

FIRESIDE FOCUS

OPEN MINDS ■ OPEN HEARTS ■ OPEN DOORS

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

Monday, March 6		Read-a-Thon Photos Due for Community of Readers Mural (see below)
Friday, March 10	Boys @ Fireside Girls @ Westbrook	Junior B Basketball Team Tournaments (see below)
Wednesday, March 15		Grade 8 Presentation from Bow Valley High School
Thursday, March 17		Fireside St. Patrick's Day – Wear Green and Gold Day
Tuesday, March 21	4:30 to 6:30 pm (at Bow Valley High School)	Bow Valley High Open House for current Grade 8s and their families (see below)
Wednesday, March 22	TBD	Read-a-Thon Celebration Assemblies
Wednesday, March 22 & Thursday, March 23	4:00 to 7:00 pm both days	3-Way Conferences
Wednesday, March 22 & Thursday, March 23	4:00 to 7:00 pm both days (and online)	Scholastic Book Fair in the Learning Commons (online ordering will also be available)
Thursday, March 23		End of Term 2 and Term 2 Deadline for Grade 7/8 classes (see below)
Friday March 24		Start of Term 3
Friday, March 24	Girls @ Fireside Boys @ Westbrook	Junior B Basketball Tournament (see below)
Wednesday, April 5	6:30 to 8:30 pm	School Council presents Social Networking Safety Presentation Parent Session (see next week's Focus for more info)
Tuesday, April 4		Spring Concert (see next week's Focus for more info)
Friday, April 7 through Sunday, April 16		Spring Break (no classes)
Monday, April 17		First day of Classes after Spring Break

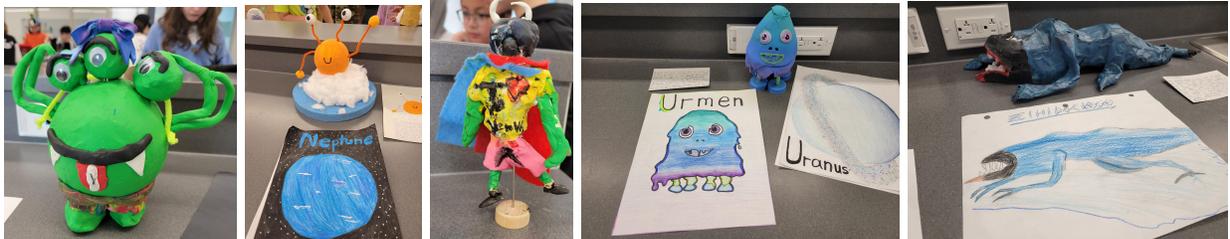
Greetings Fireside Families & Friends!

On Tuesday, students and staff came together in our Reading Chain to celebrate the finale of our Read-a-Thon: over 800 students and staff read together at the same time on Tuesday morning (pm Kinders read in the afternoon with older students). Our Reading Chain reached from end-to-end of the building on both floors, everyone reading together simultaneously! Excitement was high and book love was definitely on display; it truly symbolised how we are a Community of Readers who loves to read at Fireside School.

At our School Council meeting on Wednesday, we reviewed our school's progress in key areas highlighted in the school's Workbook (formerly known as the School Education Plan). Information was shared about Literacy, School Culture, our Positive Behaviour Strategies and Intervention commitments. Fiona Gilbert (School Trustee for Cochrane) shared updates on the provincial budget announcements and information on the Powell Street School (see below). Parents who were present also provided feedback on what is going well at Fireside School this year, as well as areas for growth. We are grateful for that feedback and information: thank you. School Council also announced an upcoming fun lunch event for our school; please stay tuned for more information in coming weeks.

At the Friends of Fireside meeting, we provided an update to them on their sponsorship of Read-a-Thon Celebration Assembly prizes; additionally, we discussed March Madness and the upcoming Purdy's Fundraiser (see below).

Our week ended with Grade 6 students having a showcase of their Alien Creations in the Science Lab this morning, part of their Sky Science Unit. It was an amazing way to end the week at school!



