



Panther Newsletter 2026

February is a month filled with opportunities for learning, leadership, and connection at École Isabella Dicken Elementary. This month, our student leadership team is leading a 21-Day Kindness Challenge, encouraging students to notice, practice, and celebrate kindness in our school community. Leadership students are also sharing important learning connected to Black History Month, helping to build understanding, empathy, and appreciation for diverse voices and experiences.

On February 23rd, ÉIDES will recognize Pink Shirt Day. Our students will be hosting a Pink Shirt and Black History Assembly, which will focus on bringing more awareness around the importance of inclusion, diversity, kindness and belonging.

Our classes continue to take their learning beyond our school buildings in a variety of ways, whether through nature hikes, skating, swimming, time in the Design Lab, visiting the heritage library or learning alongside buddies at FSS. This month, our intermediate classes will also be enjoying ski and snowboard days at Fernie Alpine Resort, and our Grade 6 basketball teams have been working hard in preparation for the Elk Valley Schools Basketball Tournament in Sparwood on March 5th. Thank you to the staff and parent volunteers who make these learning experiences and extracurricular opportunities possible for our students.

We have made a small adjustment to our intermediate lunch schedule. All Grade 3-6 students now eat at the beginning of lunch and then head outside for the remainder of the break. This change allows students more time to enjoy the playground and be active outdoors over the lunch break.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership. We look forward to a month filled with kindness, learning, and school spirit at ÉIDES.

Warmly,
Ms. Neufeld & Mrs. Leeden
Administrative Team

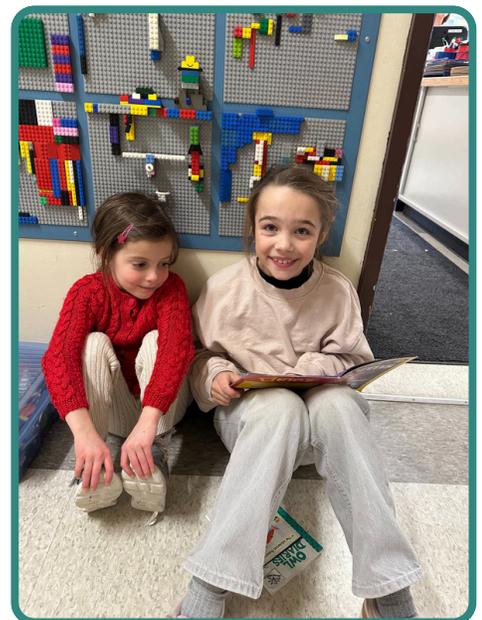
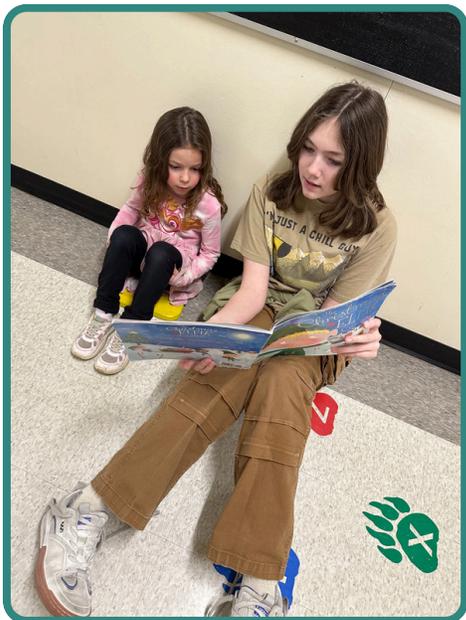




BIG BUDDIES



Our students were excited to participate in The Great Big Buddy Read on January 29th, an initiative organized by the Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy (CBAL) as part of Family Literacy Week. On this special day, students across the school read with a buddy. It was wonderful to see our students engaged, connected, and celebrating reading together at ÉIDES.



ÉIDES EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

JANUARY – MARCH 2026

Thanks to many parent, community, ÉIDES student and staff volunteers, we have an impressive number of extra-curricular activities offered to our students! The following programs have started up and will be running from now until March break (unless notified otherwise). Please ask your classroom teacher or give us a call if you have questions about any of these opportunities.

