



Important Dates

- Nov 9: PAC Meeting
- Nov 18: Report cards published
- Nov 24: Newsletter
- Nov 25: No School
- Dec 14: PAC Meeting

Principal's Message

November is here! Time is flying by here at ESS.

A reminder that communication with parents is important to the success of schools and more importantly - important to the success of students.

For the school we can benefit from forming a positive relationship with parents and learn about student needs – this will help us better personalize learning for students.

For students there is substantial evidence that parent involvement raises academic achievement. With continuous communication and a team approach between the school and home, student's motivation for learning is improved. When there is improved engagement, better attendance, and a more positive attitude towards school through a positive team-approach, everyone grows together.

How do we communicate at Elkford Secondary

- Emails
- Parent Advisory Counsel
- Phone Calls
- Report Cards
- Teacher/Student Portals
- Make an Appointment to see a Teacher
- Newsletter
- Website
- Facebook
- Parent/Teacher Interviews
- Hallway TVs

Parents – remember you can initiate communication as well. You can reach any staff member through email: firstname.lastname@sd5.bc.ca Parents anytime you want to talk to me please feel welcome. I have a goal to improve my communication and plan that you will hear more from me in the future.

Elkford Secondary School will only be as strong as the community around it. Elkford Secondary Staff, Students, & Parents are all part of the process of helping our students find success



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 to report any absence.

Aboriginal Education Circle

Elkford Secondary proudly honoured Orange Shirt Day



On October 27th, we had the Numa ka.kin drummers here at ESS. The whole school came together to hear stories and life lessons from 'Gramma' and listen to the wonderful drumming.



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



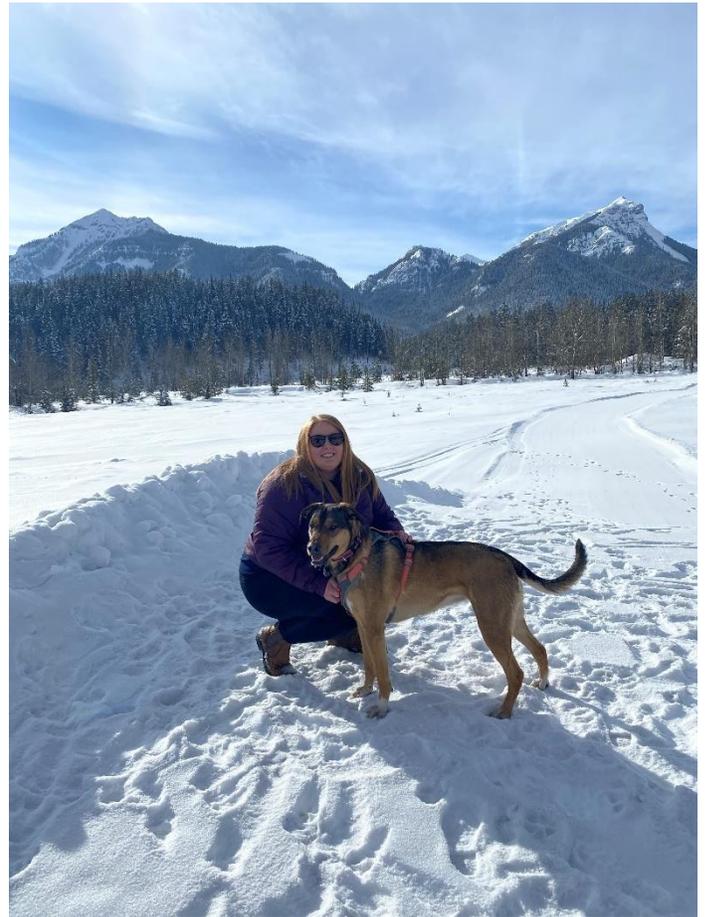
*Vaping or Smoking is Prohibited on **all school property**. If any student requires support with quitting, please see the **School Counselor** for assistance.*

Staff Spotlight

My name is Garrett Hamilton and I was born and raised in Fernie, BC. I went to the University of Lethbridge to get my education degree and taught in southwestern Alberta before my arrival at ESS.



I am an avid skier, fly fisherman and mountain biker, spending as much time outdoors as possible when I am not working. I am also an avid reader with too many books on the go right now!



My name is Shelby Wurmlinger, and I grew up in Elkford. After leaving for about 7 years to attend University in Lethbridge, I found my way back home. My family all lives in Elkford, and I am lucky enough to get to see them all every day! I have a dog and we love to go exploring together. I have been teaching at ESS for the past three years. I love getting to experience this school again from the perspective of a teacher, and it has been a true honour to get to watch my students grow and learn. I look forward to another awesome year at ESS!



