



## Principal's Message

Mark your calendar!

### Important Dates

- Jan 3: No School
- Jan 4: Back to School
- Jan 10: Grad Photos
- Jan 11: Grad Photos
- Jan 12: Grad Photos
- Jan 12: PAC Meeting
- Jan 21: No School (Pro D day)
- Jan 27: Newsletter
- Jan 28: Semester 1 & Quarter 2 Ends
- Jan 31: Semester 2 & Quarter 3 Begins

Have a safe and Happy Holidays!  
We look forward to seeing everyone in the New Year.

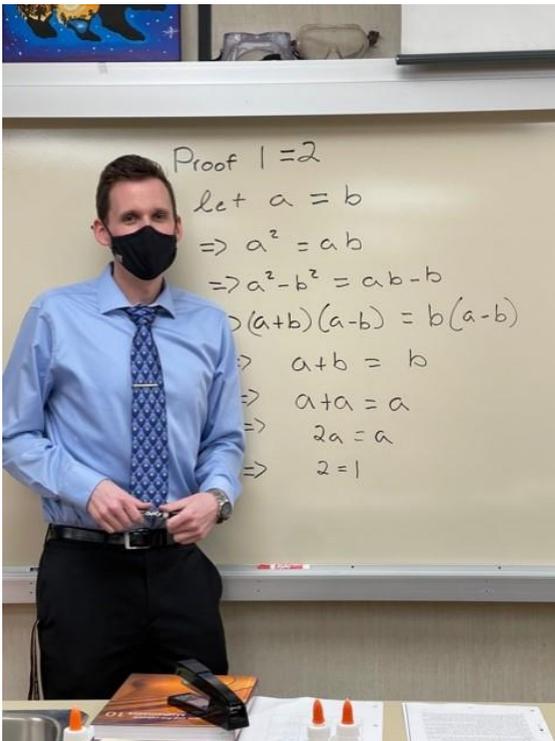


No student should be absent from the school unless the parent has notified the school of this absence. This includes leaving at lunch. If a student is not going to return after lunch, parents should notify the school of this absence.

You can call the school at **250-865-4674**, use the **SchoolMessenger** app, or email the school at [ess.mailing@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:ess.mailing@sd5.bc.ca) to report any absence.

# Staff Spotlight

Hello fellow Elkfordians. My name is Ty Inskip and I have been teaching at Elkford secondary for almost 5 years now. When I first graduated from the University of Victoria, I had no idea where my first full time job would be and being from the Okanagan I had no idea how cold the winters could be elsewhere in British Columbia. I will always remember talking to my colleagues about how nice it was to work for two weeks and then have a 5-day weekend due to a huge snowfall. Currently I am teaching Mathematics and science courses to almost all of the grades and I am happy to live in and be part of this wonderful community. I have always been an outdoors person and it is great to have so many trails, lakes, and rivers to explore. In my spare time I like to play video games, read books, and hit the links. I look forward to teaching your students about mathematics and science.



My name is Haley Culver and I have been a resident of Elkford since 2018. I primarily teach Math and Physical Education, however I have taught a wide variety of courses since arriving in the district. I have two teenagers, one who currently attends ESS, and another who recently moved to Australia for university. Prior to moving to Elkford our family has lived in a wide variety of places: Fort McMurray (AB), Brisbane (Australia) and Brockville (ON). So it's safe to say I am an expert packer! In my free time I enjoy reading, watching movies and hanging out with my two big dogs (Riley & Hedley). I also enjoy travelling as well as playing volleyball and hockey.

# Staff Spotlight

Hi all! My name is Taylor, and I am currently the newest addition to the lovely group of EAs at our high school. I began my journey as a psychology student and then moved to legal studies in Alberta. All before finding myself needing a change of scenery. I moved on out to BC to take on a role as a social worker in the Cranbrook area, and now am SO thrilled to have found my place working with students every day. While in post secondary; I was able to volunteer as a coach for high school level sports. After watching these students grow as athletes and people, I knew I wanted to help make kids lives less hard. To be one of those adults who chooses to understand and be an advocate for them. With scaffolding, help breaking down content understandings, and proper progress monitoring, every single student can grow academically. I wish you and your families the happiest of holidays and I look forward to seeing everyone back in January.



