



# MAY

- May 1: Ultimate Frisbee Team in Kelowna
- May 7: Kindergarten Mother's Day Tea
- May 10: Mother's Day
- May 14: Gr. 9 P.A.R.T.Y Field Trip
- May 15: PD Day - No School
- May 18: Victoria Day - No School
- May 20: Rocky View Band Festival
- May 25: Parent Council Meeting @6:30 pm
- May 28: Volunteer Appreciation Tea @2:30 pm
- May 28: Kindergarten 2015/2016 Orientation @ 6:30 pm



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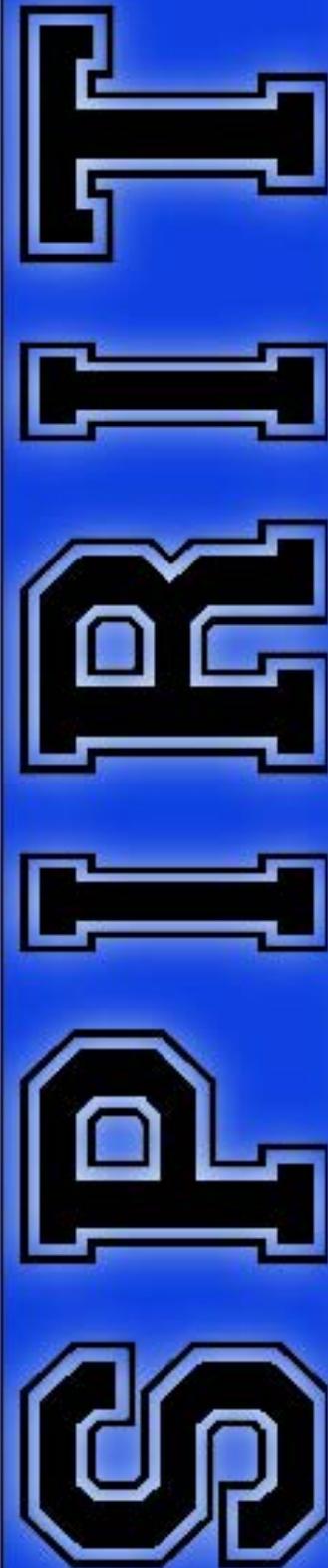
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### MISSION STATEMENT:

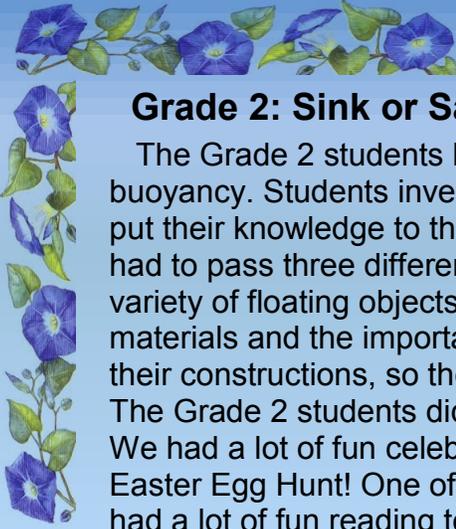
*The purpose of Indus School is to build in students a multifaceted personal foundation to carry them successfully through life.*

Don't forget to complete your Satisfaction Survey

Details are inside



SOME PERTINENT INFORMATION REGARDING INDUS TODAY



## Grade 2: Sink or Sail?

The Grade 2 students have been hard at work the last month exploring boats and buoyancy. Students investigated waterproof objects and things that float. They then put their knowledge to the test and designed their own boat independently, which had to pass three different tests in the classroom. Through building and testing a variety of floating objects, students learned the importance of selecting appropriate materials and the importance of workmanship in shaping, fitting and waterproofing their constructions, so they would float, hold a load and move through the water. The Grade 2 students did a wonderful job and should be very proud of their efforts! We had a lot of fun celebrating Easter by dyeing Easter eggs and participating in an Easter Egg Hunt! One of Mrs. McKenzie's dogs, Zoe, visited us for the day and we had a lot of fun reading to our furry friend.



