

Indus School

SPiRiT



Some Pertinent Information Regarding Indus Today

Parent Newsletter

Volume 14, Issue 03

Student Count 225

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION 2014-15

If you or someone you know has a child who will turn five before February 28, 2015, that child is eligible for Kindergarten for the 2014-2015 school year. Advance registration is now available at the school between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Monday to Thursday, and from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30

p.m. on Fridays.

Please bring a copy of the child's birth certificate and a \$25.00 registration fee which is non-refundable.

Kindergarten is a full day program that normally runs every Tuesday and Thursday as well as on Fridays, beginning sometime in the Spring. There is no

transportation charge for Kindergarten students, however, you are still required to register for bussing prior to July 31st.

The registration form is available on the Rocky View Schools website at www.rockyview.ab.ca if you prefer to fill it out prior to coming to the school for registration.

Inside this issue:

Grade 2	2
Grade 7	2
Grade 3	3
Grade 1	4
Grade 6	5
Grade 4	6
Kindergarten	7

Our Mission

The purpose of Indus School is to build in students a multifaceted personal foundation to carry them successfully through life.

OUTSTANDING SCHOOL FEES 2013-2014

On March 15th, we will be sending home a letter, together with invoices, as a reminder of any outstanding school fees for the 2013-2014 school year. This will be the last reminder you will receive from the school. As per Board policy, on May 1st, all outstanding fees will be forwarded to Rocky View Schools for collection.

GST Rebate, you automatically qualify to have your school fees as well as your transportation fees waived. If this is the case, please call the school office (403.936.5855) for the appropriate paperwork. In addition, fees may also be paid in instalments.

Please see article on page 7 of this newsletter for details regarding online payments.

As you may know, if you receive the

7 Indus Court, Indus, AB T1X 0H7

www.rockyview.ab.ca 403-936-5855 <http://indus.rockyview.ab.ca>

STUDENT COUNCIL

Roses and cinnamon hearts, who knew they could be so popular? Quite an exercise to order and deliver and enjoy so many Valentine Treats, and the Student Council worked through many class periods to package, count, double count and deliver

treats. Thanks for all the family support to make this a fun time and a good chance to build the coffers of the new Student Council. We have begun a bank account. Reporting within the Student Council is the Middle School Dance Committee who raised

funds in their ice cream/candy sale to support two dances this year and their graduation plans. As you read this, they will have had their Winter Formal evening dance.

THE GRADE 2 STUDENTS ARE ATTRACTED TO MAGNETS!

Wow! The Grade 2 students had an incredibly busy February. We celebrated Groundhog Day, the 100th day of school, Valentine's Day and began reading with the Indus Pre-School kids! Students celebrated kindness for their peers on Valentine's Day, by making friendship hearts full of compliments. We were full of warmth and love! Students also followed the 2014 Sochi Olympics and were very excited to cheer on Team Canada before the break.

The Grade 2 students have been studying magnets during the last two months. Students have explored properties of magnets and were excited to plan, build

and make instructions for their very own toy or game for the



Zack showing Grade 3 Students how to play "Sheep Round Up."

Science Fair. Students practiced leadership at the Science Fair, as

other students and parents of Indus School enthusiastically checked out their projects. All students should be very proud of their efforts.

Please keep posted during the month of March as our class will be studying communities in Northern Canada and following the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race beginning on March 3rd. Students will be cheering on their favourite musher and learning about the sport, history of the race, and the dogs next month. Please allow your child to show you the website and follow the mushers at www.iditarod.com.

GRADE 7 DEPORTATION PRESENTATIONS

The Grade 7 students completed a PowerPoint/skit combination project on the *Great Deportation of the Acadians* (as

part of Canadian history). They were able to infuse technology and drama into this project. They were also impressive in their ability to collaborate and problem

solve together. Great job Grade 7!

SPINNING STORIES FOR THE BIG SCREEN!

