



École Rocky Elementary Newsletter

February 2021



It's Time to Think about Registration!

Registration is now open!

2021-2022

École Rocky Elementary
Kindergarten

(child must be 5 by Dec. 31, 2021)

and PreK

(child must be 4 by Dec. 31, 2021)

English and French Immersion Programs



École Rocky Elementary

4703 - 50th Avenue

403-845-3541

<https://ecolerocky.wrsd.ca>

www.facebook.com/ecolerockyelementary



IMPORTANT MASK REMINDERS

Every child was given two masks at the beginning of the year. Please encourage your child to bring the masks home for washing. Ensure they are returned for them to wear the next day. If your child has lost their mask(s) parent/guardians are asked to send replacements. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

4703 - 50 Avenue, Rocky Mountain House, Alberta T4T 1S4

Phone: (403) 845-3541 Check out our website <http://ecolerocky.wrsd.ca>

Follow us on Twitter <https://twitter.com/erepeace>



DISCOVER YOUR SUPER POWER

École Rocky Elementary offers a Pre-K program with the opportunity of French Language Discovery. Children must be four years of age on or before December 31, 2021 to be eligible to register for Pre-K this upcoming year.

ÉRE is a dual track school offering both English and French Immersion Kindergarten programs to our students. Children must be five years of age on or before December 31, 2021 to be eligible to register for Kindergarten this upcoming year.

We will require a copy of your child's birth certificate before your child starts school in September. For your convenience, a photocopy can be made for you at the school. If you do not have your child's birth certificate, you must sign a **Temporary Declaration of Legal Name and Age** form. The approximate cost of obtaining a birth certificate in Canada is approximately \$40. In order to obtain an Alberta Birth Certificate, it is required that the legal parent or guardian provide the registry office with a valid photo identification and court/guardian orders, if applicable. Processing time varies, depending on whether Vital Statistics has the correct information on file at time of the original registration of birth.

**Application forms for both Pre-K and Kindergarten are available
at the school office or on-line**

<https://ecolerocky.wrsd.ca/download/138792>

Office hours 8:15 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

What's Happening

Jan. 28 - Feb. 23	Traveling Art Show - In Good Company (displayed at school).
February 15	Family Day No School For Students and Staff
February 16 & 17	No School For Students and Staff
February 18 & 19	Teachers' Convention - No School For Students
February 23	Virtual School Council Meeting 12 Noon
February 26	Pink Shirt Day and Virtual Assembly 1:45 p.m.
March 5	P.D. No School For Students
March 12	Term 2 Report Cards Go Home
March 14	Daylight Savings Begins
March 17 & 18	Parent/Teacher Interviews 4:30 - 7:30 p.m.
March 19	P.D. No School For Students
March 24 & 25	Spring Photos
March 31	Jersey Day and Virtual Assembly 1:45 p.m.
April 2 - 11	Spring Break
April 23	P.D. No School For Students
April 25-30	Education Week
April 30	Wacky Hair Day and Virtual Assembly 1:45 p.m.
May 3	Music Monday
May 7	P.D. No School For Students
May 9	Mother's Day
May 9-14	Mental Health Awareness Week
May 14	Hats On for Mental Health
May 21	No School for Students and Staff
May 24	Victoria Day - No School for Students and Staff
May 28	Careers Day and Virtual Assembly 1:45 p.m.
June 3	Western Day
June 4	P.D. No School For Students
June 17 & 18	Kindergarten Grad
June 20	Father's Day
June 23	Peace Day and Talent Show
June 25	Formal Day and Assembly 11:00 a.m. and last day of school for students.



Dates subject to change. Call outs may be made or will be in your child's classroom newsletter.



Because of Covid restrictions, skating is cancelled. If the situation changes we will advise parents/guardians ahead of time.

AFTER SCHOOL ARRANGEMENTS

There are times when an emergency comes up and the school office must be contacted during the school day to pass on new arrangements for students after school. Such rare occasions are unavoidable and pose no problem for the school.

