

FIRESIDE FOCUS



Fireside Focus – May 9

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NEW Photos!

Upcoming Dates

[School Calendar](#)

- Wednesday, May 14 – Healthy Hunger - Mucho Burrito
- Wednesday, May 14 – Deadline to [RSVP](#) for the Volunteer Appreciation Tea
- Wednesday, May 14 – Grade 6 AHS Immunizations
- Thursday, May 15 – Grade 7 Track Meet (8:00 am, Ed Eggerer Athletic Park, Airdrie)
- Friday, May 16 – Professional Learning Day (no classes)
- Monday, May 19 – Victoria Day (no classes)
- Tuesday, May 20 – Grade 8 Track Meet (8:00 am, Ed Eggerer Athletic Park, Airdrie)
- Wednesday, May 21 – Grade 7 Calgary Zoo Field Trip
- Thursday, May 22 – Grade 7 & 8 Track Rain Out Date
- Wednesday, May 28 – Volunteer Appreciation Tea (11:30 am, details below)
- Wednesday, May 28 – Grade 6 English Language Arts Provincial Achievement Test
- Wednesday, May 28 – Grade 1 Cochrane Rancho House Field Trip
- Friday, May 30 – Grade 6 SLS Centre Field Trip

From the Admin Desk

Hello Fireside Friends and Families,

It's a short admin message this week, as we've got a long one below about a high-interest topic: next year's class lists. It was a great week of learning and activity at Fireside. We had our "make-up" concert for the 1s, 2s & 3s who didn't get to perform in *Go Fish!* on the first go-round. Our 8s enjoyed sports day at the SLS Center. Our 1s got to check out the Cochrane Fire Department's truck as firefighters came to the school for presentations. And the Kinders got to hang with the REALLY big kids over at Bow Valley High School. Classes were buzzing and recesses were warm. All in all, a great week!



1 - Recess Fun!

Enjoy some of the pictures of our week below and what promises to be a beautiful weekend ahead.

Dave Banderk (Principal)

Kirsty Reade (Assistant Principal, K-4)

Jason Ness (Assistant Principal, 5-8)

Class Creation for Next Year

Every year at the end of summer, there's an annual ritual of excitement and nervous anticipation when families find out whose class the kids will be in and which classmates they'll be joining. Our staff takes the process of creating classes very carefully, and it's one of the most challenging puzzles for us at the end of every school year.

As we have in the past, we'll be asking students in grade 2 and upward to share the names of a couple "good learning partner" friends who help them to be their best selves as learners and

citizens. We also do our best to make it very clear that we can't guarantee every child will get the friends they asked for. That's because our Tetris puzzle of class creation has many factors and priorities. Here are the main things we take into account and attempt to balance:



1. Class complexity. Every grade has a wide range of learning needs, "energy levels," and social/emotional factors. Balancing these across classes is one of our highest priorities. We want students who need that extra attention and support to have as much of it as possible in all of a grade's classes.
2. Learning needs. We try to put students together who will be positive learning influences on one another. Sometimes that also means putting students who didn't have the best influence on one another in different classes. And sometimes those are kids who requested one another as friends.
3. Friendships & peer culture. We do want students to feel like they're starting their year with some familiar faces and a sense of belonging. However, we also know that friendships shift every year and new friends will be made.
4. Gender. It's certainly not the most important piece, but we do try to make sure there's a gender balance in each class.

As we approach the end of a year we get this question a lot: "Can I make a request for next year?" Yes you can, but please bear in mind: we can't make promises.

Can I request certain peers to be in my child's class next year? Yes. Please email your child's teacher.

Can I request certain peers to not be in my child's class next year: Yes. Please email the assistant principal for next year's grade ([Kirsty Reade](#) – K-4, [Jason Ness](#) – 5-8).

Can I request a particular teacher: Yes, but please don't get your hopes up. We make the classes before we assign the teachers to them. If families with kids in the same class request different teachers, unfortunately someone is going to be disappointed. Please email the assistant principal for next year's grade ([Kirsty Reade](#) – K-4, [Jason Ness](#) – 5-8).

We try to meet as many requests as we can, but sometimes the puzzle just can't fit the way everyone wants. We make no promises, but we'll do our best.

Class creation will begin before the end of May, so if you have asks, please make them in the next couple weeks. August/September requests are much more difficult to accommodate.

