

The Week Ahead ~ November 4 to November 11, 2022

Date	Time	Event
Monday, Nov 7	8:00 am	3-Way Conferences Booking opens online (see below for information on how to book)
Monday, Nov 7	after school	Junior B Volleyball Begins (Gr 7/8)
Tuesday, Nov 8		National Indigenous Veterans Day
Thursday, Nov 10		Remembrance Day Assemblies (see below)
Friday, Nov 11		Remembrance Day (No School)
Monday, Nov. 14		Professional Learning Day (No School)
Wednesday, Nov. 16		Grade 6 Immunizations
Wednesday, Nov, 16 & Thursday, Nov. 17	4:00 to 7:00 pm each day	3-Way Conferences (see below) & Tote-a-Coat (see below)
Monday, Dec 5		Professional Learning Day (No School)
Wednesday, Dec. 7	6:30 to 8:00 pm	School Council Meeting
Wednesday, Dec. 7	8:00 to 9:00 pm	Friends of Fireside Meeting
Thursday, Dec. 15	6:00 to 7:00 pm	Winter Concert (details will be provided in upcoming <i>Focus</i> editions, closer to the date)

Greetings Fireside families & friends!

This week saw a return to wintery weather and snow. Despite the cold, lots of learning and activities were going on inside and outside our school. The grade 2's are getting set to begin swimming lessons. Grade 6 has been learning about the Iroquois Democracy, specifically the *Tree of Peace*. Many classes have been looking at important aspects of remembrance ahead of Remembrance Day next week.

On Wednesday, we held our second S.O.A.R. Assembly to recognize students who show exceptional Spirit, Outstanding Character, Achievement, and Respectful, Responsible attitudes in our school. Our Junior A Volleyball teams were at Divisionals on Tuesday and Thursday: both teams won Bronze in the 1A Division! They played well and showcased their growing skills and confidence with pride: way to go

Hawks! And the grade 6 Volleyball Tournament is taking place tonight: watch for results in next week's *Focus*.

At last week's School Council meeting, we investigated parent desire to include their children in "bigger ticket" field trips, such as swimming. We heard that these opportunities are valued, and thus we will continue to explore them. We also discussed parent perspectives on student dress code. The consensus is that there continues to be one area where "policing" is desired: Offensive/vulgar/discriminatory messages on clothing will continue to not be permitted in school. Written policy regarding other aspects of attire was felt to be unnecessary beyond that piece. Lastly, we discussed that a request had been made at the divisional level to provide direction on participating in Healthy Hunger programs. This conversation has been tabled for the time being, and will be taken up before the end of the year. We greatly appreciate the participation of our School Council members and would invite any parents or guardians interested in being part of these discussions to consider attending our next session on Wednesday December 7th. Families may also request/suggest a topic for discussion by emailing firesideschoolcouncil@gmail.com.

A friendly reminder to ensure students come with gear for the snowy, colder weather that will be continuing next week. Wishing everyone a warm, cozy weekend!

Dave, Tara & Jason
Fireside Administration Team



In this week's edition:

NEW: Remembrance Day Assemblies

NEW: 3-Way Conference Bookings November 16 & 17 from 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

NEW: Filling out Annual Forms

NEW: Fireside Swag

NEW: School Council Update

NEW: Friends of Fireside Update

UPDATED: Grade 6, 7, 8 Board Game Club

REMINDER: Tote-a-Coat

REMINDER: Parent Education Session: "Kids Have Stress Too"

[NEW: Remembrance Day Assemblies](#)

Fireside School will be hosting its first in-person Remembrance Day Assemblies in two years on Thursday, November 10. These assemblies will recognize Remembrance Day and will also include acknowledgement of National Indigenous Veterans Day (which is on November 8). If you would like to attend this year's ceremony with us, please let your child's homeroom teacher know and email us at fireside@rockyview.ab.ca



The first assembly will be from 8:45 to 9:30 am, for students in even-numbered grades (K, 2, 4, 6 and 8); please arrive between 8:30 and 8:40 am. The second assembly will be from 10:45 to 11:30 am for students in odd-numbered grades (1, 3, 5 and 7); please arrive between 10:30 and 10:40 am.



Our theme this year is “Hopes for Peace”. The program will include music, videos, poem readings, and a choir performance, as well as a moment of silence and laying of a wreath to mark the significance of Remembrance Day. The Grades 3-6 choir, select members of our band program, and student readers have been practicing hard to showcase and honour our veterans and those engaged in military service, those who were and are committed to peace for our world. If you have relatives who served in the military or were involved in any war effort, we invite you to have students bring in the names and/or images by the start of next week (Nov. 7). They can drop it off in the school office or in the box that will be in front of the band room. These names and images will be included in the program during the moment of silence and laying of the wreath.

[NEW: 3-Way Conferences November 16 & 17 from 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM](#)

Our 3-Way Conferences are part of Rocky View Schools' Communication of Student Learning. These 10-minute conferences include parents, teachers, and students and offer a chance to review the student's progress to date and to set goals for the next steps of their learning journey.

For the upcoming round of conferences, we are pleased to welcome parents and guardians into the school for face-to-face meetings. For those of you who prefer a virtual conference, that option is also available. Parents/Guardians will indicate their choice of either Face-to-Face or Virtual Conferences at the time of their booking.

