

The Weeks Ahead ~ February 3, 2023 to February 10, 2023

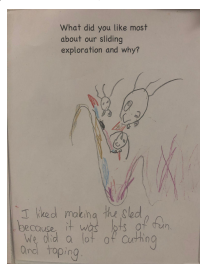
Friday, Jan 27 to Monday, Feb 27		2023 Fireside School Read-a-Thon (see below) <i>Book Love: A Community of Readers</i>
Friday, Feb 3		Weekly Tracker Log #1 due to Homeroom Teachers
Thursday, Feb 9		Jersey Day (see below)
Friday, Feb 10		Professional Learning Day (no school for students)
Monday, Feb 13		Weekly Tracker Log #2 due to Homeroom Teachers
Tuesday, Feb 14		Happy Hearts Day! Valentine's Day
Friday, Feb 17		Pink Shirt Day (more information to come in future editions of <i>Focus</i>)
Friday, Feb 17		Weekly Tracker Log #3 due to Homeroom Teachers
Monday, Feb 20		Family Day – No Classes
Tuesday, Feb 21 and Wednesday, Feb 22		No Classes
Thursday, Feb 23 and Friday, Feb 24		Teachers' Convention – No Classes for Students
Tuesday, Feb 28		Weekly Tracker Log #4 due to Homeroom Teachers
Tuesday, Feb 28 to Friday, March 4		2023 Fireside School Read-a-Thon Pledge Forms and Master Minutes Tracker page due to Homeroom Teachers
Thursday, March 2	6:30 to 8:30 pm	RVS Public Consultation – Powell Street School at Mitford School
Wednesday March 22 and Thursday March 23	4:00 to 7:00 pm both days	3-Way Conferences (more information to come in later editions of <i>Focus</i>) <i>*Scholastic Book Fair will also occur these evenings</i>

Greetings Fireside Families & Friends!

We saw some chillier temperatures this week, but that certainly didn't dampen the spirits of our kids on the fields at recess, on the hockey rink for broomball in PE, or at the Nordic Center in Canmore for an Outdoor Ed field trip. Classes were humming along, where grade 3s were learning about sound, making instruments out of everyday objects. Grade 2s were using manipulatives to explore 2-digit addition. Grade 6s were delighting in parachute activities in gym class. What is it about lifting a parachute in the air and running under it that is so much fun at ANY age? We don't know, but even us "big kids" enjoy it.



During the week, Mary Magee (our Acting Principal earlier in the year) and our School Resource Officers came in as Guest Readers for Read-a-Thon. Ms. Alison's Kinder classes explored "sliding," designing contraptions to help them slide in the snow, problem-solving as they went. Mr. Shaun's classes wondered "Can I Print an Idea?" They created shapes and character designs and later 3-D printed them to life. Grade 3s showed off their artwork, including art inspired by the non-fiction book *Machu Pichu* by Grace Hansen. And Grade 1s art included pastel depictions of the Aurora Borealis. Grade 7 students took a trip to the Science Centre on Wednesday. Also on Wednesday, we had the pleasure of meeting prospective Kinder students and families at the Kindergarten Information Session, followed by our School Council and Friends of Fireside meetings. At School Council, we were pleased to welcome Trustee Fiona Gilbert (RVS Ward 6 - Cochrane) and Rocky View Schools' Director of Communications Tara de Weerd, who presented information and answered questions about the Powell Street School Utilization consultation process (see below).



We look forward to what next week will bring, including Week #2 of Read-a-Thon, Grade 8s sharing the short stories they've been working on, more Guest Readers, Jersey Day on Thursday, and a Professional Learning Day for staff on Friday (see below). Until Monday, we'd like to wish everyone a great weekend.

Dave, Tara, & Jason
Fireside School Administration Team

In this week's edition:

NEW: Divisional PL Day – Friday, February 10th

NEW: Friends of Fireside Donations Fund Outdoor Learning Space & PE Equipment

NEW: Jersey Day – Thursday, February 9

UPDATED: 2023 Fireside School Read-a-Thon – It's ON!

