

The Week Ahead ~ September 16 to September 23, 2022

Upcoming Events at a Glance

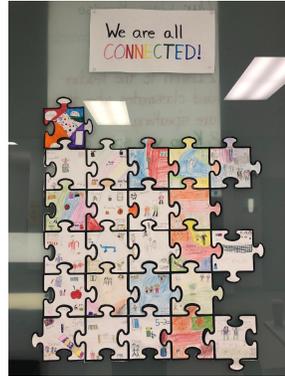
Date	Time	Event
Monday, Sept 19		Queen Elizabeth II's Funeral – Students to Attend School
Friday, Sept 30		National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (no school)
Wednesday, Oct 5	6:30 pm to 8:30 pm	School Council AGM (in person and online – see below) NOW WITH DONUTS!
Friday, Oct 7		Professional Learning Day – No School
Monday, Oct 10		Thanksgiving Day – No School

Greetings Fireside families & friends!

What an amazing and absolutely jam packed week here at Fireside. There were so many exciting things happening, we were having a hard time keeping our greeting message from turning into a lengthy essay. Instead, we've decided to just share some photos. You'll find...

- Grade 4s & Kindergarteners harvesting, washing and snacking on crops grown in our community garden.
- Grade 8 Carnival, where our uppermost grade designed activities & challenges for all the younger grades.
- Terry Fox and his Run For the Cure
- Pointillism Artwork in Grade 2
- The "Guess Who's Reading Too" Board
- "We Are All Connected" Boards in Grade 3, 7 & 8
- National Dot Day in Grade 4
- Playing with Lines in Kindergarten





[NEW: School Leadership Update – Welcome Mrs. Magee!](#)

Mr. Banderk will be away on a 5-week Paternity Leave from September 16th to October 24th. In his absence, Mrs. Mary Magee will be taking the reins as Acting Principal at Fireside. You can contact Mrs. McGee through email at mmagee@rockyview.ab.ca or by calling the school at 403 932-4868.

Mrs. Magee toured Fireside on Wednesday, taking the opportunity to introduce herself to a large portion of our school population. She is very excited to get to know the school community while Mr. Banderk is away. Mrs. Magee retired at the end of last school year as Principal of Springbank Middle School, but she graciously accepted the offer to suspend her retirement long enough to cover Mr. Banderk's absence. We're very grateful to have her experience and leadership at Fireside for the next few weeks.

[NEW: Students to Attend School on Sept 19th](#)

A reminder that Monday will be a normal school day. At Fireside, we will proceed with our land acknowledgement and playing of O Canada in the morning as normal. O Canada will be preceded by an acknowledgement of the Queen's passing and followed by a moment of silence. These will be the only school-wide observances, but teachers may choose to spend time discussing current events.

[NEW: Terry Fox Run](#)

Our school proudly took part in the 2022 Terry Fox School Run on Friday. It was a beautiful day for Fireside and Holy Spirit School to come together and run (or walk) in support of cancer research.

The link to our online fundraising page can be found here: <https://schools.terryfox.ca/16804>. The link will stay active following the run. If you haven't already, we encourage everyone to donate a *Toonie for Terry* (or any other amount you'd like) to continue his legacy by supporting cancer research. Thank you in advance for supporting this great cause.



[NEW: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Recognition at Fireside School](#)

Over the next two weeks, we will be starting to prepare for our *Truth and Reconciliation Sharing Ceremony* on September 29th. There are several ways students and staff will be acknowledging and recognizing Orange Shirt Day, honouring the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

Week of September 20-23: Sharing circles will be held during lunch breaks with our Indigenous student leaders, who will be exploring books, art, tools, traditional clothing, and cultural experiences with other students. Storytelling and student-led reading circles with students in Kindergarten to grade 4 will also be held throughout the week.

Week of September 26-29: We will be preparing for our sharing ceremony by exploring these questions: "What is our classroom learning story?" and "How does my classroom and learning community make me feel safe and ready to learn?"

Then, we will be creating individual feathers and classroom story blankets, which we will "weave" together at our *Sharing Ceremony* on September 29th. On that day, we ask that everyone please remember to wear their Orange Shirts. If you are looking to purchase one specifically in honour of Orange Shirt Day and National Day of Truth and Reconciliation, they are currently on sale at Marks and London Drugs.