Currently, our Junior B Basketball Teams are at their first tournaments of the year. Watch for updates in next week's *Focus*. Information on upcoming tournaments is below.

We wish everyone a lovely and safe weekend!

Dave, Tara, & Jason

Fireside School Administration Team

In this week's edition:

NEW: Read-a-Thon 2023 Week #4 + Updates + Celebrations

NEW: Read-a-Thon Photo Spectacular Mural

NEW: Friends of Fireside - March Madness & Purdy's Fundraiser

NEW: Junior B Basketball Games and Schedules

UPDATED & REVISED: CONNECT Parenting Virtual Program Opportunity

UPDATED: Powell Street School Utilization – Changes to Fireside Proposed

REMINDER: Immunization for Kindergarten Students

REMINDER: Assurance Survey

REMINDER: Reading Comments in PowerSchool

REMINDER: Allergy Awareness and Reminders

[NEW: Read-a-Thon 2023 ~ Week #4 + Updates + Celebrations](#)

Today was the due date for Master Tracker Log and Pledge Forms: it was a flurry of reading accomplishments and goals met. Week #4 saw students and staff add over 250,000 minutes toward our Read-a-Thon goal: awesome! Final calculations will be completed early next week, and we will be excited to share with you our final achievement of minutes read during Read-a-Thon next week.

Week #4 Draw Prizes will be drawn Monday morning. Then, Super Draw Prizes will be put out! Students can receive ballots for having exceeded reading goals during Read-a-Thon, being the top reader in their classes, sharing their favourite title on their book list with a staff member, and reading every day of Read-a-Thon (as shown on their Master Tracker). Donations for our Super Draws have been kindly provided by community partners such as Holliday Collective, Shredz Shop, Rebel Comics, Found Books & Shops, River Heights Domino's, River Heights Subway, local author J. Neven-Pugh, the Military Museums (Calgary), and others. We are grateful for their donations to our Read-a-Thon.

For your knowledge, we also added a new community sponsor this week: Tim Hortons (Cochrane). We would like to thank them and all our sponsors and community partners for their support of our students and programs.

Now that Read-a-Thon has successfully concluded, we look forward to our **Read-a-Thon Celebration Assemblies**, which are set to occur on March 22 (times to be announced). At these assemblies, the top reader in each grade will be recognized (\$40 Indigo Gift Card, sponsored by *Friends of Fireside*). There will be trophies presented to the classes with the most minutes read (one in each K-4 and 5-8) and the most funds raised; these classes will also win a PJ and Movie Party in the gym, with popcorn kindly provided by the Cochrane Movie House. Student Readers also have the opportunity to win draw prizes provided by our community sponsors, including passes for the Cochrane Movie House; and a variety of different gift cards from MacKay's Ice Cream, Tim Hortons, or Found Books & Shop if they reached various benchmarks of minutes by the end of Read-a-Thon (over 500 minutes through over 5000 minutes). Also, students who read every day of Read-a-Thon will be entered into a draw for one of four day passes for Calaway Park or one of four family passes to Spray Lake Sawmills Family Recreation Centre. And staff will have their own draw prizes this year as well, kindly sponsored by Found Books & Shops. Additionally, the Top 3 Readers in K-4 and 5-8, as well as the top 3 Staff Readers will receive prizes, kindly sponsored by Found Books & Shop. Please watch for updates on our Read-a-Thon Celebration Assemblies in next week's *Focus*. Parents of any recipients will be notified as soon as possible regarding if their student(s) are receiving a prize or award at these assemblies late next week.

[NEW: Photos for Read-a-Thon "Community of Readers" Photo Mural](#)

Monday, March 6 is the due date for student photos for our Fireside School Read-a-Thon Mural. We're asking all students and staff to take and bring in a picture that represents their reading experience over Read-a-Thon. The photos will be displayed in our Learning Commons on a main wall to represent how we came together as a "Community of Readers" during Read-a-Thon.