TIME	LUNDI	TUESDAY	MERCREDI	THURSDAY	VENDREDI
8:00 – 8:50 am	G5 Boys Basketball	G5 Girls Basketball			
12:15 – 1:00 pm	G2-6 Running Club	G6 Leadership Club Library	G2-6 Running Club		
12:15 – 12:40 pm		G5 Basketball Open Gym Time		G6 Basketball Open Gym Time	G5-6 Gaga Ball Intramurals
12:40 – 1:00 pm		G4 Basketball Open Gym Time		G2-6 Glee Club Gym	G3-4 Gaga Ball Intramurals
3:10 – 4:30 pm	G6 Boys Basketball	G6 Girls Basketball	G6 Boys Basketball	G6 Girls Basketball G6 Drama Practice	

Upcoming Dates

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| February 2 | Kindergarten Registration opens |
| February 3 | PAC Meeting @ 7 pm |
| February 13 | No school Friday |
| February 16 | Family Day - No school |
| February 23 | Pink Shirt Day/Anti-Bullying Assemblies: |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:30 am Mountain & River • 11:30 am Sun & Moon |
| February 24 | Intermediate classes - Ski Days start |
| February 26 | Ballet Jorgen Presentation (G1-4) |
| February 27 | Pro D - No school |
| March 2 | Missy D French Performance (G4-6) |
| March 5 | Elk Valley Schools Basketball Tournament |
| March 13 | Learning Updates go home |
| March 16 – 27 | March Break - No School |



Grade 6 Graduation
June 24th, 2026
1:00 – 3:00 pm



Remembrance Day Contest Winners

Junior Black & White Poster

1st - Elladee Ambeault

2nd - Austin Kluzak

3rd - Alexandra Bell

Primary Black & White Poster

1st - Asher Blais

2nd - Silas Grenier

Junior Colour Poster

1st - Bentley Johannson

2nd - Piper Potter

3rd - Cyrus Bava & Djoy Conrardy

Primary Colour Poster

1st - Myla Swansburg

2nd - Tikka Temple

3rd - Graeme Nunn / Alexander Green

Junior Literary Contest - Poem

1st - Poppy Green

2nd - Libby Robbins

we will remember
we will remember
we will remember



Grade 6 Drama Production



Rehearsal Dates:

Thursdays from 4:35 - 5:45 pm
(from now until Spring Break)

Thursdays from 3:05 - 5:00 pm
(after Spring Break)

♥ Welcome to Kindergarten

Kindergarten Registration 2026-2027!

Registrations will begin to be accepted for children born in 2021 and turning 5 in 2026, beginning on February 2, 2026 at 8:30 am.

All applications will be dealt with on a first-come, first-serve basis. A birth certificate or other legally acceptable document, along with proof of B.C. residency (i.e., mortgage statement, rental agreement, or utility bill), must be provided at the time of registration. Registrations will be complete once such documentation is made available.

Please use the following links for your preferred method of registration:

- [Online Portal Kindergarten Registration](#)
- [Online Registration Information](#)
- [Registration Form](#) (for parents not wishing to complete online portal registration)

Parents who wish their child to attend a school outside their catchment area are required to first register their child at their catchment area school. To request a transfer, pick up a "[Family Request for Student Placement Form](#)" from your catchment area school or [download the form](#) and return it to the School Board Office. Board Office staff will only begin to accept these completed forms beginning February 2, 2026. Forms can be submitted via email to studenttransfers@sd5.bc.ca. Please refer to [Administrative Procedure 300](#) for more information.

If you have any questions, please contact our school at ides.mailing@sd5.bc.ca or call the office at 250.423.4651.



Polar Pete

Book Club



For Young Readers ages 7-9 years

Jan 25, Mar 1, Mar 29, April 26

3:00pm at Polar Peak Books

register by emailing chill@cbal.org



Polar Peak Books



Make mealtime family learning time.



Family Literacy Day Honorary Chair, Barbara Reid invites families to 'Make mealtime family learning time!'

