

Fireside Focus

Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open Doors

The Week Ahead ~ February 18 to March 4

Upcoming Events at a Glance

Date	Time	Event
Thursday, January 27 to Sunday, February 27		Fireside School Read-a-Thon - Book Love and FUNdraising Event
Monday, February 21		Family Day - No School
Tuesday, February 22 and Wednesday, February 23		No School
Thursday, February 24 and Friday, February 25		No School (Teachers' Convention)
Monday, February 28	7:00 pm	Friends of Fireside Meeting
Wednesday, March 2	6:30 - 8:30	School Council Meeting (https://rockyview.zoom.us/j/2781208156)
Friday, March 4	3:00 to 6:00	Grade 6 Basketball at Fireside
Monday, March 7		No School (PL Day)
Tuesday, March 8		3-Way Conferences Bookings Open
Wednesday, March 16 and Thursday, March 17	4:00-7:00 each day	3-Way Conferences (more information to come soon...)
Sunday, March 20 and Monday, March 21	Please see poster at the end of this week's <i>Focus</i>	Casino Nights - Friends of Fireside

Hello, families and friends of Fireside!

Read-a-Thon is heading into its last week over the break. Students' minutes were collected again today and minute trackers were updated to reflect this week's fabulous reading accomplishments. Fiona Gilbert, Rocky View Schools' Board Chair and Trustee for Ward 6 (Cochrane), joined us at

Fireside on Monday morning, reading to many classes as part of our Read-a-Thon. The Cochrane Movie House has also donated prizes for readers, and more will follow the week we return, when pledge forms are due back to Homeroom Teachers.

Our Boys and Girls Junior A basketball teams played in Divisionals on Thursday. The Boys Team won the bronze medal match and the Girls Team got 4th. Overall, despite the mid-season changes, these teams rose to the occasion and played their best. Well done, Hawks!!

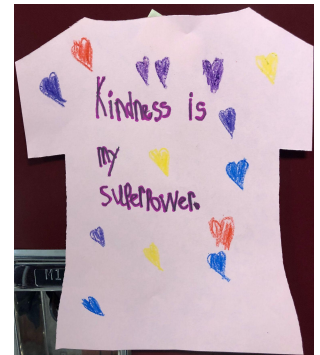
Spirit and kindness rang through the halls this week. Starting the week off with Valentine's Day, students later showed off their team pride and their best dressed selves into the middle of the week. Even our Therapy Dogs got in on the fun: check out Chewy with his dress-up suit and tie.



Thursday was Fireside's Pink Shirt Day: the grade 3 teams did an exceptional job of leading group activities and greeting students and our community with pink signs bearing messages of kindness and positivity. Thanks to them and Mrs. Abrahams for all they did to spread kindness and anti-bullying messages all week.

Today saw the Junior A Boys and Girls Teams engaged in a friendly basketball game with our Fireside Staff. The staff took top prize in the game against the Girls. The Boys game was fast paced and went right down to the wire, where the Boys tied it up in the last minute to mend the game in a draw. What a fun way to go into the February Break Week!

Wishing you all a lovely weekend, a happy Family Day, and a restful break for our students!!



NEW: Exciting Writing News!

We have some very exciting news to share! Students in Mrs. Billings's class entered a short story writing contest in early December and they just found out the results! Out of 18 kids who entered, 9 Grade 3 Fireside students are going to be published writers!

Polar Expressions Publishing is a publishing company from B.C.. Every year they hold writing contests for students across Canada, K-12. If entrants make it past the first round of judging, their work is included in a published book. This year's book is called *Tree Life*. We still have to wait until June to hear about the student and school winners, but we are so excited to see this accomplishment for these students: amazing work!

NEW: Mr. Shaw's Grade 4 Class Market

Today, Mr. Shaw's grade 4 class held its Class Market. There were so many fun things that students had built, created, drawn, and crafted to offer to peers and staff at their market. It was impressive to see the level of creativity, excitement, and energy the students put into marketing their items. Very fun!



NEW: Remembrance Day Contest Recipients

Ms. MacKay's Grade 3/4 class entered "The Royal Canadian Legion" contest for Remembrance Day 2021. Students had the choice to enter a black and white poster, a coloured poster, or a piece of poetry into the contest. The Legion volunteers judged hundreds of applicants in Rocky View. Our Grade 3/4 class had 4 students place in the contest this year:

Adalynn House: 1st Place in the "Primary Colour Poster" category

Ellie Dembinski: 2nd Place in the "Junior Colour Poster" category

Victoria Vottero: 3rd Place in the "Primary Colour Poster" category

Caius Williams: 2nd Place in the "Primary Black and White Poster" Category

Congratulations to these students on their achievements!