What is the formula for a great story? Why do people tell stories? Grade 3 and 4 students are exploring this question as they prepare for their storytelling debut. Students in the Grade 3/4 split are exploring the careful recipe that great stories require in order to entertain and inform their audience. All students were asked to bring a special artifact of their choice to school

which had a story attached to it. Students then practiced their pre-storytelling through writing a simple draft story with a beginning, middle and end. We are now in the practicing stage, trying to remember the importance of intonation, fluency, and connecting with our audience. We will tell these stories to our peers and they will be recorded via iPad, then later downloaded on

our school T.V. screen! I can't wait to hear all of the great stories that will be shared!

Grade 3 will be regularly walking over to the preschool to inspire a love of reading and cooperative learning through books and crafts. We look forward to working with the preschool in the remaining months of school!

BASKETBALL 2013-14

Congratulations to our Girls A and our Boys A Basketball Teams, each of whom won Silver in Divisional Finals. A special thanks to coaches Ms. Hart, Mrs. Kaminsky and Mr. Winters, and to all of our parents for their continued support.



Darren looks on as Mitchell breaks through the banner, held by Jewel and Camila, to lead our Jr. Boys team into a pep rally the day of the Divisional Basketball finals.

STAFF CHANGES

As many of you may have heard, **Mrs. Myrna Griffin** will be retiring in early May. There have been many people expressing interest in trying to fill her gigantic (metaphorically speaking) shoes. The position is currently posted on the Rocky View Schools website, with the competition closing on Monday, March 3rd. In an effort to get the best person for this demanding role, the selection process will involve input from school administration along with the division departments of both learning and fi-

nance; there is even a test! The department of Human Resources will take all this input and make a final decision.

Mrs. Jennifer Kaminsky, Grade 1 Teacher is on leave as of February 14. We wish her well as she begins her maternity leave.

We are pleased to welcome **Ms Jackie Hill** who will be teaching Grade 1 for the remainder of this school year.



OUR OLYMPIC RING KICK-OFF

About a month before the Olympics in Sochi began the students in the PEAK room began researching athletes with different abilities and their achievements in sport. What we discovered was that there were people in sport who did not always compete in the typical way we were used to seeing on television. During our time with our Grade 8 buddies, the students spent time chatting about the athletes who compete in the Olympic

and Paralympic Games. We created a mural with some of our friends as a way to celebrate the beginning of the Winter Olympics, our creativity and shared community experience. *Go Canada Go!*



GRADE 1 NEWS

My name is Jackie Hill. I am replacing Mrs. Kaminsky for the remainder of this school year, and I have been very happy to meet the Grade 1 class. I am taking this past week and the first week of March to get to know everyone, including where they are in literacy and numeracy.

In science, we continue to work on our *Building Unit* and we are combining that with social studies to create a community map with 3-D buildings.

On March 20th, we will be joining the Grades 2 and 3 classes on a field trip to Telus Spark. Students are beginning to be quite

excited about this field trip.

Thank you to the parents who have volunteered during February. I really appreciate your time and your hard work!

I look forward to meeting many of you in the near future.

MUSIC NOTES

In February, our Grades 3 through 6 music classes competed in Music Olympics with events like "Rhythm Relay", "Paper-Plate Figure Skating" to Russian music, and "Note Name Curling". The competitors showed effort and sportsmanship in true Olympic style!

From March 19 to 21, our senior band is going on the road – we're heading to Band Camp in Sundre! We'll work hard and play hard to improve our team-

work and musical skills. We'll tell you all about it in next month's newsletter.

In the meantime, all band students should be practicing! Here's a helpful flowchart to make the reasoning a little more clear.



LIBRARY NEWS

Our *Scholastic Book Fair Fiesta!* will take place from March 31 – April 3. March is report card time, and a new book from the Book Fair is a great reward for a job well done. I've also heard that the Easter Bunny likes to shop at Book Fair! We will be open late on the Wednesday and Thursday evenings for your shopping convenience. We always have a great selection of

affordable books for every age group, from preschool through mature teen, as well as adult. Every purchase you make earns our library some free books! More information will be sent home in March.

Reading – Give it a Shot! We are more than halfway through this literacy program for grades 4, 5, and 6 students. How exciting it is to earn those Calgary Flames

bookmarks! We will wrap up this program on March 31. Keep reading!