However, there are students who routinely don't know what is happening after school or who are unsure where they will be going. This can create a great deal of anxiety in many children and be a source of distraction throughout the school day. Please establish and communicate your expectations for after school with your child in advance and then confirm changes in routine by writing a note in your child's agenda. This way their teacher can reassure them as to the change in routine and assist them as needed. If your child routinely rides a bus (other than a shuttle bus to the Pioneer bus lanes) your child's bus driver also needs to be notified so the driver is not kept waiting for a child who is not going to be riding the bus on a given day.

If you need to pick up your children before the end of the school day, please sign them out at the office. Your children will then be paged to come to the office to leave with you. The list of students who have been signed out early is then available for Transportation so that they can double check for students who will not be taking their bus on a given afternoon (this does not apply to shuttle bus service).



AFTER SCHOOL TELEPHONE MESSAGES

Parents/guardians are asked to make arrangements ahead of time with their child regarding after school activities. Send a note or write in your child's agenda explaining after school arrangements. In case of an urgent situation where after school plans need to change, contact the school as soon as possible. Please keep in mind it is sometimes difficult for office staff to get a message to your child, especially if the call is received when the final bell has rung, or if a class is outside or not in their classroom at the end of the day. Your assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated.

We do not allow students to use the school phones during the school day to make arrangements to play at a friend's house after school or change arrangements that parents have made for them. Please discuss this with your child.



- Westbrick Energy Ltd. for their generous donation for the Breakfast Program.
- Dovercourt Community Hall Club to School Council for their generous donation to those who worked the Bingo at Dovercourt Hall.
- McDonald family for their generous donation of books.
- Gateway Sales & Service for their donation of skate sharpening!
- Corinna Ross for arranging to have 50 skates sharpened.
- students for helping Corinna Ross in carrying skates in and out of school (see photos below).
- Gabriele Patterson for her donation of fossils, fog machine, and French items.
- on behalf of all the staff for the Christmas wishes and goodies received during the holiday season. They were greatly appreciated by all.
- Town of Rocky Mountain House for their donation of felts, pens, etc.
- BP for their generous donation \$1,074.00.
- CPF Rocky Chapter for their generous donation of literacy books for 3/4G class!
- Co-Op for the donation of Hey Clay!



Karlynn presented \$1,074 from Boston Pizza's Heart Program. BP sold hearts online and money was shared with the community.



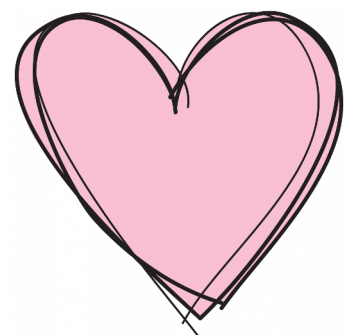
Students assisting Corinna Ross in taking skates to her vehicle for sharpening at Gateway Sales.



ÉRE FUNDRAISING SOCIETY

VALENTINE COOKIE SALE

Order forms for the Valentine Cookie Day has been sent home. Order forms are due on Friday, February 5th at noon time. The cost is \$1/cookie. These cookies will be individually wrapped. Students will get their cookies on Friday, February 12th. If you are able to assist, please contact the school and leave your name and phone number. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated!





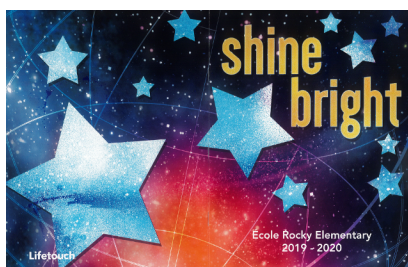
WATER BOTTLE FILLING STATIONS

With the addition of new water filling stations we are asking that parents send water bottles with their children. Please ensure their name is on their bottle.

Changing to water bottle filling stations will help reduce germs at fountains.

