



SENATOR BUCHANAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

February 2025

DATES TO REMEMBER

February:

- 4 - Town Hall Meeting (6:30-9:00 pm)
- 7 - 100th Day of School
- 12 - Deadline to order hot lunch (DQ)
- 14 - Valentine Celebrations
- 17 - 21 - No School
- 24 - School Council Meeting (6:00 pm)
- 26 - Pink Shirt Day
- 26 - Courage Awards Assembly (9:30 am)
- 26 - Hot Lunch (DQ)
- 27 - Family Gym Night (6pm)

March:

- 3 - KG-Grade 4 Registrations Open
- 7 - Report Cards Available
- 12 - 13 - No School for kindergarten only
- 13 - Early Dismissal at 11:35 (Grades 1-5)
- 14 - PL Day (No School)
- 17 - PL Day (No School)
- 19 - Deadline to order hot lunch (Little Caesars)
- 24 - School Council Meeting (6:00-7:00 pm)
- 25 - Beach Theme Day
- 25 - Courage Awards Assembly (2:30 pm)
- 26 - Digital Wellness Day
- 26 - Hot Lunch (Little Caesars)

Kindergarten Registrations for 2025-26

We are now accepting Kindergarten registrations for September 2025. We are offering a morning class Monday through Thursday with alternating Friday mornings and an afternoon class Monday through Thursday with alternating Friday morning classes. Students must be five years old as of December 31, 2025.

Registration forms will be available on our school website or through the Lethbridge School Division website. To register your child, we will require a birth certificate (or copy of completed form to order a birth certificate and providing some other legal document with legal name and date of birth) and proof of address such as a utility bill in parent's name.

We will only accept kindergarten registrations for children living within our school boundary.

**KINDERGARTEN
REGISTRATION**

2025/2026 SCHOOL YEAR

Registration begins
on Jan. 20, 2025!

www.lethsd.ab.ca/kindergarten2025



No School February 17-21

Schools will be closed due to Family Day, Monday, February 17, no school on Tuesday and Wednesday, February 18-19 and Teacher's Convention February 20-21. Classes for students resume Monday, February 24.



Returning Student Registrations for 2025-26

Returning 2025-2026 registrations for students currently in kindergarten to grade 4 will be available on March 3 through SchoolEngage on the PowerSchool Parent Portal.

Parents who have not set up a Power School Parent Portal Account, please contact the front office for assistance.

Parents of students new to our school division will be required to complete a new registration form online through the Lethbridge School Division website and will be reviewed at the time of receipt. We will not be accepting any new out of bounds students at this time.



Family Night!



We are so excited to share that we are hosting a Scientists in School Night for our families on **Thursday, February 27**. All our classes participate in Scientists in Schools in their classrooms throughout the year and we are thankful they are able to offer a family evening. The event is interactive and virtual. The Scientists will be on the screen doing the experiments, but each family will have a table of materials to work with during the evening.

We are offering three different sessions:

Session 1 – 5:30-6:30

- Choose either Magical Science, Sticky Science or Candy Chemistry

Supper – 6:30-7:00

- Pizza (gluten free, dairy free and vegetarian options provided)

Session 2 – 7:00-8:00

- Choose either Magical Science, Sticky Science or Candy Chemistry

You do not need to stay the entire night. For example, you may choose only session 1 and join us for supper and then leave.

Please complete the form using the link below so we can order materials and order food. The form will be open until 10:00 AM, Monday, February 24, 2025.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Y4sOPE7mjUykDx0hO2cEcnWQF_VnMEVKofe82zPcjpgdUNk8xRjlQTzJZMFpYNVNOVkdPS01MVFVWUS4u

We are happy to partner with Scientists in Schools and School Council to host this evening.





NEW

PARENT CONNECT

10-week program for parents & caregivers of pre-teens & teens (ages 8-18) with behavioural & emotional problems.

