

Treasures Family Newsletter

September 2026

**Welcome
to Renfrew
Educational
Services!**



Important Dates

Sept 4 EEP/Jr-Sr High *OFF*
Sept 7 Labour Day *Schools Closed*
Sept 11 EEP/Jr-Sr High *ATTEND*
Sept 12 Renfrew Family Day
Sept 18 Non-Instructional Day *No Classes, No SSP*
Sept 21 Picture Day *Thomas W. Buchanan Centre*
Sept 22 Picture Day *Thomas W. Buchanan Centre*

Sept 23 Picture Day *Janice McTighe Centre*
Sept 24 Picture Day *Janice McTighe Centre*
Sept 25 EEP/Jr-Sr High *ATTEND*
Picture Day Janice McTighe Centre
Sept 28 Picture Day *Bowness Centre*
Sept 29 Picture Day *Child Development Centre*
Sept 30 National Day for Truth
and Reconciliation *Schools Closed*

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Executive Message

News from the Executive Team

Together, We Begin Another Wonderful Year of Learning at Renfrew!

We are delighted to welcome our children, students and families to another exciting school year at Renfrew Educational Services!

The beginning of a new school year always brings a wonderful sense of possibility—new experiences, new friendships and many opportunities to learn and grow. Our dedicated staff are excited to welcome everyone back and to work alongside families in supporting each child and student throughout the year.

We look forward to celebrating many milestones, accomplishments and special moments together. Thank you for the trust you place in Renfrew and for being such an important part of our community. We are so happy to have you with us!



Kim LaCourse
Executive Director - School Operations



Nicki Wilson
Executive Director - Community Services

Renfrew Buses

As we settle into the new school year, families may notice some minor adjustments to bus schedules during the first few weeks. Routes are carefully planned by our Manager of Transportation and assigned to drivers in late August. As new children and students join Renfrew or family circumstances change, some adjustments may be necessary.

To help our routes run as smoothly as possible, please have your child ready **five minutes before the scheduled pick-up time** and ensure someone is available **five minutes before the anticipated drop-off time**. Our buses operate on carefully planned schedules, and timely loading and unloading helps everyone arrive safely and on time.

Safety continues to be our highest priority. Parents/caregivers are required to accompany children to the bus at pick-up and be present to receive them at drop-off. Children are not permitted to walk to or from the bus independently. Exceptions may be arranged for older students with appropriate parent/caregiver and transportation approval.

As a reminder, please do not send toys, food or electronic devices on the bus. Each bus is equipped with a DVD player for entertainment during the ride. Additional information can be found in the Transportation Brochure provided by your driver.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as our routes settle into their regular routines.

Celebrating Summer Fundraising

We were incredibly fortunate to benefit from two wonderful fundraising events this summer:

- **August 19, 2026 – Magna Insurance Group Charity Golf Classic:** More than **\$100,000** was raised in support of Renfrew's Three Sisters Centre.
- **August 31, 2026 – Calgary Italian Open Golf Tournament: \$100,000** was raised toward the purchase of a new Italian Open school bus.

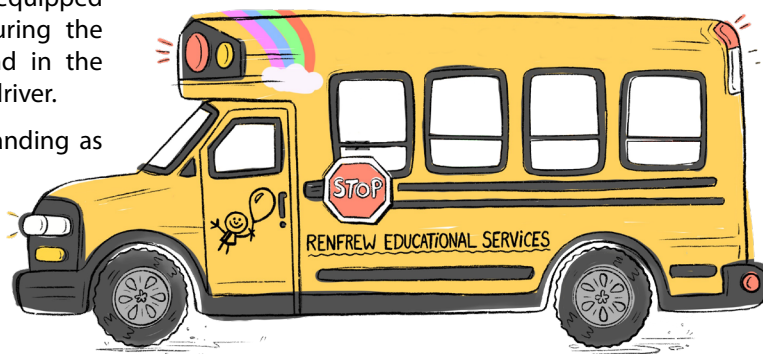
We are deeply grateful to Magna Insurance Group, the Calgary Italian Open, their sponsors, participants and supporters for their generosity and commitment to **Helping Kids Soar**. Their support makes a meaningful difference for the children, students and families we serve.

Parent Advisory Councils – A Hybrid Approach

This year, each Renfrew location will have its own Parent Advisory Council (PAC), with meetings held monthly. Each council will work collaboratively with site Managers and teachers to determine its priorities and direction, providing families with a meaningful opportunity to become involved in school life.

PACs will have the flexibility to determine whether meetings are held in person or virtually. Meeting dates and additional information will be shared in the next Treasures newsletter and by email.

We hope you will consider getting involved!



Staying Green and Staying Informed

As part of our continued efforts to reduce paper use, many important family resources are available online. Our monthly newsletter, school calendar and other classroom and school information can be found in the parent resources section of our website.

