

Treasures Family Newsletter

April 2024



It's Spring

Time to get outside and enjoy all that the season has to offer!



Important Dates

- April 9 Classes Resume *for all children*
- April 12 Elementary Education/Jr high OFF
- April 19 Elementary Education/Jr high ATTEND
- April 26 Elementary Education/Jr high OFF

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Executive Message

News from the Executive Team

Spring has Sprung!

We hope you are enjoying time with family and friends over this spring break. We want to take this opportunity to thank our parents for their support towards the gala. It was a wonderful night raising funds for the Legacy school - watch for our grand total raised coming in the May edition of Treasures.

Renfrew's 50th Year Anniversary

T-Shirts

We have an exciting opportunity coming for all – we have had a 50th Anniversary t-shirt designed celebrating this amazing milestone. Watch for more information on how to order the t-shirt coming in late April.

Legacy Project

All children, students, staff, and Board members will help create a 50th year legacy project that will be placed in the Legacy School. Our team is finalizing a design (tree), and your children will be adding their personal touch to a leaf. More information will be shared with you about this project later this month.

Magna Charity Golf Tournament – partnership

In 2019 Magna Insurance Group invited Renfrew Educational Services to be the long-term recipient of their annual charity golf tournament. This year's event will once again be held at Bearspaw Golf Club and within the next few weeks, they will be releasing their 'save the date' and we are hoping we can count on our families to help support the event with auction items or pursuing sponsorships. Last year Magna's tournament provided Renfrew with over \$100,000.00 towards our capital campaign supporting the build of our Legacy School – this year's event will continue to support our campaign.

Spring in our Centres

We are all hoping warmer weather will soon be upon us as our thoughts of spring begin to sprout in our classrooms. It will not be long before our beans are planted, and our butterfly larvae is delivered. Our classrooms are exploring the outdoors as they bring their classroom centres outside – witnessing birds creating nests and insects crawling. Mother nature is waking up and we are excited to explore what is outside. Please watch for weekly information from your child's classroom teacher about future events and activities.

Many of our classrooms will be venturing out on field trips as well as pursuing on-site special guests/events for the children to enjoy. Your child's teacher will send information to you in their weekly updates from the classroom.



Janice McTighe
Executive Director



Kim LaCourse
Associate Executive Director



Nicki Wilson
Associate Executive Director

School Transitions

We will continue to work with the school boards with a transition process for your child. Please remember that our Family Support team and site Managers can support you during this time.

Thank You

Thank you sincerely for the many, many ways you help Renfrew and for trusting us with your children. We hope during times such as this we can continue to be a resource for you as well. Please do not hesitate to contact us our doors are always open:

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Executive Director

T 403.219.5388 F 403.291.2499
janicemctighe@renfreweducation.org

Kim LaCourse
Associate Executive Director

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kimlacourse@renfreweducation.org

Nicki Wilson

Associate Executive Director

T 403.291.5038 ext. 1643
nickiwilson@renfreweducation.org

Warmest Regards,

Janice, Kim & Nicki

Please follow us on all social media platforms and take a moment to write a Google Review so we can share with the community the experiences of our families first-hand. Simply search for Renfrew Educational Services on Google and look for the "Write a review" button. Please share your happiness with our programs for others who are looking.



Family Support

FREE TAX CLINICS!

It's tax time again! If you need help filing your taxes, check out one of these agencies offering free help with tax preparation.

Salvation Army

Call 403.220.0432 to book an appointment at 1 of their 3 locations.

- ▶ <https://salvationarmy.ca/pranorth/services/free-tax-clinics/>

Immigrant Services Calgary

- ▶ <https://itc.immigrantservicescalgary.ca/income-tax-clinic>

Rise Calgary

- ▶ <https://www.risecalgary.ca/taxes-and-benefits>

Trellis Society

- ▶ <https://www.growwithtrellis.ca/taxes>

CUPS Calgary

- ▶ <https://www.cupscalgary.com/programs-services/economic-support/tax-clinics>

Summer Programs!

It's hard to believe that summer is just around the corner! Registration has started for some summer programs and spots can fill up quickly. If you are interested in summer programming for your child(ren), check out these website links below:

Between Friends Club (Camp Bonaventure)

Registration is open!

- ▶ <https://betweenfriends.ab.ca/camp-bonaventure/>

Vecova Summer Camps

Registration is open!

- ▶ <https://vecova.ca/summer-camps/>

Easter Seals Camp Horizon

Registration is open for children ages 8 years and older. Easter Seals Alberta's Camp Horizon is a fully accessible camp located just outside of Bragg Creek, Alberta. Built in 1965, its mission is to provide children, youth, and adults with disabilities and medical conditions with life-changing outdoor recreation experiences.

- ▶ <https://easterseals.ab.ca/camp-programs-registration/>

Trico Centre for Family Wellness

Registration is open!

- ▶ <https://tricocentre.ca/activities/child-and-youth-programs/summer-day-camps/>

News from Calgary Public Library



Engine 23 Rides Again

Sound the alarm! Engine 23 will officially open at Fish Creek Library in April. The decommissioned fire truck will help children play together, learn life-saving fire safety tips, and create their very own Engine 23 adventures. Join Calgary Public Library, Calgary Public Library Foundation, and the Calgary Fire Department for the opening party on Saturday, April 20, which will include free public programming, giveaways, and treats. Stay tuned for details!

