

Fireside Focus

Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open Doors

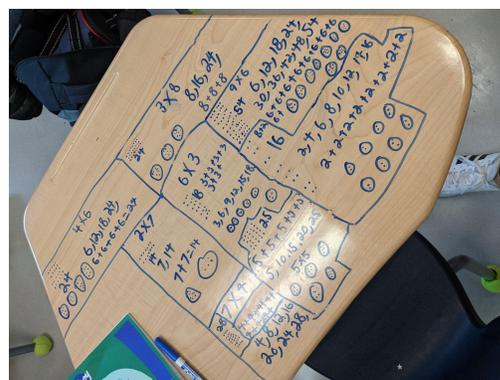
The Week Ahead ~ November 19 to November 26

Upcoming Events at a Glance

Date	Time	Event
Friday, November 19		Junior B Boys Volleyball Tournament
Friday, November 26		Junior B Girls Volleyball Tournament
Wednesday, December 1	6:30 - 8:00 pm	School Council Meeting (https://rockyview.zoom.us/j/2781208156)
Monday, December 13	7:00 pm	Friends of Fireside Meeting meet.google.com/yzb-pgbm-zvh
Friday, December 17		Last day before Winter Break
Monday, January 3		First day back from Winter Break

Hello, families and friends of Fireside!

Well, it seems that winter is on our doorsteps. Our week began with snow, which saw students out building snowpeople, forts, and other snow structures on our fields and outside areas during recesses. Thus, it seems like a good time to remind students and families to ensure that winter gear is coming to school for outdoor experiences, please. Reminders about snow safety have also been going on at school this week to ensure that our play is safe and fun for all.



This week also saw students engaged in a variety of interesting science experiments, sharing their reading histories, exploring GoogleSpaces in Digital Marketing, analyzing visuals with in-class novel studies connections, and preparing for a staged play reading in Drama class. In Math, students were engaged in activities around percents, fractions, and other mathematical strategies and concepts. Students in grade 4 have started reviewing multiplication facts and strategies this week: as you can see in the pictures, playdough always makes things fun!

We've left the photos of the items from Lost & Found in again this week, as we're hoping those items will be able to go home to their families soon.

We wish you a smooth and peaceful weekend, with hopefully a little sunshine coming your way.



[NEW: Travelling and Returning to School](#)

As you may be aware, the Government of Canada has established mandatory requirements for international travel. As a Rocky View Schools' school, Fireside follows all federal and provincial public health measures and asks that staff and families be aware of restrictions before travelling. Further information can be found on our divisional website:

https://www.rockyview.ab.ca/school_2021/travelling-and-return-to-school

In some instances, your child will not be eligible to return to school for 14 days. Please visit the [Government of Canada's website](#) for the most current requirements, as they may change. The [fact sheets on the Government of Canada website](#) provide more information on returning from international travel and what health measures may exist, depending on your situation.

[NEW: Fireside's Annual Winter Food Drive starts Monday, November 29](#)

It is time for our annual Winter Food Drive! The Cochrane Activettes are eagerly anticipating another significant contribution from Fireside School.

At the end of this week's *Focus* is a Food Drive "Bingo" card that represents the Activettes's requests for the season. Each class will be engaged in friendly competition to see which class can bring in as many requested items as possible. The goal is to get as many "cards-worth" of

items as possible. Each square has a point value; filling out a complete card earns a point bonus, as well. Each Homeroom teacher will be keeping track of the points for each class.

The drive officially runs from Monday, November 29th, to Friday December 10th. We look forward to seeing our students, staff, and community come together to be able to give back to our larger community through this activity.

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

Grade 6 students at Fireside School will be writing Provincial Achievement Tests in May and June 2022 for this school year.

Here are the dates for these assessments for Fireside School:

- Wednesday, May 18, 2022: Grade 6 English Language Arts Part A (Written)
- Wednesday, June 15, 2022: Grade 6 English Language Arts Part B (Reading Comprehension)
- Friday, June 17, 2022: Grade 6 Mathematics Part A (Numerical Response)
- Monday, June 20, 2022: Grade 6 Mathematics Part B (Multiple-Choice)
- Wednesday, June 22, 2022: Grade 6 Science
- Thursday, June 23, 2022: Grade 6 Social Studies

Parents and families can find further information on Alberta's Provincial Testing in the [Grade 6 Parent Guide, 2021-2022](#), including Testing Descriptions and Sample Questions. Further details about PAT's for our school specifically will be coming out to parents and families in the coming weeks.

[NEW: Friends of Fireside Updates](#)

Thank you to everyone who ordered for our Colibri Snack Bags fundraiser! Orders will be sent home with your child once it arrives! We will keep everyone posted for the delivery date.

