

# Panda Press

WELCOME!  
2019-2020

École Lacombe Upper Elementary (<http://www.elue.wolfcreek.ab.ca>)

(403)782-7410



## Together Everyone Achieves More

Our Panda Press newsletter is emailed home at the end of each month. The focus of the newsletter is to inform parents and students of important upcoming dates and events, to recognize student achievements and to highlight a number of programs and activities that have been or will be taking place in the school.

If you have any comments, suggestions, questions or concerns, we would like to hear from you. Please call the office at 782-7410 to arrange an appointment. We operate an "open door" policy at École Lacombe Upper Elementary School. You are always welcome!! Your input and feedback is truly valued. The mission statement of École Lacombe Upper Elementary is:

**Commitment, Teamwork, Quality, and Caring** are what we practice at École Lacombe Upper Elementary School.

École Lacombe Upper Elementary School is committed to working together to provide a quality education in a caring environment.

Respectfully,



Sonja Dykslag  
Principal



Nicole Rawlinson  
Assistant Principal

## Welcome to École Lacombe Upper Elementary School!

With the commencement of the 2019-2020 school year, the staff and leadership team would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and your child(ren) to École Lacombe Upper Elementary School. For those of you who have children attending our school for the first time—Welcome! For those of you who have children returning to our school—Welcome Back! For those of you new to our community—Welcome to Lacombe and area!!

Parents and teachers have a common goal—success in school for our children. Research shows that learning improves when parents are involved with the school in their child's education. We would like to take this opportunity to thank parents for their past involvement in their child's learning and to encourage parents to continue to work in partnership with our school.

Teachers appreciate, and our children benefit, when parents:

- help their children understand that learning is important;
- stress good work habits;
- set expectations for learning that take into account the child's ability;
- show interest in what the child is learning and in what is happening in school;
- read the memos and the information sheets that children bring home;
- inform the school if the child has a medical condition;
- talk with the teacher about what is being taught;
- discuss homework, expectations and discipline; and
- let the teacher know about situations which may affect the child's progress in school

Children succeed when there is an open exchange of information that links home and school.

We are looking forward to another great year at ÉLUES. By making a commitment to work together as a TEAM—students, parents/guardians and staff—we can ensure an exciting, challenging, and educationally rewarding year for each and every student.

## Staffing for 2019-20 School Year

**École Lacombe Upper Elementary will include the following homeroom classes/grades for 2019-2020 school year:**

- 2** Grade 4 French Immersion
- 1** Grade 4/5 French Immersion
- 1** Grade 5 French Immersion
- 1** Grade 5/6 French Immersion
- 1** Grade 6 French Immersion
- 4** Grade 4 English
- 4** Grade 5 English
- 4** Grade 6 English

**Principal**—Mrs. Dykslag

**Assistant Principal**—Mrs. Rawlinson

### **French Immersion Homerooms**

- Grade 4 Mme Forman
- Grade 4 Mlle. Lebrasseur
- Grade 4/5 Mme Miller
- Grade 5 Mme Vaillancourt-Campeau
- Grade 5/6 M. Durocher
- Grade 6 Mme Ince

### **Grade 4 English Homerooms**

- Mrs. Nelson
- Mrs. Norris
- Mrs. Parsons/Mr. Epp
- Miss Rimmer

### **Grade 5 English Classes**

- Mrs. Freitag
- Mrs. LaFrance
- Mrs. Leidl
- Mrs. Wagar

### **Grade 6 English Classes**

- Mrs. Mackay-Hawkins
- Mrs. Pfeifle
- Mr. Rankin
- Mr. Richter/Mrs. Marshall

**Music**—Mr. Epp

### **Inclusion Coach**

Mrs. Armitage

**Phys. Ed.**—Mr. Miller and Mr. Richter

**Administrative Assistant**—Mrs. Broderson

### **Educational Assistants**

- Mrs. Cornish
- Mrs. Cross
- Mrs. Ehr
- Mlle Ince
- Mrs. Kabatoff
- Ms. L'Ecluse
- Mrs. N. Poulin
- Mrs. Richter
- Mr. Vanson

**Librarian** - Mrs. Kabatoff (.5)

**School Social Worker** - Ms. Kramer

**School Resource Officer** -  
Constable Reuben Geleynese

**Custodians** - Mr. F. Jackson  
Mrs. W. Campbell

## **19/20 Returning Student Profile for New Students AND Returning Students:**

During the first couple of weeks of school, all parents will be receiving an email with instructions regarding registering and updating information online for each student. **There are new permission and information sections included on these forms and it is very important that parents submit the forms right away.** If you do not have access to a device for online submission, please visit the school office where we can help you log onto one of our computers.