UPDATED: Powell Street School Utilization – Changes to Fireside Proposed
REMINDER: Footstock 2023

NEW: Divisional Professional Learning Day on Feb 10th

Friday is a Divisional Professional Learning Day (no school for students). Our staff will have the opportunity to listen to Dr. Andy Hargreaves speak about two of his recently published books on Student Engagement and Well-Being in Schools after the pandemic.

NEW: Friends of Fireside Donations Fund Outdoor Learning Space & PE Equipment

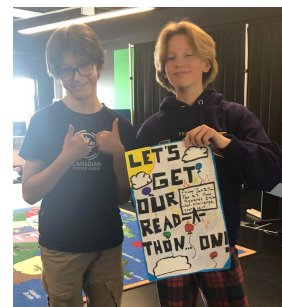
Fireside School would like to extend its sincere thanks to the *Friends of Fireside School Society*, as well as everyone who has contributed to a fundraising campaign, for supporting some exciting additions to our school. Outdoor learning is something we believe to be important at Fireside. This spring, we're excited to break ground on an outdoor learning space on the west side of the building, generously funded by Friends of Fireside. FoF was also kind enough to provide money for the purchase of CSA approved helmets for our phys ed classes, who are making use of the outdoor rink playing broomball. More than \$30,000 was provided by FoF for these purchases, and we are extraordinarily grateful for the support. Thank you, everyone!

NEW: Jersey Day - Thursday, February 9

On Thursday, February 9, the Grade 7/8 Student Leadership Class invites all students and staff to wear their favourite team's jersey. With Superbowl 57 coming up on Sunday, February 12, and with us all coming together as a team for Read-a-Thon, they thought it would be another fun way to show spirit as a community next week.

UPDATED: 2023 Fireside School Read-a-Thon – It's ON!

Week #1 of Read-a-Thon has come to an end, as Week #2 begins today! Excitement about reading and books is everywhere at Fireside School. Please watch for updates each week in *Fireside Focus*, including our current minutes read reports: by Tuesday next week, the first set of calculations will be in and we look forward to sharing them with you.

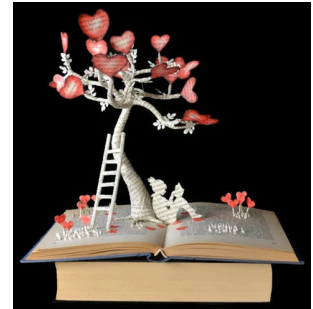


Our theme this year is **Book Love: A Community of Readers**. Fireside School's reading goal is 900,000 minutes as a school! Our FUNdraising goal is \$10,000, with all funds going toward adding cool features to our Outdoor Learning Space environment. Our focus again this year is on building a love of reading and on connecting as a community over our love of reading. More information about Fireside School's 2nd Annual Read-a-Thon will be sent out next week.

One change this year has to do with the **Master Minute Tracking** page, which is the back page of the document sent home on Friday, February 27. This year, those sheets are still the place where students record In School and At Home/On Own minutes each day. That said, this year the **Pledge**

Form/Master Minute Tracking pages will only be **returned to Homeroom Teachers on Tuesday, February 28, when Read-a-Thon is completed.** We heard the concerns about forms being lost, torn, and other issues last year; therefore, we decided to change how minutes are communicated to and from school during the month of Read-a-Thon to avoid these occurrences.

As mentioned last week, we are using **Weekly Tracking Logs to communicate At Home/On Own** minutes between home and school in most grades each week of Read-a-Thon. Many grades brought their first Weekly Tracking Log page home yesterday and returned them to teachers today. Students will receive **Weekly Tracking Form #2** on Monday, February 6 (for the second week of Read-a-Thon – Friday, Feb 3 to Sunday, Feb. 12). **Weekly Tracking Form #2** will be due back to Homeroom Teachers on Monday, February 13. Thank you for helping your children fill these in or for however you are communicating At Home/On Own minutes to your child's teachers; it helps us to know how close we are to our reading goal so far this year.



