

FIRESIDE FOCUS

OPEN MINDS ■ OPEN HEARTS ■ OPEN DOORS

The Week Ahead ~ October 7 to October 14, 2022

Upcoming Events at a Glance

| Date | Time | Event |
|---|---|---|
| Monday, Oct 10 | | Thanksgiving Day – No School |
| Friday, Oct 14 | 3:00 to 3:50 & 6:00 to 6:50 pm | Junior A Boys Volleyball Tournament at Fireside School |
| Friday, Oct 14 | 6:00 to 7:50 pm | Junior A Girls Volleyball Tournament at Banded Peak School |
| Friday, Oct 21 | 3:00 to 3:50 & 7:00 to 7:50 pm | Junior A Girls Volleyball Tournaments at Fireside School |
| Friday, Oct 21 | 4:00 to 5:50 pm | Junior A Boys Volleyball Tournaments at Rancheview School |
| Friday, Oct 28 | 4:00 to 5:50 pm | Junior A Boys Volleyball Tournament at Banded Peak School |
| Friday, Oct 28 | 3:00 to 4:50 pm | Junior A Girls Volleyball Tournament at Rancheview School |
| Friday, Oct 28 | *K-grade 4 are 5:30 to 7:00 pm *grades 5-8 are 7:00 to 8:30 pm (UPDATED) | Hallowe'en Family Dance hosted by <i>Friends of Fireside</i> (see below) |
| Tuesday, Oct 11 through Monday, Oct. 31 | | "It's Socktober!" Event (see below) |
| Wednesday, Nov. 16 | | Grade 6 Immunizations |
| Wednesday, Nov, 16 & Thursday, Nov. 17 | 4:00 to 7:00 pm each day | 3-Way Conferences |
| May and June 2023 | | Grade 6 Provincial Achievement Tests – schedule will be shared once it is finalized; see below |

Greetings Fireside families & friends! This week was jam-packed with learning and opportunities for parents as well.

Over the course of the week, teachers continued to complete Literacy and Numeracy Assessments this week, in line with Rocky View Schools' Assessment directions (see below). On Wednesday, we had our School Council Annual General Meeting, where the new executive was elected (see below). Then, *Friends of Fireside* met to discuss plans for the upcoming Hallowe'en Family Dance on Friday, October 27 (see below).

On Thursday, we held our first S.O.A.R. Award Assembly to recognize students who received S.O.A.R. awards for exceptional engagement of Spirit, Outstanding Character, Achievement, and Respect & Responsibility last month. At the assembly, the Grade 2's also announced the "It's Socktober" event, which will be a school-wide initiative for the month of October (see below).



Wishing you and your family a lovely long weekend!

In this week's edition:

NEW: "It's Socktober!" Event

NEW: Hallowe'en Dance!

NEW: Transportation Fees

NEW: Assessment Updates from Rocky View Schools (Literacy & Numeracy)

NEW: Autism Aspergers Friendship Society Rural Cochrane Upcoming Events

NEW: Artistic Expressions this Week

NEW: Farewell Mrs. Fluker

NEW: Fireside School Council Executive Elected

REMINDER: Allergy Awareness, including for Events

REMINDER: 22/23 Athletics Schedule, Coaches Needed

REMINDER: Grade 6 Provincial Achievement Tests

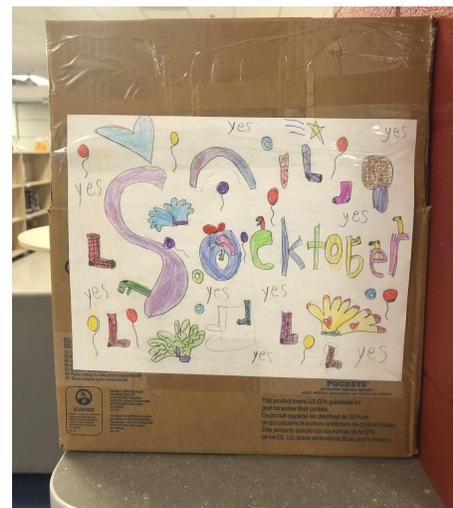
REMINDER: School Fees

Rocky View Parent Education Sessions (online)

