



Happy New Year 2021

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Happy New Year Families! I know that many of us were glad to see 2020 come to a conclusion and are looking forward to the opportunities that 2021 can bring for our kids and community. I would like to thank each of you for the patience, flexibility and grace that you have extended to each other, our kids and our staff as we worked together through some challenging circumstances that were thrust upon us. While we know there will likely be more of these obstacles in our path in the upcoming months, we have shown already that we are an extremely resilient team and together we can overcome these challenges.

As you may be aware, as of now our Minister of Education and Premier have indicated that all students K-12 who were previously attending in person learning are permitted to return to their schools as of Monday, January 11th, 2021. We are really excited to be welcoming those students back into our school.

We do know that during these uncertain times, families are continuously evaluating whether in person or online learning best meets their families needs. Parents of both our Option 2 students (those who have been learning in person at Ecole Meridian Heights School until being directed home by the provincial government) should have received a survey asking you to indicate what your intentions are for your children for Monday, January 11th. In order to ensure we can appropriately plan for our students, please ensure that you have completed a survey for each of your children attending Ecole Meridian Heights School. The next opportunity after this week for a student to transition from Option 2, or vice-versa will be February 16th, 2021.

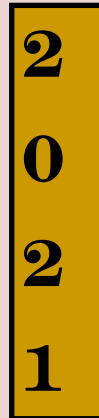
We look forward to continuing to support all of our families in the upcoming months!

Mr. S. Patras

Principal, Ecole Meridian Heights School



January immunizations—As per AHS, immunizations are postponed until further notice  
Friday, January 29—Kindergarten PD day—no Kinders attend  
Wednesday, February 3rd—School Council Meeting 6:30-7:30pm



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**SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST**

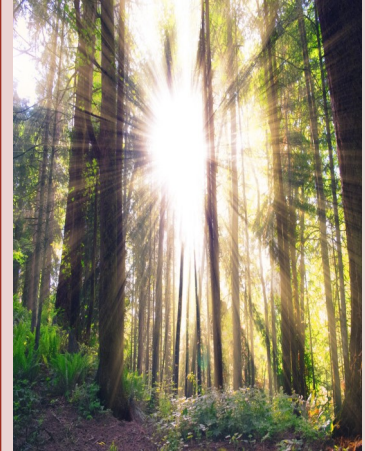
**Please open hyperlink to access our Public Calendar of events:**

<http://meridian-heights.psd70.ab.ca/Events.php>

**If you are not yet on the Parent Portal and or if there are any demographic changes to your profile please also ensure that you edit your information.**

## WORLD CHAMPION

The grade 6 Longpre student took part in the Junior National Rodeo Finals in Fort Worth, Texas in December. Eylam was able to earn a world champion title in saddle bronc, while simultaneously becoming ranked all around junior cowboy in the world for his age group. Podolak was one of a handful of Canadians to make the Texas rodeo. His class cheered him on during his live stream! Congratulations, Eylam!



*Let's HOPE this mild weather continues throughout January!!*



**Spruce Grove Family and Community Support Services (FCSS)** provides short-term, professional, confidential counselling services to eligible residents.

This short-term counselling service is goal oriented and focuses on developing practical coping skills over the course of 8 sessions.

Residents can [email us](#) or call 780-962-7318 to determine their eligibility and schedule an intake.

Following a brief screening to determine eligibility, client's may be offered counselling through FCSS or referred to an appropriate resource in the community. Counselling services through FCSS are offered by Aspire Psychological Services.

**Eligibility:**

- Must reside in Spruce Grove, Stony Plain or Parkland County.
- Must be low income to meet income thresholds and have no other benefit package that pays for counselling.
- Must have consent from both custodial parents/guardians if client's are under the age of 16 or a court order that specially addresses consent.
- Cannot be seeking services for court-ordered purposes or who are involved in litigation.
- The Spruce Grove FCSS Counselling Program works on a short-term model (8 sessions) and may refer residents to another service that provides longer-term treatment if deemed clinically and/or ethically appropriate.

Please feel free to share information with anyone who may benefit from this free, short-term counselling service. Information can also be found on [our website](#).

Thank You,

Voirrey Manning) | Office Coordinator - FCSS | City of Spruce Grove | #105, 505 Queen Street | Spruce Grove AB | T7X 2V2 |

Phone: 780-962-7618 | Fax: 780.960.5228 | [www.sprucegrove.org](http://www.sprucegrove.org)

Due to the current situation with COVID-19, the Spruce Grove FCSS office is not currently accepting walk-in traffic, however staff are available by phone at 780-962-7618 or email [fcss@sprucegrove.org](mailto:fcss@sprucegrove.org).

For updates visit: <https://www.sprucegrove.org/COVID19>

*Have a great Month!*