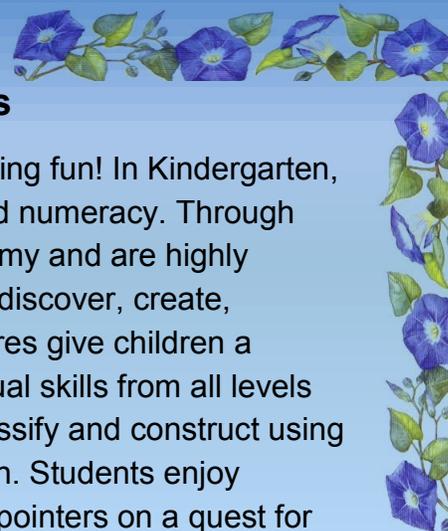
*Jude, Kimberly, Nela, and Kurtis enjoy reading with Zoe*

## Library News

**Used Book Sale** It's almost that time of year again - for our annual used book sale! It will take place on the afternoon of **Thursday, June 18**. If you are spring cleaning and have books your family no longer uses, please send them to school (beginning June 1) for our sale. We will accept everything from toddler books to adult books, in decent shape please, (no encyclopedias, please) and parents are invited to come shopping also! All students will have the opportunity to purchase books that day for the bargain price of just 25¢ each! This is a great way for everyone to get something "new" to read for the summer. Due to limited storage space at the school, please hang on to your donations until at least June 1.

**What library books does my child have signed out?** You can look it up! *Koha* is RVS' online library system. Students and parents may access library information from any device on which you have an internet connection. On our Indus website homepage, there are badges across the very top of the page. Click on the blue "K" to get to *Koha*. You may search our library catalog without logging in, to browse through the amazing selection of books here at Indus. To see what your child has signed out, or to put a hold on a book, follow the instructions on the screen to login, or contact Mrs. Potter at the school for assistance. ([lpotter@rockyview.ab.ca](mailto:lpotter@rockyview.ab.ca))

Please remember that Library books are loaned for a one week period. If your child is not finished reading the book after one week, it can be renewed at the library.



## Kindergarten: Literacy and Numeracy Centres

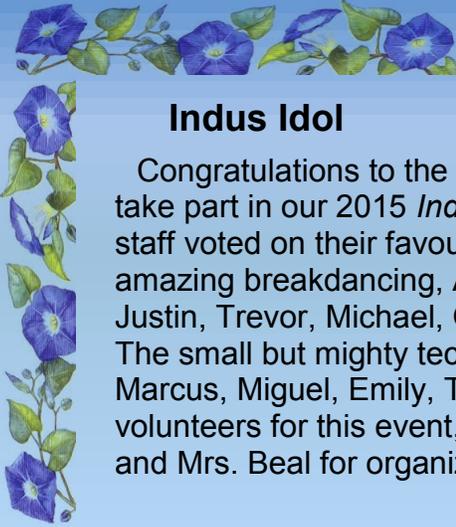
Centres make words, letters, numbers, writing, and reading fun! In Kindergarten, centres are used to actively engage children in literacy and numeracy. Through self-directed activities students develop a sense of autonomy and are highly motivated through their own curiosity to observe, explore, discover, create, investigate and experiment with math and language. Centres give children a chance to reinforce their learning while practicing intellectual skills from all levels of [Bloom's Taxonomy](#). They love to sort, match, order, classify and construct using magnetic letters, numbers, shapes, blocks, and play dough. Students enjoy dressing up as word detectives with clip boards, hats and pointers on a quest for words to read or write. They compose, create, and design a card for Mommy or a friend. They apply their learning through card games and exercise visual discrimination while manipulating puzzles. Although students can utilize the computer, iPad or the interactive SMARTboard, some prefer hands on activities such as making patterned necklaces or picture frames which improve their fine motor development. Centres reach the different learning styles in the classroom with Hop Scotch appealing to the kinesthetic learner while the interpersonal learner is drawn to surveying classmates and graphing the results. Oral language expression is developed as children tell stories and sing nursery rhymes using felt board characters and puppets. Centres provide the opportunity to try something new while challenging students with varying academic levels, interests and learning styles. For some students, the best part is having the chance to make their own choice and then sharing what they have learned with their classroom community.

*Spencer, Devon, Kaiya, and Zoe practice their number skills through card games*



*Maizey tells the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears*





## Indus Idol

Congratulations to the more than 70 brave and talented students who auditioned to take part in our 2015 *Indus Idol Talent Show*. What a show it was! Students and staff voted on their favourite Indus Idols; a big congratulations to Dexter for his amazing breakdancing, Arista for her beautiful singing and guitar playing, and Justin, Trevor, Michael, Oliver, and Emily for their impressive ju-jitsu demonstration. The small but mighty tech team pulled off an amazing show: way to go Brian, Marcus, Miguel, Emily, Trevor, and Shaylee. A big thank you goes to our parent volunteers for this event, Annie Jones and Tammy Jenkins, and to Mrs. Istchenko and Mrs. Beal for organizing and Ms. Neid for judging.