Town of Cochrane Jacket Racket

[NEW: "It's Socktober!" Event](#)

The Grade 2 classes have launched their "It's Socktober!" Event and they need the help of students and families!. This project will see Fireside School students collecting socks, hair elastics, disposable razors, combs, and mini-gloves to bring and put in the boxes located in the Learning Commons and Main Office. All items will be given to the Big Hill Haven Shelter. This event will run from Tuesday, October 11 through Monday, October 31. Let's all Socktober together!



NEW: Hallowe'en Dance, Friday, Oct. 27



Who else is beyond excited for our Halloween Family Dance? We sure are!

A few important reminders:

- Everyone who enters will require a ticket (\$4/per person) Both a child and accompanying adult will need individual tickets. You can buy all tickets under the name of 1 teacher per student. The information is only used to distribute the tickets before the dance.
- Parent supervision is required; students who are not with a parent/guardian cannot be admitted.
- Coat check is available by donation.
- Concession is available, cash only (popcorn, juice boxes, etc.) Water is free.
- This is a scent-free and nut-free event.
- Siblings who are not attending Fireside School yet/any more? They are definitely welcome!

Hallowe'en costumes are strongly encouraged, but there are few rules:

- No blood & gore
- No weapons
- No inflatables

Tickets are going fast! Pre purchase your tickets here:

<https://checkout.square.site/buy/23JKS3DDEQGABQHUPGDW2KCS>

Got leftover Halloween decor you never use? We need decoration donations! If located in Cochrane, we can pick it up! Thanks in advance for your help!

Interested in volunteering? We are looking for parents who can help with setup, cleanup, line control, tuck shop, and floaters. Please contact us at president@friendsoffireside.ca.

Can't wait to see you all at the dance!

NEW: Transportation Fee Information

The RVS Transportation Department would like to remind you of a couple things:

For those transportation families who registered for bus service between June 27 to Aug 15 and selected the 50/50 fee payment option the second/final automatic payment should have been processed on October 1st. For those who registered for bus service after Aug 16th and selected the 50/50 fee payment option, the second/final automatic payment will be processed November 1st.

Should families wish to cancel service, please complete and submit a Transportation Cancellation 2022/23 form by October 31st to obtain a full refund.

[NEW: Assessment Updates from Rocky View School \(Literacy & Numeracy\)](#)

As part of Rocky View Schools' (RVS) plan to ensure that all of our students can read, write, and do math at appropriate levels, we have been engaging in a new assessment cycle alongside all all schools in RVS. Depending on your child's grade, they will be taking part in brief standardized assessments that give the teacher important information about the child's basic skills that can be used to guide instruction or to inform additional supports if needed. There is no preparation needed of your child for these assessments.

Your child's teachers can inform you at student-led conferences about their progress and how we can work together to support their skill development and growth. This information will not be shared as part of Real-Time Reporting in PowerSchool nor is it used to determine their performance level in their respective grade. The purpose is to see where they are at in their basic skills and guide us on a path of improvement.

If you have specific questions about your child's assessments or learning in general, please reach out to your child's teacher.

[NEW: Autism Aspergers Friendship Society Rural Cochrane Upcoming Events](#)

Social & Recreational respite for individuals on the Autism Spectrum

AAFS RURAL COCHRANE

OCTOBER 12TH: MOVIE THEATRE NIGHT (6PM-8:30PM)

OCTOBER 18TH: HALLOWEEN PARTY (6:30PM-8:30PM)

