



PRIZES:

- 1 Free Book
- Amazon Gift Card

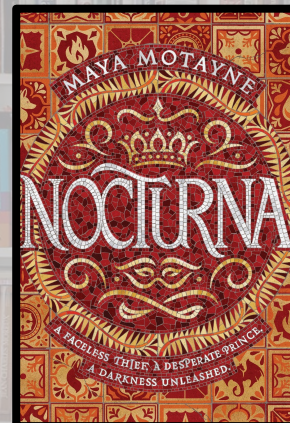
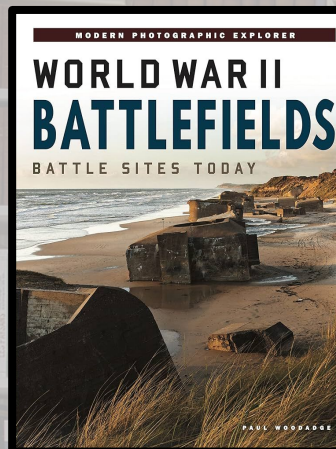
Complete at least 5 squares and the 2 tasks by March 15th to be eligible to win. The Lucky winners will be announced by **March 20th**.

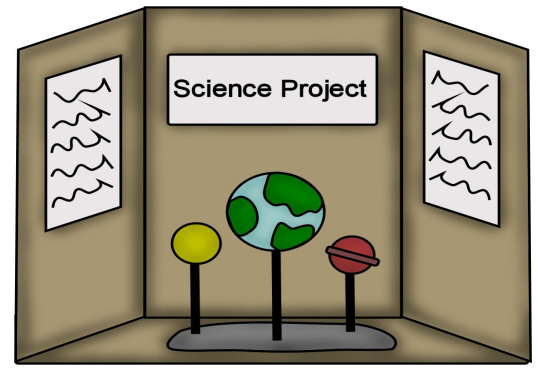
Contest Winner

Will be announced in the March Newsletter!



Mrs. Kern's Book Recommendations:





ÉLJHS SCIENCE FAIR

- ★ **When:** March 21, 2024
- ★ **Time:** 3:30- 5:00 PM
- ★ **Where:** ÉLJHS North (small) Gymnasium

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 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 2nd place finish at the ÉLJHS Panther Pride Home Tournament January 27- 28



Congratulations to our Sr Boys Basketball Team on their 2nd place finish at the Tiger Pride Tap 19 Tournament @ LCHS January 26 - 27



WRESTLING TEAM



Congratulations to our ELJHS Wrestling Team on their outstanding performance in the Svend Hansen Tournament on January 19-20

- Otto Hrabec- Bronze
- Carter Bradbury- Bronze
- Brooklyn Lenentine- Silver
- Caeli Filteau- Silver
- Liam Wood- Silver
- Rukiyah Abdallah- Silver
- Reid Bergen- Bronze
- Jordan Rolof- Bronze
- Cohen McDonald- Bronze



COACH:

- Mrs. Fisher
- Ms. Zucca

THANK YOU for all of your support!



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 your cooperation.



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: Chelsea Koopmans

- February 7
- February 22
- March 4
- March 18

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.

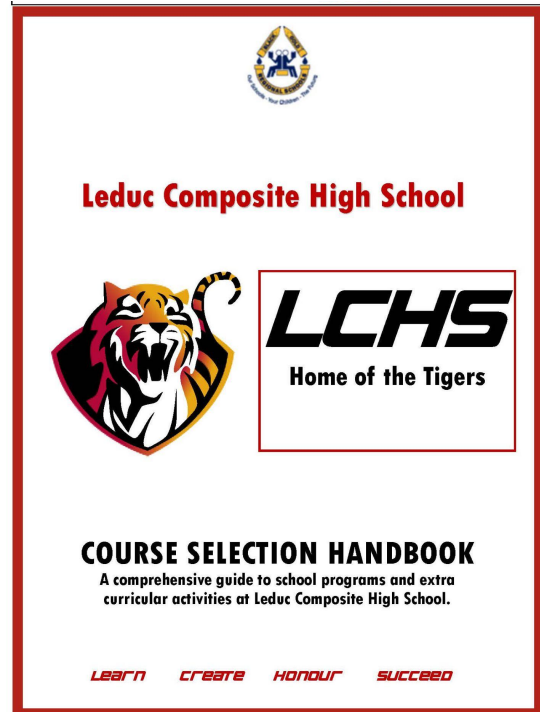
IT DOES MATTER!