CELL PHONES & ELECTRONIC DEVICES

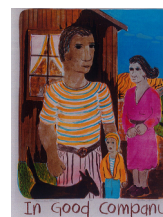
Students are discouraged from bringing cell phones and any other type of electronic devices to school. Cell phones and other devices are not to be used during the school day (receiving or sending phone calls, text messages, etc.). If students are found using these devices during class time they may be confiscated and parents will be asked to pick them up.



2019/2020 YEAR BOOKS

We still have last year yearbooks available for sale at a cost of \$20. If you are interested in purchasing one, you may pay online and pick it up at the school or come to the office to pay and pick up. This is the last year book we will be doing at ÉRE.

ART EXHIBITION *In Good Company*



In 1953, bank manager and artist, Dr. John Snow, discovered that a Calgary commercial printing company had discarded two lithography presses and some printing stones in their back alley to be hauled away. Dr. Snow purchased the presses for fifteen dollars and set them up in his basement studio. At the time, no one in Alberta and very few people in Canada were using lithography for art-making purposes. After seeking out some training from an experienced American printmaker, he further relied on books from the library along with trial and error to better learn the multistep process. Lithography is a long, involved and complicated process, but at its essence is based on the simple premise that oil and water do not mix. Once the flat limestone slab is smoothed and prepared with a special grit, a greasy material (a waxy ink known as tusche) is used to "draw" on the clean, flat slab of limestone. The slab is then wetted, inked up and then the paper is run through the press one layer at a time.

It was not long before Dr. Snow mastered lithography and began to use it for its aesthetic potential. Each lithograph included in this exhibition combines rich layers of saturated colours, simple patterns and textures created using found objects. His subject matter, a combination of portraiture and still life, is traditional, but he represents it through a modernist lens. Colour is used for its expressive potential and his flat, asymmetrical backgrounds are characteristic of post-impressionist artists, as well as the contemporary American avant-garde artists of his time. The figurative artworks in this exhibition are not indicative of a specific place. Instead, they were created using a composite of memories.

Dr. Snow's initial investment in the two presses yielded a significant return. Throughout his fifty-year career, he created hundreds of expressive prints and acted as a mentor to many of his contemporaries. *In Good Company* reflects Dr. Snow's innovative use of the lithography printmaking process and he has made a lasting "impression" on printmaking in Alberta.

School Council

A big thank you to all those who attended the January meeting virtually! Our School Council meetings will be the last Tuesday of each month (may be subject to change, but you will be informed). The meetings start 12 Noon. Listed below are the dates of upcoming meetings. Mark your calendar! Your input in regards to enhancing your child's education is important and we would love to see you! More information will be sent home in the near future updating ÉRE families as to what will be planned for the remainder of the year!

February 23

March 30

April 27

May 2

12:00 Noon



FinS (Fish In Schools)

Our grade three students are participating in the FinS program. FinS is an Alberta based project to teach students about the trout life cycle and their habitat in both indoor and outdoor settings. Over the course of 4 to 5 months, our students will monitor the development of rainbow trout from egg to fry in our library aquarium.

We had 65 rainbow trout fish eggs arrived recently and placed in our library aquarium. The eggs should hatch in the next week and be about the length of your fingernail. The fish will be kept in darkness and in water cooled to 10°C to emulate the bottom of a river. In May, the fish will be the size of your baby finger and released into a local waterway. We are one of just a handful of schools in the province who participate in the Fish in Schools (FinS) program.

Students have ample incentive to learn because they soon understand that survival of their fish depends on their ability to maintain a healthy environment in the aquarium. The class selects a release site for their fish with the assistance and approval of Alberta Environmental Protection (AEP) fisheries staff. The students will also participate in the release of their fish to complete the program.



A MESSAGE FROM THE LEARNING COMMONS

It's so hard to believe that it is February already. I hope everyone has been doing some great reading lately. I would like to have a Monthly Library Challenge. I will post the pics on the wall outside of the Learning Commons.

February Library Challenge – send, post or bring me a pic of you reading with someone you love. My email is: Lori.allen@wrsd.ca

Happy Reading!