[UPDATED: Police Check Forms Require Administrator Signatures](#)

Volunteers in our school must have a valid police check on file prior to volunteering. RCMP have asked schools to remind volunteers that request forms must include a signature from the school Principal. Printing blank forms and bringing them to the RCMP unsigned may result in processing delays. We have attached Fireside's request form at the bottom of this pdf. Please print and complete that version of the form before taking it to police.

[UPDATED: School Council Needs YOU! Annual General Meeting @ 6:30 pm October 5](#)

Our School Council's Annual General Meeting is on Wednesday, October 5, 2022, starting at 6:30 pm. It will be held at Fireside School, but there will also be a Zoom meeting link provided in next week's *Fireside Focus* for those who wish to attend but are not able to do so in person.

School Councils serve as a space for parent voices and advisors. Thus, they are a tremendously important piece of a school's operation. School Council meetings are forums where parents can have a direct role in shaping some of the direction and priorities for a school. So, that's why we need you, parents interested in having a positive impact on school culture, direction, and future, to consider attending School Council meetings or even being a part of the Council's executive. Also... this year there will be donuts. So, please join us!

For the 2022-23 School Council, all executive positions are open and available to be filled: School Council Chair or Co-Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer. Whether these positions are of interest or not, having a robust parent presence at Council would be very valuable. Did we mention there will be donuts?

Further information on the Zoom link and other meeting details will be provided in a future *Focus*. We hope to see you there!

[REMINDER: Allergy Awareness](#)

Some members of our school community have identified having severe allergic reactions to the following scents and/or compounds:

- Fragrance (perfume, cologne, scented creams, body sprays, essential oils, etc.)
- Citrus ([e.g.](#) orange, lemon, lime, citrus scented sanitizer, etc.)
- Vanilla ([e.g.](#) body lotion, cream, perfume, sprays, sanitizer, etc.)
- Coconut ([e.g.](#) body lotion, cream, perfume, sanitizer, etc.)
- Floral Scents ([e.g.](#) body lotion, cream, perfume, sanitizer, etc.)
- Nuts (please note that we are a nut-aware school)

- When you come to Fireside School, please refrain from wearing perfume, cologne, body sprays, scented products, and essential oils or eating items such as nuts.
- **Please do not bring perfumes, colognes, or scented products (as per the above list) into our school.**
- **Please note that we are a Nut-Aware School**
- Thank you for your attention to and respect for this health concern and for helping us to keep everyone safe from allergic reactions this school year.



Criminal Record/Vulnerable Sector Check Application
For Volunteers of Rocky View Schools

AF490-A
10/2019

RCMP Personnel:

This individual wishes to volunteer with Rocky View Schools and will not receive remuneration:

Volunteer's Name (please print):	Current Date:
Address:	
Volunteer's Position (indicate grade level(s) working with):	
<p>The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP), Chapter F-25, charges Rocky View Schools with protecting the privacy of individuals, most who are under the age of majority. In order to show due diligence in this regard, please conduct a Criminal Record Check and Vulnerable Sector Check on person named above.</p>	

Request Authorized by School Administration

Name (please print): Dave Banderk	Position: Principal
School Name: Fireside School	
School Address: 12 Fireside Parkway	
Signature of School Administrator: 	

Volunteer Information:

Please take this form to your local police agency. The following list includes some of the locations in our jurisdiction. Office hours vary by community, so call ahead for more information.

Airdrie RCMP Detachment	2 Highland Park Way NE	403.945.7200
Beiseker RCMP Detachment	75 North Road	403.947.3420
Chestermere RCMP Detachment	156 East Chestermere Drive	403.204.8777
Cochrane RCMP Detachment	359 - 1 Street E.	403.851.8000
Strathmore RCMP Detachment	500 Westlake Road	403.934.3968

- You will be required to produce a valid Driver's license or a Passport with photo I.D. and another piece of government-issued I.D. such as Alberta Health Care card or birth certificate.
- State that this is a Volunteer Position. Please note some detachments may charge an administration fee for the request.
- Ensure both Criminal Record and Vulnerable Sector Checks are completed.
- The results of the Criminal Record and Vulnerable Sector Checks may take approximately four weeks to be processed by the police agency.
- Return the results of the Criminal Record and Vulnerable Sectors Checks to the school office.
- Rocky View Schools must be notified immediately, if the status of your Criminal Record and Vulnerable Sector Checks change at any time.

Reference:

- AP490 Volunteers, Visitors and Presenters Mandatory Record Checks