If you or your child has questions about high school courses or planning, please reach out to our Learning Support Teacher,

Venessa Carrobourg, for more information:

venessa.carrobourg@blackgold.ca

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



SCHOOL FEES

School Fees are past due. Please ensure to check your child's PowerSchool Parent Portal for any fees that may have been added that need to be paid. Outstanding fees may be sent to collections at the end of April. If you are experiencing financial situations that you would like to discuss and require help, please reach out to me.

Shoana Theriault
Finance Admin Assistant
780-986-2184





FEBRUARY 21, 2024

@ Rogers Place

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



**Edmonton
OIL KINGS**

vs

**Calgary
HITMEN**



MARMOT BASIN
JASPER-CANADIAN ROCKIES

ÉLJHS Grade 9 Ski Trip

Marmot Basin in Jasper, AB



COMING SOON

March 2023

**Please watch your
email for more
information**

February 2024

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|-----|----------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|--|---|
| | | | | | Groundhog Day  | |
| | | Progress Reports on PowerSchool | Ski Club Rabbit Hill Trip | Teacher Convention No School | | |
| | | | Valentine's Day  | PINK Shirt Day /Panter Wear Order Deadline Parent/Teacher Conferences | | |
| | Family Day No School | |  Hockey Hooky @ Rogers Place | Ski Club Rabbit Hill Trip | | |
| | | | PINK SHIRT DAY  PA/SC Meeting | | |  |

Influenza is here and it's serious.



Dear Parents/Guardians,

The number of illnesses within the community and our school is rising. If your child wakes up and tells you they feel unwell, please take it seriously and keep them home. We are sending a large amount of students home each day because of illnesses. Here is some information on when to keep children home from school when sick:

When your child is sick, knowing when they should stay home from school is important. If they have a contagious disease, keep them home. This will help them get better faster and keep their teachers and classmates from getting sick.

When Your Child Is Too Sick:

Talk to your child's doctor or healthcare provider if you are unsure if they should stay home from school. As a general rule, your child should not go to school if they have:

- A fever over 100.4° Fahrenheit (F) or 38° Celsius (C) – Your child can return to school after they've been fever-free for 24 hours without antipyretics. Antipyretics are medicines that treat or prevent fever.
- Signs they are weak and tired. This is common with the flu.
- Diarrhea – Having loose poop (stool) more often than isn't caused by a change in diet
- Throwing up (vomiting) – More than 2 times in a 24-hour period.
- Coughing disrupts normal activity.
- Wheezing or getting short of breath.
- Pain from earache, headache, sore throat, or recent injury.
- Yellow or green drainage from the eye(s).
- A new rash – Not all rashes mean your child must stay home from school. Check with their doctor or health care provider.

Contagious Disease:

A contagious disease can be spread by close contact with a person or object. Your child must stay home from school if they have a contagious disease. They may be contagious **before** showing any signs of illness. Some contagious diseases include:

- COVID-19
- Chickenpox
- The Flu
- Pinkeye (conjunctivitis)
- Strep Throat
- A Cold
- Measles
- Whooping Cough (pertussis)

Influenza is here and it's serious.



WHEN TO KNOW IT'S SAFE TO RETURN TO SCHOOL:

It may be easy to know when your child is too sick to go to school, but determining when they are ready to go back is often difficult. Sending your child back too soon can delay their recovery and make other children in the school more susceptible to the virus as well. Below are some guidelines that help you decide whether or not your child is ready to return to school.

