

# Fireside Focus

Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open Doors

The Week Ahead ~ December 17 to January 7

## Upcoming Events at a Glance

Date	Time	Event
Friday, December 17		<b>Last day of school before Winter Break</b>
Monday, January 3		<b>First day back to school after Winter Break</b>
Wednesday, January 5	6:30-8:00 pm	<b>School Council Meeting</b> ( <a href="https://rockyview.zoom.us/j/2781208156">https://rockyview.zoom.us/j/2781208156</a> )
Friday, January 7		<b>Next Healthy Hunger Day</b>
Friday, January 14		<b>Junior A Basketball Tournament</b>
Monday, January 17	7:00 p.m.	<b>Friends of Fireside Meeting</b> ( <a href="https://meet.google.com/yzb-pgbm-zvh">meet.google.com/yzb-pgbm-zvh</a> )
Friday, January 21		<b>Junior A Basketball Tournament</b>
Monday, January 31		<b>Professional Learning Day (no school)</b>

Hello, families and friends of Fireside! Winter Break is now upon us and it was a busy, bustling week here at Fireside as we prepared to be off for two weeks.

Classes were ensuring that classwork was completed and that they were engaging in the final learning during units of study; many were also doing seasonal activities and having some fun in their classes as well (see below for details). We loved seeing all the different sweaters and colours for our Spirit Days, as well as the plentiful Elf hats, Santa caps of all colours, reindeer headbands, fun toques, and other festive wear as classes enjoyed caroling days, jammie days, movie days, and more.

As this week comes to a close, we wish everyone a cozy and lovely weekend! And all the best of the season to you and your family.



### [NEW: Winter Concert](#)

Our elementary music classes have been hard at work learning songs and performing for this year's winter concert. Thank you to Mr. Peterson and Mr. Chung, who put a great deal of time and energy into stitching together all of the music classes' contributions to this year's concert. Please enjoy!

### [FIRESIDE WINTER CONCERT LINK](#)

### [NEW: A Grade 2 Igloo](#)

All the kiddos in grade two are learning about the community of Iqaluit. As part of that learning, Mr. Perratt's class decided to build an Igloo out of recycled milk jugs. Over the course of five weeks, the kiddos diligently brought in their milk jugs and we hot glued them together. We now have a space for quiet reading!

