

Treasures Family Newsletter

April 2025



“Together for a Bright Future”

Paul Van Ginkel created this 48” X 72” oil painting for Renfrew. The original was sold at our Gala on March 13th, however, the image is also available in limited edition canvas (“giclee”) and paper prints.

Follow the link or scan the QR code for details: <https://paulvanginkel.com/product/together-for-a-bright-future-2/>



Important Dates

April 7 Classes Resume *for all children*
April 11 EEP/Jr High ATTEND
April 18 Good Friday Schools Closed
April 25 EEP/Jr High ATTEND

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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 as 866 guests were entertained by Renfrew's Choir along with the release of our new video. They also enjoyed a silent and live auction along with a guest appearance by performers Paul and Liz Brandt. One of our Live auction items titled "Together for a Bright Future" an original 48"x72" oil painting by Paul Van Ginkel was auctioned off and Paul Van Ginkel has graciously offered to continue to support the campaign by creating 100 "36x54" framed canvas (Giclee) and 500 15"x23" unframed paper prints to continue to support the capital campaign. Please see QR code or email of Paul (info on front page) to order and if you would like to view them in-person they are in the front atrium in the Janice McTighe entre.

The evenings program did not leave a dry eye in the room and the success of the night continued to help us raise funds for the Legacy school.

This Spring will also mark the time when we begin the construction of the Legacy school – more details will be shared over the next 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.

Janice McTighe

Executive Director

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janicemctighe@renfreweducation.org

Kim LaCourse

Associate Executive Director

T 403.219.5386 F 403.291.2499

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Nicki Wilson

Associate Executive Director

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nickiwilson@renfreweducation.org

Warmest Regards,

Janice, Kim & Nicki

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.

Do You Have Questions about the Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP)?

Renfrew is excited to offer you the opportunity to meet with 'The RDSP Guy' - Steven Williams! If your child has been approved for the Disability Tax Credit, or if you have questions about opening up a Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP), Steven can review the RDSP information with you and help answer your questions about what to do next. If you are interested in this opportunity, please sign up for a personal meeting with Steven.

Date: Thursday, May 8, 2025

Location: Renfrew's Janice McTighe Centre (JMC) 2050 21 Street NE

Time: Meetings will be held every half hour from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm (10 am, 10:30 am, 11 am, 11:30 am, 12:00 pm, 12:30 pm, 1:00 pm, and 1:30 pm). Register by May 1st by emailing familysupport@renfreweducation.org.

When you register, please indicate your first and second choices for meeting times. Each meeting will be 30 minutes long.

It's 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/)



News from the Calgary Public Library

Indigenous Artist in Residence

Unmask your artistic side with Calgary Public Library's Indigenous Artist in Residence. Morgan Black is a St'át'imc and Secwépemc artist / curator living on Treaty 7 territory. In an upcoming hands-on workshop, artists of all ages and abilities will design masks that are inspired by the seven principles of Indigenous story work. Register today: <https://www.calgarylibrary.ca/events-and-programs/programs/?query=Indigenous+Artist+in+Residence>

Hoppy Baby Bunnies

Get your baby into the springtime spirit with songs, stories, and finger plays. This program is offered at multiple Library locations on different dates. Learn more: <https://www.calgarylibrary.ca/events-and-programs/programs/hoppy-baby-bunnies/>

Stream for Free with Kanopy

Stream hundreds of shows, movies, and documentaries for free with Kanopy. There's also a Kanopy Kids section that features movies and popular TV shows for children ages two and up. Start streaming today: <https://www.calgarylibrary.ca/read-learn-and-explore/digital-library/kanopy>

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.

Gratitude Journalling

Renfrew's Janice McTighe Centre (JMC) at 2050 21 Street NE

Wednesday, April 16

9:00 - 11:00am



Are you curious about gratitude journalling? Are you looking for an opportunity to meet other Renfrew parents and guardians? If so, please join us as we take a break from our busy lives to connect with each other and explore what we are grateful for! We are happy to announce that Ashley, a Renfrew parent, will lead the group and share her experience of how practicing gratitude has influenced her life.

Renfrew will provide gratitude journals, supplies and refreshments for this lighthearted adult-only activity.

Register by April 9, 2025 by emailing
familysupport@renfreweducation.org

When you register, please include the following information:

- Your full name and your child's name
- The Renfrew location that your child attends
- How many people are attending this event

Telus Spark Science Centre www.sparkscience.ca

220 St. George's Drive NE

Thursday, April 24

Morning group
9:15am

Afternoon group
1:00pm

Register by April 17

Wednesday, May 21

Morning group
9:15am

Afternoon group
1:00pm

Register by May 14



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 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 (\$12/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).
- **PLEASE NOTE:** 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!

Please register by emailing

familysupport@renfreweducation.org

When registering, it is important to 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

Resource Sharing Group on ZOOM - Part 2

Virtual meeting on ZOOM

April 29, 2025

7:30pm



Back by popular demand! Our first evening Zoom group on the topic of Resource Sharing was well-attended and there has been an interest in continuing the conversation. If you are looking for services for your child or if you want to share your experiences of accessing resources, please join us for an online resource sharing group. This will be a supportive group conversation and all are welcome (even if you did not attend the first group). Please come ready to share your experiences and hear from others about how and where they've accessed services for their child with a disability. This group will have a specific focus on what to do while you are on the waitlist for the FSCD program.

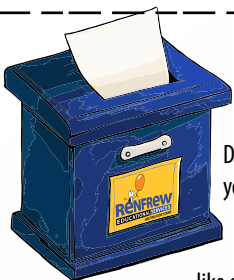
Please register by April 22 by emailing

familysupport@renfreweducation.org

Important Dates

April 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Spring Break	2 Spring Break	3 Spring Break	4 Spring Break	5
6	7 Classes Resume for all children	8	9	10	11 EEP/Jr High ATTEND	12
13	14	15	16	17	18 Good Friday Schools Closed	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 EEP/Jr High ATTEND	26
27	28	29	30			
<div> <p>Next Month:</p> <div> <p>May 2 EEP/Jr High OFF</p> <p>May 9 EEP/Jr High ATTEND</p> <p>May 11 Mother's Day</p> </div> <div> <p>May 16 EEP/Jr High OFF</p> <p>May 19 Victoria Day Schools Closed</p> <p>May 23 EEP/Jr High ATTEND</p> <p>May 30 EEP/Jr High OFF</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: _____