## Music Notes

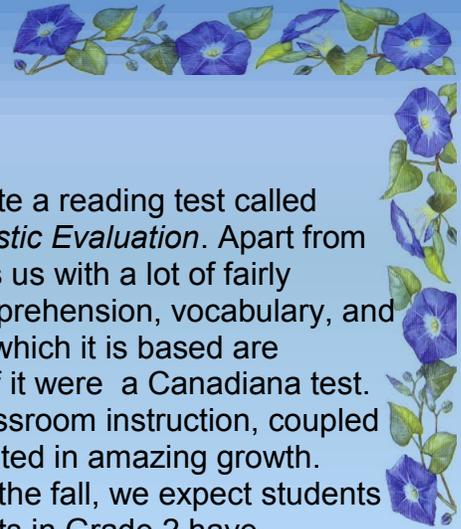
Our Senior Band has just returned from a trip to Alberta Pioneer Camp in Sundre for *Band Camp*. We met and worked with the East Lake School Band, and participated in some fun and challenging camp activities. Some highlights were working with professional musicians on our instrument technique, massed band rehearsals, archery, outdoor climbing wall, horse-back riding, a hilarious campfire night, *Sock and Slipper Fashion Show*, and team-building games that involved getting everyone up and over a really high wall. Roxanne Wideen was our parent volunteer at camp again this year, and we can't thank her enough for joining us!



*Eric, William, Brian, Gordon, Emma, Miranda, Riley, Miranda, Aiden, and Jocelyn.*

## Grades 7-9 Workplace Safety

In April, Grades 7-9 attended a presentation on workplace safety. In this theatrical presentation, students were exposed to various dangers that are present in workplaces. Additionally, they were informed on their legal rights as employees (when they get jobs), and different kinds of abuse to be aware of from employers. It was both entertaining and informative.



## Reading Results Soar!

Each year, fall and spring, Indus School students write a reading test called *GRADE: the Group Reading Assessment and Diagnostic Evaluation*. Apart from the catchy acronym, it is an excellent test that provides us with a lot of fairly detailed information about each student's reading comprehension, vocabulary, and listening. The only drawback to it is that the norms on which it is based are American, so results may not be exactly the same as if it were a Canadiana test.

This spring the results have been fantastic. Solid classroom instruction, coupled with some targeted support for specific skills, has resulted in amazing growth. In the seven months since we administered the test in the fall, we expect students to improve by .7 grade levels. On average, the students in Grade 2 have improved their reading by 1.4 grade levels, the Grade 3's by 1.8, the 4s by 1.2, and the 5s by a whopping 3.3 grade levels!

As students get older, growth slows down as they start to get near the top of the reading scale. The Grade 6 class, for instance, has an average reading level of 9.8, the Grade 7 & 8 students, who all took the same "middle level" test, averaged Grade 11.0, while the 9s scored an average comprehension level of 11.6 on the high school test. The administration guide for the Grade 1 test had to be replaced (ordered from Texas) so the results for them were not ready at time of publication.

Despite the fantastic results this spring, the staff will be gathering on May 15, our next Professional Day, to conduct an in-depth analysis and look for areas in which we can improve, and to determine how to support those students who are not progressing as well as we'd like. One thing we do know for sure, the more students read, the better they get, so help your children find books he or she will love, and get them reading!

## Rocky View Schools Parent Satisfaction Survey

Rocky View Schools' seventh annual Parent Satisfaction Survey opened on April 30, 2015. To complete this survey, please visit our website at the following link: [indus.rockyview.ab.ca](http://indus.rockyview.ab.ca), choose **Parent Survey** on the web page.

Parents have until May 29, 2015, to help Rocky View and its 43 schools shape their future by providing feedback into the jurisdiction's progress towards achieving the goals and outcomes outlined in its 2011-2015 Four Year Plan – Year 4.

The survey contains 32 questions and will take no longer than 10 minutes to complete.

