

Treasures Family Newsletter

November 2025




Please Join Us

MARCH 12, 2026

**HELPING KIDS SOAR GALA
BUILDING OUR FUTURE**

BMO Centre
Stampede Park, 20 Round Up Way SE

5:30 pm: Cocktails & Auction Viewing
7:00 pm: Dinner & Program
Dress: Semiformal



THE THREE SISTERS CENTRE

Important Dates

Nov 7	EEP/Jr High	OFF
Nov 11	Remembrance Day	Schools Closed
Nov 14	EEP/Jr High	ATTEND
Nov 20	Parent/Teacher Conferences	EVENING
Nov 21	Non-Instructional Day	No Classes, No SSP
	Parent/Teacher Conferences	DAY
Nov 28	EEP/Jr High	ATTEND

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Executive Message

News from the Executive Team



Kim LaCourse
Executive Director - School Operations



Nicki Wilson
Executive Director - Community Services

Adventures at School!

As we move through the first few months of the school year, we've been delighted to see our children and students settling into their new routines. It's amazing how quickly they've adapted as the days take on a familiar rhythm. We truly appreciate your patience and understanding during this time of transition.

Please remember that bus routes may experience adjustments as families move or childcare arrangements change. Our transportation team continues to work diligently to accommodate these updates and ensure a smooth experience for everyone.

Legacy School Capital Campaign - now known as the Three Sisters Centre

Our capital campaign continues as we broke ground in April 2025. The new school in the Bearspaw area - a ~60,000 sq ft K-12 facility to serve children with significant disabilities - is a major step forward. Renfrew Educational Services is expanding its reach to include junior and senior high school services, accommodating approximately 225-250 students in this cutting-edge building.

Renfrew is closer to meeting our target, but we continue to look for supporters to help us reach the end. If you or members of your family have connections to donors and/or Foundations, please reach out to Janice McTighe at janicemctighe@renfreweducation.org, 403.973.2278 and help us reach our goal!



27th Annual Charity Gala: Building Our Future

We're thrilled to announce that our 27th Annual Charity Gala will take place on March 12, 2026. This event plays a vital role in supporting Renfrew's programs, and we are so grateful for the continued generosity of our families and community.

You can support the Gala by donating funds, contributing silent or live auction items, or purchasing tickets or sponsorships. If you would like help connecting with a business or organization for sponsorship opportunities, please contact Janice McTighe at janicemctighe@renfreweducation.org or 403-973-2278.

Family Night

We were so pleased to see such a wonderful turnout at our recent Family Night events across all school locations! Families enjoyed a fun-filled evening of Halloween activities - from pumpkin decorating and crafts to exploring the spooky house. Thank you to everyone who joined us to celebrate and create lasting memories together.

Parent Councils

Our Parent Councils (PACs) are beginning to plan for the school year ahead, developing ideas for special activities and fundraising opportunities that enrich our students' experiences. Many PAC meetings are held virtually, making it easy to participate. If you'd like to get involved, please contact the manager at your school site for more information.

Thank You

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

Kim LaCourse

Executive Director - School Operations
T 403.219.5386 F 403.291.2499
kimlacourse@renfreweducation.org

Nicki Wilson

Executive Director - Community Services
T 403.291.5038 ext. 1643
nickiwilson@renfreweducation.org

Warmest Regards,

Kim & Nicki

“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 2025, however, the image is also available in limited edition canvas (36" X 54") and paper prints (15" X 23"). All proceeds from these sales are donated to Renfrew.

What a beautiful and unique holiday gift!



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



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



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.

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Holiday Helping Project 2025



We are pleased to announce that the Holiday Helping Project will begin November 3! The Holiday Helping Project is an annual program that provides assistance to Renfrew families during the winter holiday season.

From November 3 to November 28, we invite you to send a donation to school with your child. 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!

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

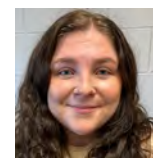
Child Development Centre
403.291.5038 ext. 1244
estevenson@renfreweducation.org



Emily Voisey
Family Support Worker

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

First Nations



Alexa Mogg
Family Support Worker

Big Horn Health Centre
Mini Thni / Stoney Health (Morley)
amogg@renfreweducation.org



COFFEE & CHAT GROUP

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 on one of these dates! Renfrew will provide a limited number of free admission tickets.

- **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.
- **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 door or you can download the ParkPlus App and prepay for your parking session (Zone 8310).