NEW: Daily Health Checklist Usage

The Alberta Government recently updated its [Alberta Daily Health Checklist](#) (click on the link to view). As we come back to school after the February Break, please ensure that students are completing this checklist each day before leaving for school. Parents/Guardians play an essential role, as they support actions in the home (such as keeping children/students home when sick and accessing testing if symptoms develop) that ultimately keep other children, students, and staff safe.



UPDATED: Fireside School Read-a-Thon is ON and into its last week!

Fireside School's third week of Read-a-thon saw students adding 135,461 minutes to their total! The new total on the Whole School Tracker now reads: 535, 912 minutes! Our competition with Herons Crossing in Airdrie is going strong.

It is the last week of Read-a-Thon over the February Break. Students have set some pretty cool goals. They'll need to bring back their minutes to add to our totals on February 28th. Please total the full Read-a-Thon minutes on the Minutes Form, which should be returned to school no later than Friday, March 4, along with the Pledge Forms. The final update will occur on Friday, March 4.

A reminder of how our Read-a-Thon and FUNdraiser works can be found in the video made for Fireside especially by The Friends of Fireside Society: [Link to Fireside Read-A-Thon YouTube Video](#). Thank you, once again, to Mrs. Chapin for making this video for our students and families.

UPDATED: Literacy Comments

If you have not checked the January 31 Reading Comments for your students, we hope you find the time to do so over this break. As we approach 3-Way Conferences on March 16 and 17, this would be a great time to review these comments, which look at students' reading strengths and next steps for growth.

Reminder: Friends of Fireside

A BIG thank you to everyone who has signed up to volunteer for our Casino Nights event – we appreciate all your help! An email has gone out with important information regarding this event. Please check your Inbox.

Mark your calendars – Upcoming Events: *Friends of Fireside meeting – Feb 28th | 7:00pm | Location: to be determined and *Casino Nights – March 20-21

Please watch our Facebook page for new updates, and thank you as always for your continued support!

Reminder: Parent Education Sessions in partnership with Community Education Services

09 FEB 2022 - 10:00 AM - Noon: Brain Science: Sciences of Hope and Resilience *please register using the poster link only***** This session exists to support caregivers with the fundamental elements of brain science with a focus on the strengths of knowing how this can positively impact children and youth development. The interactive session will provide insight into brain structure and the stress response. In addition, we will explore adverse childhood experiences and Covid-19 as they relate to brain development, while providing information and strategies to build resilience. [Poster](#)

16 FEB 2022 - 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM: Managing Anxiety in Youth within the COVID-19 World

*****please register using the poster link only***** This session will outline the differences among worry, stress, and anxiety, and how the COVID-19 pandemic may affect mental health and wellness in teens. The session will also cover clinical presentations of anxiety and provide parents with insight as to what is 'normal' and when to seek help from a mental health professional. The session will also cover strategies for parents to assist their youth in navigating this complex world, including stress management, self-care, and strategies for improving executive functioning and resilience. [Poster](#)

11 Apr 2022 - 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM: ADHD & Executive Functioning: For Children & Youth

*****please register using poster link only***** The session will be an overview of ADHD and how issues with impulsivity and/or inattention impact children's ability to manage their environments. The session will also explore the impact ADHD has on Executive Functioning and how it relates to managing everyday tasks, and meeting daily expectations at home and at school, including social, emotional, behavioural and academic demands. [Poster](#)

25 MAR 2022 - 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM: Earth Play: The Benefits of Outdoor Exploration

*****please register using the poster link only***** They don't call them the great outdoors for nothing! Getting outside is great for both mental health and physical health! This session will provide individuals with information about the benefits of play, exploration, and adventure for supporting positive mental health. You will leave this session with practical, age-appropriate ideas to get outside, get moving, and get messy as a family. [Poster](#)

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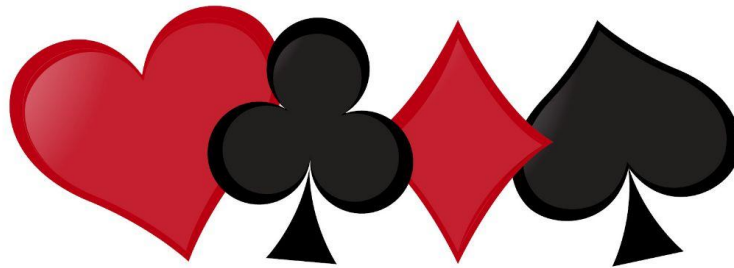
More Information: <https://community.hmhc.ca/>



ACE CASINO &
FIRESIDE SCHOOL'S



CASINO NIGHT



SUNDAY MARCH 20
MONDAY MARCH 21

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Help us fundraise for the new outdoor
learning area for Fireside School!
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We are still looking for volunteers for both days.
Visit friendsoffireside.ca/casino-march-2022 for
more info or write us at president@friendsoffireside.ca

