

FIRESIDE FOCUS



Fireside Focus – April 12

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Upcoming Dates

- Wednesday, April 17 – Grade 6 Regular Immunizations (AHS)
- Wednesday, April 24 – [Healthy Hunger](#) (Panago)
- Friday, April 19 – Sports Fan Day (show off your favourite team's gear)
- Monday, April 29 – Professional Learning Day (no classes)

- Wednesday, May 1 & Thursday, May 2 – Celebration of Learning Conferences (4:00 pm to 7:00 pm; see below)

From the Admin Desk

Hello Fireside Families & Friends,

We were happy to see students return to school after Spring Break. Monday was a big day, with lots of learning about the solar eclipse. As students stayed inside during lunch break, many were watching the livestream of the eclipse to tie into their learning.

Students in Mr. Russell and Ms. Felesky's Grade 2 class "published" their Monster stories early in the week and shared them with classmates starting on Wednesday. Students had many smiles for how their character creations appeared in the stories of their classmates.

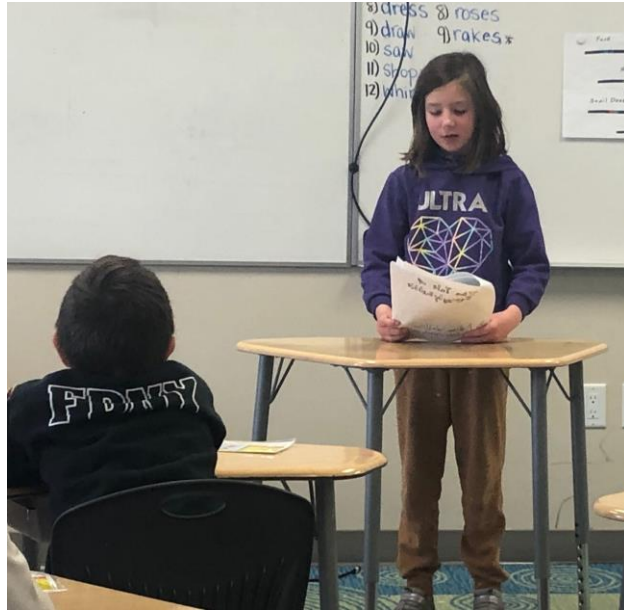
Mr. Shaw's Grade 4 class began independent novel studies, which sees them sharing their wonder of reading and the "Book Love" with their classmates as they progress through their novels. In this way, students are celebrating and sharing their reading, and hearing recommendations from their peers.

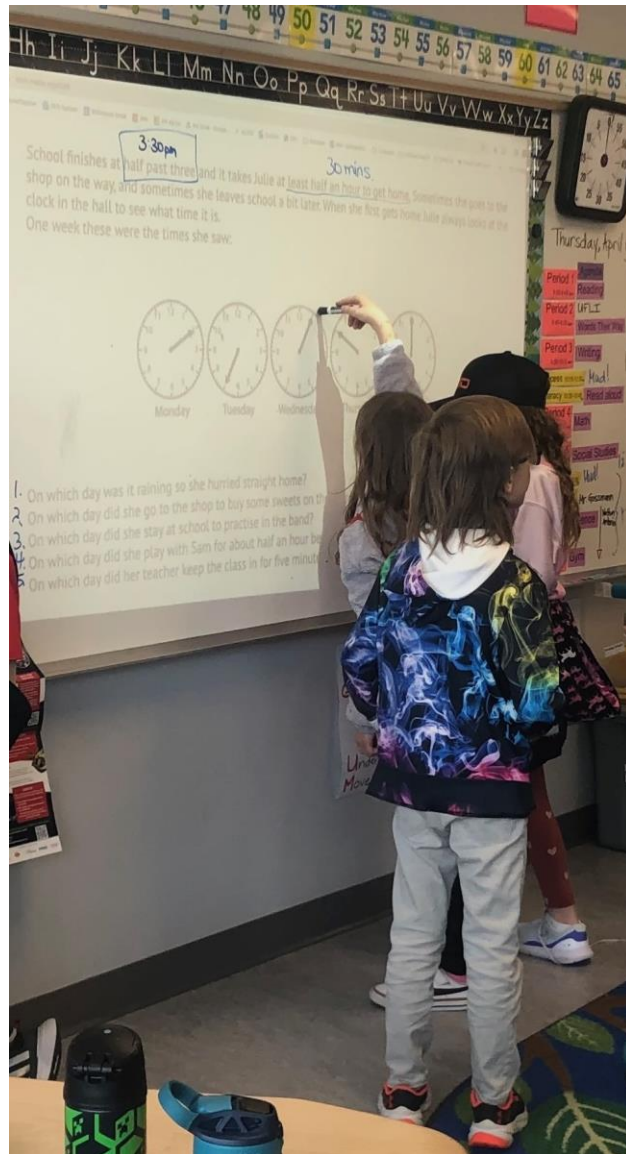
Grade 3 students in Mrs. Billings's class continued their Thinking Classroom math work, keeping on with the work that was done when RVS Learning Specialists were here before Spring Break. Students had fun solving a collaborative math problem that required critical thinking and problem-solving.