Friday, November 21, 2025

Morning Group: 9:15am

Please register by **October 2, 2025** by emailing the Family Support team at familysupport@renfreweducation.org

Wednesday, December 10, 2025

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

Please register by **December 3, 2025** by emailing the Family Support team at familysupport@renfreweducation.org

Registration is Limited

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

Holiday Movie Night at TBC

Thomas W. Buchanan Centre, 75 Sunpark Drive SE

Thursday, December 4, 2025

6:15pm



Your family is invited to a fun movie night hosted by our Student Leaders at the Thomas W. Buchanan Centre. Join us to watch *Arthur Christmas*. We will also have a special guest... Santa Claus! This is a great opportunity for your family to not only meet Santa, but to also mingle with other Renfrew families. Our Student Leaders will be offering snack items for sale (debit, credit, or cash). All proceeds will go towards the Leaders Fund!

Please register by

November 27, 2025 by emailing the Family Support team at

familysupport@renfreweducation.org

Once you register, you will receive a QR code with your electronic ticket for this event!

KidzGo

www.kidzgo.com/ 688 Heritage Dr SE #100, Calgary, AB

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

4:30 - 7:00pm

Join us at KidzGo for an 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.

Please register by **November 6, 2025**

by emailing the Family Support team at familysupport@renfreweducation.org



KidzGO

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
- ▶ How many people are attending
- ▶ The ages of all people attending
- ▶ If you are bringing a support aide

Information Sessions

Introduction to Parenting Tools & Visuals (Zoom)

Parenting is hard but you are not alone! Join us as we learn about some of the tips and tricks we can try on our parenting journey. Kim Ralstin, Renfrew manager, will join us to demonstrate some of the tools that Renfrew staff use every day to support our unique student population. This includes using developmentally appropriate expectations, visual schedules, timers, first/then cards, positive reinforcement and more!

Tuesday, November 25, 2025
9:30am - 11:00am

Virtual meeting on Zoom

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Please register by **November 18, 2025** by emailing the Family Support team at familysupport@renfreweducation.org
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- ▶ When you register, please include your full name, your child's name and the Renfrew location your child attends.

School Transition Sessions

Are you wondering where your child 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 one of our School Transition Sessions.

Wednesday, November 19, 2025
6:30pm - 8:00pm

Virtual meeting on Zoom

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Please register by **November 12** by emailing the Family Support team at familysupport@renfreweducation.org
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- ▶ When you register, please include your full name, your child's name and the Renfrew location your child attends.

Thursday, December 4, 2025
9:30pm - 11:00am

Virtual meeting on Zoom

.....
Please register by **November 27** by emailing the Family Support team at familysupport@renfreweducation.org
.....

- ▶ When you register, please include your full name, your child's name and the Renfrew location your child attends.



News from the Calgary Public Library

Visit the Library to Rock Your Mocs

Rock Your Mocs is an international Indigenous Peoples event recognized from November 9 – 15. Everyone is encouraged to wear their moccasins and share a photo to social media using the hashtag #RockYourMocs. At Library locations, there will be an activity to create your own moccasins out of paper. Learn more about the different types of moccasins in this video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tLzEkVEHljY>

Celebrate Hindu Heritage Month at the Library

Experience Hindu culture at Central Library on Saturday, November 22. There will be breathtaking art, music, and dance. Learn about traditions, customs, and travelling to India. You can also take a free yoga class, enjoy sari draping demonstrations, and eat delicious samosas with the community. Register for this eventful day: <https://www.calgarylibrary.ca/events-and-programs/programs/hindu-heritage-month-at-the-library>

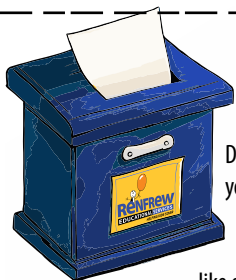
Sharing Experiences with Creative Writing

Julie Sedivy is the Library's 2025 Author in Residence. She has a wide area of expertise which includes the impact of language loss, creative writing, and linguistics — the science of language. Julie is sharing some of the lessons she has learned with programs and office hours at the Library. Learn more about Julie and her Library residency: <https://www.calgarylibrary.ca/library-news/combining-the-science-of-language-with-creative-writing>

Important Dates

November 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7 EEP/Jr High OFF	8
9	10	11 Remembrance Day Schools Closed	12	13	14 EEP/Jr High ATTEND	15
16	17	18	19	20 Parent/Teacher Conferences EVENING	21 Non-Instructional Day No Classes, No SSP Parent/Teacher Conferences DAY	22
23	24	25	26	27	28 EEP/Jr High ATTEND	29
30	Next Month: Dec 2 Giving Tuesday www.givingtuesday.ca Dec 18 Last Day of Classes/SSP Dec 5 EEP/Jr High OFF Dec 19 Non-Instructional Day No Classes, No SSP Dec 12 EEP/Jr High ATTEND Dec 22 Winter Break classes resume on January 5					



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: _____