Fireside School uses the online booking program 'Conference Manager'.
<https://fireside.schoolsoft.com/login.jsf>

If you have never used Conference Manager before, please register now. You do not have to wait until the site is open for bookings. Returning users should ensure they can log in to the system – a password

reset is available if necessary. Please review your parent/guardian profile to ensure the information is correct. Important: the email address you provide in this profile will be used to send you the booking confirmation.

Conference Manager will open for bookings on November 7th at 8:00 AM and will close on November 14th at 4:00 PM. Please call the school office (403-932-4868) if you have questions or are having difficulties logging in. When the conference booking site opens, please book an appointment date and time that works for you. When you are booking your appointment time, you will be prompted to provide a phone number where the teacher can reach you, should technical issues arise.

[NEW: Filling out Annual Forms](#)

We are still missing a number of annual form completions. Families who have forms that are not submitted or are incomplete would have received an email earlier this week.

Annual Forms include forms for use of images (which allows us to share the great things your kids are doing in school here in *Fireside Focus* and allows students' photos to be in our *Yearbook*), walking-distance field trip authorizations, and others. Please log into <https://rockyview.schoolengage.ca/> to complete these forms if you have not done so already. Thank you.

If you have questions or need assistance, please contact the school office; we are happy to help.

[NEW: Fireside Swag](#)



Looking for a Christmas gift idea? How about a Fireside School hoodie, ball cap, or touque?

Check out this online store:

<https://fireside.rockyview.ab.ca/news/fireside-swag>

Orders placed prior to November 23 will be delivered to the school office before the Winter Break.



[NEW: School Council Update](#)

We had our November School Council meeting this past Wednesday. It is still being done in a hybrid-style so that people can attend in person or on zoom. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, December 7, at 6:30 pm. Everyone is welcome! Watch for updates in future editions of *Fireside Focus*.

We were pleased to welcome Rocky View Schools' Board Chair and Trustee Ward 6 Fiona Gilbert, who provided updates regarding RVS, Cochrane schools, and Fireside. This update included the Board's [Advocacy Priorities](#) (click link): Space for Students, Funding for Students, and Support for Students. The infographics in the bottom right-hand sidebar review key information for Cochrane schools and future projections, and there is also information on how parents can be involved in advocating for their students and learning.

[NEW: Friends of Fireside](#)

Halloween 2022 is a wrap! Thanks for all the support from the students, the school, and our wonderful volunteers to make this year's Halloween Family Dance a great success again! We sold out of all our tickets just minutes before the dance and had a blast seeing all the happy smiles from our students! We hope you enjoyed it too, and we hope to see you again next year!

Coming up is *Artrageous*: keep your eye out on the order form to get some cool holiday gifts with custom artwork created by the students.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 7, at 8:00, following the School Council meeting. Again, it will be a hybrid-style of in-person or zoom. Please watch for updates in future *Focus* editions.



[UPDATED: Grade 6, 7, 8 Board Game Club...](#)

... began this Friday and will run each Friday at lunch/lunch recess. We have a club signup board at the front entrance and encourage board game aficionados to come try their luck, even if they missed joining the first round this week. Play on!

[REMINDER: Tote-a-Coat](#)

Has your child outgrown their winter gear from last year? Are their boots too tight? Are their mitts too small? With the cooler weather fast approaching, we want to ensure that every Fireside Family is ready with warm winter woolies! Our Grade Twos will be hosting a **Tote-a-Coat Event** during 3-Way Conferences on November 16th & 17th.



Starting November 1st, our Grade Twos will be asking for donations of gently used winter coats, snow pants, hats, boots, mittens and scarves in all sizes. Collection boxes will be placed throughout the school. All items will be cleaned and put on display during our evening conferences. All families are welcome to browse the used items and find suitable outerwear for growing kiddos. Have size 5's but need size 6's? Feel free to swap. Just need size 6's? No problem! Help yourself.

There will be hot beverages to be enjoyed while browsing! Following our event, some of the remaining clothing will be used to create a small school 'winter woolies closet' for those days when something warm is needed but not on hand, and the rest will be donated to a local community charity.

If you have any items to donate before the launch on November 1, please leave them at the front office, and we will add them to the collection.

REMINDER: Parent Education Session: "Kids Have Stress Too"

Kids Have Stress Too! (KHST)

Wednesdays November 9 and 23 at Fireside School from 7:00-8:30pm

Come join us for two informative evenings facilitated by our Child Development Advisor and Family Educator, Charlene Abrahams. This FREE program is for parents and caregivers of children Pre-K to Grade 5. The KHST program is a 2-session program, and it is recommended that participants attend both sessions.

The Kids Have Stress Too! program is designed to help parents and caregivers become more aware of children's stress and to help children cope with and develop effective ways of dealing with stress. Participants will be provided examples of activities and strategies that can be used to help children manage day-to-day struggles and stress and ease the transition from home to school.

Please contact Charlene Abrahams at cabrahams@rockyview.ab.ca or call 403-932-4863 ext. 7449 to register by November 7th.

Contact Us!

Fireside School

403.932.4868

fireside@rockyview.ab.ca

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