

# **FIRESIDE FOCUS**



## Fireside Focus – January 24

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### *Upcoming Dates*

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- [School Website Calendar](#)
- Tuesday, Jan 28 - Outdoor Leadership Field Trip to Banded Peak School

- Thursday, Jan 30 - Grade 2 - Iqaluit Day
- Monday, Feb 3 - [Kindergarten Registration](#) for 2025-26 School Year Opens
- Monday, Feb 3 - Grade 8 Field Trip to Glenbow Ranch Provincial Park
- Wednesday, Feb 5 - Kindergarten Information Session (parents only) 5:00 - 5:30 pm + Q&A
- Wednesday, Feb 5 - School Council (6:30 pm) and Friends of Fireside (7:30 pm) Meetings
- Wednesday, Feb 12 - [Healthy Hunger](#) (Booster Juice)
- Monday, Feb 17 to Friday, Feb 21 - No Classes (Family Day, February Break, Teachers' Convention)

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*From the Admin Desk*

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Hello Fireside Friends and Families,

This was a week, and it doesn't matter who you talk to, they were busy! It is funny, when you are so engrossed in your own little piece of the puzzle, you don't always notice what is going on in the other areas. We cannot wait to share with you all that was happening, in all the corners. Thank you to all the teachers who captured these moments for us!

But, before sending you on a photo journey of the week's happenings, we'd like to put a quick reminder in that your children's academic progress can be checked using the [PowerSchool](#) App for [iOS](#) and [Android](#). For detailed information on how to access more information on a particular task's grade, such as curriculum outcomes & standards, check out this [guide](#).

Onto the photos! First up, collaboration and connection throughout the grades:



1 - Espersen's Grade 3s and Mrs. Pedersen's Grade 5s class working on multiplication Tetrises.



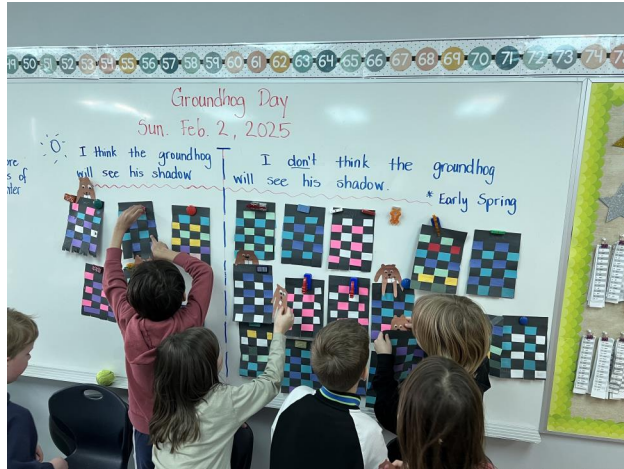


2 - All the past Grade 6 Mavericks having lunch together, reminiscing.



3 - Grade 1s in Mrs. Cheverie's class working together to solve puzzles.





4 - Mrs. Nusl's Groundhog Day predictions



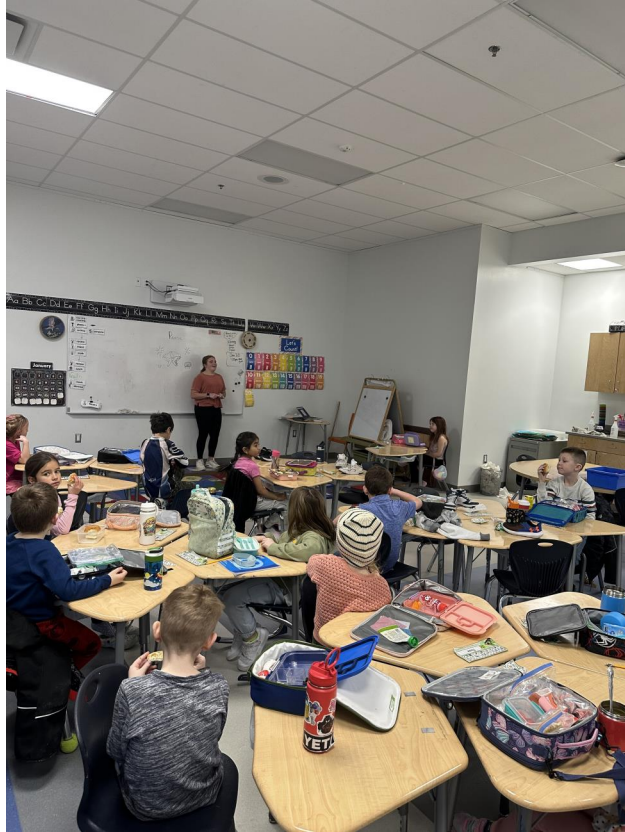
5 - Mrs. Doll's Class, working on their gymnastic poses.





