

# Fireside Focus

Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open Doors

The Week Ahead ~ May 6 to May 13

## Upcoming Events at a Glance

Date	Time	Event
Wednesday, May 18		Provincial Achievement Test - Grade 6 Part A English Language Arts
Wednesday, May 18		Student Tech Restriction (see below)
Wednesday, May 18		Divisional Track & Field Meet (Grade 7s)
Thursday, May 19		Divisional Track & Field Meet (Grade 8s)
Thursday, May 19	12:20-2:00	Spring Concert (K-6, see below)
Friday, May 20		Professional Learning Day (no school)
Monday, May 23		Victoria Day (no school)

Hello, families and friends of Fireside!

On Wednesday, staff and students wore hats to acknowledge *Hats on for Mental Health* day, which is an annual day to increase awareness around the importance of mental health. This week also saw Fireside students going on new adventures and field trips: the grade 2's were at Telus Spark, while the grade 1's explored Cochrane Ranch, and the grade 7's and 8's spent time at Glenbow Ranch. Students are practicing and preparing for *The Sounds of Spring* concert next week (see below).



Next week, it seems we'll see a return to rain, and possibly even snow: it's hard to think we'll need to bring our "bundle up" gear to school in May, but please keep an eye on the forecast and make sure everyone comes to school with clothes to keep them warm and dry outside.

Regardless of the weather, we hope that everyone will have a wonderful weekend, and we wish you all a lovely Mother's Day.

### **NEW: Spring Concert**

Fireside School is hosting a live concert on Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup> from 12:20-2:00. Students from K-6 will be singing, playing instruments, dancing and drumming in celebration of Spring. The concert is open to Fireside families and will be held in two parts, split by grade. K-3 students will perform from 12:20 to 12:50. Doors will be open for seating at 12:40. Grades 4-6 students will perform from 1:00 to 1:40. Seating will be available at 12:40. We look forward to seeing you on May 19<sup>th</sup>!

### **NEW: Moving Schools??**

If your child will be attending a different school next year (other than Bow Valley), we would like to ask that you let us know as soon as you are able (if you haven't done so already). This will help us significantly as we begin to build class lists for next year and solidify our staffing and budget needs.

Please call (403.932.4868) or email ([fireside@rockyview.ab.ca](mailto:fireside@rockyview.ab.ca)) the school to let us know that you'll be moving away. We'll be sad to hear you're moving on but grateful for the "heads up."



### **NEW: Friday Bus Delay – Road Construction**

The Town of Cochrane has advised us that starting May 9<sup>th</sup>, road construction at the bottom of the 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue hill will impact traffic flow in that part of Cochrane. This will have an impact on buses leaving the Cochrane tri-schools area whose routes on Friday are completed before ours. Please expect there may be afternoon bus delays on Fridays for the next 4 weeks. Bus supervisors *will* remain outside with students until they are picked up, but traffic delays may be significant.

### **NEW: Bus Evacuation Drill – Wednesday, May 11th**

Southland Transportation will be conducting bus evacuation drills on Wednesday next week during morning drop-off. Because the buses need extra space to do this, one of the buses will block the staff parking lot at the rear of the building. Prior to the bus's arrival, a staff member will redirect vehicles attempting to enter the parking lot to drop off students.

We would also like to add a reminder that the **accessible spaces in the staff parking lot in particular are not to be used as drop-off points** except for families who need those spaces for wheelchair access or other mobility issues. Unpermitted vehicles may have their license plate numbers forwarded to bylaw enforcement, even if only in the spaces for a very short time. Thank you for your attention to this request.

### **[NEW: Grade 6 Provincial Achievement Tests \(PATs\) at Fireside](#)**

The first Provincial Achievement Tests Assessment (PAT) for Grade 6 students at Fireside School is on Wednesday, May 18, 2022. Please note: no other technology will not be in use during the assessment itself on this date, as this it will be written online, and those are the directions given to the school.

If you are the parent/guardian of a grade 6 student who is not able to write a PAT assessment for any reason, please contact Assistant Principal Tara Sly as soon as possible.