Assessment at RVS: Numeracy and Literacy Interventions

Rocky View Schools is sharing a series of articles on the division website regarding assessments: the process of gathering data about student learning. This information is intended to help provide greater insight into why and when assessments are done and encourage ongoing communication between teachers and families to support student success.

Read the second article in our series this month, [covering numeracy and literacy interventions at RVS](#). Our earlier article, [Understanding Provincial and Divisional Assessments](#), is also available on our website.

Reminder: Friends of Fireside Casino

NEW GREENHOUSE PROJECT FOR FIRESIDE SCHOOL

- We are thrilled to announce our upcoming Friends of Fireside Casino, another important fundraiser in support of the greenhouse project.
- We wanted to send out a **HUGE** thank you for signing up to help with the Friends of Fireside School casino weekend! We could not do this without you! We are in the process of creating our final schedule and job placements, and will email them out next week. We are still short volunteers, mostly "on-call" shifts. If you know someone who could help us out last minute in case of a cancellation, please have them [sign up here](#). We would really appreciate it!

- **To confirm: casino shifts Friday, June 6th, and Saturday, June 7th, Located at Ace Casino Blackfoot.** We will email next week with your assigned shift and position. Thank you again so much for your help!

Reminder: Volunteer Tea

We cannot thank our volunteers enough! So many parents and family members have come into our school, joined us on field trips, coached, or have worked behind the scenes to ensure that our students have exceptional experiences in their learning journey.

Please join us for an enchanting get together, so staff and students can celebrate you! All volunteers are welcome, regardless of how often or how big your volunteer action was. Please see the attached poster with all the details. Please [RSVP](#) by May 14th. We cannot wait to see you!



2 - <https://forms.gle/tDr6armoWMqPU3Nu9>

Elementary Schools Track and Field Championships



The Alberta Schools Athletic Association would like to announce the first-ever Elementary School Track & Field City Championships, happening on **Saturday, May 31!**

This exciting new event is open to all students in **Grades 3, 4, 5, and 6** from across Calgary and area. The event's goal is to create a fun and inclusive day that celebrates the core elements of physical literacy: running, jumping, and throwing, while offering students a chance to experience the joy of friendly competition.

Unlike older students, younger grades haven't had this kind of opportunity, **until now**. It's going to be a day full of movement, joy, and discovery for kids. Whether they're new to track and field or already passionate about sports, this event will be a fantastic experience.

Details:

Foothills Track – 2431 Crowchild Trail N.W.

May 31, 2025, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Entry Fee: \$10 per event

Entry Deadline: May 20, 2025 @ 11:59 p.m.

[Register here](#)

Heat Sheets, Tentative Schedule, Final Schedule & Results will be posted on Trackie

Events:

Grade 3: 60m, 150m, Long Jump, Shot Put, Ball Throw, 300m

Grade 4: 80m, 150m, Long Jump, Shot Put, Ball Throw, 400m

Grade 5: 80m, 200m, Long Jump, Shot Put, High Jump, 400m

Grade 6: 100m, 200m, Long Jump, Shot Put, High Jump, 600m

Questions: Sam Read (sam.trackandfieldcoach@gmail.com) or Kim Cousins (kecousins1@gmail.com)

2025 Elementary Schools Track and Field Championship

Run, Jump, Throw, FUN

Foothills Track - 2431 Crowchild Trail N.W.

May 31, 2025

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Calling all Grade 3, 4, 5, & 6 students. Come test your skills in running, jumping and throwing! Challenge yourself and have a blast competing against other local elementary school athletes. Bring your energy, bring your friends and let's make it a day to remember.



<https://www.trackie.com/event/2025-elementary-school-championships/1019863/>



Reminder: Volunteer Opportunities

- **WE ARE ALMOST THERE - - CASINO WORKERS STILL NEEDED!** Friends of Fireside are seeking volunteers for casino shifts on June 6th and June 7th. If you're able to lend a hand, please sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A44A5AC28A0FDC16-55192814-casino#>