Our grade 6, 7 & 8 Student Leadership groups hosted similar groups from three other schools on Thursday for one of a series of Leadership Jamborees they've been attending this year. They played fun team building games and planned some exciting activities for the school in upcoming weeks.













We bid a fond farewell to some of our student teachers today: Ms. Felesky, Ms. Megan (Berkshire), Ms. Richards, Ms. Kaiya (Shelstad), Ms. Gorczyca, and Ms. Skwara. Thank you for the connections you formed with our students and for your commitments to learning at Fireside School.

Dave Banderk (Principal; dbanderk@rockyview.ab.ca)

Tara Sly (Assistant Principal, Grades K-4; tsly@rockyview.ab.ca)

Jason Ness (Assistant Principal, Grades 5-8; jness@rockyview.ab.ca)

May 1 & May 2 Celebration of Learning Conferences

On Wednesday, May 1 and Thursday, May 2, we will be happy to welcome students and their families into Fireside School for Celebration of Learning Conferences. For Grades 1-8, this round of conferences will look different than 3-way Conferences looked in the fall. Please watch for an email early next week with the details of how they'll work and how to select a time in Conference Manager to attend. Each evening's times are 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

Please note: for Kindergarten students, the usual 10-minutes slot appointments will still be in place.

Our school's Scholastic Book Fair will also be taking place during these two evenings.

And our Grade 6 Bands and Grade 7/8 Bands will also be showcased these evenings. **At 5:00 on Wednesday, May 1st, students in Grade 6 Band** will perform several orchestral pieces they have been working hard on. Students should meet in the band room at 4:45 pm to set up/warm up. **On Thursday, May 2nd, the Grade 7/8 Band** will perform (set up is at 4:45 pm; perform at 5:00 pm). These performances will take place in our Auxiliary Gym, and students are requested to dress in jeans and a black shirt, please.

Upcoming RVS OurSCHOOL Survey

Students in Grades 4-8 will be spending some class time at the end of April completing a divisional survey about their experiences at school. The survey will ask students to reflect on questions pertaining to behaviours and attitudes relating to student success, emotional and social well-being, and physical health. Information from the survey will be used to inform planning and improving student experiences for the 2024-25 school year and beyond.

The survey will take 20-45 minutes depending on which grade is taking the survey and how fast their class moves through the questions together. Responses are collected at the divisional level and will be anonymous (students will be given randomly generated codes to log in to the digital survey).

Parents & guardians may opt out of having their children participate in the survey. Students may also choose to not participate. Should you or your child wish to not take part, please notify their classroom teacher. Results of the survey will be shared at a future School Council meeting.

Information Meeting for Grade 6, 7, and 8 Band for 2024-25 School Year

At 5:45 pm on Wednesday, May 1 (following the Grade 6 Band Performance), Fireside School will host our Band Information Session for next year. Families whose children who will be in Grade 6, Grade 7, and Grade 8 next year are invited to attend to get information on instrument rentals and our general plan for Band next year. This event is primarily directed to new band members, though all students and families are invited to attend. If you have any questions, please reach out to Mr. Petterson:

dpetterson@rockyview.ab.ca