March Themes at the library include the Iditarod sled dog race (we have books about Huskies, dog sledding, life in the north, etc.), as well as Lions and Lambs (by the time you read this, we'll know if March came in like a lion or a lamb!)

SCIENCE FAIR 2014

Congratulations to the following students who will proceed to the Calgary Youth Science Fair in April:

Brian Hamel – *Electrolysis of Water*

Josiah Guigue and Andrew Bel'Harold – *Theory of Falsification of Science*

Aidan Patrick – *Colours Propelling Cars*

Samson Guigue – *Multiplying Celiac Disease*

Navdip Gill – *Tough or Cute?*

Congratulations to all of our students who put forth an excellent effort with their projects.

Thank you to our judges for their excellent questions and perusal of the fine exhibits prepared by students from the ele-

mentary classes. Although only the Grades 5, 6 and Mad Science Option classes were judged, the judges also took time to speak to the other exhibitors and expressed their congratulations to all participants.

The students have definitely captured the scientific principle of variables which respond, others which we control and those which we manipulate in the investigation of scientific thought.



It wouldn't be a Science Fair without a volcano! Thanks to Brynn and Kai for making ours complete.

Check out our pics on the tv as you come into the school.

GRADE 6 OUTDOOR SCHOOL

Grade 6 students will be attending Outdoor School from April 8 to 11th. A parent meeting will be

scheduled in the very near future to provide you with important information. Please watch for fur-

ther details to come home.

GRADE 4 SCIENCE FAIR PROJECTS

Although February was a short month, it was not short on excitement. The month began with skating and concluded with the Grade 4 class entering the Science Fair for the first time.

Skating with our class was a humbling experience for me. Trying hockey skates for the first time proved challenging. Many students were already proficient skaters and those who were not, quickly gained new skills each day. I, on the other hand, seemed to improve only slightly. This experience reminded me of how challenging it may be for many of our students to acquire the new skills they are faced with daily.

We no sooner finished skating when it was time to get serious with putting the Science Fair Projects together. I was very impressed with a lot of the stu-

dents' project ideas. Each project was as unique, as the child behind the scenes of the crea-

tion. Setting up the necessary scientific information on a huge trifold was challenging, but I sensed the pride that each student felt standing by

their project the day of the fair. I believe it gave each of them a sense of how putting forth your best effort is worth it. Grade 4 is young to be able to do this level of work, but it will give

each student a huge advantage when they are able to compete competitively next year.



Skating and Science Fair Projects required much parent support. I greatly appreciate your assistance, but even more importantly the active interest you are taking in your child's education.

PEER HELPERS

We have completed a trial period with students in Grade 4-6, assisting with outdoor and indoor recess times. They act as another "go to" friend for students. Their job, one time per

week, is to walk the yard, look for students who seem alone, invite them to walk with them or they play with them for a little while, maybe find them a playmate. Any challenges will

be discussed this week and a decision for the future discussed with staff. Parents of our current peer helpers, if you have some insights to share please contact Mrs. Graham.

SPRING BREAK DAY CAMP—CAMP CHESTERMERE

Join us for our Spring Day Camp running (Monday – Friday) April 21-25, 2014 from 8:30am - 4:30pm.

Early drop off/ Late pick up available on request

Tons of Fun, Great Food and New Friends, for ages 5-13.

Cost: \$250 for the week - includes home cooked lunch and snack.

Call our Camp office to register:
(403) 272-6030 or visit us online at

www.campchestermere.com

KINDERGARTEN LOVE IS...

As the month of February brings *love* to the forefront, the Kindergarten students make cards and valentines wholeheartedly in our literacy centre! We learn to use salutations such as *Dear* and *To* and close with *Love* and *From*. Even the very young are familiar with XOX, the common symbol used to express affection. With the ever-increasing ease of technology, the art of writing love letters has been supplanted with texts, pictures, music and videos! In Kindergarten we are just learning to read and write, and at times it can be painstaking, and for those wee fingers that are just developing fine motor skills, writing may be arduous but for Valentine's Day we created a book titled: [Love is...](#)

In the hearts of five year olds, love is as simple as XOX but also so much more.