3 - Go Fish! The Sequel





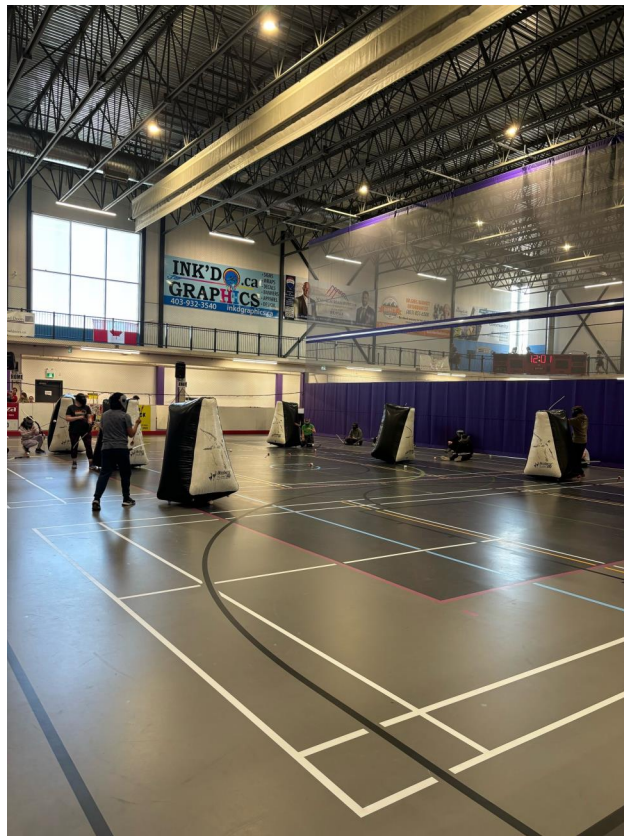
4 - Fire Hall Day for Grade 1





5 - Grade 8 SLS Sports Day















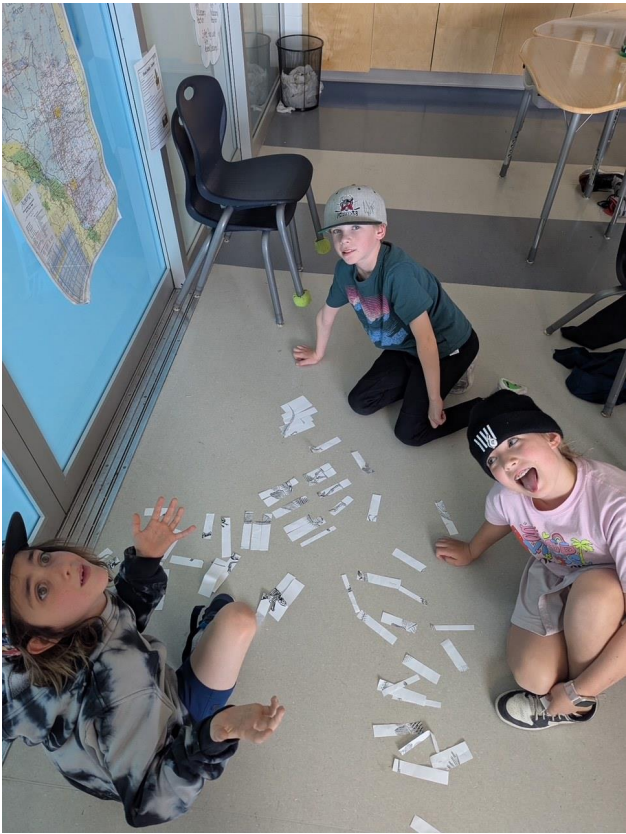


6 - Kinder Field Trip to BVHS

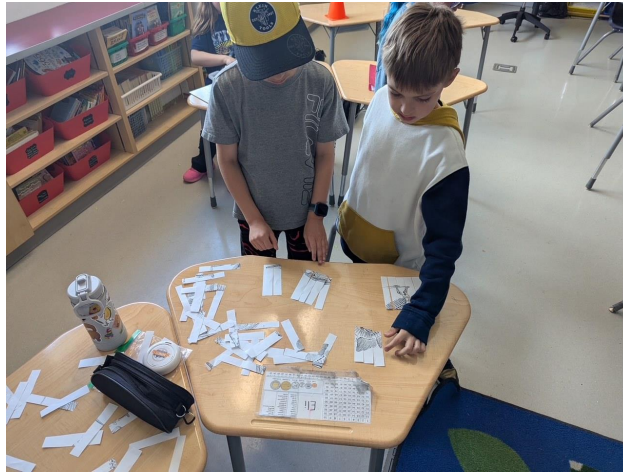




7 - Grade 2 Measurement



8 - Grade 4s Unearthing Dinosaur Bones



Contact Us!

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