



Principal's Message

Mark your calendar!

Important Dates

- Sept 30: Truth and Reconciliation day No School
- Sept 31: Pro D Day No School
- Oct 4: Start of FSAs
- Oct 5: World Teacher Day
- Oct 8: Grade 7-9 Literacy Assessment
- Oct 11: Thanksgiving No School
- Oct 13: PAC Meeting @ 6pm
- Oct 20: Grad Meeting
- Oct 22: Pro D Day No School
- Oct 28: Next Newsletter
- Nov 2: School photo retakes

As I am writing this message, I am very happy, as the school is once again full of life from our students. We pride ourselves at Elkford Secondary School in providing a vigorous academic program. We have a great variety of courses at ESS for students this year: Law 12, Genocide Studies 12, Photography and Yearbook 10-12, Art 8/9, and Home Ec. 7 are just a few of the electives offered that provide students with skills for the 21st century. Two keys to success in the 21st century are creativity and collaboration.

It is great to see students participating in extra curriculums and ESS is bursting with opportunity this year. We have started with soccer, volleyball, swimming, adventure club, chess, drama club, and student council to name a few. We also are continuing with our RISE Character Awards and the Take 15 Independent Reading program. We provide a unique and rewarding learning experience at ESS!

ESS is back as a hub of the community! While we are still mindful to provide a safe environment during this latest wave of Covid (keep those masks on), I am happy to see kids moving about in the hallways, participating in extra-curriculums, and focusing on their learning.

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year and GO CELTICS!



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.mailingsd5.bc.ca to report any absence.



Aboriginal Education

Welcome back to another exciting year at Elkford Secondary School. The Aboriginal program at ESS is for all students who identify themselves as being of Aboriginal Ancestry. All students with Aboriginal Ancestors are eligible for Support Services through the Aboriginal Program. Examples of support: advocacy, communicating between home and school, classroom presentations, educational trips and student support. Every year students with Aboriginal Ancestry have not identified themselves as Aboriginal because they mistakenly believe they need Status or Metis card. This is not the case. If you know that you or your children have Aboriginal Ancestry (First Nations, Metis, Inuit) your word is all that is required. Please share this information with others to help ensure all Aboriginal students receive support.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any question regarding the program or my role as an Aboriginal Education Support Worker.

I can be reached at 250-425-9153 or by email at brenda.newlove@sd5.bc.ca.

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.*

Student Services

Need a quiet place to read for Socials? A hand figuring out fractions? Tricks to manage test anxiety? Drop by Student Services and talk to Jennifer Atorp and Graham Preston!

Student services exists to support all students with tools and resources for academic, social and career development. Our room is always open so come by for a quiet space or chat about what you might need to succeed this year.

Youth Care Worker – Amanda Culver

Elkford Secondary School offers Youth Care support to all students and families. Our Youth Care worker Amanda Culver provides students with social, emotional, and behavioral support.

This can look like one-to-one meetings with students, support/emotional growth groups, liaison with parents/caregivers and school staff and referrals to outside agencies.

School Meals Program and Donations

In addition, our youth care worker also operates the School Meals Program, providing every student with access to nutritious breakfast and lunch items. The Breakfast Program operates out of the school Foods room every morning from 7:45-8:30am. Everyone is welcome. Registration is not required.

This year the entire Meals Program menu is being donated by Atco at the Elk Valley Lodge here in Elkford. The amazing donation of food includes fresh sandwiches, fruit, vegetables and baking, milk, cereal, bread/bagels and more! The generosity and kindness of the staff and management at the Lodge has been amazing. Thank you so much Atco!

For more information about Youth Care support or the School Meals program please contact Amanda Culver at Amanda.culver@sd5.bc.ca or 250-865-4674

Welcome To New Staff

Graham Preston



Hello! I'm excited to be rejoining Elkford Secondary this year as part of the Student Services team. I taught at ESS two years ago, so many faces are familiar and I'm enjoying catching up with staff and students. Students are always welcome to drop by if they need a break, a quiet space to work, or help working out how to be successful this year. After school you'll find me biking, skiing, or exploring backroads in the Elk Valley. I'm looking forward to settling into the ESS and Elkford community.