**\*\*Please note that if you have any specific concerns of an urgent nature regarding your child (i.e. medical concerns, custody concerns), please contact your child's teacher to apprise them of the situation. The forms take time to process so it's best that the teacher has this information right from the start of the year.**

## **First Day of School**

In addition to this copy of the Panda Press, your child will be bringing a number of documents home during the first week of school. We would appreciate you taking the time to attend to them. They are:

1. 2019/2020 Calendar— keep this in a handy spot for quick reference.
2. ÉLUES pamphlet (grade 4 and new students)
3. Walking Permission Form - complete and return to school (all students)
4. Volunteer Application - complete and return to school if you think you might volunteer this year. (all students)
5. Chromebook letter and information package (grade 4 and new students)
6. My Child's learning Curriculum at a Glance

## **School Council - Many hands make lighter work!**

You can become involved in another dimension of the school through our School Council. Our Annual/Organizational Meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 25, 2019 commencing at 7:15 p.m. in our LAC room.

The contributions of our school council benefit all children. Come join us September 26 to find out how you can get involved.

The objectives of the School Council are found in our Student-Parent Handbook. Read it over and choose to become actively involved in our Council's operations and activities. Commitment can be as little or as much as you like.

## **School Activities**

Enriching the students education through our extra curricular programs is a commitment the staff at ELUE make each year. A variety of extracurricular activities are offered during lunch recesses or after school. Some of the clubs and teams to look forward to are:

Numerous Sports Clubs  
Panda Leadership Club  
Cribbage Clubs  
Peer Support Team

Running Club  
Reading Clubs  
Music Club

Marathoners Club  
Homework Hotspot  
Lego League

All students are encouraged to participate. Thank you to the staff that volunteer their time to these great activities!

## **MY CHILD'S LEARNING:**

### **A Parent Resource**

#### **Be informed. Be involved.**

Alberta is committed to creating an inclusive education system that inspires and enables all students to achieve success and fulfillment as engaged thinkers and ethical citizens, with an entrepreneurial spirit.

We recognize that parents play an important role in shaping the way their children view learning. As a parent, you understand more than anyone else how your child learns and processes information. This resource will provide you with a better understanding of Alberta's curriculum and how you can help your child. Here, you'll discover what your child is learning, how they're assessed and what resources are available to help them be successful from Kindergarten to Grade 12.

This resource also contains information on the variety of educational choices you have for your child, such as Catholic education and French immersion programming.

To learn more, go to:

**<http://www.learnalberta.ca/content/mychildslearning/>**

### **PANDA PRESS Online**

Following this edition of the school newsletter, parents will be asked to provide their email address to receive the school newsletter. Help us to "go green" by providing your child's homeroom teacher with this information. The newsletter will be emailed directly to you or you can subscribe to it on the school website.



#### **[Subscribe/Unsubscribe to Panda Press](#)**

If you would like to subscribe or unsubscribe to our school newsletter (Panda Press), please follow the instructions below.

## **"NO CASH SCHOOL" -**

This school year will see us continue to be a no cash school. We are continuing to use a new payment program this year called Rycor. All payments will be paid online. We thank you in advance for your cooperation. Moving to this method of money collection helps us out tremendously.

If you need any help with passwords being reset or anything at all, please call Mrs. Broderson and she will be happy to help so we can get all our families set up before our first hot lunch!



## Wolf Creek Public Schools

August 31, 2019

Dear Parents,

### RE: Fair Notice

The safety of our children is a top priority for us all. We, as a school system, have been involved in intensive safety training and collaboration with our community partners – the police, Alberta Health Services (Mental Health) and Children's Services. Together we have created and signed a community protocol for responding to all situations in which students may be posing a threat to themselves or others.

This letter is to inform you that we, as a school system, adopted policy in January 2003 that mandates schools to have a "zero tolerance" stance for not investigating all threats and threatening behaviours (Admin Procedure 167). The purpose of the investigation/assessment is to determine how best to support high-risk students so that their behaviour does not become hurtful or destructive. Please be assured that if your principal is aware of threatening behaviour, he/she will be taking measures to deal with the situation in a positive and proactive manner. If your principal invites you to a meeting to discuss safety concerns about your own child, please be assured that protocol is being followed and that the goal is safety, not punishment.