The photo can be a picture of them reading, the stack of books they read, them reading their fave book, their favourite reading spot, a creative montage of books, or something else reading-book related to show their experience of Read-a-Thon. It could also be an artistic rendering showing their view of reading or a drawing with a favourite quote from a book they've read. We ask that the student please print the photo, put their name and Homeroom Class on the back, and give it to their Homeroom Teacher.



This idea was inspired by Mr. Periard's photo of his kitten looking at books in his bookshelf and book pictures students showed to Ms. Sly to engage in book discussions. We can't wait to show you a picture of the final photo mural project!

[NEW: Friends of Fireside - March Madness & Purdy's Fundraiser](#)

Thank you for all the support for our March Madness, we have raised almost \$3000 to support the school in future needs!

Looking for a sweet and delicious way to celebrate Spring Break or Easter? Look no further than Purdy's chocolate! Our delectable treats are the perfect addition to any Easter basket, and with a wide variety of flavors and styles to choose from, there's something for everyone. To order some sweet chocolate and support the Fireside School, order now at <https://form.jotform.com/230237996413258>

[NEW: Junior B Basketball Games and Schedules](#)

Our Junior B Basketball Teams played in their first tournament today. There are two Boys teams and one Girls teams. Below you'll find the schedules for their upcoming tournaments on Friday, March 10, and Friday, March 24. Go Hawks!!!

Junior B Boys' Team Schedule:

March 10th Boys	
Host:	Fireside
3:00pm	Fireside #2 vs Westbrook #1
3:45pm	Fireside #2 vs Springbank #2
4:30pm	Westbrook #1 vs Springbank #2
5:15pm	Springbank #1 vs Westbrook #2
6:00pm	Fireside #1 vs Westbrook #2
6:45pm	Springbank #1 vs Fireside #1

March 24th Boys	
Host:	Westbrook
3:00pm	Fireside #1 vs Manachaban #2
3:45pm	Manachaban #2 vs Mitford
4:30pm	Fireside #1 vs Mitford
5:15pm	Westbrook #2 vs Fireside #2
6:00pm	Manachaban #1 vs Fireside #2
6:45pm	Westbrook #2 vs Manachaban #1

Junior B Girls' Team Schedule:

March 10th Girls	
Host:	Westbrook
3:00pm	Manachaban vs Westbrook
3:45pm	Fireside vs Manachaban
4:30pm	Banded Peak vs Fireside
5:15pm	Westbrook vs Banded Peak

March 24th Girls	
Host:	Fireside
3:00pm	Mitford vs Fireside
3:45pm	Mitford vs Westbrook
4:30pm	Westbrook vs Springbank
5:15pm	Fireside vs Springbank

UPDATED AND REVISED: CONNECT Parenting Virtual Program Opportunity

The dates for the CONNECT Parenting Virtual Program hosted by RVS Family School Liaisons (FSL) have changed to Thursday evenings from March 16th-May 25th (no class on April 13), for 1.5 hours each week in Zoom. This program is a FREE 9-Week program to support parents of pre-teens and teens. Some of the key questions it explores include: Do you ever feel that your teen doesn't listen to you? Do you sometimes even feel pushed away? Do parents matter?

Co-developed over the last 10 years by the Maples Adolescent Treatment Centre and Simon Fraser University, the program focuses on core components of secure attachment to promote children's social, emotional, and behavioural adjustment. Connect helps caregivers understand basic attachment concepts that can be applied across a broad range of situations and relational concepts. Each session provides parents with an attachment perspective on parent-child relationships and adolescent development. How to access family supports and additional resources will also be a focus within the sessions.

For more information or to join this group, please contact Helen St. Pierre 587. 223.0374/ hstpierre@rockyview.ab.ca or Kelsey Brown 825. 733. 6490/ kbrown@rockyview.ab.ca. Further information can be found on the poster at the end of this week's *Focus*.

UPDATED: Assurance Survey

The Alberta Education Assurance survey should be arriving in family's mailboxes who have students in grades 4, 7, and 10. The deadline for completing the survey is March 17th. Grade 4 and 7 students and staff will be surveyed in school. Thank you for providing important data to help shape our school planning and decision making.

