PANTIER NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2025

i?su?k kyukyit! Bonjour! Hello Panther families!

Principal's Message

As we approach the end of 2025, it's wonderful to reflect on a fall full of learning, connection, and community spirit at École Isabella Dicken Elementary. We were very proud of our students during our Remembrance Day assemblies, not only for their respectful behaviour, but also for the meaningful poems, songs, and writing they shared to help remind us of the importance of this day.





Thank you to our PAC for hosting the 2nd Annual Big Used Book Sale, which raised important funds for our school and helped foster our students' love of reading and excitement for books. We are also grateful to the Grade 6 parent group for organizing a Movie Night and Pizza Days. Events like these bring joy to our students and help build strong community connections.

Our volleyball teams have also been very busy practicing this season, and they will be representing ÉIDES at the Elk Valley Schools Tournament in Elkford on December 5th. A big thank-you to all the parents and staff who volunteer their time to coach our school teams and support other volleyball programs. Your dedication makes these opportunities possible for our students.

We look forward to welcoming families to our Caroling Night on December 18th, and to celebrating our Grade 6 Band's performance on December 9th at FSS under the direction of Ms. Bassett. Our final week before the break will feature School Spirit Week, with creative daily themes planned by our leadership students. As part of this week, Leadership is also promoting a Giving Tree. Students are encouraged to bring new or gently used toques and mittens, which will be distributed to those in need within our community.

Learning Updates (report cards) will be sent home on Friday, December 19th. If you have any questions about your child's progress, please reach out to their classroom teacher.

Thank you for your continued support throughout this term. We wish all of our ÉIDES families a wonderful holiday season and a restful winter break!

Warmly,
Ms. Neufeld & Mrs. Leeden
Administrative Team



<u>Upcoming Events</u>

December 2 • PAC Meeting @ 7 pm

December 5 • G6 Volleyball Tournament in Elkford

December 9 • FSS Band Concert @ 7 pm

December 12 • No School

December 18 • Old-Fashioned Christmas Caroling Night

December 19 • Term End Celebration Assemblies:

*9:30 am Moon & Mountain

*11:30 am Sun & River

December 22

Winter Break

January 5

Back to School 2026



Have a safe & fun winter break!

WINTER SAFETY REMINDERS



As the snow arrives, we want to ensure all students stay safe and enjoy their time outside. Please note the following winter safety guidelines for the playground:

- Metal shovels are not permitted at school. Students are welcome to bring a plastic shovel for snow play.
- Toboggans and snow skates/boards can only be used during class trips and are not allowed during recess or lunch breaks.
- Mini hockey sticks are not allowed at school.
- Students will go outside for recess and lunch except when temperatures reach -20°C or below. Please
 ensure your child comes to school with warm winter clothing, including a coat, boots, mittens, a hat,
 and snow pants.

Thank you for helping us keep all students warm, safe, and ready for winter fun!



Help Every Student Feel Included

Not every student can afford extras like pizza lunches, school clothing, or yearbooks. Your donation ensures that all students can join in these fun activities and feel part of our community.

Every dollar goes directly toward purchasing these items for students in need. -- Thank you for your generosity and support!

https://munchalunch.com/fundraising

PAC Meeting

Tuesday, December 2nd @ 7 pm

The meeting promises excitement, wonder and even free babysitting!

AGENDA:

- 1. Adopt the agenda
- 2. Adopt minutes of November meeting
- 3. Actions from previous meeting
- 4. Principal's report Nicole Neufeld/Amy Leeden
- 5. Treasurer report/budget Wendy Anderson
- 6. Trustee report Nicole Heckendorf
- 7. DPAC report Jill Barclay
- 8. Discrimination Committee Felina Arsenault
- 9. Other business
- a. Christmas/Spring Plant Fundraiser Jodi Erbacher
- b. Tea fundraiser Stacie Zimmer
- c. EIDES School Clothing Seeking volunteer/next steps
- d. Playground Committee Playground next steps. Is there interest from the school population to support a committee?
- e. BIG Used Book Fair!! Carolyn Doyle
- 10. Adjourn

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 6th, 2025 @ 7pm

Thank you for supporting the Apple Fundraiser!

Fun Fact: by supporting the PAC fundraising efforts at ÉIDES each year, money is raised to buy all the children their agendas.



BIG COMMUNITY USED BOOK FAIR

Thank you to all that volunteered and attended our Fall Book Fair!

PAC "re-homed" over 5,000 books and raised over \$5,000!







Old-Fashioned Christmas Caroling

We are excited to invite you and your children to a special, old-fashioned Christmas Caroling Fundraiser event at École Isabella Dicken Elementary School! This festive occasion is not a performance – it's a community celebration where your family will be part of the fun, spreading holiday cheer through song!

Date: Thursday, December 18, 2025 Time: 7:00pm - 7:45pm

Location: École Isabella Dicken School Gymnasium

How it works:

- Families will join in a joyful caroling session, singing classic holiday songs together!
- Parent attendance is required Parents/caregivers must attend and supervise their own children, as this is a fun sing-along evening where your presence and involvement is key!
- Tickets are \$2.00 with all proceeds supporting Fernie Food Security Society.
- Details will be sent home with your child(ren) tickets to be purchased by Friday, December 5th.

Bring your holiday spirit and come share the magic of the season with our school community. We can't wait to sing carols, make memories, and raise funds for a good cause together!







How to Dress for the Weather Guide

Outdoor play is a great way to support healthy growth and development. Opening the doors to outdoor play in all kinds of weather provides children and adults with opportunities to spark their curiosity, leading to wonder, exploration and learning. When children have the right clothing for the season it contributes to them having positive, rich outdoor play experiences that just can't happen indoors. Get outside, be curious, let children lead and have fun!

20°C

10°C

0°C

-10°C

-20°C



Supporting Outdoor Play Year Round



www.getoutsideandplay.ca



www.befitforlife.ca



For the month of December we will be accepting new & gently used hats and mitts for our Giving Tree





Please stop in and look through our lost & found items - located by the front office. If items are not collected by December 19th, they will be donated.