

Treasures Family Newsletter

November 2022




March 9, 2023

24th Annual Helping Kids Soar Gala

The Westin Calgary
320 4 Ave SW

5:30pm: Cocktails & Auction Viewing
7:00pm: Dinner & Program
Dress: Semiformal/Black Tie Optional

Important Dates	
Nov 4	EEP/Jr. High Friday ATTENDANCE
Nov 11	Remembrance Day <i>Schools Closed</i>
Nov 18	EEP/Jr. High Friday OFF
Nov 24	Parent/Teacher Conferences EVENING
Nov 25	Non-Instructional Day <i>No Classes, No SSP</i> Parent/Teacher Conferences DAY

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Executive Message

News from the Executive Team

Adventures at School!

During the first few months of school, we have seen the children and students settle into their new routines. We marvel at how quickly children adapt as our school routines take shape and become familiar to them. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we know the first few months bring many changes. Please also remember that during this time bus routes can experience changes as families move or childcare addresses change, and we work diligently to accommodate these changes.



As you know our 24th Annual Charity Gala will take place this year on **March 9th, 2023**. We are very excited to be hosting this event as it had been cancelled in March 2020 and then postponed for the last 2 years.

Here is a link to the Gala web page [Helping Kids Soar Gala](#) where you will find ticket, sponsorship, and auction donation information.

We look to our families to help support this event by donating funds, donating silent and live auction items or by purchasing tickets or a sponsorship. We are happy to help reach out to a business/organization for a sponsorship. If you would like support with this, please contact **Janice McTighe** at jmctighe@renfreweducation.org or 403.219.5388.

For questions about auction items, please contact **Jacki Cassidy** at jackicassidy@renfreweducation.org.

Family Night

It was wonderful to see such great turnouts at all our school locations for family night. All families enjoyed a fun filled evening with Halloween activities including pumpkin decorating, Halloween crafts, a spooky house and Christopher Cool the magician at the Thomas W Buchanan Centre. Thank you, to all who ventured out as we continue to welcome families back into our school buildings.

Parent Councils

Some of our Parent Councils are just getting underway and developing their plan for the school year. This plan will include special activities for the children and a few fundraising options for parents. Presently or in the near future the Parent Councils have the following fundraising projects planned...

- **Janice McTighe Centre:** Purdys Chocolate, Growing Smiles (Poinsettias)
- **Thomas W. Buchanan Centre:** Spolumbo's
- **Child Development Centre:** Cobs Bread, Holiday Grinch Trees and Gnomes
- **Bowness Centre:** Purdys Chocolate

We appreciate your support with all fundraising activities and always look forward to the special events your funds help support at your child's site.



Janice McTighe
Executive Director



Kim LaCourse
Associate Executive Director



Nicki Wilson
Associate Executive Director



Terry Kirkham
Chief Financial Officer

Thank You

Our doors are always open! We are available to meet with parents at any time. Please feel free to contact us...

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Executive Director

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Warmest Regards,

*Janice, Kim,
Nicki & Terry*



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@RESCalgary



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Family Support

What is Family Support?

Renfrew's Family Support Program is dedicated to the well-being of the families and children we serve. Our program offers a variety of family-centred services to facilitate connections and to support families in the home, neighbourhood and community. Every Renfrew school location has a Family Support Worker.



Holiday Helping Project 2022

We are pleased to announce that the Holiday Helping Project will begin November 1! The Holiday Helping Project is an annual program that provides assistance to Renfrew families during the winter holiday season.

From November 1 to December 2, we invite you to send a donation to school with your child. We are accepting donations in coins, bills, cheques, and e-transfers. Renfrew will provide you with a tax-deductible receipt for any donation of \$20 and over, if requested. A form will come home in your child's backpack with more details. All donations collected will be used to buy gift cards for Renfrew families who may not be able to buy special food or gifts at this festive time of year.

Holiday Support

Please reach out to your Family Support Worker if you would like support this holiday season! There are many holiday programs accepting referrals. Family Support can help you find one that is a good fit for your family. However, these programs fill up quickly so please reach out as soon as possible!

