

Fireside Focus

Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open Doors

The Week Ahead ~ March 11 to March 18

Upcoming Events at a Glance

Date	Time	Event
Wednesday, March 16 and Thursday, March 17	4:00 -7:00 pm each day	3-Way Conferences (see below; in-person and ZOOM options available for families)
Friday, March 18		Read-a-Thon Celebration Assembly - <i>Everyone, wear your Fireside Hawks gear!!</i>
Friday, March 18		Junior B Basketball Tournament
Sunday, March 20 and Monday, March 21		Casino Nights - Friends of Fireside (see below and poster at the end of this week's Focus)
Wednesday, March 23		T3 Options Start for Gr 7 & 8 Students
Friday, March 25		Junior B Basketball Tournament

Hello, families and friends of Fireside! We were a busy building this week, with lots on the go: Grade 1's continued their work on communities; Grade 7's put their math skills into action, sketching and plotting out cities and zoos they'd designed; and all Grade 8 students saw a presentation with one of our School Resource Officers, Constable Nathan Moore, on Online Safety. The presentation focused on topics such as cyber-bullying and social media safety.



In PE, students began the Sound Kreations Dance Program one day a week. Students are also playing net games over the coming weeks. Today, The Junior B Boys Basketball team hosted the league's first tournament. Our Boys' team played hard and competed well. They are now looking ahead to their next two tournaments in the coming weeks. Go Hawks! Wishing you all a wonderful weekend!



[NEW: Hands-On Numeracy](#)

Students across all grades have opportunities to develop their functional numeracy skills using a variety of methods and ways of representing numbers. Manipulative tools, like these Cuisenaire Rods that Mrs. Cooledge's Grade 2s played with, help students to represent numbers concretely. This helps them make connections between their natural counting sense and the symbols (digits) we use to communicate numbers. They stimulate deep thinking and careful reasoning as they create and solve one another's questions.

[NEW: Fireside School Read-a-Thon](#)

To date, we are sitting at over 790,000 minutes read during Read-a-Thon, with a few Minutes Forms still to be added in! That is AMAZING!!

Given the immense dedication and effort Fireside School's learning community put into our Read-a-Thon and the amazing Book Love students and staff displayed, we have decided that we will be having a special event to celebrate, next week on Friday, March 18. All Read-a-Thon prizes and draw prize recipients will be announced at our Celebration Event.

On Friday, students are encouraged to wear their *Fireside Hawks* gear, as we come together to celebrate!!! Skyler the Hawk will be there to take pictures with prize recipients.

We would like to say a huge THANK YOU!!!! to the following people and groups: Chantal Chapin, who first brought us the idea for Read-a-Thon FUNdraiser and the competition with Herons Crossing;



our generous sponsors, the Friends of Fireside Society and Cochrane Movie House; Mr. Lofthouse and Mrs. Clancy for updating our tracker over the four weeks; Mrs. Anderson for setting up and coordinating the fundraising components; Apollo and Natalie for helping Ms. Sly with all of the minute accounting; staff for supporting and encouraging students; and of course: students, parents, and families for their participation and support of this event.

We look forward to sharing the prize recipients in next week's *Focus*!

NEW: Ms. Weintz's Grade 1 Artists

After learning about American artist and sculptor, Jeff Koons, Grade 1s painted balloon dogs in his signature style. Koons released "Balloon Dogs" as part of his *Celebration* series in 1993. These playful sculptures are now among the most iconic works of contemporary art. Koons said he only wanted to create a piece that showed the joys of celebration when he created the sculpture.



NEW: Emotions in our Body with Ms. Humphrys Kindergarten

During their work on "Identity Through Movement and Emotion," Ms. Humphry's Kindergarten students created visuals of themselves showing emotions of their choice. In Kindergarten, we have been exploring what it means to be a Communicator without using voices. They began an inquiry into feelings, body movement, and gestures that communicate ideas. Using books, videos, music, and their great acting skills, students played and discovered what their body looks like when they feel certain emotions. These are their findings...:



Excited!!



Angry



Excited!



Brave

[NEW: Sunflowers in Grade 2](#)

The Sunflower is the national flower of Ukraine. The grade 2 students created, designed, and made sunflowers this week to display in our school.



[NEW: Friends of Fireside](#)

We are still in need of evening volunteers and backup/on-call evening volunteers for our school's Casino Nights on Sunday, March 20th and Monday, March 21st from 11:15 PM to 3:30 AM.

We are so excited about the Outdoor Learning Space that will provide amazing hands-on learning opportunities, but we need the support of the community - we can't do it alone!

Please email president@friendsoffireside.ca if you are able to help!

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

Mark your calendars – upcoming events:

* Friends of Fireside meeting – March 28th | 7:00pm | Location: In-person meeting at Fireside School

*Casino Nights – March 20-21 – **We need your help, please!**

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

[UPDATED: Submitting Pledged Funds for Read-a-Thon](#)

Now that students have collected pledges, it is time to submit those funds to the school. Please note that Fireside School does not accept cash.

Thank you to those who have already done so! Currently, we have already received over \$7,500 in pledged funds, with more coming in each day: AMAZING!

There are 2 ways to submit funds for our Read-a-Thon:

1. Log into your *School Cash Online* account, then choose the "Make A Donation" bar.

*Enter your donation amount and choose **Fireside School** from the Fund Destination drop-down.