No Fever:

Once the fever has been controlled for over 24 hours without medication, the child is usually safe to return to school. However, your child may still need to stay home if they are continuing to experience other symptoms, such as diarrhea, vomiting, or a persistent cough.

Medication:

Your child may return to school after taking medication the doctor prescribed for at least 24 hours, as long as they don't have a fever or other serious symptoms. Ensure that the school nurse and your child's teacher know these medications and their proper doses.

Only Mild Symptoms Present:

Your child can also go back to school if they're only experiencing a runny nose and other mild symptoms. Make sure to provide tissues for them and to give them an over-the-counter medicine that can help control the remaining symptoms.

Attitude and Appearance Improve:

If your child looks and acts like they are feeling much better, then it is typically safe for them to return to school.

Being sure that a child is well enough to go to school can be tough for any parent. It often comes down to whether the child can still participate at school. Having a sore throat, cough, or mild congestion doesn't always mean kids can't handle class and other activities. In the end, you may have to rely on your parental intuition to make the final call. You know your child better than anyone, so you can tell when they're feeling better. Do they look too miserable to go to school? Are they playing and acting normally, or are they happy to curl up in a chair with a blanket? Trust your intuition to make the best decision. If you have any doubts, always remember you can ask others, such as your child's doctor or call 811.

If you are worried about your student getting behind, the concern is only if they miss more than a few days. Students can catch up on Google Classroom or email their teachers. The student should usually stay home, rest, and recover, then catch up once they return to school. Teachers are very good at making sure they complete everything needed.

Please call the school to excuse your child if they are sick. The office will be happy to answer any questions you may have.



Board Highlights

January 24, 2024

Leduc Reconfiguration Update

Due to the change in projected enrolments, Administration recommended retaining the grades 10-12 French Immersion Program at Leduc Composite High School to enhance utilization rates at both Leduc Composite High School and Ohpaho Secondary School.

Skills Canada Final Approval

The Board of Trustees granted Final Approval for the attendance of any BGSD student that qualifies for the Skills Canada National Competition to be held in Quebec City, Quebec, in May of 2024.

Willow Park School to get a New Inclusive Playground

On January 19, Vice Chair Angie Charpentier joined Mayor Bob Young, members of Leduc City Council and school trustees at Willow Park School to announce the construction this summer of a new playground, much to the delight of students and staff.

New Associate Superintendent, Human Resources Named

Acting Superintendent Vaselenak announced that Mr. Raymond Cable, Division Principal, was selected as the Associate Superintendent, Human Resources, commencing May 1, 2024.

New Superintendent Start Date Confirmed

It has been confirmed that Black Gold School Division's new Superintendent / CEO, Michael Borgfjord, will start on March 1, 2024.





Miss Vs On Main February

CHARACTERS & CARTOONING

Learning facial expressions: We will spend some time learning about facial expressions including how animals and humans differ and how we can really bring life to the characters.

We will focus on applying expression to our drawings and practice creating different characters.

FACIAL FEATURES:

We talked about facial expressions last class, now we will talk about facial features such as pupils, the nose and the mouth, the placement etc. See how making changes can create a whole new character.

THE ROUGH DRAFT & THE FINAL DRAFT

The club members will have a chance to design a short comic of their own and demonstrate what they have learned in the previous classes.

AGES 4-9

Our ages 4-9 will mainly be focused on understanding the placement of facial features and the facial expressions. We will not focus so much on the designing of the comic as much as we will understand where things go and why. As most parents know when children this age draw characters they can be slightly less than proportionate.



AGES 10 AND UP

Our 10+ group is going to focus on dialing in on their critiquing of the facial expressions as well as the features, They will be spending a bit more time on the design of the characters as we want them to be able to apply skills they have previously obtained as well as their newly developed ones. We will have their comic show a clear short story.