*6 - Grade 7 Gymnastics Balancing Poses!*





*7 - Leadership students helping during Grade 1 lunch.*





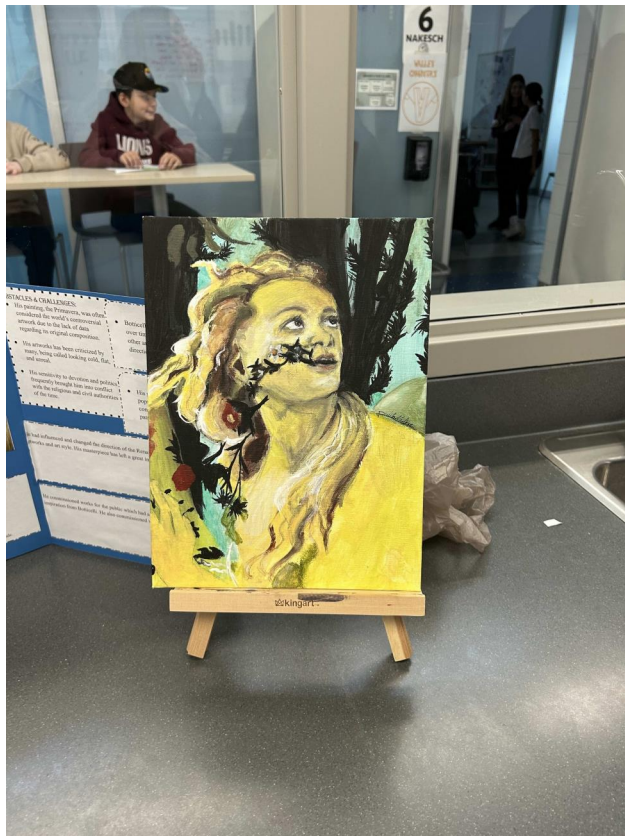
Our Grade 5 classes were off on a field trip this week to the Hanger Museum. There was tons of fun and students were busy telling us about all that they saw and experienced when they got back! Thank you to all the volunteers who joined on this adventure!

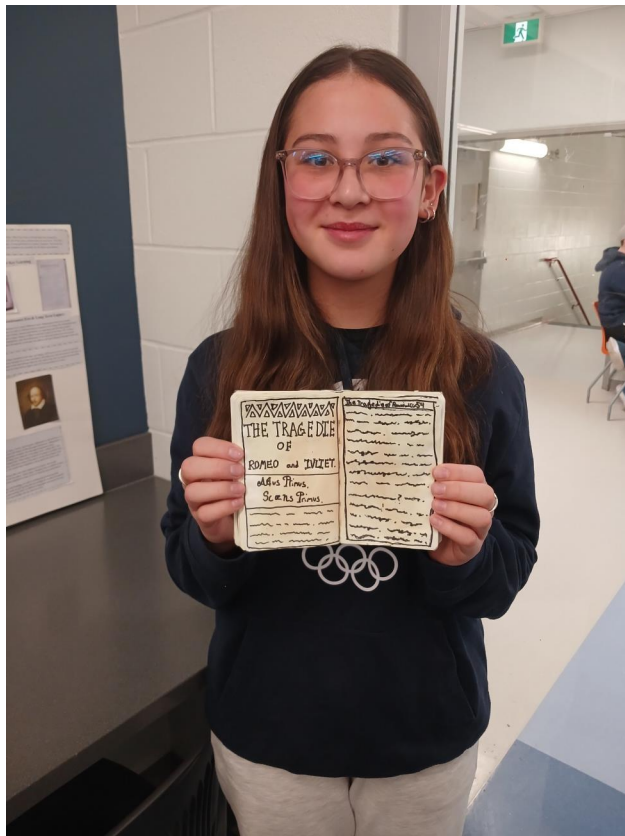




Mr. Whittleton held a Renaissance Fair with his classes. The students enjoyed seeing what each other created and having the time to learn from one another.