We also encourage families to check their email regularly for classroom updates, important announcements, upcoming events and fundraising news from your child's teachers and the Renfrew team.

Visit Our Website

Our **Parent Lounge** is a helpful place to find resources and information throughout the school year. Families can access important dates, download the annual calendar and find information to help stay connected with what is happening at Renfrew.

Our website also includes Renfrew's:

- ▶ **Education Plan**
- ▶ **Annual Education Results Report**

To access these reports, select **About** from the menu at the top of our homepage and then choose **Publications** from the drop-down menu.

Stay Connected

We love sharing the wonderful things happening across Renfrew! Follow us on social media to see highlights from our classrooms, schools, programs and community.

Welcome Back!

As we begin another school year, we want you to know that our doors are always open. We value the partnership we have with our families and encourage you to reach out to your child's teacher, site Manager or a member of our team whenever you have questions, ideas or need support.

Thank you for choosing Renfrew and for allowing us to be part of your child's journey.

Here's to a wonderful year of learning, growing, connecting and Helping Kids Soar!

Kim & Nicki

Kim LaCourse

Executive Director - School Operations

T 587.713.4762 F 403.291.2499

kimlacourse@renfreweducation.org

Nicki Wilson

Executive Director - Community Services

T 587.507.4872

nickiwilson@renfreweducation.org



We did it! The official parliamentary petition is live. Please sign it today.

Jen Ball
Calgary, Canada

Aug 25, 2026

When I started this petition, I was a mom looking for answers after what happened with Parker. What came back was something I didn't expect: thousands of you, from every corner of Canada, saying this matters to you too.

Today, I'm asking you to take one more step.

The official House of Commons e-petition is now live — sponsored by MP Mike Lake — and it's the one that counts for a formal government response.

Sign e-7703 here: <https://www.ourcommons.ca/petitions/en/Petition/Details?Petition=e-7703>

It opened yesterday and already has over 2,100 signatures. It closes December 22, 2026, so we have time to do this right, but there's no reason to wait.

Why does the parliamentary petition matter?

A [Change.org](#) petition shows public support, and yours has done exactly that. But only a certified House of Commons e-petition can require the Government of Canada to formally respond. That's the next level of pressure, and we need it.

What's different about signing it?

It takes a couple of extra minutes compared to [Change.org](#). You'll need to provide your phone number and confirm that you're a Canadian citizen or resident. That's it. Every signature that goes through is validated and counted on the official record.

What are we asking for?

The petition calls on the Government of Canada to bring provinces, territories, law enforcement, autism and disability organizations, and families together to develop shared national standards for a vulnerable missing persons alert. For people with autism, non-speaking individuals, and people with intellectual or developmental disabilities who wander or go missing. Not just a law on paper. Real standards, real training, real awareness.

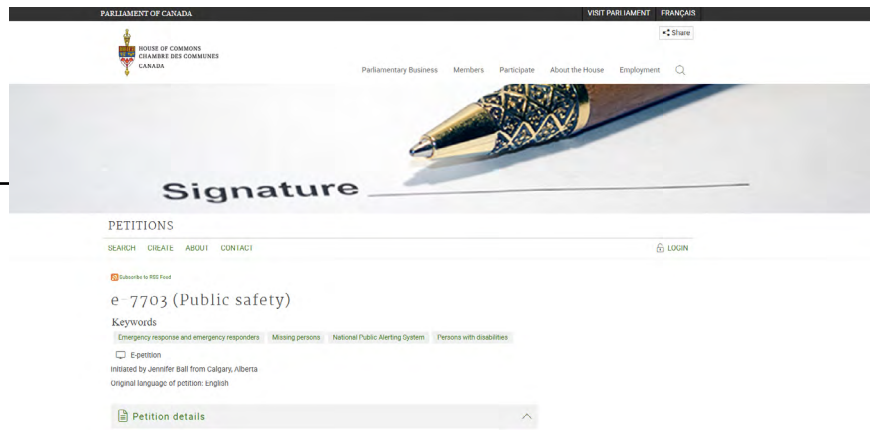
Please sign, and please share this update with everyone who supported this petition. Let's show Ottawa what 40,000 Canadian voices looks like.

Thank you for being part of this from the beginning.

Jennifer Ball

Founder, Indigo Alert Canada

indigoalertcanada.com



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

Connect with the Family Support Team!

In September, you will receive an email from Family Support with links to important forms. We encourage you to fill these out as soon as possible. If you have any questions about the links or forms, please reach out to the Family Support Worker at your site.

Renfrew's Family Support program is partially funded by the City of Calgary FCSS program. As a funded agency, we are required to provide demographics / social information. The survey is part of this requirement. Survey data is confidential and only shared with the City of Calgary FCSS anonymously. Thank you!

TO BE FILLED OUT BY ONLY ONE PARENT or GUARDIAN

The information you provide enables us to serve you better and remain accountable to our funders.