Jacquie Brower



Bonjour! Je m'appelle Madame Brower. I am the new French teacher and am looking forward to exploring the French language and Francophone culture with you. I recently moved to the area from Victoria. Outside of school, I am enjoying the amazing hiking and mountain biking trails in the Elk Valley. Once winter comes, I plan to work on my cross-country skiing and snowshoeing skills.

Devan Sanford



Hello ESS! I'm excited to join the school and community as a PHE and English teacher. I'm looking forward to the year ahead and I've appreciated getting to know everyone this past month. As a graduate of SD5 myself, it has been a dream to return and teach in the community that I grew up in. Over the past few years, I have become an avid disc golfer. So if you see me at the awesome course in Elkford, come say hi!

In the photo with me is my 7-month-old Giberian (*half golden retriever, half siberian husky*) puppy, Seb, who is named after my favourite Formula 1 driver. The past 5 months of my life has revolved around walking him a lot and chasing him around the house. His favourite game (*not mine*) is to take all of my clothes outside.

Again, I'm excited to be at ESS and I'm looking forward to the year ahead!

Vice Principal Ryan McAllister

Hello, I am Ryan McAllister, and I am the new Vice Principal at ESS this year. I come to you from my hometown of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan with a passion for all things outdoors, athletics, and much more.

I am excited to join the amazing teachers and staff at ESS. To support student learning and their enjoyment at school.

I look forward to exploring the wonders of the Elk Valley and being a part of the Elkford community.



Terry Fox

What a beautiful day to recognize Terry Fox! We collected \$665.75 in cash donations and \$225 through online contributions. Brining our total to \$890.75!! A big thank you to the ESS family!



Thank You TECK

ESS wants to take the time to thank TECK COAL for the generous gift of 30 computers and two computer carts. TECK is a true partner in the education and success of the students of Elkford.

Another thank you to TECK for the donation of Lysol wipes and 1000 disposable masks for student to use. As well as safety goggles and N95 masks for shop class.

School Goodness





A Message from Mr. Percy

It's been a fantastic start-up at ESS I hope everyone has a great experience this year at our school!!!!

Welcome back to the 2021-2022 school year.



