

FIRESIDE FOCUS



Fireside Focus – December 13

Please note: The Christmas Food Drive has ended. An earlier version of this newsletter still had the event posted, but it is no longer running.

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Upcoming Dates

- [School Website Calendar](#)

- Monday, Dec 16 - Festive Hat Day
- Tuesday, Dec 17 - Wear Red & White Day
- Tuesday, Dec 17 - *School Spirit* - Grade 4/5 Performance (6:00 pm - 7:00 pm, doors open at 5:30)
- Wednesday, Dec 18 - Ugly Sweater Day
- Thursday, Dec 19 - Dress Formal & Snowball Dance Day
- Friday, Dec 20 - Candygrams Delivered & Pajama Day
- Friday, Dec 20 - Last Day of Classes Before Winter Break
- Monday, Jan 6 - First Day of Classes After Winter Break

From the Admin Desk

Hello Fireside Friends and Families,

We'll start this edition the same way we started the last one: What an energy filled week! There was SO much on the go over these last five days – wrapping up the Food Drive, Golden Trash Can, Candygrams, "Find the Present," Winter Performance preparations, the start of basketball league play, Gingerbread House building, a ping pong tournament, class bake sales, buddy classes, and... oh yeah... let's not forget learning! We did a lot of that too. In fact, one of our guest teachers in Grade 7 commented to Mr. Ness this week, "I'm SO impressed with how much work your kids are still doing this close to the break! If it weren't for the decorations and activities, you'd think it was October!" That's high praise indeed.



We were absolutely blown away with the volume of food donations gathered for the Cochrane Activettes this year. It seems every year, we beat another record. Perhaps the extra motivation of a competition with Rancheview helped. Fireside won soundly bringing in more than three times as many items in total and almost double the number of items per student. Of course, the real winners are the Activettes and the many families who will be helped by them this winter. Thank you to all the families who donated food, and thanks as well to the student leadership team, lead by Mrs. Pyle, Mrs. Lawrence, Ms. Smith & Mrs. Cooledge, for their organization and efforts in making this happen.

We were also excited to welcome Brody Espersen, airline pilot with Northern Air, to share his experiences in becoming a commercial pilot with some of our grade 7 & 8 students who expressed an interest in aviation. This is the first in a series of small group career-connection engagements for our older students.

Next week promises to be another busy one with theme days, a winter musical, a school dance, and... of course... the countdown to winter break. Take one more peek at the calendar before we make it to Monday, as there's plenty going on.

Have a warm and wonderful weekend!

Dave Banderk (Principal)

Kirsty Reade (Assistant Principal, K-4)

Jason Ness (Assistant Principal, 5-8)

Traffic Cones at Kiss & Go Crosswalk

Drivers may notice during drop-off times there are now traffic cones being placed on a section of street near the crosswalk closest to the Kiss & Go exit. This is to limit vehicles from stopping within 5m of the crosswalk. We have seen some near misses with vehicles in recent weeks and would like to urge drivers to go slowly and take care at crosswalks.





1 - Some grade 6 ping pong action!



2 - Brody Espersen shares information about his experiences as a pilot with Grade 7 & 8 students.



3 - Junior 'A' Basketball season kicked off on Friday with our girls defeating WG Murdoch school from Crossfield.

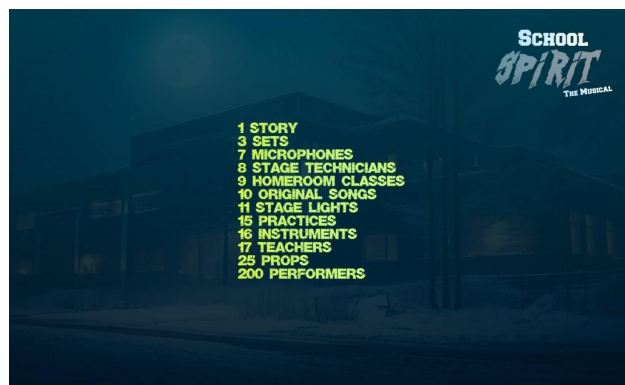




4 - Move over Stanley Cup! The Golden Trash Can was the most coveted prize in Fireside School this week.



Updated: School Spirit - December School Performance



“Let it be clear, there are no ghouls at Fireside School.”

Our winter musical, *School Spirit* is next week!

The front doors to the school will open at 5:30PM on Tuesday, December 17th. Students are to head directly to their classrooms while audience members find seating in the gymnasium. Be aware that this show features sudden loud noises and bright, flashing lights.

We cannot wait to share our incredible performing artists with the community!

Updated: Volunteer Opportunities - December Student Leadership Activities



Student Leadership is looking for Holiday Elves to support some upcoming student-led initiatives! If you are available to support with the below initiatives please email our Leadership Teachers of these events (Mrs. Pyle bpyle@rockyview.ab.ca and Ms. Smith lismith@rockyview.ab.ca)

- Candy Gram Sorting/Prep: December 17th & 18th (during the school day, time flexible)
- GingerBuild Competition Support Supervisors - - December 12th,13th,16th from 1:00-2:00pm. Primarily in Elementary classes

Volunteer Opportunity - School Performance

If you have some time on the evening of December 17th, from 5:00pm to 7:30pm, Mr. Petterson would really appreciate a couple more volunteers to help make the school performance of *School Spirit* truly magical. If you are available, please reach out to him

at dpetterson@rockyview.ab.ca. Mr Petterson is also hoping to borrow some artificial Christmas trees for the student performances on Dec 17th. If you're able to help, please contact him.

Reminder: Volunteer Opportunities - Literacy



Our Literacy Teacher, Mrs. Hall is looking for ongoing help with student literacy and fostering a love of reading. We are looking for parent volunteers to read with students in grades 1 through 4. This is a great way to contribute to your child's learning experience while also supporting other students in the school.

Flexible Commitment:

- We understand that parents have busy schedules, so there is no minimum or maximum commitment required. Whether you can spare 30 minutes after school drop-off or before pick-up, any time you can give is greatly appreciated!

When and Where:

- Student(s) will come with a selection of books they pick and together you will find a comfortable spot (Learning Commons, Literacy Room etc.) to read to/with the student. You do not need to commit to a regular schedule; even a half-hour session here or there can make a big difference in a child's reading development and confidence. If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information, please contact Leslie Hall at lahall@rockyview.ab.ca to sign up or ask any questions. Thank you!

Contact Us!

Fireside School

403.932.4868

fireside@rockyview.ab.ca

<http://fireside.rockyview.ab.ca>