## RISE TO THE SUMMIT

'Celtic Character Award' celebrates the culture of ESS, while supporting students in developing the character it takes to be successful and happy individuals at school and in the world.

RESPECT - ha+i+kaxuma+ti+

INTEGRITY - c+makki

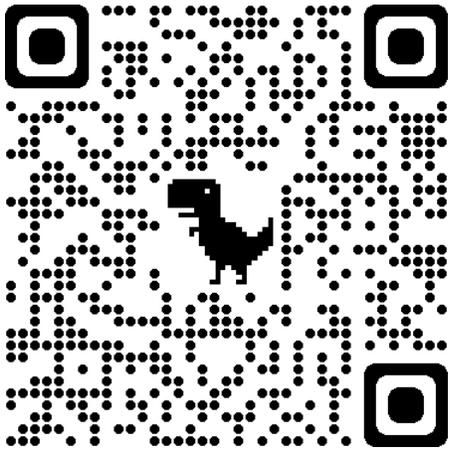
STRENGTH - c+makqa

EMPATHY - haki+wi@ki+in



Made with PosterMyWall.com

To learn more about this program please check out the QR Code below:



*Clothing orders have been delayed due to flooding in the greater Vancouver area*

Check out our new Facebook page.

## Aboriginal Education Circle

A special Thank you to Elk Valley Thrift Store for their very generous donation of \$1000 for a new Life Skills Room we are working on at ESS.

Students have enjoyed volunteering at the Thrift Store with Brenda. We look forward to spending more time helping again in the new year!



KI?SU?K KYUKYIT KUSMUKUSA? EZXAMA#H

"Greeting. First Prayers"

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KI?SU?K KYUKYIT KUKANMAKUT

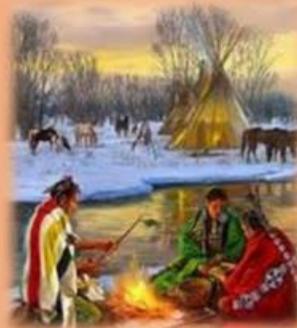
"Greeting. Another Year"

Merry Christmas &  
Happy New Year!



Ki?su?k kyukyit kusmukusat  
ezxamait

Wishing everyone a very Merry  
Christmas and Happy New Year!



Elkford Secondary School  
2500 B Balmer Dr.,  
PO Box 910, Elkford, BC V0B 1H0  
Phone: 250-865-4674 Fax: 250-865-2915  
Website: <http://www.sd5.bc.ca/school/ess>  
Michael Kelly, Principal  
Ryan McAllister, Vice Principal



*Vaping or Smoking is Prohibited on **all school property**. If any student requires support with quitting, please see the **School Counselor** for assistance.*

## Kin-ball has arrived in the PE department!

This is a Canadian sport played with a 48" ball and three teams on the court at the same time. The objective of this sport is for the team whose color is called to catch the ball with any part of the body before the ball touches the ground. The ball recently arrived and classes are just starting to test it out, so far it seems to be a hit!



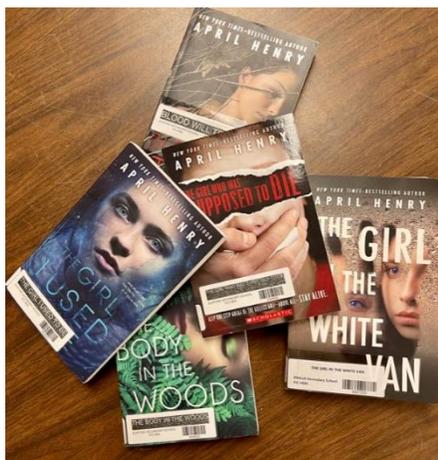
## French 8/9

Students have been hard at work writing, designing, filming, and editing winter/holiday sock puppet shows in French. Their creations were amusing and imaginative. Thank you to everyone who sent in socks for this project!



## Book Nook

April Henry is the author of two books I have read - 'Girl Stolen' and 'The Girl Who was Supposed to Die'. I really like this author because her books are mysterious, intriguing and leave you not wanting to put them down. I rate her 9/10 as an author.  
Serenity Foster



## Thank you

to Lane and Taylor for sharing their University experiences with some of the grade 11 and 12 students. The insights, tips and reassurance were greatly appreciated!