Information Session: Registered Disability Saving Plan (RDSP) and Disability Tax Credit (DTC)

November 16, 2022, 6:30pm
Zoom

Presented by

The RDSP Guy - Steven Williams

Are you interested in learning more about Canada's Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP) and Disability Tax Credit (DTC)? Renfrew is excited to announce that Steven Williams, "The RDSP Guy", is offering a **free virtual information session** to Renfrew families! Don't miss this great opportunity to learn about some important programs and benefits!

Steven Williams will simplify these valuable financial tools and will personally assist you in taking full advantage of the lasting benefits for your loved one. This session is for any parent or guardian who is caring for a child with special needs and/or a diagnosed disability.

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Please register by November 9, 2022
by emailing Sarah Livingstone at
sarahlivingstone@renfreweducation.org
.....

The Family Support Team

The Family Support team is available if you have questions, need resources, are looking for ways to increase your social connections or if you would just like to talk.

Renfrew Schools



Cory Francis
Family Support Worker
Team Lead

Janice McTighe Centre
403.291.5038 ext. 1351
cfrancis@renfreweducation.org



Sarah Livingstone
Family Support Worker

Bowness Centre
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slivingstone@renfreweducation.org



Karen Beekhuizen
Funding Support Manager

Child Development Centre
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Jill Randall
Family Support Worker
Intake

Child Development Centre
403.291.5038 ext. 1244
jrandall@renfreweducation.org



Jaye Harry
Family Support Worker

Thomas W. Buchanan Centre
403.291.5038 ext. 1606
jharry@renfreweducation.org

First Nations



Jill Randall
Family Support Worker

Bighorn Health Centre
403.721.2262
jrandall@renfreweducation.org



Jaye Harry
Family Support Worker

Stoney Health
(Mini Thni/Morley)
403.701.4181
jharry@renfreweducation.org



COFFEE & CHAT

Family Support offers a variety of Coffee & Chat Groups during the school year. This is a great opportunity to connect with other Renfrew parents and guardians!

Please reach out to the Family Support Worker at your Renfrew location if you require help with transportation.

Treehouse Indoor Playground

Calgary North Location, 3337 34 Avenue NE <http://treehouseplay.com/calgarynorth/index.html>

November 15, 2022
Morning Group: 9:00am
Afternoon Group: 1:00pm



Join us at Treehouse for a morning or afternoon of indoor play! Treehouse has an open-concept space which includes play structures, games and prizes, rock climbing and a game floor. Siblings are welcome. Renfrew will pay your admission!

- Adults must come with a child, and children must come with an adult. No outside food is allowed, and socks or slippers must be worn inside.
- Please note that Treehouse requires participants to sign an online waiver form. You can view this waiver on the website at <http://treehouseplay.com/waiverform/index.html>.

Please register by **November 8, 2022**
by emailing Sarah Livingstone at
sarahlivingstone@renfreweducation.org

When you register, please include the following:

- ▶ Which group are you registering for? Morning or afternoon?
- ▶ Your name and the name of your Renfrew child
- ▶ The Renfrew location that your child attends
- ▶ How many people are attending this event
- ▶ The ages of all people attending the event
- ▶ If you are bringing a support aide

Gingerbread House Making

Child Development Centre (CDC) 3820-24 Avenue NW

December 6, 2022
9:30-11:00 am



Whether you are gearing up for the holidays, want to construct something homemade to give as a gift, or just want to try something new, the making of a gingerbread house is a seasonal favourite. Join other Renfrew parents and guardians to transform gingerbread, candy and confectioner's sugar into a unique creation all your own. Gingerbread house kits will be provided.

Please note that this is an adult-only event.
If you require child care, please request this when you register.
In your registration email, please include the number of children who need child care and their ages.

Parking: There are a variety of parking lots near the Child Development Centre (CDC). Renfrew will reimburse you for the cost of parking for this event (up to 2 hours). We will confirm details about this when you register.

Please register by **November 29, 2022**
by emailing Sarah Livingstone at
sarahlivingstone@renfreweducation.org

In your email, please include the following information:

- ▶ Your name and the name of your Renfrew child
- ▶ The name of the Renfrew location your child attends

School Information Sessions

Are you wondering where your child with special needs will go when he or she leaves a Renfrew preschool or Kindergarten program? Do you have questions about the process of transitioning to a new school? You are not alone! Join us for our School Information Sessions. These sessions typically run for approximately 1 to 1.5 hours.