Barbara Reid is a picture book illustrator and author whose award-winning artwork is created using modelling clay.



Photo by: Ian Crysler Photographer

1 Follow a recipe together

Pick a recipe to make as a family. Talk about the steps, ingredients, and cooking instructions. Then enjoy your meal together!

2 Write a grocery list

Write a grocery list of ingredients needed for your family meal. Practice spelling, organize items by category, and add prices to practice math.

3 Get crafty with food packaging

Make crafts together using food packaging such as plastic containers, glass jars, or recycled cardboard.

4 Eat your words

Play with your food and write words and messages to your family with alphabet cereal and soup (we like cookie letters too!).

5 Play "What's that word?"

Introduce new food words—like "zucchini" or "quinoa"—and look them up together. Talk about where the food comes from and how it's used.

6 Label the kitchen

Make removable sticky note labels for everyday items in the kitchen (like "refrigerator," "spoon," "cup"). Write the item name in one or more languages to help learn new words together.

7 Create a family cookbook

Collect your family's traditional recipes and make your own family recipe book. Write or type the recipe, include a favourite memory or story, and add your own drawings!

8 Try a cultural food night

Pick a country, choose a recipe from there, and make it as a family. Why not learn a few words from the language spoken in that country, too!

9 Explore nutrition labels

Pick a few of your family's favourite snacks and compare their nutrition labels. Talk about serving sizes, ingredients, and which items are healthy choices and why.

10 Kitchen cupboard scavenger hunt

Make a list of items to find in your kitchen (such as "something that starts with B" or "a can with tomatoes"). Read labels together and talk about what each item is used for.

Find fun family activities at:
FamilyLiteracyDay.ca


#FamilyLiteracyDay



ABC
LifeLiteracyCanada



BACK TO SCHOOL

Top Snacks To Pack

Greek Yogurt, Granola	Edamame, Sesame	Fruits, Hard boiled egg
Cheese, Crackers	Smoked Tofu, Cucumbers	Melba Toast, Tuna

Look for products with:
 <10g sugar per serving
 Nut Free

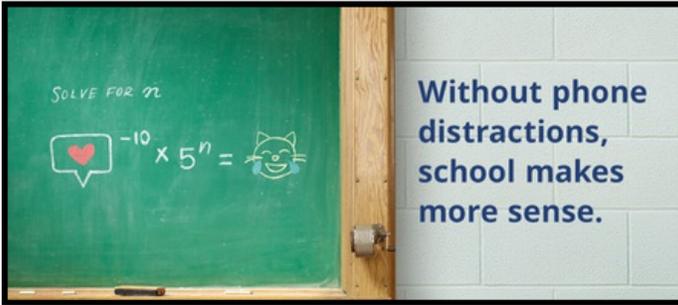
BC Dietitians @bcdietitians

BETTER-FOR-YOU STORE BOUGHT snacks

IF YOU WANT...	TRY THESE...
FRUIT SNACKS	
CRACKERS	
GRANOLA BARS	
FRUIT ROLLS	
POPCORN	

nutritious PICKS
 FOR KID FAVORITES

REMINDER



Cell Phone/Electronic Devices & Smart Watches

The school cannot be responsible for lost or stolen cell phones. Cell phones/Electronic Devices & Smart Watches must be turned off and put away safely DURING THE SCHOOL DAY and are not to be used for texting, calling, taking pictures anywhere on the grounds and are not allowed in the change rooms or washrooms at any time. In order to encourage social interaction and creative play, students are asked NOT to bring electronic games or devices to school.



StrongStart



- A free, parent-accompanied play and learning program for children ages 0-5.
- Snacks provided.
- Play-based and learning activities facilitated by a qualified early childhood educator.

Steeles Elementary School
250-426-0620

Ecole Isabella Dicken Elementary School
250-423-4651

Frank J. Mitchell Elementary School
250-425-7818



StrongStartBC



Play



Connect



Learn

Invent. Experiment. Share!

