

FIRESIDE FOCUS

OPEN MINDS ■ OPEN HEARTS ■ OPEN DOORS

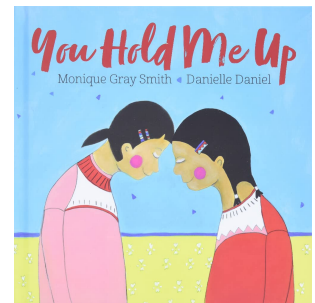
The Week Ahead ~ September 23 to September 30, 2022

Upcoming Events at a Glance

Date	Time	Event
Thursday, Sept 29		Truth and Reconciliation Sharing Ceremony - please wear your Orange Shirts (see below)
Friday, Sept 30		National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – No School
Wednesday, Oct 5	6:30 pm to 8:00 pm	School Council AGM (in person and Zoom – https://rockyview.zoom.us/j/95617461383; Passcode: 891360) NOW WITH DONUTS!
Wednesday, Oct 5	8:00 to 9:00 pm	Friends of Fireside Meeting
Friday, Oct 7		Professional Learning Day – No School
Monday, Oct 10		Thanksgiving Day – No School
Fridays, Oct 14, 21, and 28	TBD	Junior A Volleyball Tournaments – location TBD

Greetings Fireside families & friends! It's hard to believe we've already been back in school for three weeks of time. Yet, here we are.

This week was filled with adventuring, finding our focuses for the year, founding who we are as classroom communities, and continuing to build our learning forward. Mrs. Billings's grade 3 class went on a community walk to the Fireside ponds for a rock hunt. As we prepare for our *Sharing Ceremony* next week (see below), all classes are focusing on the strengths and traits of their class as a group, also looking at what each person brings to the group and has to contribute to its success and sense of community. After reading *You Hold Me Up*, Mrs. Humphrys's Kinders painted their commitment sticks and chose their personal words to put on them to state how they will contribute to their classroom community; the mobile of these collective pieces will hang in the classroom as a symbol of that commitment. Mrs. Cooledge's and Mrs. MacDonald's grade 2 classes read Jenny Sue-Kostecki Shaw's *Same Same but Different*, drawing self portraits and then will complete a guess who activity. Finally, of course, there were many dressed up students and



staff for picture day today, including Chewy (one of our Therapy Dogs) from Mr. Perratt's class, who sported his own suit for the day!



Grade 7 and 8 PE classes are engaged with Volleyball, and the 6's will be following this into the end of September. On that note, our Junior A Girls' and Boys' Volleyball teams are now set and ready to roll through their season; their first tournaments are coming up after Thanksgiving. This is a small glimpse into our week here, but we are happy to be able to share it with you.

Looking ahead to next week, further preparations for our *Sharing Ceremony* and other recognitions to honour National Truth and Reconciliation Day (including our own Orange Shirt Day at school on Thursday) will continue. We look forward to sharing that with you next week. Wishing everyone a lovely weekend and we look forward to welcoming students back on Monday!

In this week's edition:

NEW: 22/23 Athletics Schedule, Coaches Needed

NEW: Reminder: Please Complete Annual Forms

NEW: Reminder: School Start Time

NEW: Autism Resources

NEW: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Recognition Week - Sept 26 to Sept 29

NEW: Allergies: Fireside School is Scent-aware and Nut-aware

NEW: Emergency Preparedness (HourZero)

NEW: School Fees

UPDATED: School Council Annual General Meeting @ 6:30 pm Oct 5th, Friends of Fireside to follow

UPDATED: Police Check Forms Require Administrator Signatures

[NEW: 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)

NEW: Reminder: Please Complete Annual Forms

We are still missing a number of annual form completions. These include forms for use of images (which allows us to share the great things your kids are doing in school here in *Fireside Focus*), walking-distance field trip authorizations, and others. Please log into <https://rockyview.schoolengage.ca/> and complete these if you have not done so already.

NEW: Reminder: School Start Time

We'd like to offer a gentle reminder that our "soft entry" times are 7:50-8:05. Our hope is that students will be in their classrooms by 8:05 each day. Should a student arrive late, they will need to sign in at the office. Students who arrive late as a result of a bus delay can go directly to class without signing in.

NEW: Autism Resources

Autism Calgary and Autism Aspergers Friendship Society (AAFS) offer programming for children on the autism spectrum and their families.