## Shop Talk



The Jr shop class have completed their treasure boxes for the term. They have used a series of hand tools and power tools to complete their projects. Well done grade 8s and 9s!

**Sean Reker** is working on his wood box as part of his grade 8 shop class at Elkford Secondary School.



Woodworking is a good class because it lowers stress while also promoting more movement of your body. This reason is why the hobby could be a good one to get into if you are concerned about your anxiety or your activity level.

Did you know that woodworking has health benefits? It boosts mood and mental sharpness and reduces anxiety and stress. Woodworking is good to utilize math and communication skills. The hands-on part of woodworking can improve cardiovascular health and fine motor skills. Woodwork trains the student to hone a creative skillset that can be used later in life.

## Home Ec. 7



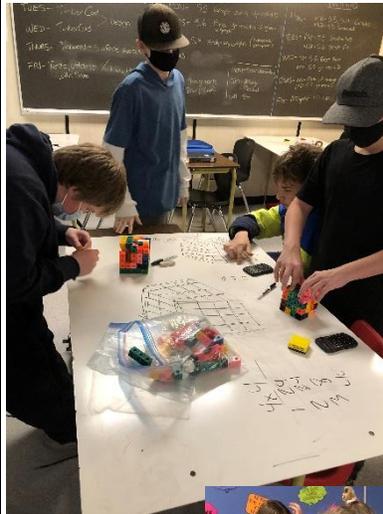
## Science 7

Has been starting their unit on Earth's crust the weeks leading up to winter break. We made PlayDoh models of the Earth, and when cut open, they displayed the layers of the Earth formed out of different colours of the clay. We then moved into how tectonic plates moved, and which boundaries were found in different places in the world. Students got to play with Oreo cookies to do some hands-on learning of plate movement.



## Mrs. Culver's Math 8 and 9 Class

This past month students have been engaging in a variety of rich math tasks, including Skyscrapers, Taxman and Painted Cubes. This is part of a district initiative to enhance student learning related to numeracy. The students have had a lot of fun thinking outside of box and have been working on persevering through new challenges!



## Grade 9 English class

enjoyed spreading some Christmas Cheer this week. They made Christmas Cards for the seniors for the District of Elkford luncheon. They also filmed a video recital of the poem "The Night Before Christmas". Wishing you all the best for the holidays!



To the left are some of the visitors we had from Whoville



## Adventure Club!

December's Adventure Club went to the Hosmer Mine Ruins. Hosmer was settled in 1906 and by 1908 Hosmer Mines Ltd (a subsidiary of the CPR's Pacific Coal Company) was established. Along the trail we were hoping to see the remnants of the powerhouse, compressor house, lamp house and, at the end of the trail, the tunnels themselves and the fan house that pushed fresh air into the mine tunnels. Along another trail there is an old cemetery and the ruins from the coke ovens.

We had fun exploring the powerhouse and compressor house at the base of the hill then walked up the old rail line to see the lamp house. Unfortunately, due to time constraints, we couldn't see the old cemetery, coke ovens, tunnels, or fan house. We're hoping to go back in the Spring!

Thank you for everyone who came out to Adventure Club! We had so much fun and look forward to our next adventure!





Indigenous  
Caregivers of BC



BRITISH  
COLUMBIA



foster  
parents  
50 YEARS  
BCFFPA

# FosterNow.ca



**"She believed in me until I could believe in myself." - Guy,  
*Former youth in care***

Throughout this pandemic, children are still coming into care. If becoming a foster parent has been on your mind, please reach out to us.

**Ministry of Children and Family Development Local Contact:**

Resource Social Worker: Halina Wloka

Ph: 250-423-9718

Email: [Halina.Wloka@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Halina.Wloka@gov.bc.ca)

341 2nd Avenue

PO Box 950

Fernie, British Columbia, V0B 1M0

[Payments](#)

Making payments to the school has never been easier with SchoolCashOnline. Of course, you can still pay the old fashion way at the office with Check or Cash. Please see the directions below, to pay any outstanding school fees.