Our Grade 7/8 band had the honour of hosting Tyler Grant, the band director from Bow Valley High School. It was fun having him lead the band for the day and learning from his expertise! Thanks for joining us Mr. Grant!



Another fun way of connecting...through movement and exercise. Seeing our classes utilizing all the great new equipment that our Phys. Ed. Program has unpackaged this year is exciting!









We hope that everyone has a great weekend, spending time together, creating memories!

Dave Banderk (Principal)

Kirsty Reade (Assistant Principal, K-4)

Jason Ness (Assistant Principal, 5-8)

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***Kindergarten Registration is COMING!!***

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Kindergarten registration for the 2025/26 school year will open for all schools in Rocky View Schools (RVS) on **February 3, 2025**.

Alberta's standardized age of Kindergarten entry requires students to turn five years old by Dec. 31 of the school year they begin Kindergarten. This means children born between Jan. 1 and Dec. 31, 2020, can register for Kindergarten for the 2025/26 school year.

In RVS, Kindergarten is offered as a half-day program in most elementary schools. Select schools have a full-day Kindergarten program on alternating days. Later in the spring, children will be placed in morning or afternoon programs based on circumstances outlined by parents and



available space. Although registration will continue throughout the year, registering early helps families and schools plan for a successful transition and provides RVS necessary information to have teachers and resources in place.

All new registrations for Kindergarten must be completed through SchoolEngage, RVS' online registration system. During operational hours, our school will have computer access, and can assist families, who otherwise do not have access to a computer.

Families can visit our RVS dedicated Kindergarten registration [webpage](#) for more information about Kindergarten registration too!

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### *Kindergarten Information Night for Caregivers*

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Do you have a child who is starting Kindergarten in September? Would like to know more about our school and our program? Then please join us Wednesday, February 5th from 5:00pm-6:00pm. We will have a variety of individuals available to answer any questions you may have about the Kindergarten program at Fireside School, and Rocky View School Division as a whole.

**FIRESIDE SCHOOL**  
OPEN MINDS • OPEN HEARTS • OPEN DOORS

### Kindergarten Information Session for Parents and Caregivers

Topics Include:

- Why is Kindergarten important?
- Program offerings at Fireside
- Transportation
- Learning Supports

Wednesday February 5th 5-6 pm  
(30min presentation and tour followed by Q&A session)

Fireside School  
12 Fireside Parkway  
Cochrane, AB T4C2L8

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*Reminder: Friends of Fireside*

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**Raffle Prize Donations Needed!**

The Friends of Fireside are gearing up for the 5th annual March Madness Prize Calendar fundraiser to support Fireside School! The funds raised will go toward new classroom resources and improvements in the outdoor space.

In previous years the funds have gone to support a rock climbing wall, cameras for photography classes, equipment for recreational leadership classes, lights and speakers to support the school concerts, help with the outdoor learning centre and so much more.

If you own a local business (or know someone who does), we'd love your support with a prize or gift certificate for the raffle. Your donation (minimum \$20 value) will help us reach our goals and give your business visibility in our promotional materials and social media on our Friends of Fireside platform.

Please contact us at [president@friendsoffireside.ca](mailto:president@friendsoffireside.ca) if you're interested in donating one or more prizes for raffle. All prizes are needed by January 31st.

Thanks for helping make a difference in our school community!

Cheers,

Friends of Fireside

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*Reminder: Read-a-Thon Book Swap Donations*

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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](mailto:lahall@rockyview.ab.ca)) or Erik Lofthouse ([elofthouse@rockyview.ab.ca](mailto: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!

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### *Reminder: Volunteer Opportunities*

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- **February 7th:** We are seeking volunteers to help with our Grade 5-8 book swap. 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>
- 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](mailto: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

403.932.4868

[fireside@rockyview.ab.ca](mailto:fireside@rockyview.ab.ca)

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