Our Bento box fundraiser is still open - it ships directly to your home! Check it out at <https://www.stuckonyou.ca/affiliate/fundraiser/FRIENDSOFFIRESIDESCHOOL>

BIG NEWS!! Our school has the wonderful opportunity of doing a casino! We are looking for about 25 to 30 volunteers to help us run the casino! It will be at Ace Casino Blackfoot on Sunday March 20th 2022, and Monday March 21st 2022.

It will be a fun couple of days - we hope you'll join us! Please use the link below to enter in your availability - thank you so much for helping us with this **BIG** task!

<https://forms.gle/Rt5dUZ2T8KCKMwG49>

And, as always, thanks for your support!

The next Friends of Fireside meeting will take place on Monday, December 13, 2021 and the first meeting of the new year will be on Monday, January 17, 2022. New attendees are welcome.

Remembrance Day Follow-up and Poppy Fund Donations

For those who may not have had an opportunity to view Fireside's Remembrance Day Ceremony yet, Mr. Petterson created a [beautiful video](#) that features a number of our students reflecting on the importance of the day and placing poppy wreaths in our Remembrance Day display.

While Remembrance Day has passed, the Royal Canadian Legion is still accepting donations to their annual Poppy Fund. If you missed the chance to make a donation in a poppy box, this is a great way to support Veterans in Canada. Donations can be made at:

<https://legion.ca/remembrance/the-poppy-campaign/donate-to-the-poppy-fund>

Fireside also had some entries put forth for the Royal Canadian Legion poster and essay contest. Thank you to those who participated in this opportunity this year. We will be sure to share any results with our community in the future.

Reminder: Free Parent Education Sessions (through MHC B Stepping Stones to Mental Health)

Parent Education Sessions in partnership with Community Education Services (CES)

Registration: <https://community.hmhc.ca/>

*****Please register using the posters on the website only*****

22 Nov 2021: **Kids Have Stress Too** 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

An introduction to key aspects of early childhood and brain development, and the crucial role parents and professionals play in buffering the impact of stress on kids. Learn strategies to help young children become aware of and manage stress in fun and engaging ways.

29 Nov 2021: **Managing the Holidays through Mindfulness: Supporting Your Child's Social and Emotional Well-being** 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

The holiday season is coming! Many find the holidays bring as much stress as they do joy. In this session you will learn about mindfulness and take away practical tools that will help you make the most of these festivities and this time of year. This session will explore the topic of mindfulness and how mindfulness strategies can help support your child's social and emotional well-being. Explore how our brain's stress responses may impact our social and emotional well-being and how we can use mindfulness to calm children's brain. Improved social emotional skills using mindfulness can lead to better focus in school, better cooperation with others, improved self-awareness, self-regulation, decrease stress/anxiety, and improve our overall sense of well-being.

13 Dec 2021 **Supporting Children & Youth through Grief & Loss** 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

To watch a child grieve and not know what to do is a profoundly difficult experience for parents, teachers, and caregivers. There are many life experiences that can produce feelings of grief in a child, from the death of a relative or a divorce in the family to more everyday experiences such as moving to a new neighborhood or losing a prized possession. The pandemic has added even more reasons, with children grieving the loss of normalcy and a sense of safety. This session is to help adults counter the false idea of "not feeling bad" and to empower children with positive, effective methods of dealing with loss. We will look at guidelines for helping children develop a lifelong, healthy response to loss and how you can support them through these tough times.

28 Feb 2022 **Part 1: The Process of Addiction** 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Defining addiction, the substance use continuum, relationship between addiction and mental health and the impact of COVID-19 and stigma.

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

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.

Lost and Found: Please check these photos on the next three pages to see if your child's wayward items may have been found. Among the many clothes and winter accessories we've gathered, there is also a very small, kid-sized shopping cart and a rather nice scooter in our possession. Parents and caregivers are welcome to come by the office to claim lost items or have your children come down to collect their own belongings.









10 Days of Winter Countdown Bingo

Pancake Mix and Syrup (5 points)	Canned Soup & Stews (3 points)	Whole Grain Cereal & Oatmeal (3 points)	Infant foods (2 points)
Toiletries (deodorant, soap, toothpaste, etc.) (3 points each)	Canned fruit (3 points)	Dish Soap (3 points)	Canned Meats & Fish (ham, chicken, salmon) (3 points)
Lentils/Beans (3 points)	Rice (3 points)	Cooking Oil (5 points)	Granola Bars (3 points)
Laundry Detergent (5 points)	Peanut Butter, Jam, Honey (5 points)	Canned Vegetables (2 points)	\$10 Grocery Store Gift Card (10 points)
Juice (3 points)	Toilet Paper, Kleenex, Paper Towel (5 points)	Diapers (sizes 4, 5, 6) & Pull-Ups (10 points)	Pasta Sauces (3 points)

Complete Bingo Card: bonus 50 points

High demand food items include proteins (meats, stews, etc.), followed by fruits and vegetables.