UPDATED: Powell Street School Utilization – Changes to Fireside Proposed

On Thursday, March 2, RVS held its second public consultation on the utilization of the Powell Street School. RVS reviewed five potential scenarios, up from 3 scenarios presented at the public consultation held in January. The proposals put forward are as follows:

- A) Move K-4 students in the neighborhoods east of highway 22 and south of the Bow River to the Powell Street School. Those students would return to Fireside for grades 5 to 8.
- 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-4 students from the communities of Heartland (currently attending Glenbow) and East Cochrane (currently attending Elizabeth Barrett) to the Powell Street School.
- D) Move K-5 students attending Cochrane Christian Academy (CCA), currently housed in Mitford School, to the Powell Street School. 6-8 students at CCA would remain at Mitford.
- E) Move all students attending CCA (K-8) to the Powell Street School

A number of these scenarios further impact other schools as space is created in those vacated. Details can be found at www.rvsengage.com. Feedback on these proposals can also be provided on this site. We encourage Fireside families with an interest in the outcome of this decision to share your views with the board.

[REMINDER: Immunization for Kindergarten Students](#)

As you plan for your child attending kindergarten, it is an ideal time to review your child's immunization history. It is important to keep your child's immunizations up to date to prevent disease and to help keep your child healthy.

Children are due for these routine vaccines at 4 years of age:

- Diphtheria/ Pertussis/ Tetanus/ Polio
- Measles / Mumps / Rubella / Chickenpox

Please see the poster from Alberta Health Services at the end of *Focus* for information.

[REMINDER: Reading Comments in PowerSchool](#)

Please look in PowerSchool for the January 31 Reading Comment. This comment is an update on your child's reading level for instructional reading and comprehension. It also includes information on your child's reading behaviours and areas of strength when reading, as well as next steps for continued growth. As always, if there are any questions, please reach out to your child's Homeroom Teacher.

[REMINDER: Allergy Awareness and Reminders](#)

We ask that anyone coming into Fireside School please refrain from wearing perfume, cologne, body sprays, scented products, and essential oils; please do not bring or send in items such as nuts.

- **Please do not bring perfumes, colognes, or scented products (as per the above list) into our school or spray them in the school: we are a scent-aware school.**
- **Please note that we are a Nut-Aware School**

Especially with some important field trips, tournaments, 3-Way Conferences, and other events coming up at the school in the next few months, we wanted to be sure to re-share this information with you as a friendly reminder. We

thank you for your attention to and respect for these health concerns and for helping us to keep everyone safe from allergic reactions this school year.



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)

[Contact Us!](#)

Fireside School

403.932.4868

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*An Attachment-Based Program
to Support Parents & Caregivers*

Do you ever feel that your teen doesn't listen to you? Do you sometimes even feel pushed away? Do parents matter?

Actually, there is very good evidence that strong relationships with parents protect youth from risk during **adolescence and help them thrive! We call that **ATTACHMENT!!****

Connect is a **FREE** 9 -week program to support parents of pre-teens and teens. Parents meet in groups of 10-16 with two trained group leaders for 1.5 hours per week.

Co-developed over the last 10 years by the Maples Adolescent Treatment Centre and Simon Fraser University, the program focuses on core components of secure attachment to promote children's social, emotional, and behavioural adjustment. Connect helps caregivers understand basic attachment concepts that can be applied across a broad range of situations and relational concepts.

Each session provides parents with an attachment perspective on parent-child relationships and adolescent development. Parents watch role-plays, do exercises and discuss ways of responding to challenging behaviour and problems. After each session, parents receive handouts with key points to remember when applying the principles to their own parent-child relationship.

Thursday Evenings
March 16th - May 25th, 2023
**No Class April 13th

6:30 pm - 8:00 pm Virtual Sessions via Zoom

If you are interested in learning more or joining a group, contact your
Connect Trainers: Helen St. Pierre 587. 223. 0374/hstpierre@rockyview.ab.ca
or Kelsey Brown 825. 733. 6490/ kbrown@rockyview.ab.ca