Results of the survey will be published in School Annual Result Reports in November 2015, and be used to shape our decisions around the delivery of services to your child.

Please help us pave the way to meeting your child's educational needs.



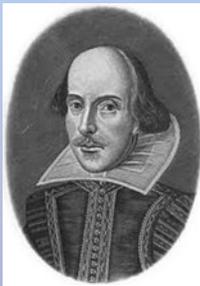
### Division 3: Shakespeare Abounds

Exciting new English things art happening in ELA these days! Grade 8s art diving into the ordinary of the most marvelous Shakespeare. Thou may findth rebel students biting their thumbs at select staff 'r referring to each other by the "Shakespearian insult" name. Midsummer Night's Dream will findth us exploring the ordinary of love potions gone wrong and fairy charm.

Greek mythology hath the Grade 7s rivaling f'r the powers of the great gods and goddesses. Can thou imagine having all of Zeus' children? What a nightmare!

Last, but not least, the Grade's 9s art stok'd about PAT's and the practice they entail. Exambank online allowth students to practice multiple-choice questions similar to those on the PATs. Twice a week students doth tests from all core subjects. Lief, we will begin the reviewth and practice of the essay and letter formats that art found on the writing section of the PAT.

Fare thee well...from all us canker blossoms, foot-lickers, and boar-pigs.



### Special Time for Grades 4, 5, and 6

After returning from Spring Break, the students were excited to spend time outdoors enjoying the beautiful weather. Everyone agreed that it was time to take gym outdoors. Playing hockey changed to playing soccer. It was time to get out of the hallways quickly for recess. With the Grade 6 students going to *Outdoor School*, the Grade 4 and 5 classes had the opportunity to go to the *Telus Spark Science Centre* and the *Glenbow Museum*. It was also special for the classes to be divided into Grades 4 and 5 for these field trips. The smaller groups were able to get more personal attention from the instructors at both places. All enjoyed art lessons taught by an artist using artifacts at the Glenbow. After these field trips, the Grade 4 and 5 classes were able to have a special day on Thursday at the school with Ms. Broxham and me. At times the students were divided by grade and other times, like gym, the group could play together. Hands on activities were the focus of the day. Our active students appreciated the day. Thanks to the volunteers who made our field trips possible.

## Cue the Clues!

Up in the *Think Tank* we have been practicing our riddles. A riddle is a question or statement intentionally worded so as to require creativity in figuring out its answer or meaning; typically it's presented as a game. To celebrate Spring, Mrs. Preete created a scavenger hunt for the students using riddles. Each clue led us to the next location around the school. The last clue led us to a surprise that everyone enjoyed!



*Cole, Logan, and Victor*

## Volunteer Appreciation Tea

**Who:** All School Volunteers and Helping Parents

**Date:** Thursday, May 28, 2015

**Time:** starts at 2:30 pm

**Place:** Indus School Gymnasium

Please join us for some cake, refreshments and a brief performance.

*\*Childcare will be provided for this event.*

*\*To take advantage of the babysitting service, your child(ren) **must be signed up!** To sign-up your child(ren) please email Mrs. Hansen by Wednesday, May 20th at [anhansen@rockyview.ab.ca](mailto:anhansen@rockyview.ab.ca) or phone 403-936-5855 to ensure your child(ren) have been placed on the list to be cared for during this event. We are unable to accept any drop-ins for this babysitting service.*

*\* In your email please detail your name, the names of your children, and their ages.*



## Science Fair Superstars

The Calgary Youth Science Fair is big: really, really big. Over a thousand competitors set up their projects in the Olympic Oval two weekends ago; five of those projects were from Indus. Leah and Arista did a great job of representing Ms Marshall's class with their experiment, *What Different Liquids Do to an Eggshell*, while Ms Broxham's class sent Riley and Claire's *Which Food is Easiest to Extract DNA From*, McKinley's *Twin Prints*, and Jeannie's *Does Font Affect Memory*. They all did a great job and learned a lot; Jeannie and McKinley even earned bronze medals.

Navdip, a veteran of two previous CYSFs, was alone in carrying the hopes and dreams of our entire middle school. Those hopes and dreams were in good hands however; Nav's experimental project, *The Acid Factory*, not only won a gold medal, but also earned a trophy and plaque from the *American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, and Air Conditioning*, for highest scoring secondary project in the area of air quality, heating, ventilation or air conditioning, and another plaque: the *ACPA Rick Dillen Memorial Award*. It is awarded annually by the *Canadian Crude Quality Technical Association* for the highest scoring junior or intermediate project relating to chemistry or applied chemistry.

