

FIRESIDE FOCUS



Fireside Focus – September 29

In this week's edition...

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From the Admin Desk

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Upcoming Dates

- Friday, Sept 29 – National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (no school)
- Friday, Sept 29 – National Learning Assistant Appreciation Day
- Monday, Oct 1 – National Custodian Appreciation Day
- Thursday, Oct 5 – World Teachers' Day
- Friday, Oct 6 – Professional Development Day (no school)

- Monday, Oct 9 – Thanksgiving (no school)
- Thursday, Oct 12 – Grade 6 Immunizations
- Tuesday, Oct 24 – Photo Retake Day

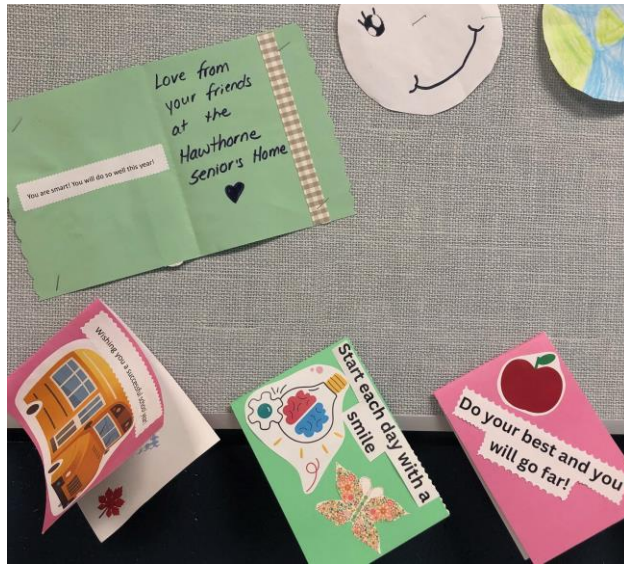
From the Admin Desk

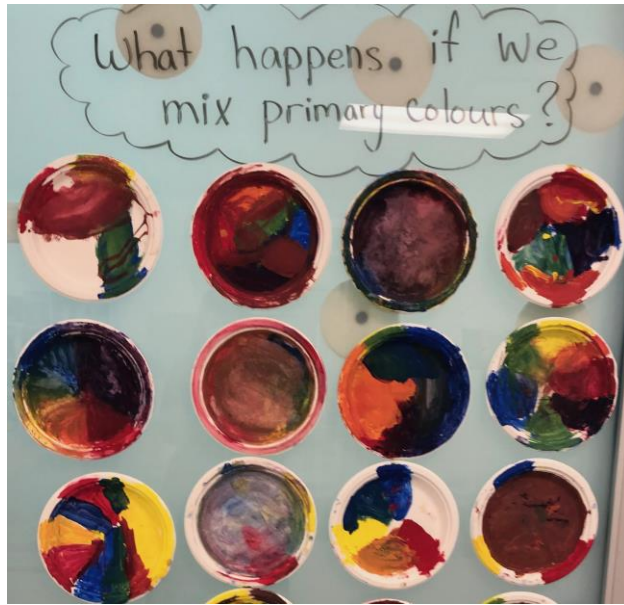
Hello Fireside Families & Friends,

Although it was a short week, it was packed full of learning, trips, and events. Grade 6 students went to Glenbow Ranch on Tuesday for some authentic learning experiences, learning on the land with RVS Indigenous Learning Specialist Jeff Horvath. On Wednesday, we held our first Healthy Hunger lunch of the year, where students and staff enjoyed some Subway. Stay tuned to *Focus* to find out about our next fun lunch. Throughout the week Grade 4 students carved soapstone animals with guest presenter Mr. Michael Emery, and on Wednesday they joined their Kinder buddies to harvest our plots at the Fireside Community Garden. Meanwhile, Grade 1 was experimenting with primary colours, and classes who had connected with seniors at Hawthorne Manor were pleasantly surprised when they received handmade cards of thanks. We look forward for continued opportunities to connect with Hawthorne Manor residents this year.









All classes were learning about Orange Shirt Day and the meaning of National Day for Truth and Reconciliation this week. Additionally, they were creating their individual and class commitments to be safe, caring, and accepting of others this year so that everyone at our school feels like they matter. It was a sea of orange on Thursday, as students participated in activities and in our grade-by-grade Gathering Ceremony. Please see below for more details of our event.

Our Junior A volleyball teams have been selected, and practices got underway in earnest. Tournaments are right around the corner, starting October 13th, with locations to be determined. Special thanks to Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. Soroka, Ms. Simpson, and RJ Unguran for their commitment to coaching this season.



Please watch for information about upcoming Grade-wide Literacy Groups for Grades 1, 2, and 3, which will begin after Thanksgiving. And hopefully you've had a moment to look at our *Beginning of the Year Reading Behaviours Continuum*, which was in *Focus* two weeks ago. Fireside created [this reference guide](#) in hopes of assisting families in understanding what behaviours would be typical of a child's reading development at a given grade level. We welcome any [feedback](#) you might have on this guide.

Wishing you all a wonderful long weekend.

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)



National Day for Truth and Reconciliation - Orange Shirt Day Ceremonies





On Thursday, all classes came to the gym grade-by-grade to participate in this year's *Gathering Ceremony* in recognition of Orange Shirt Day. Each class presented its understandings about how to create a safe, caring, welcoming school, unlike the ones where many Indigenous people were taken during the time of residential schools. Each class designed a poster that represented the learning environment they want to create in order to be a place where all students feel safe, cared for, and accepted. Each student individually designed a hawk feather that contained words and images of how they each will help to make everyone in the school feel like they matter; they put their feathers in the Gathering Circle alongside their class's posters. Throughout the day, as the Gathering Circle grew, the respectful way students engaged in learning the importance of feeling happy and safe at school clearly began to emerge.





Reminder: Student Authorization Forms

Just a friendly reminder to complete your student's Student Authorization Forms. These forms need to be filled out each year. These forms cover School Walking Field Trips, use of your student's photo, etc. You can find these on [School Engage](#). Please contact the office with any questions you may have filling out the forms.

Reminder: Allergy Awareness and Scent-Free Policy

At Fireside School, we want to do our best to keep everyone safe and healthy. We have a number of students and staff who are highly sensitive to certain allergens. We ask that all people entering the school please refrain from wearing perfume, cologne, body sprays, scented products, and essential oils (including especially those scented with orange, coconut, and lime). We also ask that nuts and nut products also remain out of the school.

- Please refrain from wearing perfume, cologne, scented products, or essential oils when coming into Fireside School.
- Please do not bring perfumes, colognes, scented products, or essential oils into our school; most especially, please do not spray them or open/use them in the school at any time.

- Since we are a Nut-Aware School, please do not bring products with nuts into the school, including in snacks, lunches, or treats.

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. If your child has allergies, please bring them to the attention of the Homeroom Teacher so that we can be aware of those allergy cautions as well.

Contact Us!

Fireside School

403.932.4868

fireside@rockyview.ab.ca

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