The first draws for Weekly Draw Prizes will occur early next week. These prizes allow us to recognize and further celebrate reading goals of students in a unique way this year. Some of our prizes for Week #1 were kindly donated by Shredz, Rebel Comics, River Heights Subway, and River Heights Domino's (by Manager Priya Priya). There will be further opportunities for students and staff to enter draws for Week #2 throughout next week; that draw will close on Monday, February 13 at morning recess. Each week will have new prize draws, and students/staff have a chance to get an entry ballot as they reach a variety of reading goals over the course of each week.

Again this year *Friends of Fireside School Fundraising Society* is a key sponsor; they are sponsoring all of the awards for the Top Readers in each grade, as well as additional draw prizes to be presented at our Celebration Assembly sometime in March. Cochrane Movie House is also kindly sponsoring some of our final draw prizes again this year, and they will be providing popcorn for all of the winning classes to have when they are watching their movie at the PJ Party in the Gym (the grand prize for top reading and top fundraising classes). We are pleased to have Found Books & Shop, MacKay's Ice Cream, Calaway Park, Shredz Shop, reet beet Designs, Holliday Collective, Rebel Comics, River Heights Subway, and River Heights Domino's add their support to our event this year. And other community partners are still joining us as we celebrate our love of reading at Fireside School. We are very grateful for their generous support of our school, our students, and our programs at Fireside School.



UPDATED: Powell Street School Utilization – Changes to Fireside Proposed

At our School Council meeting on Wednesday, February 1, Trustee for Rocky View Schools (Ward 6 - Cochrane) Fiona Gilbert and Rocky View Schools' Director of Communications Tara de Weerd spoke further about the Powell Street School Utilization which was originally shared the previous Thursday evening, when Rocky View Schools hosted the first of two public consultation engagements soliciting Cochrane residents for feedback on use of the Powell Street School (formerly Holy Spirit School).

At the meeting, RVS proposed 3 potential scenarios for utilization of the school:

- A) Move Cochrane Christian Academy (either its K-4 students only or the entire K-8 school), currently housed in Mitford School, to the Powell Street School. French Immersion students leaving grade 4 at Glenbow School would then attend an FI program at Mitford instead of going to Manachaban.
- B) Move all K-4 French Immersion students to the Powell Street School. Elizabeth Barrett and Glenbow School would then also house grade 5 students. Mitford and Manachaban would become mostly Grade 6 to 8 schools (Manachaban would retain Grade 5 FI).
- C) Move K-5 students in the neighborhoods east of highway 22 and south of the Bow River (Riviera, Rivercrest, River Heights, Precedence, The Willows, and Riversong) to the Powell Street School. Those students would return to Fireside for grades 6 to 8.

Scenario C would see approximately 300 students redirected from Fireside to the Powell Street School this September.

Rocky View is providing several avenues of engagement for stakeholders to offer input and to express their views on these proposals. They have opened a new website at rvsengage.com with detailed information and directions for sending feedback. On March 2nd, there will be a second public consultation at Mitford School from 6:30 to 8:30. On March 23rd, stakeholders may make presentations to the board in advance of their decision on April 27th (tentatively). More information on these opportunities can be found on the rvsengage.com website. As well, Ward 6 (Cochrane) Board Trustee, Fiona Gilbert and the RVS Director of Communications, Tara de Weerd will attend our next School Council meeting on Wednesday.

[REMINDER: Footstock 2023](#)

Footstock 2023 is set for Sunday, June 4th. The kids' triathlon is back for kids 15 and under. In addition, there are 5k, 10k, 18k races and the Footstock Relay. Register a team of three to participate as a family or group of friends, or enter the Footstock Community Relay/Corporate Challenge and try to bring the Footstock trophy to your organization. See more at footstock.ca.

[Contact Us!](#)

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