

Fireside Focus

Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open Doors

The Week Ahead ~ March 4 to March 11

Upcoming Events at a Glance

Date	Time	Event
Monday, March 7		No School (PL Day)
Tuesday, March 8		3-Way Conferences Bookings Open in Conference Manager
Wednesday, March 16 and Thursday, March 17	4:00-7:00 each day	3-Way Conferences (see below; in-person and ZOOM options available for families)
Sunday, March 20 and Monday, March 21		Casino Nights - Friends of Fireside (see below)

Hello, families and friends of Fireside! It was another energy-filled week at Fireside School. This week we were able to start reading buddies between upper and younger grades again, as well as other exciting collaborations between classes.

Our Grade 6 basketball teams had their tournament today. It was so great to see fans in the seats and hear cheering during the game! The Boys Team played at home, while the Girls were at Rancheview. A huge congratulations to both teams on playing hard, keeping pace, and doing their best on the court today. And a huge thank you to Coach Emery (Boys Team), Coach Hamilton and Coach Loewen (Girls Team) for all of their time and support.



Read-a-Thon finished last Sunday and students were eager to finish off their totals and see our final numbers climb on the Tracker. See below for further details. We are very, very proud of our students for their energy, engagement, and enthusiasm during this event.

Wishing you all a restful, lovely weekend and we look forward to seeing students again on Tuesday morning.

NEW: 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!

NEW: Fireside School Read-a-Thon

Fireside School's Read-a-Thon came to an end last Sunday, and reading minute totals continued to come in over the course of the week. Currently, we are sitting at almost 783,000 minutes for the month! AMAZING!! Minute totals will continue to be totaled into early next week to ensure that all forms have been returned.

Now that the minutes submission deadline has arrived, we will be calculating totals and awarding the Scholastic Gift Card Prizes (to be used at our Book Fair in April) to the top reader of each grade. The draws for students who read 500 and 1000 minutes will be made on Monday, March 7. These prizes are kindly sponsored by The Friends of Fireside Society. We truly appreciate their generous support of our students and programs at Fireside School.



Additionally, the Cochrane Movie House has stepped up to sponsor additional prize draws for our students. Students who are eligible for these draws are as follows:

- *3 draws for a Cochrane Movie House pass for students reading over 750 minutes
- *3 draws for a Cochrane Movie House pass for students reading over 1500 minutes
- *3 draws for a Cochrane Movie House pass for students reading over 2000 minutes
- *3 draws for a Cochrane Movie House pass for students reading over 2500 minutes
- *3 draws for a Cochrane Movie House pass for students reading over 3000 minutes

Thank you to the Cochrane Movie house for its generous support of Fireside School students and programs.

The prizes for top reader, highest minutes read by a class, and highest fundraising class will also be calculated. We will be so happy to share those recipients and results with you in next week's *Focus*.

NEW: 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 of you who have already submitted your donations.

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.

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

Our 3-Way Conferences are part of Rocky View Schools' Communication of Student Learning. These conferences include parents, teachers, and students and offer a chance to review the student's progress to date and to set goals for the next steps of their learning journey.

For the upcoming round of conferences, **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.

Parents/Guardians will indicate their choice of either Face-to-Face or Virtual Conferences at the time of their booking. Conferences will be 10 minutes in length.

Fireside School uses the online booking program *Conference Manager*:

<https://fireside.schoolsoft.com/login.jsf>

Conference Manager will open for bookings on March 8th at 8:00 AM and will close on March 15th at noon. If you have never used Conference Manager before, please register now. You do not have to wait until the site is open for bookings. Also, returning users should ensure they can still log in to the system. You can request a password reset if necessary. Please review your parent/guardian profile to ensure the information is correct. Important: the email address you provide in this profile will be used to send you the booking confirmation. Please call the school office (403-932-4868) if you have questions or are having difficulties logging in.

When the conference booking site opens, please book an appointment date and time that works for you. 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.

NEW: Friends of Fireside

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

NEW: 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.

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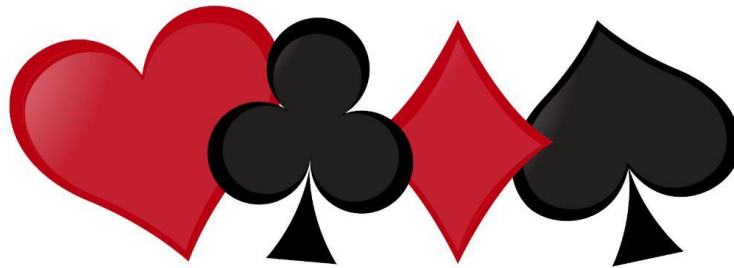
More Information: <https://community.hmhc.ca/>



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