- **discuss parent-teen relationships.**
- **learn about adolescent development.**
- **try new strategies to deal with behavior.**



**THURSDAYS
FEBRUARY 6 – APRIL 10
6:00–8:00PM
CHILD CARE BY
DONATION**

**REGISTER
NOW**



Family Centre
Suite 225, 200 - 4 Ave. S.
Lethbridge, AB T1J 4C9
403-320-4232

- Website: www.famcentre.ca
- Facebook: [@familycentreyql](https://www.facebook.com/familycentreyql)
- Instagram: [@familycentreyql](https://www.instagram.com/familycentreyql)
- LinkedIn: [@Family Centre Society of Southern Alberta](https://www.linkedin.com/company/family-centre-society-of-southern-alberta)



SUPER DADS SUPER KIDS

8 Week Course

FOR DADS

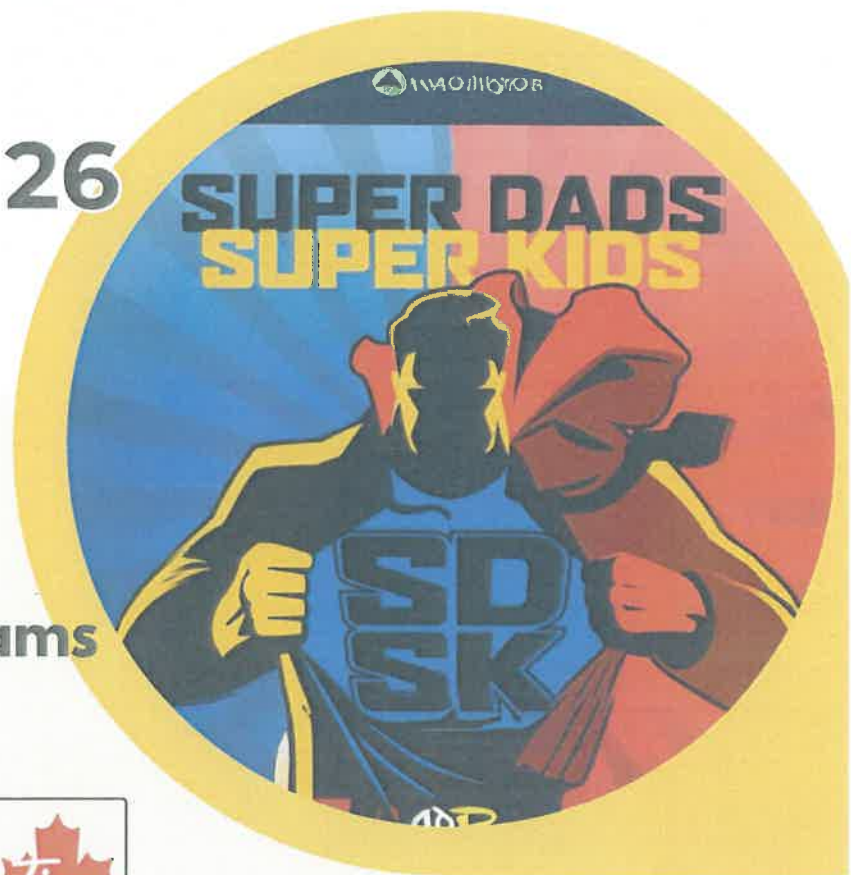
WEDNESDAYS

6 - 8 PM

Starting Feb 26

Registration

famcentre.ca/programs



FEBRUARY 2025

MONTH-LONG OBSERVANCE:

- *Black History Month (Canada, USA)*



*Slavery
ends
Mauritius
Rises*

Feb 1

Abolition of Slavery (Mauritius)

Mauritius is a small island nation in the Indian Ocean. It is located off the southeast coast of Africa east of Madagascar. Slaves were brought from Africa, Madagascar, and India to work on sugar plantations. The British Empire passed the Slavery Abolition Act in 1833, which came into effect in Mauritius on February 1, 1835. This date is observed to honour the struggles and resilience of the enslaved population.

