

Treasures Family Newsletter

November 2023



Important Dates

- Nov 3 Elementary Education/Jr high ATTEND
- Nov 5 Daylight Saving *Fall Back*
- Nov 9 Picture Retakes *Child Development Centre*
- Nov 10 Elementary Education/Jr high OFF
- Nov 11 Remembrance Day
- Nov 14 Picture Retakes *Janice McTighe Centre*
- Nov 15 Picture Retakes *Thomas W. Buchanan Centre*
- Nov 16 Picture Retakes *Bowness Centre*
Parent/Teacher Conferences *EVENING*
- Nov 17 Non-instructional Day *no classes, no SSP*
Parent/Teacher Conferences *DAY*
- Nov 24 Elementary Education/Jr high ATTEND

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Executive Message

News from the Executive Team

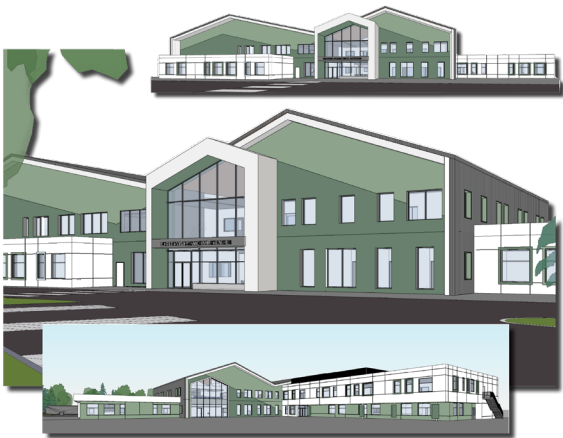
Adventures at School!

During the first few months of school, we have seen the children and students settle into their new routines. We marvel at how quickly they have adapted 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.

Legacy School Capital Campaign - We Need Your Help!

The design of our Legacy school is finalized, and our development permit was approved by the County of Rocky View. Renfrew' capital campaign is off to a great start with our participation in our latest fundraiser at the Macquarie Charity event where the funds Renfrew raised have the potential to be matched. We are just waiting for final numbers and will update you in December's Treasures.

The excitement continues as news is shared about our expansion to Junior and Senior high. Just imagine a facility that will provide a continuum of services for our students from the early years all the way through to high school is a dream that has been in the making for many years. We will keep you informed about this development as we move along.



Renfrew is an independent school and does not receive any funding from the government for capital expenses. So, our Legacy school is a project we need to fully fund. We have a goal of 30 million dollars to raise to build our Legacy school and Renfrew continues to look for opportunities to expand our network and reach-out to potential donors and Foundations. If you or members of your family have connections to donors and/or Foundations, please reach out to **Janice McTighe** at janicemctighe@renfreweducation.org, 403.219.5388 or 403.973.2278 and help us reach our goal!



Janice McTighe
Executive Director



Kim LaCourse
Associate Executive Director



Nicki Wilson
Associate Executive Director

Gala



As you know our 25th Annual Charity Gala will take place on March 13th, 2024. 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 janicemctighe@renfreweducation.org

renfreweducation.org, 403.219.5388 or 403.973.2278.

Here is a link to the Gala web page Helping Kids Soar Gala where you will find the platform to purchase tickets and sponsorships.

Givergy Fundraising Website:

[Helping Kids SOAR Gala - Celebrating Renfrew's 50th Anniversary](https://www.givergy.com/fundraising/Helping-Kids-SOAR-Gala-Celebrating-Renfrew's-50th-Anniversary)

Family Night

It was wonderful to see such great turnout at all our school locations for family night. All families enjoyed a fun-filled evening with Halloween activities including pumpkin decorating, Halloween crafts and a spooky house. Thank you, to all who ventured out to celebrate with us.

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. Many of our PACs are holding their meetings virtually if you are interested in participating, please reach out to the manager at your site.

Thank You

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

Janice McTighe
Executive Director

T 403.219.5388 F 403.291.2499
janicemctighe@renfreweducation.org

Kim LaCourse
Associate Executive Director

T 403.219.5386 F 403.291.2499
kimlcourse@renfreweducation.org

Nicki Wilson
Associate Executive Director

T 403.291.5038 ext. 1643
nickiwilson@renfreweducation.org

Warmest Regards,

Janice, Kim & Nicki

Family Support



Renfrew's Family Support Program

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, neighborhood and community. Every Renfrew school location has a Family Support Worker.

Holiday Helping Project 2023



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 1, 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!

Learn something new with Creative and STEM Explorers

Kids ages 6 – 12 can develop their art, writing, and drama skills in Creative Explorers or learn about science, technology, and math in STEM Explorers, two virtual programs that bring expert guidance right into your home. Learn more at calgarylibrary.ca/programs



CALGARY PUBLIC LIBRARY

November 8 is Indigenous Veteran's Day; November 11 is Remembrance Day

Find resources to help recognize and honour the sacrifices made by veterans, including educational resources for grades 4 – 6, booklists, discussion questions, local history archives, and more. Find resources at calgarylibrary.ca/lest-we-forget

Musical Artist in Residence

Mirabelle Jien joins the Library as the 2023 Musical Artist in Residence. She is a self-producing singer, songwriter, flutist, and composer from Alberta who also hosts the podcast *Making It* where she talks with Grammy, Emmy and Oscar-winning and nominated artists. Learn more at calgarylibrary.ca/musical-artist

TumbleBook Library

This digital resource for kids and families animates and reads interactive books out loud. Find classic and new favourite books, including French and Spanish titles. Start browsing at calgarylibrary.ca/TumbleBook-Library

Meet 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.