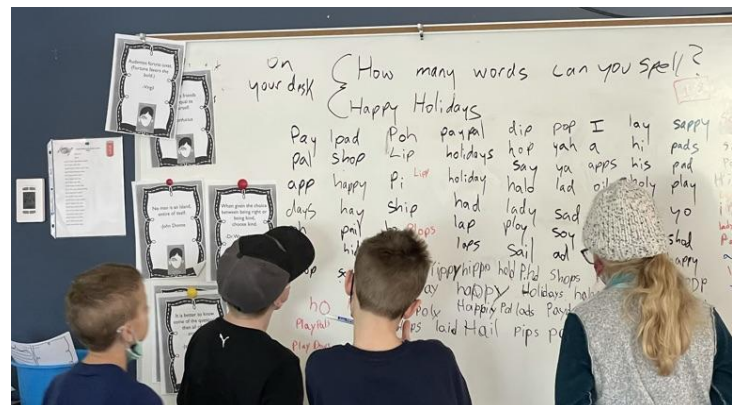


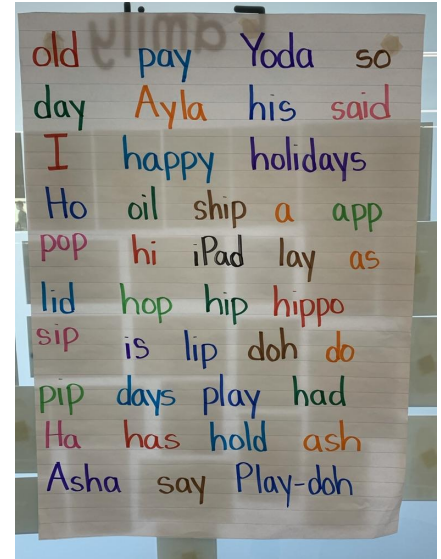
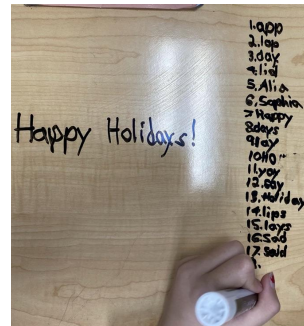
### [NEW: Making Words Challenge](#)

Our school has been participating in a Making Words Challenge this week: How many words can you make using the letters in Happy Holidays? (For your information, 441 words can be made in English!) Mr. McCormick's class made 170 words!!

Classes displayed their words in a variety of ways as they worked together to see how many they could come up with.

You can find more pictures and highlights on Fireside's Twitter. The Fireside Twitter handle is @FiresideRVS, and the most recent tweets can always be found on the left side of the Fireside School website on the Twitter Feed.





### NEW: Grade 4 Gingerbread Houses

Mr. Shaw's class had a busy week this week: students performed a Reader's Theatre play in front of their peers and made Gingerbread Houses, which were then displayed in the Science Lab.



### NEW: Friends of Fireside

We are excited to announce that the funds from our Casino Nights will be used to create an outdoor learning space filled with natural materials! We will send out more information in the new year!

We would sincerely like to thank everyone who has signed up to help with the school's Casino - we appreciate it so much and will be following up with everyone after the break. We are still looking to fill a few more spots for our evening shifts and looking for on-call people for these evening shifts as well. If you can help out or have a grandparent or neighbour who might like to come out - please send them the link to sign up! <https://forms.gle/GegH2uFKCbuNCrUY6>



More information about the casino and our organization can be found on our website at <https://friendsoffireside.ca/casino-march-2022/>

We are also excited to announce that we will be doing another home alone/babysitting courses and CPR course - Look for more information and how to register in January!

Our next meeting is Monday January 17, 2022, at 7:00 PM - everyone is welcome, as we are always excited to have new members join us! Please use the link [meet.google.com/yzb-pgbm-zvh](https://meet.google.com/yzb-pgbm-zvh)

Please watch our Facebook page for new updates and thanks as always for your continued support!