Spring Program Registration Begins April 16

Registration for spring programs at Calgary Public Library takes place in April. The Library offers a wide range of virtual and in-person programs which provide new experiences and topics for Calgarians of all ages. Registration for Baby Rhyme Time opens on April 16, and registration for all other programs opens on April 17. Learn more about Library programs here: <https://calgarylibrary.ca/events-and-programs/programs/>

Contemporary Calgary Art Pass

Did you know that you can visit Contemporary Calgary for free with your Calgary Public Library card? Simply check out an Art Pass book from one of 21 Library locations or digitally on the Libby app. You will receive free access to visit the art gallery as often as you want during the three-week loan period. Added bonus? You are encouraged to write and draw in the Art Pass! Learn more: <https://calgarylibrary.ca/library-news/contemporary-calgary-partners-with-library-to-provide-free-gallery-access-for-patrons/>

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.

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
Family Support Worker

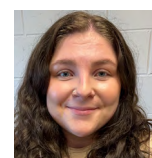
Child Development Centre
403.291.5038 ext. 1244
estevenson@renfreweducation.org



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 GROUPS

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.

Telus Spark Science Centre

220 St George's Drive NE



Renfrew is pleased to announce that we are part of Telus Spark's 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! Renfrew will provide a limited number of free admission tickets.

Come check out the newest exhibit in the Digital Immersion Gallery! This exhibit is called SPACE: A Journey to the Moon and Beyond.

"Fly through a technicolour nebula, kick up dust on the moon, and witness Saturn's rings up close in this out-of-this-world immersive experience. Explore the galaxy through the James Webb telescope, with science seamlessly woven into each scene, creating a unique space exploration encounter." (From the Telus Spark website.)



PARKING: Please note that you will be required to pay for parking (\$10/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!

April 23, 2024

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

Please register by April 16, 2024

by emailing Sarah Livingstone at

sarahlivingstone@renfreweducation.org

When you register, please include the following information:

- ▶ 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

KidzGo www.kidzgoplay.ca/

688 Heritage Dr SE #100, Calgary, AB

Join us at KidzGo for an afternoon or evening of indoor play! KidzGo offers a variety of fun activities ranging from a race track, giant slides, large building blocks, and more. Siblings are welcome. You can stay as long as you wish; closing time is 7:00 pm. 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.

Thursday, April 11, 2024

Afternoon Group: 1:00pm - Evening Group: 5:00pm

Please register by April 4, 2024

by emailing Sarah Livingstone at

sarahlivingstone@renfreweducation.org

When you register, please include the following information:

- ▶ Which group are you registering for? Afternoon or evening?
- ▶ 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

Parent Child Mother Goose (PCMG)

Renfrew's Thomas W Buchanan Centre 75 Sunpark Drive SE



Renfrew is pleased to announce a new partnership with Further Education Society of Alberta (FESA)! FESA will be hosting a free Parent Child Mother Goose (PCMG) group at Renfrew's Thomas W. Buchanan Centre (TBC) on April 17th.

This group is for Renfrew parents and guardians and their children ages 2-5 years old. Siblings under the age of 5 years are welcome to attend. This is an excellent opportunity to meet other Renfrew families while also learning how to encourage your children's early development through songs and rhymes.

Wednesday, April 17, 2024

9:30 - 11:00am

Please register by April 10, 2024

by emailing Sarah Livingstone at

sarahlivingstone@renfreweducation.org

When you register, please include the following information:

- ▶ 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

Bow Habitat Station & Sam Livingston Fish Hatchery

1440-17A Street SE <https://bowhabitat.alberta.ca/>



Join us for a visit to Bow Habitat Station and a guided tour of the Sam Livingston Fish Hatchery! We invite you to explore the Discovery Centre,

which includes a variety of hands-on exhibits and unique aquariums. This event also includes a guided tour of the fish hatchery and fish-feeding activity at 10:00 am! This event is for adults and children. Renfrew will pay your admission.

- Food: You are welcome to bring your own food to this event. There are limited refreshments available for purchase, but no lunch facilities on site.
- Allergies: Please advise us if you or your child have any known fish allergies. It is not recommended that people with fish allergies enter the Fish Hatchery.
- Parking: Free parking is available. You can park in the lot for Pearce Estate Park. Please contact your Family Support Worker if you have questions about transportation.

May 14, 2024

Arrive at 9:30 am

Please register by April 12, 2024

by emailing Sarah Livingstone at

sarahlivingstone@renfreweducation.org

When you register, please include the following information:

- ▶ 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



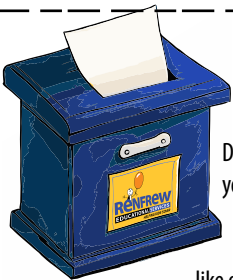
Important Dates

April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Spring Break	2 Spring Break	3 Spring Break	4 Spring Break	5 Spring Break	6
7	8 Spring Break	9 Classes Resume for all children	10	11	12 Elementary Education/Jr high OFF	13
14	15	16	17	18	19 Elementary Education/Jr high ATTEND	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 Elementary Education/Jr high OFF	27
28	29	30				

Coming up:

May 3 Elementary Education/Jr high *ATTEND*
 May 20 Victoria Day *Schools Closed*
May 10 Elementary Education/Jr high *OFF*
 May 24 Elementary Education/Jr high *OFF*
May 17 Elementary Education/Jr high *ATTEND*
 May 31 Non-instructional Day *no classes, no SSP*



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: _____