

FIRESIDE FOCUS



Fireside Focus – January 10

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Upcoming Dates

- [School Website Calendar](#)
- Wednesday, Jan 15 - Healthy Hunger - OPA!
- Monday, Jan 20 - Grade 5 - Pedersen & Fuller - Hangar Flight Museum Field Trip
- Tuesday, Jan 21 - Grade 5 - McCormick & Lawrence - Hangar Flight Museum Field Trip

- Friday, Jan 24 Junior 'A' Basketball Tournament (Boys @ Windsong, Girls @ Bearspaw)

From the Admin Desk

Hello Fireside Friends and Families,

It's back to "normal" for us here at Fireside and a shorter Focus this week. If you compare our January calendar with the one we sent out in early December, you can definitely see it'll be regular business for a while. While we loved all the festivities and fun we had in December, we won't complain about having a few weeks of "vanilla." We hope everyone had a very relaxing and festive holiday. Our staff sure did, but we were excited to see the kids back, rested and ready for learning.

We had our January Parent Council and Friends of Fireside meetings on Wednesday. We're always thrilled to see so many parents coming to learn about the work we do, provide important feedback, and help support the school. Our meetings are always the first Wednesday of the month, and we'd love to see even more parents at our next one. Stay tuned for fundraising news, including our casino nights in June.

Have an excellent weekend enjoying our unseasonably warm temperatures!

Dave Banderk (Principal)

Kirsty Reade (Assistant Principal, K-4)

Jason Ness (Assistant Principal, 5-8)



1 - In music, Mrs.Carriere's students are working on portraying expression through drama!



2 - Some Grade 5 Air & Aerodynamics testing of carefully engineered aircraft.



3 - All smiles being back at school on Monday! (editor's note: this photo may or may not have been taken on Monday)

Read-a-Thon Book Swap Donations



As part of our annual read-a-thon and celebration of all things reading, Fireside school will be having our first ever book swap for our Grade 5-8 students. These students will have the opportunity to get a free, “gently used” book. From **January 13th** to **February 5th**, students are encouraged to bring in “gently used” chapter books, graphic novels/manga, and non-fiction books that are appropriate for students in grades 5-8. Donations can all be dropped off at the Learning Commons. All books donated will be reviewed by Fireside staff

Book Criteria - Please read carefully prior to donating, as we cannot accept books that do not fit criteria:

1. Books must be paperback or hardback and appropriate for grades 5-8
2. Books must be in gently used condition (cover on, no rips, tears, missing pages, water damage, etc.
3. Please use black marker to cross names out

We will NOT be able to accept the following:

- story books for younger children
- novels for high school students/adults
- Books with coloring or writing
- Coloring books, activity books, and sticker books
- Books from Fast Food restaurants (ex. Happy Meal Books)

Please note that the selection of books available will be based on what books are donated. If you have any questions, please contact Leslie Hall (lahall@rockyview.ab.ca) or Erik Lofthouse (elofthouse@rockyview.ab.ca).

There is a special kind of joy in opening a book for the first time and uncovering the story within, and we hope this book swap will give our older students an opportunity to experience that feeling once again!

SOAR Corner



The positive behaviour theme for the month of January is *Reporting a Problem* under our school rule of being *Safe*. With our younger students, we discuss the difference between "tattling" and "reporting," encouraging them to problem-solve when it makes sense to do so and get help when problems are bigger. The focus for the older students tends to be around the importance of bringing issues to the attention of adults. We can't help when we don't know there's a problem, and "snitches" most definitely do not get "stitches." School staff take challenging problems seriously, and we're here to help.

Families, please also know that our Fireside Staff want to support you as well. If there is a problem your child talks to you about, and you are not sure what the next steps are, reach out to your child's classroom teacher or school administration, and they will be sure to support you or direct you to the right person.



NEW Volunteer Opportunities

- Our read-a-thon committee is looking for some volunteers to help with the Grade 5-8 book swap that will be happening February 7th. Volunteers would be helping with cleaning and organizing the books after each class comes through, helping kids look for books, and assisting with the clean-up at the end of the day. If you are able to spare an hour to help out, please use the sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A4FAFAF29A5FDC43-54311966-fireside>
- If you are able to help out with our next Healthy Hunger Lunch, OPA!, on Wednesday, January 15th, please email Courtney Sheppard (csheppard@rockyview.ab.ca). Volunteers help organize the meals by class and deliver them to the proper classrooms. Many hands make light work and we appreciate all that can come out!
- We are always excited to have parent volunteers in to read with our students. If you are interested in finding a time once a week, once a month, or anything in between, please contact Leslie Hall (lahall@rockyview.ab.ca), or your classroom teacher, and together we will ensure to have you connected with our students through literature!

Contact Us!

Fireside School

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