

Treasures Family Newsletter

February 2025

Important Dates

Feb 6	Progress Reports go home
Feb 7	EEP/Jr High OFF
Feb 12	Parent/Teacher Conferences Evening
Feb 13	Non-Instructional Day No Classes, No SSP Parent/Teacher Conferences Day
Feb 14	Non-Instructional Day No Classes, No SSP
Feb 17	Alberta Family Day Schools Closed
Feb 21	EEP/Jr High ATTEND
Feb 28	EEP/Jr High OFF

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Renfrew Educational Services

Gala

Building our Future

March 13, 2025

BMO Centre

Stampede Park, 20 Round Up Way SE

5:30pm: Cocktails & Auction Viewing

7:00pm: Dinner & Program

Dress: Semiformal

Event Sponsor

 **EllisDon**



Executive Message

News from the Executive Team

We are all in this together - raising funds and awareness!

The theme of our gala is 'Building Our Future' and we invite you to help support the success of this event. We have sold over 550 tickets, and our goal is to surpass 600 in attendance for this event. If you would like to purchase a ticket or can connect us with a potential sponsor, please reach out to Janice McTighe at janicemctighe@renfreweducation.org.

There will also be ways you can support the auction as we get closer to the date, we will be selling raffle tickets and releasing auction items that you can bid on through the Givergy platform. Two raffles will be released – one will be a Wine Tree created with 100 bottles of wine and the second raffle will be a Cartier Watch. Both the raffles and auction items will be open to the public so when we send out the link, please share it with your family and friends.

Givergy Fundraising Website:

[Helping Kids SOAR Gala – Building Our Future](#)



Janice McTighe
Executive Director



Kim LaCourse
Associate Executive Director



Nicki Wilson
Associate Executive Director

Alberta Family Day

February 17th is Alberta Family Day. We wish you a fun-filled day with your family celebrating and creating wonderful memories.

Registration

Preschool and Kindergarten registration for children with disabilities continues at all our school sites for September 2025. Please contact the Manager at your location if you have any questions.

Registration for our Elementary Education Program continues at our Janice McTighe Centre and Thomas W. Buchanan Centre locations. With a long list of interested families, and limited numbers of spaces available, we consider the following factors:

- ▶ A balanced classroom for the children
- ▶ Representation from all school sites
- ▶ Parent commitment to Renfrew Educational Services
- ▶ Commitment to pay \$4,500 dollars a year for school fees.

Making decisions for placement in our Elementary Education program are difficult and we appreciate your patience and understanding.

Contact Information Changes

It is very important for us to have up-to-date contact information.

If there have been changes to your home address, home phone number, work and cell phone numbers or emergency contact information, please inform the Manager at your child's location.

Parent Advisory Councils (PAC)

Our site PACs have been very active over the last few months and have exciting things planned for the remainder of the year. Let's peek at what's coming up:

► **Janice McTighe Centre**

- Scholastic Book Fair, Nanny McCluckins – hatching ducks, Butterfield Acres and a Spring Family Ball. More details to follow.

► **Bowness Centre**

- Fundraising continues with an ongoing bottle drive and more ideas to come.

► **Child Development Centre**

- Presently firming up a spring event – stayed tuned!

► **Thomas W. Buchanan Centre**

- Butterfield Acres in June and butterfly larvae.



Thank You

Thank you sincerely for the many, many ways you help Renfrew and for trusting us with your children. 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

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 or click here: [Google Review](#). Please share your happiness with our programs for others who are looking.



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

Community Education Service

Check out these free online information sessions being offered in February!

<https://community.hmhc.ca/sessions/?p=registration>

- ▶ **February 6** ADHD & Executive Functioning, online starting at 6:00pm
- ▶ **February 24** Managing Challenging Behaviours, online starting at 10:00am
- ▶ **February 27** Not Falling Through the Cracks: How Psychoeducational Assessments Can Help Foster Success, online starting at 12:00pm

Autism Calgary ID Cards

Autism Calgary is pleased to offer Emergency Alert Identification cards for members. This card is for individuals with autism and/or families caring for an individual with Autism Spectrum Disorder. The intent is to guide first responders in providing the best support to our community. Each card provides basic emergency information on the front, and individualized support tips on the back. For more information on this program, visit:

<https://autismcalgary.com/calgary-police-diversity-unit-disability-id-cards/>

It's Almost Tax Time!

Do you need help with your 2024 tax return? You may be eligible for help at a free tax clinic if you have a modest income and a simple tax situation. Check out this website to find a free tax preparation clinic near you!

[Get your taxes done at a free tax clinic - Canada.ca](https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/free-tax-preparation-clinic/)

Calgary Public Library – Digital Library - LIBBY

Libby is a digital library and a great free resource! It can be accessed on your desktop and mobile device as well. It also includes audiobooks.

Like physical library books, you can place holds. You can access Libby with this link: <https://www.calgaryllibrary.ca/read-learn-and-explore/digital-library/libby/>. You'll just need to put in your Library card number and pin when you login.

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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!

Resource Sharing Group

Virtual meeting on Zoom

Wednesday, February 19, 2025 - 7:30pm



Are you looking for services for your child, or do you want to share your experience of accessing resources for your child with other Renfrew parents?

Join us for this online Resource Sharing Group. This will be a supportive group conversation, come ready to share your experiences and hear from others about how and where they've accessed services for their child with a disability.