This letter is intended to serve our community with **fair notice** that we, as a school community, will not accept "no response" to a threat making behaviour. Our goal is to respond to all threats in a professional manner that provides for a healthy and caring learning environment.

We are proud to be able to provide this level of support to our school communities and are most fortunate to have our community partners at our side.

Sincerely,

Jayson Lovell  
Superintendent of Schools



Jayson Lovell  
Superintendent of Schools

6000 Highway 2A  
Ponoka, Alberta T4J 1P6

Phone(403) 783-3473  
Fax (403) 783-3483

Departmental Faxes  
Facilities & Transportation  
(403) 783-3155  
Inclusive Learning Services  
(403) 783-3140

# GREAT Things are Happening in September...

## Friday, September 6

\*School Wide Assembly 8:45 a.m.

Theme - Together We Are One

## Wednesday, September 11

\*Grade 4 Parent Info Night 7:00 p.m.

## Friday, September 13

\*Staff PD/Collaboration Day (No School for Students)

## Thursday, September 19

\*"A "Peal" for Peace" Assembly 11:10 a.m. (Parents are welcome to attend!!)

## Friday, September 20

\*Fall Photos

## Wednesday, September 25

\*QC Lunch

\*School Council Organizational Meeting 7:15 p.m.

## Monday, September 23

\*Pep Rally 1:30 p.m. (Parents are welcome to attend!!)

## Thursday, September 26

\*Orange Shirt Day

## Friday, September 27

\*Staff PD/Collaboration Day (No School for Students)

# September 2019

Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

1	2 Labor Day	3 Students First Day	4	5	6 Welcome Back Assembly 8:45 am	7
8	9	10	11 Grade 4 Parent Info Night 7:00 p.m.	12	13 *Staff PD/Collaboration Day	14
15	16	17	18	19 Appeal for Peace Assembly 11:10 a.m.	20 *Fall Photos	21
22	23 *Pep Rally 1:30p.m.	24	25 *QCLuncheon *School Council Organizational Mtg 7:15 p.m.	26 *Orange Shirt Day	27 *Staff PD/Collaboration Day	28
29	30					

# ***Message From Your School Council Chair***

To École Lacombe Upper Elementary Parent(s) and Guardian(s):

I am so thankful to have been part of ÉLUES School Council for the last seven years. It has been a pleasure to work with some amazing people. As I come to the meetings every month I continue to grow in my understanding of what happens in this building and then gain a little more understanding from the school administration and staff side of things. A simple way for us to be a support for those that care for our precious children is to be present at these meetings.

We have an amazing team here at ÉLUES. Mrs. Dykslag and her team continue to fight through cutbacks and educational challenges to give our kids the best education they can. Throughout the year we get the privilege of seeing some of the highlights as to where we line up in comparison to other schools in our division and province. We also get to see some of the struggles and concerns which they are working with and hear how they are dealing with them. The educational team at ÉLUES is always on top of the issues and striving to be ahead of the curve. Often we don't even realize what they are pushing through to make this school run as smoothly as it does. Please take the time to THANK the teachers and staff throughout the year.

School Council is a forum for parents and friends to voice concerns, receive updates and hear upcoming plans. As parents, we see and hear things from our kids or other parents that could be of benefit to everyone if brought forward. The parental voice is a strong voice, not only in the school, but in the provincial picture as well. We can support our teachers and admin by being their ears and hearing what's going on, but also by being a voice and speaking up. This is the forum for a parent to be part of encouragement or part of change. Take the TIME to be involved.

There are so many programs that run in the school with support of School Council and the volunteers that have so GENEROUSLY stepped up. At School Council meetings we are updated on how our work is benefiting the students and we should be so proud of our parents and friends. Whether it's Hunger Buster hot lunches, reading programs or special events, our school council will often supply and purchase prizes or provide donations for the varying events throughout the year. Council and parent volunteers are constantly stepping up which benefits the school and the students. Volunteer hours are the only way these programs can continue.

As we begin the new year, remember to be THANKFUL, to invest some TIME and to be GENEROUS with your volunteering and donations. These three things will make this year be yet again, a wonderful year!

Tim DeVries  
ÉLUES School Council Chair

**First meeting is: September 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:15 at the school.**

Welcome Back!

Have a great school year!