*In the Message box, **enter 'Read-A-Thon: [Student's Name]'**.

*A receipt will be emailed to you.

*If there are sponsors who are still interested in making a one-time donation, please have them do so before Monday, March 7, 2022.

2. Wait for the pledged amount to be added to your child's *School Cash Online* account. (Please note: Amounts for payment should appear starting Tuesday, March 8, 2022, depending on form submission.)

*Based on the student's submitted Read-A-Thon sponsor log, a catalogue item will be created for you to purchase that reflects your child's total pledges.

*A receipt will be emailed to you.

If students collected a donation of \$20 or more from an individual, and that person has requested a Charitable Donation Receipt, please email those requests to fireside@rockyview.ab.ca.

If there are any questions about this process, please contact the school at 403-932-4868.

UPDATED: 3-Way Conferences – March 16 & 17 from 4:00 – 7:00 PM each day

For our Conferences next week, **we are pleased that we can once again welcome parents and guardians into the school for face-to-face meetings!** For those of you who prefer a virtual conference, that option is still available. Please remember that each Conference will be 10 minutes in length.

If you still need to sign up for conferences, for the available spot, you will indicate your choice of either Face-to-Face or Virtual Conferences at the time of their booking. Fireside School uses the online booking program *Conference Manager*: <https://fireside.schoolsoft.com/login.jsf>

Please note that Conference Manager will close on March 15th at noon. Please call the school office (403-932-4868) if you have questions or are having difficulties logging in. Please note that when you are booking your appointment time, you will be prompted to provide a phone number where the teacher can reach you, should technical issues arise.

Reminder: Outstanding School Fees

Parents/Guardians: Please log in to your School Cash Online accounts and check for outstanding and overdue fees for your children. Prompt attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

School fees have been charged for the following:

- Optional Course Fees for Term 1 and Term 2 (Gr 7 & 8)
- Soccer team fees (Gr 6)
- Volleyball team fees (Jr A, Jr B, Gr 6)
- Basketball team fees (Jr A)
- Lost/Damaged Book fines and Agenda replacements

Please contact the school if there are financial concerns that you'd like us to be aware of: 403-932-4868.

Reminder: Literacy Comments

Prior to booking your 3-Way Conferences this coming week for March 16 or March 17, we hope you find the time to check the January 31 Reading Comments for your students (posted in PowerSchool) if you have not done so already. Those comments speak to students' reading strengths and next steps for growth.

Reminder: At Home Music Opportunity

From the Music Department: Students of Fireside School now have access to *MusicplayOnline*, a digital world of music games, digital instruments, songs, and more. Visit www.musicplayonline.com, click STUDENT, and enter the code: d127045. Enjoy!

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](#)

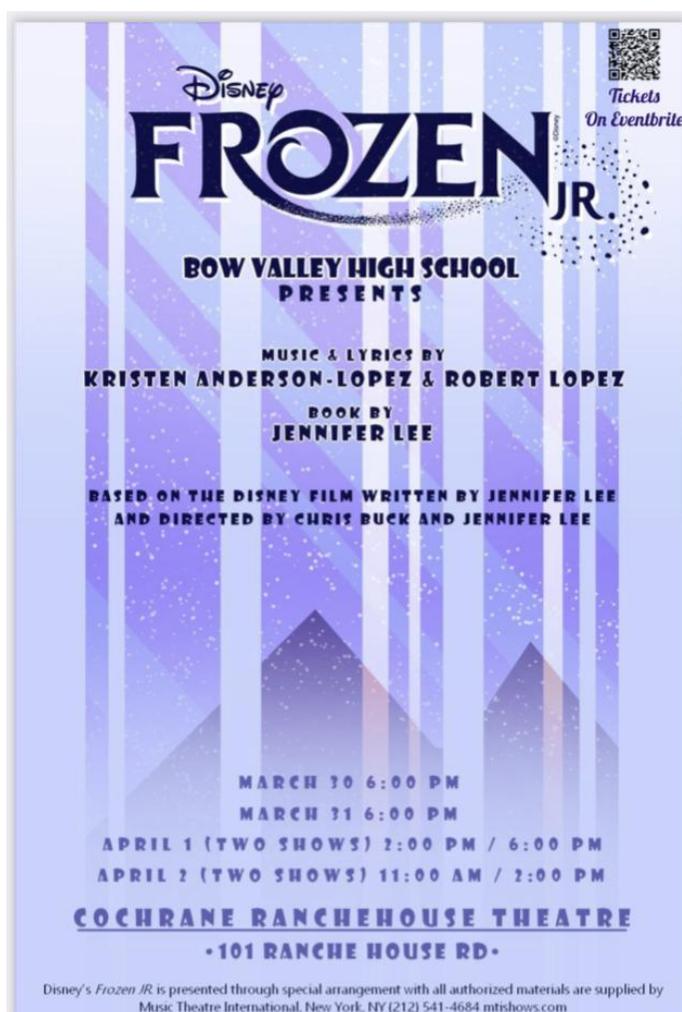
11 Apr 2022 - 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM: ADHD & Executive Functioning: For Children & Youth *please register using poster link only***** The session will be an overview of ADHD and how issues with impulsivity and/or inattention impact children's ability to manage their environments. The session will also explore 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

Help us fundraise for the new outdoor
learning area for Fireside School!

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