For further information on Alberta's Grade 6 PAT, parents and families can find further information in the [Grade 6 Parent Guide, 2021-2022](#), including Testing Descriptions and Sample Questions. Should you have any questions about these assessments, please do not hesitate to reach out.

### **[NEW: Student Tech Restriction – Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>](#)**

Due to the need for secure and stable internet during Provincial Achievement Tests, students will not be able to access school wifi on any of their devices during the morning of Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>.

### **[NEW: Class List Creation](#)**

Our teachers, learning support staff, and administrators will be starting the creation of class lists for next year. Like last year, students will get to identify two peers they feel they could work well with next year (whether in their own class or another). While we can't guarantee that everyone will be paired up with one of these peers, our hope is to accommodate as many requests as possible. Class assignments will be sent to families in August.

### **[NEW: Daily Health Checklist Reminder](#)**

While many of the pandemic-related restrictions have been lifted, COVID-19 infections continue to occur, along with the various colds and flus we typically see in schools. The Provincial Daily Health Checklist is found below. We recognize that sending students home has impacts on both learning and on families. Nonetheless, when students present with symptoms as described on the checklist, we will be calling to have children picked up from school. This is particularly true if your child is starting their day with a wet cough and a stuffy or a runny nose. We want to ensure the safety and health of all our students and staff. Following the guidelines set out by AHS will help us significantly. Thank you for your understanding.

## COVID-19 INFORMATION

# COVID-19 ALBERTA HEALTH DAILY CHECKLIST (FOR CHILDREN UNDER 18)

### Overview

This checklist applies for all children, as well as all students who attend kindergarten through Grade 12, including high school students over 18. Children should be screened every day by completing this checklist before going to school, childcare or other activities. Children may need a parent or guardian to assist them to complete this screening tool.

If your child has traveled outside Canada in the last 14 days, follow the [Government of Canada Travel, Testing, Quarantine and Borders](#) instructions, including any requirements for exempt travelers related to attending high-risk environments. International travellers who become a case of COVID-19 after arrival in Alberta should follow isolation requirements outlined by the Government of Canada.

If your child has tested positive on a [rapid antigen test](#) or received a message from Public Health indicating that they are a case<sup>4</sup> of COVID-19, they are required to isolate as per [Public Health instructions](#). For more information on isolation requirements after a positive rapid antigen test, refer to the [Rapid testing at home website](#).

### Screening Questions for Children under 18:

1.	<b>Has your child been a household contact of a case<sup>4</sup> of COVID-19 in the last 10 days?</b> <i>A household contact: a person who lives in the same residence as the case OR who has been in frequent, long-duration, close-range interaction with a case of COVID-19. For example, someone who slept over, attended a birthday party or someone who was a play date with a case.</i>	YES	NO
<b>If child answered "YES" AND they are NOT fully immunized<sup>5</sup>:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Child should stay home and NOT attend school, childcare and/or other activities for 10 days from the last day of exposure and monitor for symptoms, <b>unless they have tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days AND completed the mandatory 10-day isolation period, in which case they can proceed to question 2.</b></li></ul>			
<b>If child answered "YES" and they are fully immunized<sup>5</sup> proceed to question 2:</b> <b>If child answered "NO" to question 1, proceed to question 2:</b>			
2.	<b>Does the child have any new onset (or worsening) of the following core symptoms:</b>		
	<b>Fever</b> Temperature of 38 degrees Celsius or higher	YES	NO
	<b>Cough</b> Continuous, more than usual, not related to other known causes or conditions such as asthma	YES	NO
	<b>Shortness of breath</b> Continuous, unable to breathe deeply, not related to other known causes or conditions such as asthma	YES	NO
	<b>Loss of sense of smell or taste</b> Not related to other known causes or conditions like allergies or neurological disorders	YES	NO
<b>If the child answered "YES" to any symptom in question 2:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>If the child is fully immunized<sup>5</sup><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Isolate for 5 days from the day of onset of symptoms or until symptoms resolve<sup>3</sup> whichever is longer.</li><li>After this isolation period, up to a total of 10 days <b>from the day of symptom onset, they are required to wear a mask at all times when in a public place or otherwise in the company of other persons</b> with no exceptions.</li></ul></li><li>If the child is NOT fully immunized<sup>5</sup>,<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>they must isolate for 10 days from the day of onset of symptoms or until symptoms resolve<sup>3</sup> whichever is longer</li></ul></li><li>Whether they are fully immunized or not, even if they have a negative molecular (e.g. PCR) COVID-19 test or two negative rapid antigen tests, taken not less than 24 hours of each other, they still must isolate until symptoms resolve<sup>3</sup>.</li><li>If they are within three weeks of the initial positive test of a previous infection they do not need to test again, and they can leave isolation when symptoms resolve<sup>3</sup>.</li><li>They can use an <a href="#">at-home rapid antigen test</a> if available or access the <a href="#">AHS Online Assessment Tool</a> for advice on managing mild symptoms, and whether they are eligible for a COVID-19 molecular test.</li></ul>			