The banner features a blue header and footer. The main content area has a light blue background with a geometric pattern. On the left, a smartphone displays a white shield with a blue checkmark. Below the shield, text reads: "School Cash Online is designed with financial security at its core. Parents can rest assured knowing that their payments are securely processed." To the right of the phone, the text "Welcome to SchoolCashOnline" is centered, followed by "Fast. Safe. Convenient." Below this, the section "What is School Cash Online?" is followed by a paragraph and a bulleted list of four benefits. The "How to Register" section follows, with a paragraph and a three-step numbered list. At the bottom left, the "Accepted Payment Methods" section lists VISA, MasterCard, and eCheck.

# Welcome to SchoolCashOnline

Fast. Safe. Convenient.



School Cash Online is designed with financial security at its core. Parents can rest assured knowing that their payments are securely processed.

## What is School Cash Online?

School Cash Online allows parents to easily make online payments for the school fees available to their children.

- ✓ Pay all your student's school fees with the click of a button. Wherever. Whenever.
- ✓ Stay connected and informed of all school activities
- ✓ Never miss out on field trips, school events, yearbooks and more
- ✓ Say hello to smart online forms, and goodbye to cumbersome paper based forms for data submissions

## How to Register

Follow these instructions to create your School Cash Online account today.

- 1 Create Your Profile:**  
Go to <https://sd5.schoolcashionline.com> and click on "Register".
- 2 Confirm Your Email:**  
Check your inbox for the email confirmation and click on the link inside. Sign in with your new login details.
- 3 Add a Student**  
Click "Add Student" and fill in the required fields with your child's details.

### Accepted Payment Methods

VISA MasterCard eCheck

SchoolMessenger / SafeArrival

## How to Report an Absence

### SchoolMessenger SafeArrival

To report an absence to the school you may choose any of the following methods:

- call 1-833 566-1225
- Access the website <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>
- download App from Apple or Google Play

Please choose the reason for your child's absence from school: sick, appointment, family vacation, etc. **Don't forget to wait for confirmation # to ensure your child's absence has been recorded.**

## How to sign up for SMS

### School Messenger SMS

Our district utilizes the School Messenger system to deliver text messages, straight to your mobile phone with important information about events, school closings, safety alerts and more.

You can join by sending a text message of "Yes" or "Y" to **978338**.

Please make sure you are utilizing the cellular number that the school has on record. The cellular phone number for SMS must match the contact information on file.

For more information and detailed instructions visit our support page on the School District Website

<http://www.sd5.bc.ca/studentparent/SchoolMessenger/Pages/default.aspx#/=>



## MyEd Family Portal

Report cards are coming soon. Now is a good time to familiarize yourself with the MyEd Family Portal. Since last year our school has done report cards electronically. Thus, cutting our paper waste and reducing the number of students that lose them on the way home. If you need any assistance, please feel free to contact us at the office 250-865-4674.

Click here for [Family Portal Information](#). Also check out the quick notes below.

# Initial Log In



We recommend to use a **Laptop** or **Desktop Computer** to initialize your account.

**Pop Ups** should be **enabled** for some features of the site to work properly.

Login to MYEDBC: <https://www.myeducation.gov.bc.ca/aspen/logon.do>

Family Portal Login ID: **sd5-firstinitiallastname** (all lower case)

Welcome to MyEducation BC!

1. Enter your **Login ID**  
2. Enter your **Password** (Case Sensitive)  
3. Click **Log On**

1. **Current Password** – enter the temporary password  
2. **New Password** – enter the new user created password  
3. **Confirm New Password** – enter the new user created password a second time

**Passwords are good for 90 days** to protect your child's data and you will be prompted to change your password.

Passwords must meet the following criteria:

- ✓ Minimum length is **8**
- ✓ At least one **number**
- ✓ At least one **capital letter**
- ✓ At least one **lowercase letter**
- ✓ At least one **symbol** that isn't a letter or number
- ✓ Cannot contain login name, first name, middle name, last name, date of birth, personal id, or only sequential letters or numbers.

**Security Preferences Update**  
To enable self serve password recovery, please provide the following information

1. Enter your **Primary Email address**. This email address will be used to receive a new password if you forget your password.  
2. Choose a **Security Question**  
3. Enter your **Security Answer** then confirm your security answer. (Case Sensitive)  
4. Click **Submit**

This will allow you to use the '**I forgot my password**' function on the logon page, should you need to reset your password.