Lori Allen



Family Literacy Day Honorary Chair,
Barbara Reid

invites families to use their imagination to explore and travel the world together! Barbara Reid is a picture book illustrator and author whose award-winning artwork is created using modelling clay.



Photo by: Ian Crysler Photographer

1. Go online

Research a country that interests you on the Internet with your family. Find out things like the language they speak, their currency, and popular food, music and sports.

2. Flags of the world

Look up colourful flags from different countries and try drawing them together.

3. Ciao!

Teach your family how to say hello and goodbye in different languages.

4. Greetings from abroad

Imagine you're on a vacation and write a postcard to a friend or family member. Describe the weather, what it's like and what activities you're doing.

5. Map the world

Look at a blank world map and try to name each continent and ocean. For more of a challenge, try identifying countries or even cities.

6. Family vacation

Research your next family vacation online together, even if you don't have one planned. Look up how much it will cost to travel there, hotels and activities, and put together a budget for your trip.

7. Get cookin'!

Find a recipe for a popular international dish, such as butter chicken or paella. Follow the recipe together as a family and enjoy the meal you've cooked.

8. Family history

Research your family's history and culture. Learn about your family traditions (how about starting a new one!)

9. Sounds of the world

Go to YouTube as a family and play some popular songs from other countries. Dance and move to different tunes and hum along, trying to guess what the lyrics mean.

10. A to Z

Test your family's geographic knowledge by trying to name a country for every letter of the alphabet. Hint: there is one for every letter except X.



Find more fun family activities at:
FamilyLiteracyDay.ca

Twitter Facebook Instagram LinkedIn YouTube Pinterest #FamilyLiteracyDay





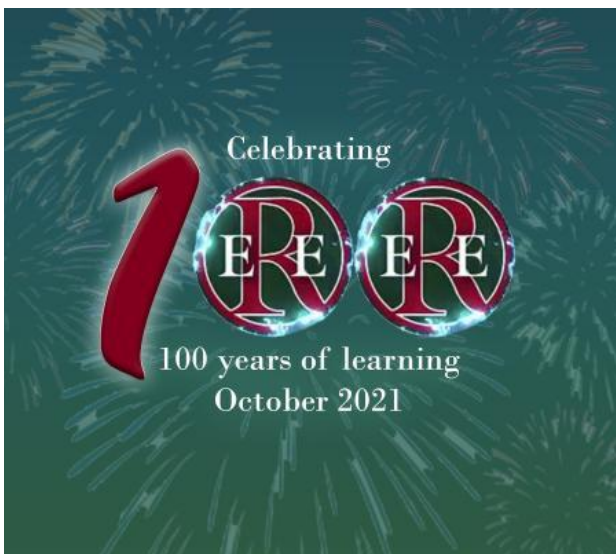
submitted by Corinna Ross

CPF Rocky Chapter donated literacy books for 3/4G!

We are currently putting together information packages and brochures regarding the French Immersion program and will be delivering to schools in the near future.

Winter pilot tutor program has started and is full with a waiting list which is getting bigger. If your child needs extra help in reading CPF Alberta will be running a spring program in March. Sign up on <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050E45AEAA2CAAF58-abnwt> and get your child's name on a waiting list. Volunteers across Canada will meet with your child via Zoom and spend one hour weekly for eight weeks, reading, playing games and continuing to strengthen your child's French speaking vocabulary. These sessions have opening Monday to Friday until 6 p.m. as well as Saturdays to accommodate those students in a school setting who may need extra help reading. As well, they host a book club of five students per session with a volunteer. Your child will read in a group setting with other kids across the province within their own grade levels.

You must be a CPF member to register. Memberships are still FREE! Sign up before March 30th.
<https://cpf.ca/en/individual-membership>



We are seeking parents, community members and alumni who would like to share stories, pictures, articles, artifacts and any other items related to the last 99 years of ÉRE .

If you are interested in joining the committee or have items to share, please contact Rose Zalasky at (403) 845-3541, Ext. 66067 (leave a message) or email rose.zalasky@wrsd.ca.