Feb 2

Basant Panchami (Hindu)

This is a Hindu festival that marks the end of winter and the arrival of spring. The festival holds seasonal, cultural, and religious significance and is observed across India and among Hindu communities worldwide. It is dedicated to Goddess Saraswati, the goddess of knowledge, wisdom, learning, and arts. Yellow, symbolizing energy, prosperity, and the vibrancy of life, is the dominant colour of the day. People wear yellow clothes, prepare yellow-coloured dishes like saffron rice and sweets, and decorate their homes with yellow flowers.



Feb 11

International Day of Women and Girls in Science (UN)

Established by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015, this observance aims to promote gender equality and empower women and girls to participate fully in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields. Activities and celebrations include Workshops and Conferences to showcase successful women scientists and their contributions, Educational Campaigns to inspire young girls to explore STEM through hands-on activities and programs, Mentorship Programs, and Media Campaigns.



FEBRUARY 2025



Feb 13

Tu B'Shevat (Jewish)

Also known as “New Year for Trees”, this day celebrates Judaism’s roots in the natural world. It is considered a time for celebrating nature, trees, and the environment. Traditionally, Tu B'Shevat is celebrated by planting trees, and eating the seven fruits of the land - wheat, barley, figs, grapes, pomegranates, olives, and dates. In recent years, it has become a time to raise awareness about environmental issues and reflect on the importance of nature and sustainability.

Feb 14

Valentine's Day (Canada, UK, USA)

This day is dedicated to expressing love and affection between romantic partners, friends, and family. Valentine's Day has a history rooted in a blend of ancient Roman traditions, early Christian martyrdom, and medieval romantic ideas. It has evolved into a global celebration associated with gifting, romantic gestures, and heartfelt expressions of love. Common activities include romantic dinners, date nights, exchanging cards or handwritten notes, and surprising loved ones with thoughtful gestures. Whether you celebrate this day with a partner, friends, or indulge in self-love, it is a wonderful opportunity to spread kindness and appreciation.



Feb 15

National Flag Day (Canada)

This date commemorates the first time the red-and-white maple leaf flag was raised on February 15, 1965. The design was chosen after extensive debate and a competition to select a new flag. The Maple Leaf represents peace, unity, and tolerance. The Red and White colours are Canada's official colours as declared by King George V in 1921. Red represents sacrifice, and white symbolizes peace and honesty. National Flag Day serves as a reminder of Canada's unity, and pride in its history. Schools use the day to teach students about the history and meaning of the Canadian flag.



FEBRUARY 2025



BELONGING

INCLUSION

DIVERSITY

EQUITY

Feb 21

International Mother Language Day (UNESCO)

This day was declared by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 1999 to promote linguistic and cultural diversity and raise awareness about the importance of preserving and promoting native languages worldwide. The day highlights the significance of mother languages in preserving cultural identity, fostering communication, and ensuring access to education. It also advocates for multilingualism and encourages the protection of languages that are at risk of extinction.

Feb 25

Anti-Bullying Day (Canada)

Anti-Bullying Day, also known as Pink Shirt Day in Canada, is an annual event dedicated to raising awareness about bullying and promoting kindness, inclusion, and acceptance. It is observed on the last Wednesday of February each year. This day originated in 2007 in Nova Scotia when two high school students, **David Shepherd** and **Travis Price**, took a stand against bullying. They organized a protest in support of a fellow student who had been bullied for wearing a pink shirt. This captured national attention and became a symbol of anti-bullying advocacy. On Pink Shirt Day, participants often wear pink clothing to show their commitment to ending bullying.



**STOP
BULLYING**

Feb 26

Shivratri (Hindu)

This is a significant Hindu festival dedicated to Lord Shiva, one of the principal deities in Hinduism. The name 'Shivratri' translates to 'the night of Shiva'. The day is observed with fasting, prayer, and night-long vigils. Devotees engage in chanting mantras and visit temples to offer prayers to Lord Shiva and seek his blessings for health, wealth, and spiritual growth. It is believed that during this night, Lord Shiva performs his divine dance of creation, preservation, and destruction.