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 - #makki

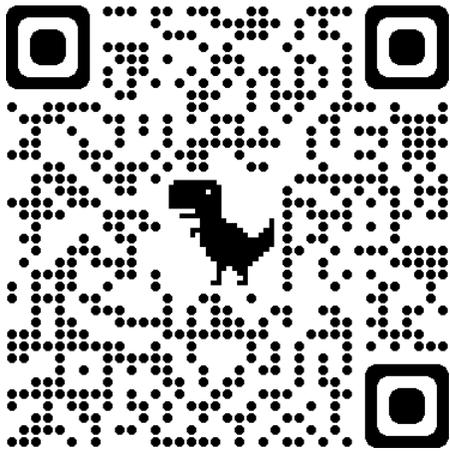
STRENGTH - #makqa

EMPATHY - haki#wi#ki#in



Made with PosterMyWall.com

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



Chess Club

Thursdays at lunch in the Woods Shop



Magic: The Gathering Club Mondays @ lunch in rm. 116



Volleyball Practice

- Bantam & Junior Girls – Tuesdays and Thursdays – 5:00-6:30
- Bantam Boys – Mondays and Wednesdays – 3:30-5:00
- Senior Girls – Tuesdays and Thursdays – 6:30-8:00
- Senior Boys – Monday and Wednesdays – 5:30-7:00



Check out our new Facebook page.

Mrs. Wenda's Art Class

Grade 7s working on their clay projects



JR shop at ESS

The JR shop class at ESS has been learning about catapults and trebuchets. The grade 8s/9s have been building miniature catapults to shoot the distance of 10'. In this activity, the students use the engineering design process to create their own miniature catapult and send things flying!



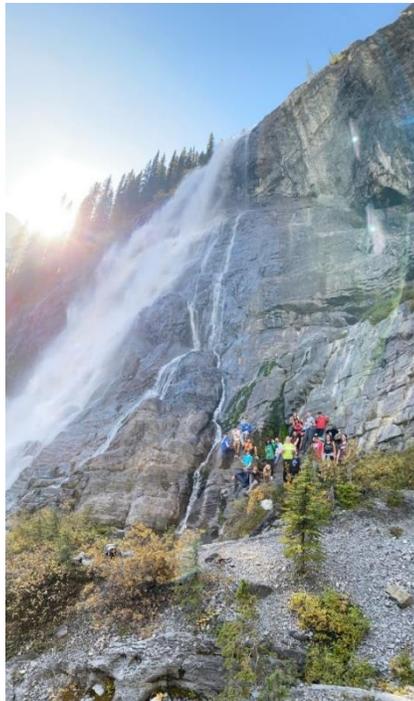
Mr. Ashbridge and Mr. Percy are Running a Chess Club

Every Thursday this year in the woodwork room. Chess club is open to anyone, and everyone is encouraged to participate. Chess has many mental health benefits and is very good for concentration. Chess has many intellectual benefits, including the ability to improve intellect, empathy, memory, planning and problem-solving skills and enhances students' creative abilities.



Mr. Gulyas' PE 10/11/12: Showing Strength, Resilience and Grit

his past September 28th and 29th, students from Mr. Gulyas' Senior PE class at Elkford Secondary School hiked into the Elk Lakes backcountry camp site. Students showed up with their essentials and were able to trek nearly 16km into the wilderness and camped overnight safely.



Students showed their strength, grit and resilience on this adventure. Students helped one another as well as demonstrated their independence. Students worked together to make their food, set up their camp and motivated each other over the long journey. All students who came on this adventure made it to Petain Falls and felt the power of the water. The mountains were majestic, the water was powerful and the students were impressed. Great hustle everyone, Mr. Gulyas



PE 7-12: Strength, Grit and Resilience.

Wow!!! Talk about a busy month...Everything from flag football and ultimate frisbee, to 8km hikes, survival shelters and weightlifting.

In early October, the weather was beautiful, when students learned the fundamentals of flag football and ultimate frisbee. Everything from throwing and catching to running routes and understanding the flow of the games. Later in the month, PE 7-9s have focussed on learning survival skills and getting out into the wilderness. PE 8/9 hiked out to Boivin Cabin, and the 7s hiked into the mountains for a wilderness lunch. PE 7-9, daily, have also been trekking into the local forests and picking up logs and sticks to construct their survival shelters as well as learning how to build fires.

I have been really impressed with how hard students have worked and their positive attitudes as the weather changed and work became more grueling. Senior students have recently been working on their compound movements as well as investigating their own individual programming in the weightroom. Students have had time to work on their own fitness goals and try the kind of resistance training that interested them. Our next step will be to go to Rockhard Gym, to introduce students to a local fitness centre; a place where students can investigate, try differing machines and equipment all while feeling safe to ask questions.

Finally, this was a tremendous month for local support of the PE program. The United Steel Workers donated \$2000, The Lions Club donated \$1,000, and the PAC has donated \$1,100 for Rock Climbing in November. These funds are all being used to help enrich the programing, to try and make all of our adventures accessible to everyone.

Great hustle everyone, you have shown tremendous grit, resilience, and strength.



Some Highlights from October's Spirt Week



Mr. Gulyas' Dance Party

Mr. Gulyas had organized Halloween Dance Parties for each of his PE classes. The party was infectious and took over the school. At 2:30, Brenda Newlove organized the whole school to come down to the gym for an epic dance party and have cookies pop and treats that were provided by parents and students from the PE program. Thank you to the parents that supported the event for the classes which was also shared with the rest of the school. Great hustle everyone.





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

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.

Welcome to SchoolCashOnline

Fast. Safe. Convenient.



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#/=>



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.