As an added bonus, the prizes also included cash. The bronze medals were accompanied by \$25 each and all of Navdip's prizes combined netted her \$325. All the girls reported having a great time and they are already thinking about next year. Great work and congratulations to all!

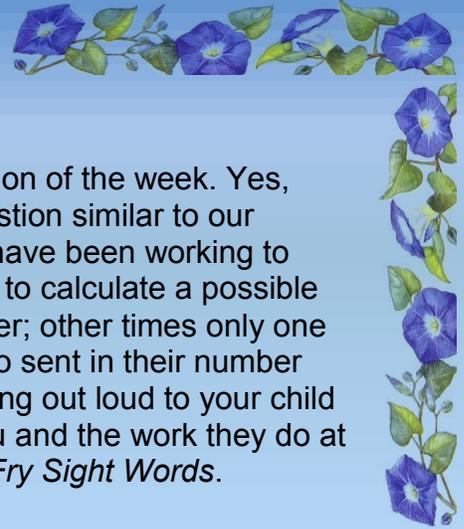
## Student Council

Tuesday April 28, seven students who have offered leadership through their participation in Student Council or our *Me to We* committee, attended the *RVS Middle School Leadership Conference* at the Education Centre in Airdrie. Cory, Navdeep, Emma, Emily, Dakota, Michael and Trevor participated in a number of activities and sessions presented by high school leadership students from RVS. The program goals—reflect on self and what you need to be an engaged, successful person and how you can impact your community (school) to create a positive, caring and fun place to learn. Thanks to Cori Saretsky for attending with the Indus team. No pressure on these 'guys' but watch for something exciting as we end the year.

## Constitution/Charter

Various teams have contributed ideas and helped to wordsmith a foundational statement of what we consider important at Indus School. This document will be presented for consideration and approval at the School Council Annual meeting in May. Another great reason to attend!!!

**Parents please check out our Lost & Found bins.  
They are overflowing with clothing!!**



## Team 2/3

Parents watch your e-mails for **your** homework question of the week. Yes, your homework question. We plan to send you one question similar to our *Agenda Math* questions. The last couple of weeks we have been working to solve for a *Mystery Number*. We must use all the clues to calculate a possible number. Sometimes there can be more than one answer; other times only one number can meet the criteria. Thanks to all parents who sent in their number answer. This is a great opportunity to model your thinking out loud to your child and he/she now has another connection between you and the work they do at school. Wyatt is our first *Team 2/3* person to finish the *Fry Sight Words*. Congratulations to Wyatt!

## The Mysterious Month of May

In Grade 3, the month of May will be wrapped up in mystery! Our life cycles unit in Science is proving to be very fun and exciting. We are currently growing mystery seeds. We have made some guesses as to what those mystery seeds might grow up to be. We have collected some living and non-living specimens on the playground. We're not really sure what some of those specimens are, but we'll figure them out! We are also going to have a few mystery guests in our class and will be studying them regularly! Right now, our class zookeeper is prepping some environments for those guests. We will also be talking about the effects of pollution on living and non-living environments and examining what we can do to help our environment. We are looking forward to more exciting (and mysterious) adventures in Science together. Lots of those times will be spent outdoors. Please ensure your child has some bug spray, sunscreen, and maybe even a hat for our future outdoor learning time.

## Bus Lane

### Reminder to Parents:

The bus lane at our school needs to be clear of vehicles during certain times of the day.

Please do not park, drop off, or pick-up your children within the bus lane area during the following times:

8:25 am – 8:40 am and 3:15 pm – 3:40 pm (Mondays to Thursdays)

8:25 am - 8:40 am and 12:45 pm—1:15 pm (Fridays)

This will ensure the safety of all students and staff at Indus School during these busy times.



## OUTDOOR SCHOOL April 28-May 1, 2015



Kamp Kiwanis is once again hosting our Grade 6 students for a three night, four day adventure in their camp just outside of Bragg Creek. This curriculum based program focuses on the science, physical education/health, and language art expression outcomes directly related to Grade 6. We go to print before they get back. We're pretty sure they will return tired and full of stories of camp. We know Mrs. Graham will!



Grade 6 Class for 2014/2015