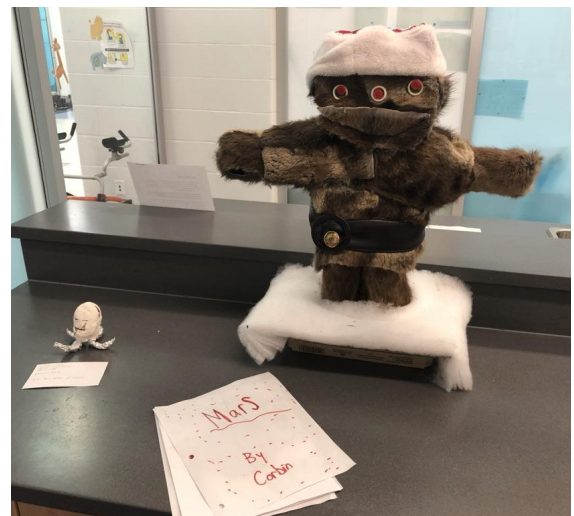
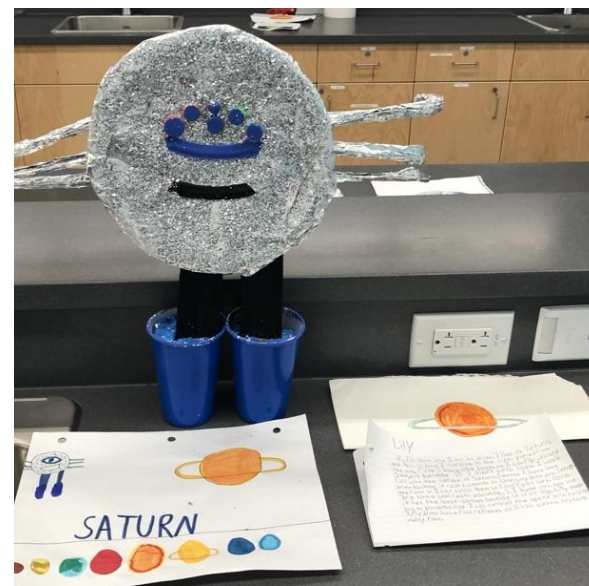
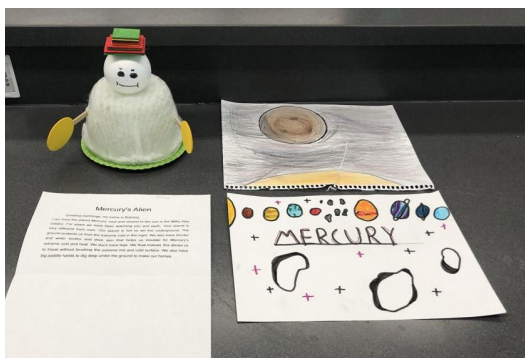
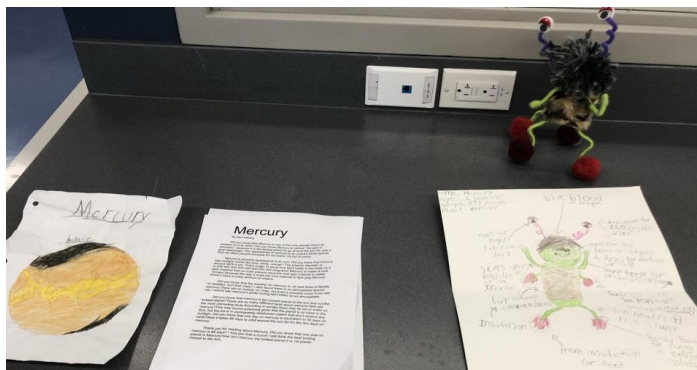
### **NEW: School Council**

Our next School Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 5, 2022, at 6:30 via zoom; here is the link for the meeting: <https://rockyview.zoom.us/j/2781208156> School Council meetings will continue to be the first Wednesday of the Month at 6:30 pm, via zoom, until further notice.

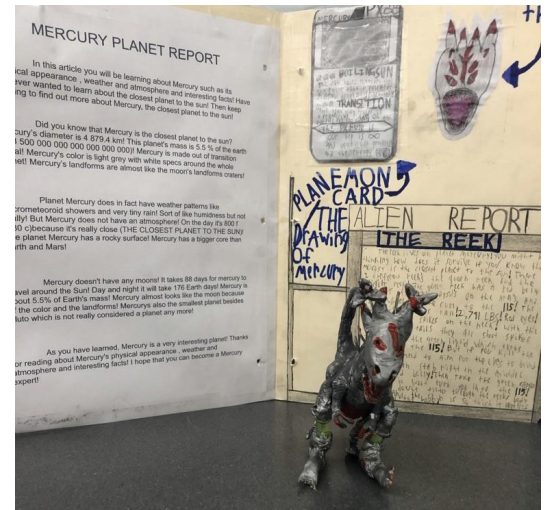
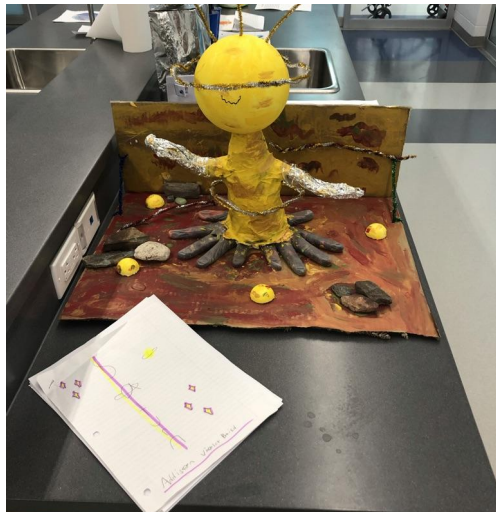
We would like to wish all staff, students, parents, and guardians the best of the season and all the best in 2022.