FEBRUARY 2025



Feb 28

Losar (Tibet, Buddhist)

This is the traditional New Year festival celebrated by Tibetans and other Himalayan cultures such as Nepal and Bhutan. It marks the beginning of the lunar year according to the Tibetan calendar. Losar is celebrated for three days and is a time for family reunions, feasts, rituals, and various cultural events including wearing colourful traditional clothing, engaging in festive dancing, and preparing special foods.

OTHER OBSERVANCES:

- Feb 2 – *Groundhog Day (Canada, USA)*
- Feb 4 – *World Cancer Day (International)*
- Feb 11 – *Thaipooosam Cavadee (India, Mauritius)*
- Feb 15 – *Parinirvana Day (Buddhist)*
- Feb 22 – *Abu Simbel Festival (Egypt)*
- Feb 24 – *Dragobete (Romania)*
- Feb 28 – *Purim begins at sunset (Jewish)*
- Feb 28 – *Ramadan begins in the evening (Islamic)*

NATIONAL AND INDEPENDENCE DAYS

- | | |
|---|---|
| • Feb 4 – <i>Independence Day (Sri Lanka)</i> | • Feb 17 – <i>Presidents Day (USA)</i> |
| • Feb 6 – <i>Waitangi Day (New Zealand)</i> | • Feb 18 – <i>Independence Day (Gambia)</i> |
| • Feb 7 – <i>Independence Day (Grenada)</i> | • Feb 22 – <i>Washington's Birthday (USA)</i> |
| • Feb 11 – <i>National Foundation Day (Japan)</i> | • Feb 22 – <i>Independence Day (Saint Lucia)</i> |
| • Feb 12 – <i>Lincoln's Birthday (USA)</i> | • Feb 23 – <i>Heisei Emperor's Birthday (Japan)</i> |
| • Feb 15 – <i>National Day (Serbia)</i> | • Feb 25 – <i>People Power Day (Philippines)</i> |
| • Feb 16 – <i>Independence Day (Lithuania)</i> | • Feb 25 – <i>National Day (Kuwait)</i> |
| • Feb 17 – <i>Family Day (Canada)</i> | • Feb 27 – <i>Independence Day (Dominican Republic)</i> |
| • Feb 17 – <i>Louis Riel Day (Canada)</i> | |

In creating this newsletter, we aim to honour and celebrate the diversity of our community. While we strive to acknowledge a wide range of cultural and religious holidays and observances, we recognize that we may not be able to include every holiday or tradition. This is not a reflection of the value or importance of any holiday or tradition. We deeply respect all cultural, religious, and personal celebrations and appreciate your understanding.

Reference

Multicultural Calendar 2025

Sheena Singh, Creative Cultural Communications,
Toronto, ON.



KITSIKAKOMIMM

I LOVE YOU
2025



In honour of Pink Shirt Day the Lethbridge School Division Indigenous Education team and Mental Health Capacity Building team would like to invite you to take part in an act of kindness this February. Our entire community thrives when we are kind to one another. No matter how small an act, our kindness makes a difference and does not go unnoticed.

We are asking all elementary schools to collect
Bottled Water
Non perishable food items

We are asking all middle schools to participate in collecting
Mitts/Gloves/Toques
Socks
Hand and Foot Warmers

We are asking all high schools to participate in collecting
Personal hygiene products
feminine hygiene, deodorant, wipes, toothbrushes,
toothpaste, etc.)

All donations will be collected and distributed to community agencies around Lethbridge that work with and support people in our community.

Collection ends February 26th, 2025

Collection Info:

Each school will be provided with a basket for donations. Once full please reach out to someone from the Indigenous Education to arrange pick up.



BLACKFOOT WORDS

Love

Kitsikakomimm (git-si-ga-go-mimm)

Be brave

iiyikitapiiyi (ii-ga-gee-mat)

Hope

itotsiihtaa (e-dots-sih-da)

Happy

i'taam (e-dahm)

Beautiful

niitsi (nit-seew)

Show kindness

ikimm (ik-imm)

Work Hard

iika'kimaat (ig-ga-gee-mat)

Feel grateful/be appreciative

iniiyi'taki (inii-yi-daki)