<sup>3</sup>Symptoms resolved means symptoms have improved and with no fever for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication

<sup>4</sup> A lab-confirmed case OR a probable case as defined in the [Alberta COVID-19 Notifiable Disease Guideline](#)

<sup>5</sup> A child who has received the complete vaccine series for COVID-19 and it has been 14 days after the second dose in a two dose series

**NOTE:**

- If they have had a previously confirmed COVID-19 infection within the past 90 days, wait until three weeks have elapsed from the initial positive test, to take a rapid antigen test.
- Children 2 years of age and younger are not eligible for rapid antigen testing and should complete the [AHS Online Self-Assessment tool](#) to access molecular (e.g. PCR) testing.

If the child answered “NO” to all of the symptoms in question 2, proceed to question 3.

**3. Does the child have any new onset (or worsening) of the following other symptoms:**

<b>Chills</b> Without fever, not related to being outside in cold weather	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Sore throat/painful swallowing</b> Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as seasonal allergies or reflux	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Runny nose/congestion</b> Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as seasonal allergies or being outside in cold weather	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Feeling unwell/fatigued</b> Lack of energy, poor feeding in infants, not related to other known causes or conditions, such as depression, insomnia, thyroid dysfunction or sudden injury	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea</b> Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as anxiety, medication or irritable bowel syndrome	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Unexplained loss of appetite</b> Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as anxiety or medication	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Muscle/joint aches</b> Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as arthritis or injury	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Headache</b> Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as tension-type headaches or chronic migraines	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Conjunctivitis</b> (commonly known as pink eye)	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>

**If the child answered “YES” to ONE symptom in question 3:**

Keep your child home and monitor for 24 hours and consider giving child an [at-home rapid antigen test](#).

- If [at-home rapid antigen testing](#) is not done and the symptom is improving after 24 hours, your child can return to school and activities when they feel well enough to go.
- If the symptom **does not improve or worsens** after 24 hours (or if additional symptoms emerge), use an [at-home rapid antigen test](#) if available or follow the [AHS Online Assessment Tool](#) for advice on managing mild symptoms, and whether you need to be tested for COVID-19.

**If the child answered “YES” to TWO OR MORE symptoms in question 3:**

- Keep your child home
- Use an [at-home rapid antigen test](#) if available or follow the [AHS Online Assessment Tool](#) for advice on managing mild symptoms, and whether you need to be tested for COVID-19.

**NOTE:**

- If they have had a previously confirmed COVID-19 infection within the past 90 days, wait until three weeks have elapsed from the initial positive test, to take a rapid antigen test.
- Children 2 years of age and younger are not eligible for rapid antigen testing, and should complete the [AHS Online Self-Assessment tool](#) to access molecular (e.g. PCR) testing.

**For at-home rapid antigen testing result instructions:**

- If [at-home rapid antigen test](#) is negative they can return to school and activities when they feel well enough to go.
- If [at-home rapid antigen test](#) is positive, the child is required to isolate as outlined above for **question 2**.

**If the child answered “NO” to all questions:**

- Your child may attend school, childcare and/or other activities

**Please note:** If your child is experiencing any symptoms from the lists above, do not bring them to *visit* a continuing care or acute care facility for 10 days from when symptoms started or until symptoms resolve (whichever is longer), unless they receive a negative COVID-19 molecular test result or two negative rapid antigen tests, taken not less than 24 hours of each other and feel better.