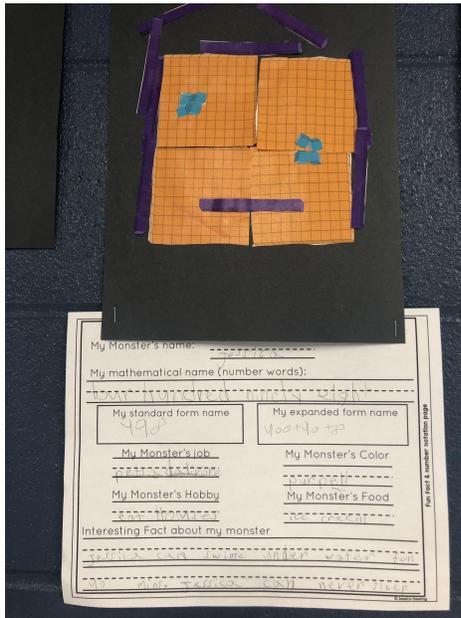
NOVEMBER 9TH: VIDEO GAME NIGHT (6:30PM-8:30PM)

REGISTER ONLINE
WWW.AAFSCALGARY.COM

AAFS

contact Kelsey at rural@aaftalgary.com with any questions

NEW: Artistic Expression this Week



NEW: Farewell Mrs. Fluker

Fireside School would like to bid a very fond farewell and best wishes to Mrs. Stacey Fluker who has served as the school's receptionist. Stacey has been the "Face of Fireside," answering phones and greeting almost every parent, visitor, delivery person, late student, contractor, and many others who have entered our school over the past few years. We're sad to see her go, but we know she'll be a great asset in her next role. All the best Mrs. Fluker!

NEW: Fireside School Council Executive Elected

Fireside School Council held its Annual General Meeting on Wednesday. Elections for executive were held, and we are pleased to welcome Dawn Farmer and Chelsea Berreth as co-chairs and Garima Sharma as secretary. Council will meet on the first Wednesday of every month, and we hope to see even more parents at our council meetings as the year goes on.

REMINDER: 22/23 Athletics Schedule, Coaches Needed

Throughout the year, Grade 6, 7 & 8 students have many opportunities to participate in extracurricular sports. We love seeing the enthusiasm, energy, and dedication the kids put into their athletic endeavors. We're also extraordinarily grateful for parents and other members of our community who support these activities with their time as coaches. We would love to have some parent/community coaches lend their time and expertise in developing our young athletes. All sports will have a teacher sponsor or co-coach, so a full commitment to all practices and events may not be necessary.

Our athletic schedule is below, along with the time commitments involved with the sport. To express your interest in coaching a sport, please contact Athletic Director Melanie Hamilton mhamilton@rockyview.ab.ca.

Practices generally run right after school from 2:30-4.

September/October: Junior A Volleyball (10 weeks, 2 practices/week, 3 Friday evening tournaments, one full school day divisional tournament)

October/November: Grade 6 Volleyball (3-4 weeks, 2 practices/week, 1 Friday tournament)

November: Junior B Volleyball (4-5 weeks, 2 practices/week, 3 Friday tournaments)

December/January/February: Junior A Basketball (10 weeks, 2 practices/week, 3 Friday evening tournaments, one full school day divisional tournament)

February/March: Junior B Basketball (4-5 weeks, 2 practices/week, 3 Friday tournaments)

March: Grade 6 Basketball (3-4 weeks, 2 practices a week, 1 Friday tournament)

March/April: Grade 7 and 8 Badminton (5-6 weeks, 2 practices/week, 1 daytime tournament)

April/May: Grade 7 and 8 Track and Field (lunchtime and after school practices for 3-4 weeks)

May/June: Grade 6 Soccer (3 weeks, 2 practices/ week, 1 tournament)

REMINDER: Grade 6 Provincial Achievement Tests

In May and June of the 2022-23 school year, Fireside School's grade 6 students will write Provincial Achievement Tests (PATs) in their core courses. PATs are written by students in grade 6 and grade 9, and they are used to determine if students are learning and understanding course content and achieving course outcomes.

[The Grade 6 Parent Guide, 2022-23](#) is put out by Alberta Education to help parents and families prepare for and understand Provincial Achievement Tests, including how they are used for assessment purposes by the province; schools also look at those results to improve learning. Throughout the year, students will be looking at strategies and skills for doing their best when demonstrating their learning and understanding on assessments, including the PATs, which are one part of the evaluation picture for each student. Please note that, this year, the PATs will make up 5% of each grader 6 student's final grade.

