

FIRESIDE FOCUS



Fireside Focus – March 28

In this week's edition...

Upcoming Dates

From the Admin Desk

Solar Eclipse Safety – April 8th

Upcoming Dates

- Thursday, March 28 – Last Day of Classes Before Spring Break
- Monday, April 8 – Classes Resume
- Monday, April 8 – Solar Eclipse (see below)
- Wednesday, April 10 – Fireside Parent Council (6:30 pm) & Friends of Fireside (7:30 pm) Meeting
- Wednesday, April 17 – Grade 6 Regular Immunizations (AHS)
- Friday, April 19 – Sports Fan Day (show off your favourite team's gear)
- Monday, April 29 – Professional Learning Day (no classes)

From the Admin Desk

Hello Fireside Families & Friends,

Although it was a short week, it was filled with lots of activities and learning. With the nicer weather, many classes were able to get out for gym and other activities. Grade 3 and 4 students were especially happy to be out on the Compound for gym while learning about agility, strategic thinking, teamwork, and safe play. Kinders were out for walks, exploring and playing in nature.

On Tuesday night our school was ROCKING! with the Grade 3, 4, 5, and 5/6 students rolling out their best performances as they brought the house down. A huge thank you to our Music teachers, Mr. Petterson and Mr. Chung! The experience of creating the *Fireside School Rocks!* show and bringing it to life is not one many students get to experience at this age; it was a spectacular event that will be remembered for sure.





On Friday, it was Decades Day! We saw so many amazing outfits! Two of the Grade 4 classes held their Markets today, further exploring their classroom economies and how economic markets operate. Grade 1 students took their handmade baskets and went on an Easter egg hunt through the school, and many students had saved up their classroom economy stashes to be able to have extra special fun-time experiences today.



1 - Grade 2s have on their 80s wear -- this is the "can we make a funny face, pleaseeease?" picture

Mr. Russell's Grade 2 class had the pleasure of welcoming Metis Elder Pamela Lashmore into their classroom. She kindly shared information about Metis culture, including some of her family's long ties to

Cochrane. She also explained to students the significance of gifting tea to an Indigenous or Metis Elder (as the class gave her a gift of peppermint tea). She explained that tea is a gift given to elders when they visit, especially when it's to share their wisdom and knowledge with others. it was a very lovely experience.

Wishing you a wonderful weekend and a lovely Spring Break; we look forward to welcoming your kids back to school on Monday, April 8!

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)



2 - Metis Elder Pamela Lashmore reading The Giving Tree with Mr. Russell's and Ms. Felesky's Grade 2s

Solar Eclipse Safety – April 8th



On Monday, April 8th (our first day back from Spring Break), from approximately 11:48am to 1:40pm, a partial solar eclipse will be observable in Alberta. During a solar eclipse the shadow of the moon will

pass over Canada. This occurs when the moon passes between the sun and the earth, culminating with the moon fully or partially blocking the sun. A solar eclipse allows us to see the sun's tenuous atmosphere — the corona — glowing around the moon.

While exciting, it is imperative that we prioritize the well-being of our students during this event. Direct solar observation poses a significant risk of eye damage; therefore, it is critical that all students adhere strictly to safety protocols to avoid any potential harm. Teachers will remind students before going outside for lunch recess that they are not look directly into the sun. For more information on eye protection and solar eclipse safety please see the following link:

<https://opto.ca/eye-health-library/solar-eclipse-safety>