

Dear Parents,

Well, spring has sprung, finally! It's great to see kids come to school with renewed energy and a desire to play and have fun outside. It is important that all students follow the dress code (it is in the agenda) which includes proper footwear for outdoor recess and gym. All students need outdoor running shoes (with socks!!) for outdoor gym class. I hope that with the nice weather, the kids will spend lots of time going for bike rides, hanging out with friends and doing outdoor activities. I strongly believe that kids should spend as much time outside as possible! Hence I'll be giving the students a bit more time in class to work on their word work😊.

This month we have lots of special activities planned for the kids. It starts with the Shumka Dancers, then kids get to try out for the Talent Show and they get to go to Bev Facey for a special presentation of Stella the Elephant!

### Language Arts

In April, students started working on techniques writers use to entertain and inform readers. We will continue to explore different ways we can enhance texts this month. In May we will also examine how authors use language for different purposes. To complement our focus on different writing techniques, students will finish reading Underground to Canada. This novel is great for exploring how life experiences can be drastically different from our comfortable existence today. We will continue with the vocabulary building activities for homework until the end of May. I am giving the students a bit of extra time to work on the packages so that they have time to go out and enjoy the spring weather after school!

### Math

We are finishing our Fractions and Decimals Unit. After this unit, the Grade 4s will explore multiplying and dividing large numbers again, while the Grade 5s will look at transformations. Once these units are complete, we will review basic facts with games and manipulatives.

### Events

**Wednesday, May 9** – Shumka Dancers @ 12:30pm  
**Friday, May 11** – Professional Development Day – NO SCHOOL for students  
**Thursday, May 17** – Alberta Opera Performance of Pinocchio @ 1:30pm  
**Friday, May 18** – School Closure Day  
**Monday, May 21** – Victoria Day – NO SCHOOL  
**Wednesday, May 23** – Stella the Elephant @ Bev Facey @ 10:00am  
**Friday, May 25** – Track and Field day ALL DAY (Rain-out day Monday, May 28)

Again, if you have any questions or comments, please e-mail me at [pia.jampen@eips.ca](mailto:pia.jampen@eips.ca).

Sincerely,  
Pia Jampen