### **NEW: Grade 6 Science Learning Showcase**

In the last two weeks, the Grade 6 classes have worked hard to research a planet and create an alien that would be suited to living on their chosen planet. Their creations and characters were displayed in the Science Lab area on Wednesday. Students and staff enjoyed the experience of touring the planets and the imaginative, amazing ways students created their aliens, along with planet reports and alien write-ups. Great work!



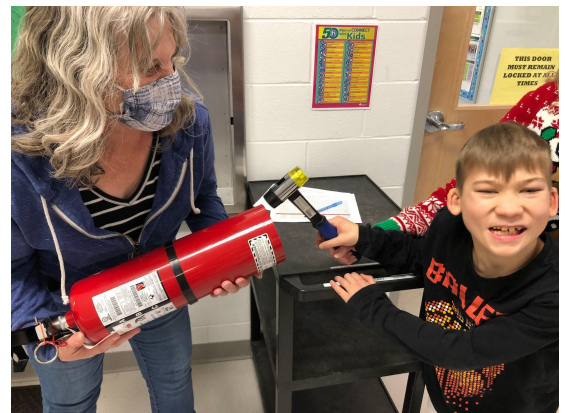




### **NEW: Caretaking with Fireside Custodians**

Students at Fireside are making an impact by volunteering with our Custodial team doing a variety of tasks throughout the school: offering to sweep after lunch breaks or activities and assisting with the scuff mark tool to remove those marks from the floors. Their desire is to give back to our school community by providing service and assistance in a way that feels good to them.

Another way students assist is helping with tasks that interest them. For example, once a month, one of our students helps Ms. B check the Fire Extinguishers: he helps find the fire extinguishers in the school, then hammers the bottom 5 times with a rubber hammer to loosen the powder.



Thank you to the students who are assisting in this way; what a great way to engage in our school community.

### **NEW: Case Notifications Over the Winter Break**

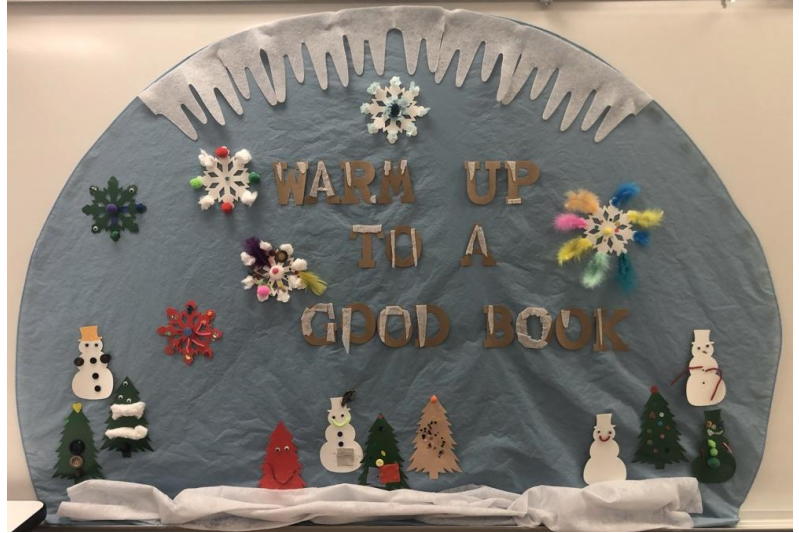
Next week, we will continue to send notifications regarding Covid-19 for cases reported to us by AHS of students who were infectious while at school. No further notifications will be sent after Thursday, December 23rd. We will resume the notification process starting on Wednesday, December 29th.