From Autism Calgary:

Autism Calgary is an association of individuals and families living with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) striving to assist each other and the broader community so that those with ASD live meaningful and purposeful lives in a community that values them. The organization serves as the community of families, caregivers and supportive professionals collectively striving for a supportive, accepting and understanding community for individuals and families living with ASD.

For more information, go to www.autismcalgary.com ... and for your Pokemon fans, check out their Trading Card Game club at <https://autismcalgary.com/pokemon/>

From AASF:

Autism Aspergers Friendship Society (AAFS) is a not for profit organization that provides social and recreational respite to individuals on the Autism Spectrum. We are currently offering programming in Cochrane every other Tuesday evening at the local Boys and Girls Club and then a community outing one Wednesday a month.

To provide insight on the kids of programs we run, please see our upcoming events below:

- **October 4th:** Baking Night (6:30pm-8:30pm)

- **October 12th:** Movie Theater Night (6pm-8:30pm)
- **October 18th:** Halloween Party! (6:30pm-8:30pm)
- **November 9th:** Video Game Night (6:30pm-8:30pm)

There is a \$25 annual family membership fee, and then once registered and processed, our entire events calendar will be available. Members are welcome to attend our programming in any of the communities; they are not just limited to Cochrane events.

As for fees, our programs are broken down into two categories: respite and activity fees. If families have an FSCD or PDD contract we are able to direct bill hours if they connect with their case worker and have AAFS added in with a bill out rate of \$21/hr. If families do not have a FSCD/PDD contract, then the \$21/hr respite fee would be the responsibility of the family. Activity fees are things such as admission costs and clubhouse fees, these fees are the responsibility of the family.

Go to www.aafscalgary.com for more information, or contact Program Coordinator Kelsey Hofstetter at kelsey@aafscalgary.com

<https://autismcalgary.com/pokemon/>

NEW: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Recognition Week - Sept 26 to Sept 29

This week, classes will be preparing for our *Sharing Ceremony* on Thursday. We will begin by exploring the questions “What is our classroom learning story” and “How does my classroom and learning community make me feel safe and ready to learn?”. Additionally, our Grade 5 leadership students will be reading Indigenous stories and poems and with the Kindergarten through grade 3 students during our morning literacy blocks.

Finally, we will be creating individual feathers which will explore and represent the aspects surrounding: What does Fireside feel and look like and why is it a safe place to learn? The feathers will be added to the classroom poster story-blankets each classroom will create, which we will all “weave” together at our ***Sharing Ceremony on September 29th***.

Please remember to wear your **Orange Shirt to school** on Thursday September 29th. If you’d like to purchase one, they are currently on sale at Marks and London Drugs.

NEW: 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.schoolcashonline.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.

NEW: Allergies: Fireside School is Scent-aware and Nut-aware

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. We also ask that students **not** wear perfume, cologne, or other strongly scented products or sprays to school; this 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; this includes essential oils (e.g. coconut, orange, patchouli, etc.). The same is true for parents, families, volunteers, or visiting teams entering the school for 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: Emergency Preparedness (HourZero)

At Fireside School, or Emergency Preparedness protocols are a very important part of safety. We had our first evacuation drill last week and it went smoothly overall.

Here is the link where you can find and review the "[Rocky View Schools Emergency Program: A Guide for Parents and Guardians](#)" (click link)..

UPDATED: School Council Annual General Meeting @ 6:30 pm October 5 and Friends of Fireside to follow

At 6:30 pm on Wednesday, October 6, our School Council's Annual General Meeting will take place, both here at the school and on Zoom for those who cannot attend in person. The Zoom link information is: <https://rockyview.zoom.us/j/95617461383> OR Meeting ID: 956 1746 1383 and the Passcode: 891360

For the 2022-23 School Council, all executive positions are open and available to be filled: School Council Chair and Vice-Chair or 2 Co-Chairs, Secretary, and at least 2 Members-at-Large. Whether these positions are of interest or not, having a robust parent presence at Council would be very valuable and we hope you will join us for this meeting. School Councils are forums where parents can have a direct role in shaping some of the direction and priorities for a school, having a positive impact on school culture, direction, and the future. And, as previously mentioned, there will be donuts. Also, the Friends of Fireside Society meeting will directly follow the School Council meeting.

Please remember that Fireside School is a scent-aware school; therefore, please refrain from wearing perfume, cologne, or scented products if you are attending in person. Thank you for your consideration and respect of this health concern.

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.



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