OUR COMMUNITY

In the month of February, Miss V will have her main street inspired watercolor paintings displayed in the public library. We have also received the amazing opportunity to have the art club members work displayed through out the year. We will update you once we are committed to a month.

2023-2024 ELJHS CALENDAR (Day 1-5)

| Monthly Calendar | | | | | | | Student Days | Dates & Details | |
|-----------------------|-----|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|--------------|-----------------|---|
| AUGUST 2023 | SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT | 2 | <div style="background-color: #ffcc00; padding: 2px;">August 28 & 29 - Teacher Workday (No Students)</div> <div style="background-color: #ffff00; padding: 2px;">August 30 - School Starts!</div> |
| | | | 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 | | |
| SEPTEMBER 2023 | SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT | 18 | <div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 2px;">September 4 - Labour Day (Schools Closed)</div> <div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 2px;">September 15 - Welcome Back & PD (No Students)</div> <div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 2px;">September 29 - National Day for Truth & Reconciliation (Day in Lieu)</div> |
| | | | | | | Day 3 1 | 2 | | |
| | 3 | 4 | Day 4 5 | Day 5 6 | Day 1 7 | Day 2 8 | 9 | | |
| | 10 | Day 3 11 | Day 4 12 | Day 5 13 | Day 1 14 | 15 | 16 | | |
| | 17 | Day 2 18 | Day 3 19 | Day 4 20 | Day 5 21 | Day 1 22 | 23 | | |
| OCTOBER 2023 | SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT | 20 | <div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 2px;">October 9 - Thanksgiving Day (Schools Closed)</div> <div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 2px;">October 10 - PD Day (No Students)</div> |
| | 1 | Day 1 2 | Day 2 3 | Day 3 4 | Day 4 5 | Day 5 6 | 7 | | |
| | 8 | 9 | 10 | Day 1 11 | Day 2 12 | Day 3 13 | 14 | | |
| | 15 | Day 4 16 | Day 5 17 | Day 1 18 | Day 2 19 | Day 3 20 | 21 | | |
| | 22 | Day 4 23 | Day 5 24 | Day 1 25 | Day 2 26 | Day 3 27 | 28 | | |
| NOVEMBER 2023 | SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT | 16 | <div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 2px;">November 1 - PD Day (No Students)</div> <div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 2px;">November 13-17 - Mid-Term Break (Schools Closed)</div> |
| | | | | 1 | Day 1 2 | Day 2 3 | 4 | | |
| | 5 | Day 3 6 | Day 4 7 | Day 5 8 | Day 1 9 | Day 2 10 | 11 | | |
| | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | | |
| | 19 | Day 3 20 | Day 4 21 | Day 5 22 | Day 1 23 | Day 2 24 | 25 | | |
| DECEMBER 2023 | SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT | 15 | <div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 2px;">December 4 - PD Day (No Students)</div> <div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 2px;">December 25 to 29 - Christmas Vacation (Schools Closed)</div> |
| | | | | | | Day 2 1 | 2 | | |
| | 3 | 4 | Day 3 5 | Day 4 6 | Day 5 7 | Day 1 8 | 9 | | |
| | 10 | Day 2 11 | Day 3 12 | Day 4 13 | Day 5 14 | Day 1 15 | 16 | | |
| | 17 | Day 2 18 | Day 3 19 | Day 4 20 | Day 5 21 | Day 1 22 | 23 | | |
| JANUARY 2024 | SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT | 17 | <div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 2px;">January 1 - 5 - Christmas Vacation (Schools Closed)</div> <div style="background-color: #ffff00; padding: 2px;">January 8 - Classes Resume</div> <div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 2px;">January 31 - PD Day (No Students)</div> |
| | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | | |
| | 7 | Day 2 8 | Day 3 9 | Day 4 10 | Day 5 11 | Day 1 12 | 13 | | |
| | 14 | Day 2 15 | Day 3 16 | Day 4 17 | Day 5 18 | Day 1 19 | 20 | | |
| | 21 | Day 2 22 | Day 3 23 | Day 4 24 | Day 5 25 | Day 1 26 | 27 | | |
| FEBRUARY 2024 | SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT | 18 | <div style="background-color: #ffff00; padding: 2px;">February 1 - Semester 2 Starts</div> <div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 2px;">February 8 & 9 - ATA Teachers' Convention (No Students)</div> <div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 2px;">February 19 Family Day (Schools Closed)</div> |
| | | | | | Day 4 1 | Day 5 2 | 3 | | |
| | 4 | Day 1 5 | Day 2 6 | Day 3 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | | |
| | 11 | Day 4 12 | Day 5 13 | Day 1 14 | Day 2 15 | Day 3 16 | 17 | | |
| | 18 | 19 | Day 4 20 | Day 5 21 | Day 1 22 | Day 2 23 | 24 | | |
| MARCH 2024 | SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT | 15 | <div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 2px;">March 11 - PD Day (No Students)</div> <div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 2px;">March 25 - 29 - Spring Break (Schools Closed)</div> |
| | | | | | | Day 2 1 | 2 | | |
| | 3 | Day 3 4 | Day 4 5 | Day 5 6 | Day 1 7 | Day 2 8 | 9 | | |
| | 10 | 11 | Day 3 12 | Day 4 13 | Day 5 14 | Day 1 15 | 16 | | |
| | 17 | Day 2 18 | Day 3 19 | Day 4 20 | Day 5 21 | Day 1 22 | 23 | | |
| APRIL 2024 | SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT | 20 | <div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 2px;">April 1 - Easter Monday (School Closed)</div> <div style="background-color: #ffff00; padding: 2px;">April 2 - Classes Resume</div> <div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 2px;">April 19 - PD Day (No Students)</div> |
| | | | Day 2 2 | Day 3 3 | Day 4 4 | Day 5 5 | 6 | | |
| | 7 | Day 1 8 | Day 2 9 | Day 3 10 | Day 4 11 | Day 5 12 | 13 | | |
| | 14 | Day 1 15 | Day 2 16 | Day 3 17 | Day 4 18 | 19 | 20 | | |
| | 21 | Day 5 22 | Day 1 23 | Day 2 24 | Day 3 25 | Day 4 26 | 27 | | |
| MAY 2024 | SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT | 21 | <div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 2px;">May 17 - PD Day (No Students)</div> <div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 2px;">May 20 - Victoria Day (Schools Closed)</div> |
| | | | | Day 2 1 | Day 3 2 | Day 4 3 | 4 | | |
| | 5 | Day 5 6 | Day 1 7 | Day 2 8 | Day 3 9 | Day 4 10 | 11 | | |
| | 12 | Day 5 13 | Day 1 14 | Day 2 15 | Day 3 16 | 17 | 18 | | |
| | 19 | 20 | Day 4 21 | Day 5 22 | Day 1 23 | Day 2 24 | 25 | | |
| JUNE 2024 | SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT | 18 | <div style="background-color: #ffcc00; padding: 2px;">June 26 - Last School Day</div> <div style="background-color: #ffcc00; padding: 2px;">June 27-28 - Teacher Workdays (No Students)</div> |
| | | | | | | | 1 | | |
| | 2 | Day 3 3 | Day 4 4 | Day 5 5 | Day 1 6 | Day 2 7 | 8 | | |
| | 9 | Day 3 10 | Day 4 11 | Day 5 12 | Day 1 13 | Day 2 14 | 15 | | |
| | 16 | Day 3 17 | Day 4 18 | Day 5 19 | Day 1 20 | Day 2 21 | 22 | | |

TOTAL # of Instructional Days 180

INSPIRING SUCCESS FOR EVERY STUDENT EVERY DAY