Love is...

when Mom buys me toys when I am super good.

when my Dad gives my Mom flowers.

when Mom gives me hugs and kisses.

I fall asleep on the couch and Dad carries me and tucks me into bed.

when Dad takes me to the waterpark.

when Mom takes me to the movies.

when Mommy gives me a hug.

when my family plays games together.

when Mommy reads me stories every night.

saying I love you.

running to each other and giving hugs.

hugging and kissing my baby sister.

when my family makes ice cream together

when Immy lets me hug her but not too hard.

when my Mom picks me up from school.

when Mommy makes cookies for the whole family.

making me feel happy.

giving candy.

making cookies together.

giving cards to someone you love.

when I say "Bye" and Mommy says, "I love you" and I say, "I love you too!"

ONLINE PAYMENTS NOW AVAILABLE!

**PARENTS PLEASE REGISTER!
HERE'S HOW:**



School Cash Online

Step 1: Go to this website: <https://indus.schoolcashonline.com>

Step 2: Register by selecting "Get Started Today" and following the steps

Step 3: After you receive the confirmation email, please select the 'click here' option, sign in and add each of your children to your household account.

Thank you parents

COUNCIL CORNER

School Council has voted to initiate housing an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) at the school. We are reaching out to the parents and members of the community to secure a personal or corporate donation, in part, or in whole, to purchase this. School Council will be responsible for maintenance. If you or your employer, or someone you know, may be able to help, please request from the school office, our letter for mailout. Please contact Andrea Desjardins at andrea_d@telus.net for further information.

As winter sports begin to slow

down, Indus School Council seems to be revving up. We have a few fundraisers in the works. The Coco Brooks Pizza fundraiser orders are due by **March 7**. Please contact Jeff Kearns at 403-461-9368 or jeff@zybertech.com if you have any questions.

Tired of our long winter? We will once again be raffling tickets for a trip for two anywhere WestJet flies. Watch for details to come out soon. Draw date is scheduled for mid-April.

Monies received from these fundraisers go towards various

school field trips and initiatives. Participation in any school fundraiser is voluntary. We appreciate any support that is given throughout the year.

While we certainly appreciate the Indus School staff all year long, *Staff Appreciation Week* is scheduled for March 24-28. A form has been sent out in backpacks and via email looking for volunteers for time and/or food items. Please contact Katherine Winkler at kwinkler@efirehose.net with any questions.

"Children learn to smile from their parents."
Shinichi Suzuki

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP AND ON-LINE SAFETY

Social media has become a very popular and effective means of communication for a large segment of our society. Many of our students rely upon a multitude of social media accounts to connect with one another and share information. At Indus School we regularly emphasize to our students the necessity of

digital citizenship when using social media or the Internet, to ensure that they are using their accounts in a respectful and responsible manner. The intent of our presentations and discussions with students is to ensure that they are informed, responsible and safe when going on-line or using the Internet.

We encourage parents to talk to their children about their child's use of social media and to monitor their on-line activities to ensure that they are safe at all times. Any threats or violations of privacy that put a child at risk should be immediately reported to the RCMP.

MARCH HAPPENINGS

Mar. 12 & 13	Kindergarten trip to Firehall	Mar. 24	School Council General Meeting at 6:30 pm
Mar. 14	No School—PL Day	Mar. 28	Report Cards (COSL—Communication of Student Learning) go home
Mar. 17	No School—PL Day	Mar. 31	Book Fair begins for the week
Mar. 19-21	Band Camp		
Mar. 20	Gr. 1-3 Field Trip Telus Spark		

PARENT-TEACHER INTERVIEWS

K-6 students: The first evening, Apr. 2, (4:00—7:00 pm), will be a Showcase of the students' work with Parent-Teacher Interviews

on Apr. 3, (5:00—8:00 p.m.)

Gr. 7-9 students: Parent-Teacher Interviews will be held both evenings, at the request of

the teacher or the parent. Further information will be sent home at a later date.