The email will include:

1. Welcome note and information from your Family Support Worker
2. Needs Assessment Form
3. City of Calgary FCSS Survey
4. Invitation to sign up for the Family Contact Book

Did you know?

Did you know that you can request an interpreter to help with communication? Renfrew is proud to offer interpretation through our partnerships with the Calgary Catholic Immigration Society (CCIS) and Alberta Health Services (AHS) Language Line.

You can request an interpreter by calling or emailing the Family Support Worker at your Renfrew school.

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
587.287.5746
cfrancis@renfreweducation.org



Sarah Livingstone
Family Support Worker

Bowness Centre
587.287.5746
slivingstone@renfreweducation.org



Emily Stevenson
Family Support Worker

Child Development Centre
587.287.5746
estevenson@renfreweducation.org



Emily Pardy
Family Support Worker

Thomas W. Buchanan Centre
587.287.5746
epardy@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.

Drop-in for Coffee and Conversation!

Janice McTighe Centre (JMC), 2050 21 Street NE

Thursday, September 24, 2026

Morning: 9:00 - 11:00am

Afternoon: 1:00 - 3:00pm



Join us for a casual coffee group at Renfrew's Janice McTighe Centre! This is a great opportunity to drop-in and meet other Renfrew parents and guardians. Refreshments are provided by Renfrew's Family Support Team and we look forward to seeing you there!

If you plan to drop-in, please let us know by emailing familysupport@renfreweducation.org so we can plan ahead for refreshments. Last minute drop-ins are also welcome!

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Telus Spark Science Centre

220 St. George's Drive NE

Thursday, October 15, 2026

Morning Group: 9:15am

Afternoon Group: 1:00pm



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 free tickets to the Telus Spark Science Centre. If you are interested in exploring this incredible facility with other Renfrew families, please join us!

- **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.

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Please register by **October 8, 2026**

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

News from the Calgary Public Library



Get Ready for the School Year with the Library

It's time to head back to school, but you aren't in it alone — the Library is here! Visit our spaces to play and study, check out THE KEY Study Guides, and access our digital resources for homework support: calgarylibrary.ca/digital-resources

Special Services at the Library

Calgarians with a visual or hearing impairment, disabilities, or health or mobility limitations can access a range of specialized materials, facilities, services, and programs with a Special Services Library Card. To complete an application, please call 403.260.2702, or visit Level 2 of Central Library. Learn more: <https://www.calgarylibrary.ca/your-library/accessibility/special-services>

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation is September 30

Calgary Public Library commits to listening to, learning from, and building relationships with local Indigenous communities. Visit any Library location to pick up the Elders Story Project: A Learning and Healing Toolkit which includes information and resources on mental health, cultural teachings, and more. Learn more about Truth and Reconciliation: calgarylibrary.ca/truth-and-reconciliation

Private Assessment & Therapy Services

Affordable Counselling

Affordable Counselling services for clients aged 4 to 55 years.

- ▶ Available at any of Renfrew's locations
- ▶ \$65 per session
- ▶ Sessions will be with a PhD or Masters Student Counsellor under the supervision of a Registered Psychologist

Models used:

- ▶ Cognitive Behavioural Therapy
- ▶ Acceptance and Commitment Therapy
- ▶ Person-Centred Therapy
- ▶ Indigenous Focusing Techniques
- ▶ Play Therapy Techniques



Contact Us

Find out more about our services and rates.

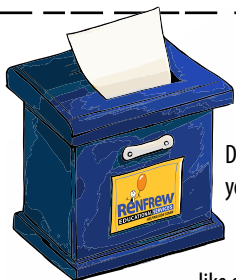
587.287.5746 and press "9"
renfrew@renfreweducation.org
www.renfreweducation.org



Important Dates

September 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 EEP/Jr-Sr High OFF	5
6	7 Labour Day Schools Closed	8	9	10	11 EEP/Jr-Sr High ATTEND	12 Renfrew Family Day
13	14	15	16	17	18 Non-Instructional Day No Classes, No SSP	19
20	21 Picture Day Thomas W. Buchanan Centre	22 Picture Day Thomas W. Buchanan Centre	23 Picture Day Janice McTighe Centre	24 Picture Day Janice McTighe Centre	25 EEP/Jr-Sr High ATTEND Picture Day Janice McTighe Centre	26
27	28 Picture Day Bowness Centre	29 Picture Day Child Development Centre	30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Schools Closed	Next Month: Oct 2 EEP/Jr-Sr High ATTEND Oct 8 Non-Instructional Day No Classes, No SSP Oct 9 Non-Instructional Day No Classes, No SSP Oct 12 Thanksgiving Schools Closed Oct 16 EEP/Jr-Sr High ATTEND Oct 23 EEP/Jr-Sr High OFF Oct 29 Family Night Oct 30 EEP/Jr-Sr High ATTEND		



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: _____