The following is a list of the Family Support Workers and their contact information.

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
403.291.5038 ext. 1811
slivingstone@renfreweducation.org



Emily Stevenson

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



Emily Voisey
Family Support Worker

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

First Nations



Alexa Connolly
Family Support Worker

Bighorn Health Centre
Mini Thni / Stoney Health (Morley)
aconnolly@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 & guardians!

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

Telus Spark Science Centre 220 St George's Drive NE



Renfrew is pleased to announce that we are part of Telus Spark's (www.sparkscience.ca) Community Connections Program again this year! This partnership allows Renfrew to access a limited number of tickets to the Telus Spark Science Centre. If you are interested in exploring this exciting facility with your child(ren), please join us on one of these dates! Renfrew will provide a limited number of free admission tickets.

PARKING: Please note that you will be required to pay for parking (\$7/day) if you choose to park in the Telus Spark parking lot. You can pay for parking at the machine located beside the front doors or you can download the ParkPlus App and prepay for your parking session (Zone 8310).

- Adults must come with a child and children must be accompanied by an adult. Parents and guardians are responsible for transporting and supervising their children.
- If you require help with transportation, please contact the Family Support Worker at your Renfrew school.

Registration is limited!

November 15, 2023

Morning Group: 9:15am
Afternoon Group: 1:00pm

**Please register by
November 8, 2023**

December 14, 2023

Morning Group: 9:15am
Afternoon Group: 1:00pm

**Please register by
December 7, 2023**

Register for any of these sessions by emailing Sarah Livingstone at sarahlivingstone@renfreweducation.org

In your email, please include the following information:

- ▶ Which date are you registering for?
- ▶ 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
- ▶ The ages of all people attending
- ▶ If you are bringing a support aide

Coffee & Chat Child Development Centre (CDC) 3820 24 Ave NW



November 22, 2023

9:00 - 11:00am

Join us for an **adults-only** coffee group at Renfrew's Child Development Centre (CDC) location! This is the perfect opportunity to meet other parents & guardians while enjoying tea, coffee, and treats. CDC's new Family Support Worker, Emily Stevenson, will host this casual coffee group so please come in and say hello! Participants will receive a seasonal gift as a thank-you for attending.

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 15, 2023** by emailing Sarah Livingstone at sarahlivingstone@renfreweducation.org

School Information Sessions

Are you wondering where your child with special needs will go when he or she leaves Renfrew? Do you have questions about the process of transitioning to a new school?

You are not alone! Join us for our **School Information Sessions**.

Transitioning out of Renfrew's Preschool Program

- ▶ **November 2, 2023 9:30 – 11:00am**
 - Online using ZOOM
 - Register by **October 26, 2023**
- ▶ **November 21, 2023 6:30 – 8:00pm**
 - Online using ZOOM
 - Register by **November 14, 2023**
- ▶ **December 12, 2023 1:30 – 3:00pm**
 - Online using ZOOM
 - Register by **December 5, 2023**

Transitioning out of Renfrew's Elementary Education and Junior High Program

Transitioning out of Renfrew's Elementary Education and Junior High Program is a big life event that affects the whole family. Do you have questions about the process of transitioning to a new school or about issues related to junior high school? This will be a great opportunity to meet other parents and share your hopes and fears for the coming year. A Manager and Family Support Worker will be available to answer questions about the process of transitioning out of Renfrew.

- ▶ **November 8, 2023 1:30 – 3:00 pm**
 - Janice McTighe Centre (JMC)
2050 21 Street NE
 - Register by **November 1, 2023**

To Register for Information Sessions:

- ▶ Email Sarah Livingstone at sarahlivingstone@renfreweducation.org
 - Please include the date of the session, your name, your child's name, and Renfrew location in your email.

If you have any barriers to attending these sessions, please contact the Family Support Worker at your Renfrew school.

Important Dates

November 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Elementary Education/Jr high ATTEND	4
5 Daylight Saving Fall Back	6	7	8	9 Picture Retakes Child Development Centre	10 Elementary Education/Jr high OFF	11 Remembrance Day
12	13	14 Picture Retakes Janice McTighe Centre	15 Picture Retakes Thomas W. Buchanan Centre	16 Picture Retakes Bowness Centre Parent/Teacher Conferences EVENING	17 Non-instructional Day no classes, no SSP Parent/Teacher Conferences DAY	18
19	20	21	22	23	24 Elementary Education/Jr high ATTEND	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Coming up:

Dec 1 Elementary Education/Jr high OFF	Dec 22 Non-instructional Day <i>no classes, no SSP</i>
Dec 8 Elementary Education/Jr high ATTEND	Dec 25 Winter Break
Dec 15 Elementary Education/Jr high OFF	Dec 26 Boxing Day <i>Schools Closed</i>
Dec 21 Last Day of Classes <i>for all children before Winter Break</i>	Winter Break
	Jan 8 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: _____