November 21, 2022 6:30 – 8:00pm ZOOM

Register by November 14, 2022

by emailing Sarah Livingstone at
sarahlivingstone@renfreweducation.org

- ▶ Please include your name, your child's name, and Renfrew location in your email.

December 13, 2022 1:30 – 3:00pm ZOOM

Register by December 6, 2022

by emailing Sarah Livingstone at
sarahlivingstone@renfreweducation.org

- ▶ Please include your name, your child's name, and Renfrew location in your email.

February 9, 2023 6:30 – 8:00pm ZOOM

Register by February 2, 2023

by emailing Sarah Livingstone at
sarahlivingstone@renfreweducation.org

- ▶ Please include your name, your child's name, and Renfrew location in your email.

If you have a child **transitioning out of Renfrew's Elementary Education Program**, you are invited to register for this School Information Session.

November 9, 2022 9:30 – 11:00am

Janice McTighe Centre (JMC) 2050 21 Street NE

Register by November 2, 2022

by emailing Sarah Livingstone at
sarahlivingstone@renfreweducation.org

- ▶ Please include your name, your child's name, and Renfrew location in your email. Child care is available if you request it when you register. Include the number of children who need child care & their ages.
- ▶ Please ask your Family Support Worker if you need help with transportation.

January 25, 2023 1:30 – 3:00pm

Thomas W. Buchanan Centre (TBC) 75 Sunpark Dr. SE

Register by January 18, 2023

by emailing Sarah Livingstone at
sarahlivingstone@renfreweducation.org

- ▶ Please include your name, your child's name, and Renfrew location in your email. Child care is available if you request it when you register. Include the number of children who need child care & their ages.
- ▶ Please ask your Family Support Worker if you need help with transportation.

News from Calgary Public Library

Become a Homework Superhero

Students, caregivers, and educators can find resources, tips, and activities on our redesigned Students page to help make studying, lesson planning, and supporting young learners easy and fun.

Check it out at calgarylibrary.ca/students

Learn with a free Library program

Young learners can discover school subjects in new ways through free Library programs. Kids ages 6 – 8 can complete fun literacy challenges with a teen volunteer in Reading Buddies or read to a PALS therapy dog in Story PALS, and ages 6 – 12 can apply math to real world scenarios in Math Quest or ask big questions about the world around them in the virtual STEM Explorers program.

See all programs at calgarylibrary.ca/programs

Let the Library help

Visit a Library location to print assignments, book a meeting room for group work, borrow one of our devices or bring your own, and access Wi-Fi. It's all free with your Library card. Learn about membership benefits at calgarylibrary.ca/join

Access free tutoring with Brainfuse

Did you know a Library membership gives you access to live, virtual tutoring sessions? Any student in Alberta from grades K – 12 can make use of this incredible resource. It also offers study prep for citizenship tests, essay editing, and more.

Link text: Get started at calgarylibrary.ca/brainfuse

Important Dates

November 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 EEP/Jr. High Friday ATTENDANCE	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 Remembrance Day Schools Closed	12
13	14	15	16	17	18 EEP/Jr. High Friday OFF	19
20	21	22	23	24 Parent/Teacher Conferences EVENING	25 Non-Instructional Day No Classes, No SSP Parent/Teacher Conferences DAY	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Coming up:

Dec 02 EEP/Jr. High Friday ATTENDANCE	Dec 23 Non-Instructional Day <i>No Classes, No SSP</i>
Dec 09 EEP/Jr. High Friday OFF	Dec 25 Christmas Day
Dec 16 EEP/Jr. High Friday ATTENDANCE	Dec 26 Boxing Day <i>Schools Closed</i>
Dec 22 Last Day of Classes for all children Winter Celebrations	Jan 09 Classes Resume for all children



Renfrew's Suggestion Box

Do you have an idea or suggestion you want to pass on to us? A question that you want answered? Something about Renfrew that you like or don't like?

Email your suggestion to:

Renfrew@renfreweducation.org

or use this form, remembering to include your name and contact information.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____