### **NEW: French Immersion Information Night**

Glenbow School is hosting a French Immersion Information Night on January 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. If you have any children entering K/Gr. 1 who may be interested in French Immersion, the poster for this event can be found at the end of this week's *Focus*.

### **NEW: Reading For Winter Break**

In our Literacy Roost, a lovely mural has been collaboratively created. The ornaments were crafted and decorated by grades 1-3 literacy students, and grade 5 and 7 literacy students made the letters. Literacy LA, Mrs. Clancy, and a helper put them all together to make a message for Fireside School's learning community: "Warm up with a Good Book"! We hope you have some fun reading over this Winter Break, and we look forward to hearing all about the stories and reads when you return to school in January. Bring on the Book Love!



### **UPDATED: Community Volunteering to Return in the New Year**

Fireside School is thrilled to announce that parent and community volunteering will be making a comeback in the new year. Hopefully everyone received a link to an online form, which was sent out for prospective volunteers to be able to indicate their availability and preferred activities. Please note that volunteers will be required to have completed a vulnerable sector check and to show proof of double vaccination. We're looking forward to seeing adults back in our school and engaging in a variety of supportive activities. Please note this request does not replace those being made by individual teachers for support. Families are encouraged to continue responding to those requests with your very appreciated support.

### **Winter Break and Travel**

As Winter Break approaches and travel plans are being made, we wanted to ensure families are aware of current federal requirements for travel. For families considering travelling outside of Canada, please be aware that under Federal travel requirements, unvaccinated children under 12 (including those who have had their first of two vaccine doses) are not to return to school for 14 days once they return to Canada. Please see the full requirements outlined by the Government of Canada: [https://www.rockyview.ab.ca/school\\_2021/travelling-and-return-to-school](https://www.rockyview.ab.ca/school_2021/travelling-and-return-to-school)

### **Allergies ~ Fireside School is Scent-aware and Nut-aware**

Some students and staff at Fireside School have nut or fragrance allergies. Therefore, Fireside is a nut-aware and scent-aware school. Please do not send items with nuts to school with students. We also ask that students refrain from wearing perfume, cologne, or other strongly scented products or sprays to school. Additionally, students should not bring perfume, cologne, or body spray products (e.g. Axe) to school with them, please. The same is true for parents, families, volunteers, or visiting teams entering the school for meetings, conferences, presentations, or tournaments. Thank you for your attention to and respect of these health concerns: we want to keep everyone safe at Fireside!

### [Fireside School Nutrition Program](#)

Fireside's School Nutrition Program has had some changes that we wish to bring to your attention. However, what is still the same is that food is available for students who've forgotten their lunch or snacks or for those who need school to supply a lunch (no questions asked).

For lunch: students are able to access a brown bag lunch during the lunch hour from the Servedy, which is located beside the gym, just off the Learning Commons. Ms. Michaud is there to help students get lunch at that time. Healthy snacks and fruit will still be available in the main office, the Roost, Learning Support classrooms, and CDA offices.





## **Glenbow School and Elizabeth Barrett Elementary School invite you to join us for our French Immersion Information Night!**

Are you curious if French Immersion is the right choice for your Kindergarten-Grade 1 child?

*Join us virtually on Wednesday, January 5<sup>th</sup>*

*6:30 – 7:30pm*

*Zoom Link:*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88943709417?pwd=TXBIdllrR1RiMGFGVzZ1OWlxWmpmdz09>

*Passcode: French*

### **Attendance Areas**

*Glenbow School*

K – Gr. 4 French Immersion for students  
South of the railway tracks

*Elizabeth Barrett School*

K – Gr. 4 French Immersion for students  
North of the railway tracks

For more detailed information about your catchment area, please visit:

[www.rockyview.ab.ca](http://www.rockyview.ab.ca)