Reminder: School Fees

In order to enhance student safety and school efficiencies, Rocky View Schools have become cashless. All student fees will be posted to *SchoolCash Online* and parents/guardians will receive an email when a new fee is available for payment.

If you do not already have a SchoolCash Online account, please get registered today:
<https://rockyview.schoolcashionline.com>

Parents/guardians only need one account and can add all students in Rocky View Schools.

Fireside School Fees have been charged for the following Sports Teams and Optional Courses:

Jr A Boys & Girls Volleyball (\$75)

***Optional Course Fees (OCF) for Grade 7/8 Term 1: Art - \$10, Shop - \$15, Fibre Arts - \$15,
Foods - \$15, Drama - \$15***

Please Note: Fees for Band 6, 7, and 8 are pending and will be charged once the band shirt details are determined. Fees for Field Trips will be posted and available for payment as trips arise. Teachers will provide notification of field trips to families.

Fee Waiver Applications

Please be aware that there are two separate Fee Waiver Application forms, both requiring proof of GST Rebate:

1. AF5105-A: Optional Course Fee Waiver Form (for Gr 7/8 OCFs) is available from the school office. Once completed, the form is submitted to the school Principal for approval.
2. AF5105-F: Transportation Fee Waiver Form is available through School Engage. This form is routed to the RVS Transportation Department.

If there are any questions please contact our school office.

REMINDER: Allergy Awareness, including for Events

Some students and staff at Fireside School have nut or fragrance allergies. Therefore, Fireside is a nut-aware and scent-aware school. Please do not send items with nuts to school with students during the school day or to school events, such as tournaments. We also ask that students **not** wear perfume, cologne, essential oils, or other strongly scented products or sprays to school, including to school events such as tournaments, concerts, dances, et cetera. This request includes essential oils with strong scents. Additionally, students should **not** bring perfume, cologne, or body spray products (e.g. Axe, Coconut, Orange) to school with them, including essential oils (e.g. coconut, orange, patchouli, etc.). We ask the same for parents, families, volunteers, or visitors who are entering the school at any time, whether it be to drop something off or to attend meetings, conferences, presentations, or tournaments, please.

Thank you for your attention to and respect of these health concerns: we want to keep everyone safe at Fireside!

NEW: Parent Education Sessions (Virtual Online) in partnership with Community Education Services

11 Oct 2022

Earth Play: The Benefits of Outdoor Exploration ***please register using the poster only***

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

They don't call them the great outdoors for nothing! Getting outside is great for both mental health and physical health! This session will provide individuals with information about the benefits of messy play,

exploration, and adventure for supporting positive mental health and provide practical, age-appropriate ideas for kids to get outside, get moving, and get messy!

[Poster](#)

20 Oct 2022

Adolescent Brain Development and Navigating Parent-Teen Relationships ***please register using the poster only***

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Adolescence is a magical time when children enter a period of huge growth and change. Bodies and brains change, emotions become more volatile, friends become more important, and the parent-child relationship morphs into a parent-teen relationship. In this session we will discuss the adolescent brain, how to support healthy brain development, promoting resilience, and navigating the ways that your relationship with your teen will evolve as they slowly but surely become little adults.

[Poster](#)



JACKET RACKET EVENT

SAT, OCT 29 | 10AM-12PM | FREE | INFO: 403-851-2265
COCHRANE ALLIANCE CHURCH, 902 GLENBOW DR.

Join us for the annual winter clothing event to pick up gently-used winter wear for you and your family. There will be Halloween costumes too!

The morning will include snacks and children's activities.

If you, or someone you know, needs winter wear, please stop by!

Winter Clothing/Costume Donations Accepted - Oct 12-26:

- Bow Valley Credit Union
- BGC Cochrane
- Cochrane Alliance Church
- Family & Community Support Services (FCSS)
- Family Resource Network (FRN)
- Ranchehouse
- Safeway Cochrane