Please register by February 12, 2025

by emailing Sarah Livingstone at
sarahlivingstone@renfreweducation.org

When registering, it is important to include the following information:

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



News from the Calgary Public Library

Freedom to Read Week is February 23 – March 1

At Calgary Public Library, we acknowledge Freedom to Read Week as an opportunity to ensure our community has access to a wide range of ideas, information, and thoughts through Library services. Before Freedom to Read Week starts on February 23, learn how the Library's Collections department selects books before they reach out shelves: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=snP2At6aQBM>

Visit the Library During Winter Break

If your kids are out of school for Winter Break, there's lots of ways to keep them entertained! Our interactive Early Learning Centres and Questionariums are open every day — including Family Day on February 17. Learn more about our 13 Early Learning Centres: <https://www.calgarylibrary.ca/connect/babies-and-toddlers/early-learning-centres/>

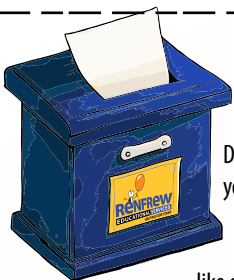
Volunteer at the Library

Over 3,500 dedicated Library volunteers help our community build learning skills, make stories come to life, deliver Library materials to seniors, help patrons explore computer technology, and much more. The Library is accepting youth and adult volunteers for a variety of programs including Math Quest, Reading Buddies, and Career Coaching. Learn more: <https://www.calgarylibrary.ca/your-library/volunteer/>

Important Dates

February 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6 Progress Reports go home	7 EEP/Jr High OFF	8
9	10	11	12 Parent/Teacher Conferences Evening	13 Non-Instructional Day No Classes, No SSP Parent/Teacher Conferences Day	14 Non-Instructional Day No Classes, No SSP Valentine's Day	15
16	17 Alberta Family Day Schools Closed	18	19	20	21 EEP/Jr High ATTEND	22
23	24	25	26	27	28 EEP/Jr High OFF	
<div> Next Month: <div> <p> Mar 7 EEP/Jr High ATTEND Mar 13 Renfrew 26th Annual Charity Gala Mar 14 EEP/Jr High OFF Mar 17 St. Patrick's Day Mar 21 EEP/Jr High ATTEND </p> <p> Mar 24 Spring Break begins Apr 7 Classes resume for all children </p> </div> </div>						



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: _____

Renfrew Educational Services

Gala Building our Future

Renfrew Educational Services Foundation

Charitable Registration No. 777625492 RR0001

Thursday, March 13, 2025

Renfrew Educational Services offers a broad range of specialized programs and is an acknowledged leader in program development for children and students with disabilities. Renfrew is also known for its responsiveness to the needs of families and the community which has led us to the undertaking of our Capital Campaign. We are raising funds to expand our services to Junior & Senior High School. To date we have raised just over \$23 million dollars towards our goal of \$30 million dollars.

Renfrew's Charity Gala is one of Calgary's premiere charity fundraising events. Over the years, this event has raised close to \$8.5 million dollars for school buildings, buses, specialized rooms, adaptive equipment and specialized programs and services. At this year's Gala we will be celebrating our 26th Annual Gala "Building Our Future". Our event will be held on **March 13, 2025**, at the BMO Centre at Stampede Park.

We would love for you to become a sponsor at our event. For enquiries about sponsorship opportunities, contact **Janice McTighe, Executive Director, janicemctighe@renfreweducation.org or 403.973.2278**. For those of you who have supported us in the past, we greatly appreciate your support and ask that you consider becoming a sponsor for this year's event.

For sponsorship or ticket information, visit our website at **www.renfreweducation.org**.

Our Gala features an amazing silent and live auction. If you wish to donate an item or have questions about the auction, contact **Jacki Cassidy, Event Manager, jackicassidy@renfreweducation.org**.

On behalf of all the children/students, families and staff of Renfrew Educational Services, we invite you to support the development of our new Flagship school as we SOAR to grade 12.

Yours truly,



Jim Reid

Chairman, Foundation Board of Directors



Tom Buchanan

Chairman, Society Board of Directors





Item Information Form

Detailed Item Description:

Item can be exchanged for different size: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Item Value: \$ _____

Tax Receipt:

An **invoice or receipt** clearly indicating the value of the donation **must accompany the donated item** or a tax receipt will not be issued.

Please note: When requesting a tax receipt for an invoiced item, the receipt can **only** be issued to the name that appears on the invoice.

Canada Customs and Revenue Agency regulations prohibit issuance of tax receipts for donation of services. (hotel rooms, use of a condo, aesthetic services, massage etc.)

Tax Receipt Required: ☐ No ☐ Yes

Donated by: _____

Contact Person (if donor is a business): _____

Donor's Mailing Address: _____

City _____ Province _____

Postal Code _____

Telephone _____ FAX _____

Email _____

Renfrew Contact Person: _____ Telephone: _____

Please ensure that every space above is completed.

Donation Deadline:

January 24th, 2025

Event Information:

Renfrew Educational Services Foundation
26th Annual Gala: "Building Our Future"
March 13th, 2025
BMO Centre - Stampede Park

Forward Item and Form To:

26th Annual Charity Gala
Renfrew Educational Services Foundation
2050 - 21 Street NE
Calgary, Alberta, T2E 6S5

Enquiries:

Jacki Cassidy
T 403.291.5038 ext 1396
F 403.291.2499

Office Use Only: Item # _____

Charitable Registration No. 777625492 RR0001