EAST KOOTENAY SCIENCE FAIR



April 10, 2026
9 AM - 4 PM

College of the
Rockies, Cranbrook

WIN CASH PRIZES OR A
TRIP TO THE CANADA-
WIDE SCIENCE FAIR

GET MORE DETAILS, AND REGISTER AT:

www.ekrfs.ca



**Confident Parents
Thriving Kids**
ANXIETY PROGRAM

PROGRAM SUMMARY

Welcome to **ConfidentParents:Thriving Kids – Anxiety program** (CPTKA), a no-cost, guided self-help program.

The CPTKA program addresses six different types of childhood anxiety including:

- Social worries
- General worries
- Separation anxiety
- Selective mutism
- Specific fears
- OCD behaviours

The content of the CPTKA program is based on cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) which focuses on changing how you and your child think and behave when feeling worried. CBT is the leading intervention for addressing childhood anxiety.

Please contact Rusan Morgan for more information

rusan.morgan@sd5.bc.ca



**Canadian Mental
Health Association**
British Columbia
Mental health for all

Confident Parents: Thriving Kids is funded by the Province of British Columbia and delivered through the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA), BC Division, which promotes the mental health of British Columbians and supports the resilience and recovery of people experiencing mental illness.

JOIN US FOR EIDES GRADE 6 BLUE LAKE

BEE FRIENDSHIP KIND CANDY GRAM fundraiser



 February
2nd - 20th

GRAMS DELIVERED ON
FEBRUARY 23RD
PINK SHIRT DAY

\$2 Per Gram

Send a friendship goodie bag and a personalized note to help spread the kindness this February! Perfect for friends, teachers, principals & all staff!

Support Our Be Kind Movement

Bee a part of EIDES GRADE 6 BE KIND movement!

Support EIDES' Grade 6 Blue Lake fundraiser and spread kindness at the same time! Orders due by February 20th.

Grams will be delivered on February 23rd EIDES' Pink Shirt Day.

Return kindness slips and cash to the School Office. . .

FEB. 2nd - 20th

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

JENNIFER.HUTCHINSON@SD5.BC.CA OR KATIE.BARNETT@SD5.BC.CA



Canadian Parents for French Cranbrook-Fernie Chapter Domino's Pizza Fundraiser – Support French Education!

PIZZA FUNDRAISER
FOR
CANADIAN PARENTS FOR FRENCH
CRANBROOK & FERNIE

FEBRUARY 16-19, 2026

GET \$5 DONATED
PER LARGE 3-TOPPING PIZZA!

USE CODE 5RAISE

HOW IT WORKS:

- Order online at dominos.ca, in-store, or by phone. **USE CODE 5RAISE**
- Use code **5RAISE** for each large 3-topping pizza ordered. Enter code separately for each pizza. Examples: 3 pizzas = enter 5RAISE 3 times.
- Pickup or have your order delivered  
Call ahead to schedule a timed order.

EAT PIZZA • SUPPORT FRENCH EDUCATION!

For every large 3-topping pizza purchased using code **5RAISE**, we'll donate **\$5** to CPF Cranbrook & Fernie! Thank you for your support!

Canadian Parents for French (Cranbrook & Fernie) is partnering with Domino's Pizza for a fundraiser from **February 16–19, 2026**. For every large 3-topping pizza purchased using the code **5RAISE**, \$5 will be donated directly to CPF Cranbrook & Fernie to support French language learning and local programming in our community.

Stay Connected

Search “**Canadian Parents for French Cranbrook-Fernie Chapter**” on Facebook to join our group or scan the QR code below.



SKIING AND SNOWBOARDING ARE THE BEST WINTER FAMILY ACTIVITIES IN CANADA!

After 30 amazing years of the Grade 4 & 5 SnowPass, we've made the switch to the new SnowStart Kidz Pass.

THE SNOWSTART KIDZ PASS:

- Is available to kids ages 6-12
- Allows access to **multiple ski areas** across Canada
 - 3 visits at over 60 ski areas = 180+ lift tickets

It's like carrying a season's worth of skiing in your pocket!

ALL FOR ONLY \$39.99^{+TAX}



Visit <https://snowpass.ca> for more information.