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 - haʃiʃkaxumaʃtiʃ

INTEGRITY - ɸmakki

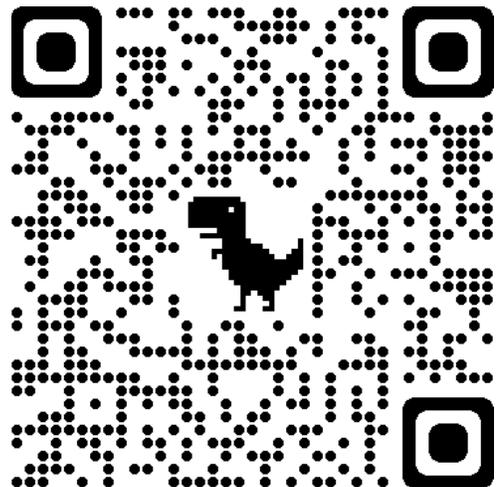
STRENGTH - ɸmakqa

EMPATHY - hakiʃwiɸkiʃin



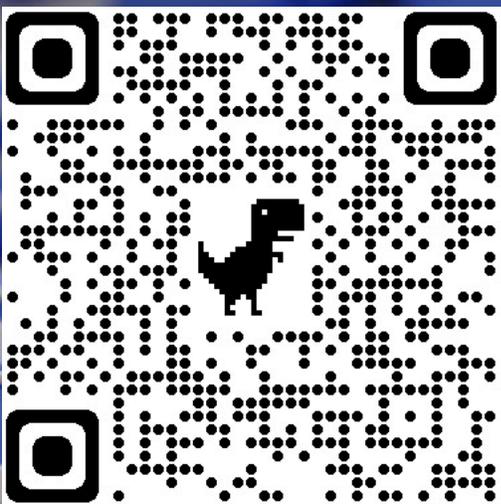
Made with PosterMyWall.com

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



Chess Club at ESS

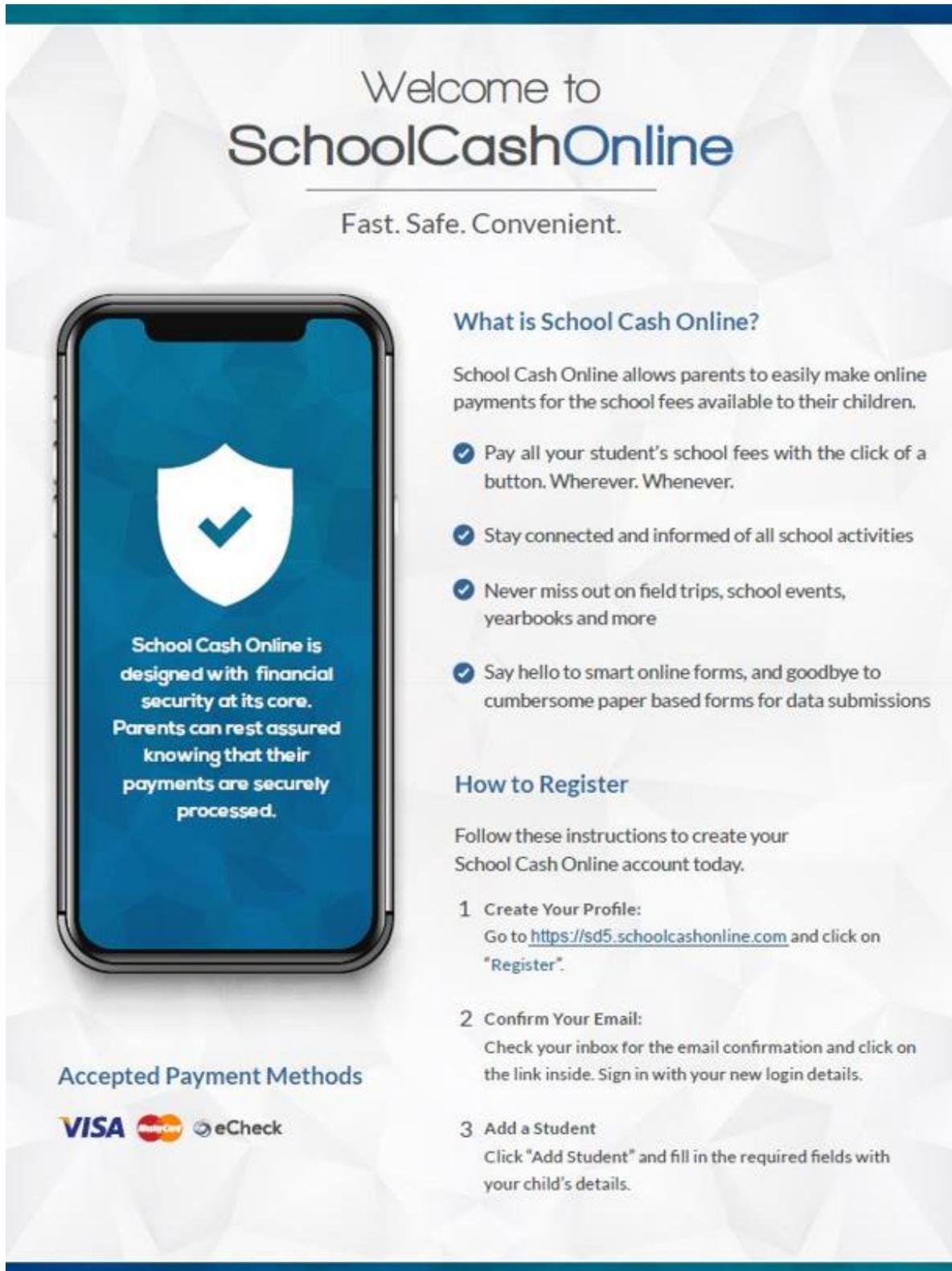
This year we are having Chess club return. Elkford's chess club will be on Wednesdays at lunch in the Wood shop. Please bring your lunch and a partner to play against. For additional information please talk to Mr. Percy or Mr. Inskip for details.



Check out our new Facebook page.

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 with the text "Welcome to SchoolCashOnline" in white and blue. Below this is the tagline "Fast. Safe. Convenient." in blue. On the left, a smartphone displays a white shield with a blue checkmark and the text: "School Cash Online is designed with financial security at its core. Parents can rest assured knowing that their payments are securely processed." On the right, there are two sections: "What is School Cash Online?" with a bulleted list of benefits, and "How to Register" with a list of three steps.

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

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#/="](http://www.sd5.bc.ca/studentparent/SchoolMessenger/Pages/default.aspx#/=)