COVID-19 INFORMATION

COVID-19 ALBERTA HEALTH DAILY CHECKLIST (FOR CHILDREN UNDER 18)

Overview

This checklist applies for all children, as well as all students who attend kindergarten through Grade 12, including high school students over 18. Children should be screened every day by completing this checklist before going to school, child care or other activities. Children may need a parent or guardian to assist them to complete this screening tool.

Screening Questions

1. Has the child:

(Choose any/all possible exposures)

Traveled outside Canada in the last 14 days? When entering or returning to Alberta from outside Canada, individuals are legally required to quarantine for 14 days (see note below)	YES	NO
Had close contact with a case¹ of COVID-19 in the last 14 days? Face-to-face contact within 2 metres for 15 minutes or longer, or direct physical contact such as hugging	YES	NO
If the child answered "YES" to any of the above: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The child is required to quarantine for 14 days from the last day of exposure. Note: If the child is participating in the Alberta COVID-19 International Border Pilot Project, they must comply with the program restrictions at all times. If the child develops any symptoms, use the AHS Online Assessment Tool or call Health Link 811 to determine if testing is recommended. If the child/youth answered "NO" to both of the above: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proceed to question 2. 		

2. Does the child have any new onset (or worsening) of the following core symptoms:

Fever Temperature of 38 degrees Celsius or higher	YES	NO
Cough Continuous, more than usual, not related to other known causes or conditions such as asthma	YES	NO
Shortness of breath Continuous, out of breath, unable to breathe deeply, not related to other known causes or conditions such as asthma	YES	NO
Loss of sense of smell or taste Not related to other known causes or conditions like allergies or neurological disorders	YES	NO
If the child answered "YES" to any symptom in question 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The child is to isolate for 10 days from onset of symptoms. Use the AHS Online Assessment Tool or call Health Link 811 to arrange for testing and to receive additional information on isolation. If the child answered "NO" to all of the symptoms in question 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proceed to question 3. 		

¹A lab-confirmed case OR a probable case as defined in the [Alberta COVID-19 Notifiable Disease Guideline](#).

3. Does the child have any new onset (or worsening) of the following other symptoms:

Chills Without fever, not related to being outside in cold weather	YES	NO
Sore throat/painful swallowing Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as seasonal allergies or reflux	YES	NO
Runny nose/congestion Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as seasonal allergies or being outside in cold weather	YES	NO
Feeling unwell/fatigued Lack of energy, poor feeding in infants, not related to other known causes or conditions, such as depression, insomnia, thyroid dysfunction or sudden injury	YES	NO
Nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea Not related to other known causes or conditions, such as anxiety, medication or irritable bowel syndrome	YES	NO
Unexplained loss of appetite Not related to other known causes or conditions, such as anxiety or medication	YES	NO
Muscle/joint aches Not related to other known causes or conditions, such as arthritis or injury	YES	NO
Headache Not related to other known causes or conditions, such as tension-type headaches or chronic migraines	YES	NO
Conjunctivitis (commonly known as pink eye)	YES	NO
<p>If the child answered “YES” to ONE symptom in question 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep your child home and monitor for 24 hours. • If their symptom is improving after 24 hours, they can return to school and activities when they feel well enough to go. Testing is not necessary. • If the symptom does not improve or worsens after 24 hours (or if additional symptoms emerge), use the AHS Online Assessment Tool or call Health Link 811 to check if testing is recommended. <p>If the child answered “YES” to TWO OR MORE symptoms in question 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep your child home. • Use the AHS Online Assessment Tool or call Health Link 811 to determine if testing is recommended. • Your child can return to school and activities once their symptoms go away as long as it has been at least 24 hours since their symptoms started. <p>If the child answered “NO” to all questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your child may attend school, child care and/or other activities. 		

Please note: If your child is experiencing any symptoms from the lists above, do not bring them to visit a continuing care or acute care facility for 10 days from when symptoms started/until symptoms resolve (whichever is longer), unless they receive a negative COVID-19 test result and feel better.