



# BIG ROCK BEACON

APR 2022

PHONE (403)938-6666

FAX (403)938-7141

THIS SCHOOL IS FOR KIDS



## April/May Upcoming Events

**April 4 - April 13:** Egg Picture Coloring Contest (Event by: Student Advisory Group)

**April 7:** Fire Drill – AM

**April 7:** Hot Lunch Order for May is open

**April 8:** 3P and 3/4M Field Trip to Okotoks Art Gallery

**April 11 – April 14:** Guess the Picture Trivia (Event by: Student Advisory Group)

**April 13:** 3S Okotoks Art Gallery Field Trip

**April 14:** Early Dismissal 12:10PM

**April 15 – April 22:** NO SCHOOL – Easter Break

**April 27:** School Council Meeting in the Learning Commons 6:30PM (*Please note the date change*)

**April 27:** Grade 1 & Grade 2 Vaccinations

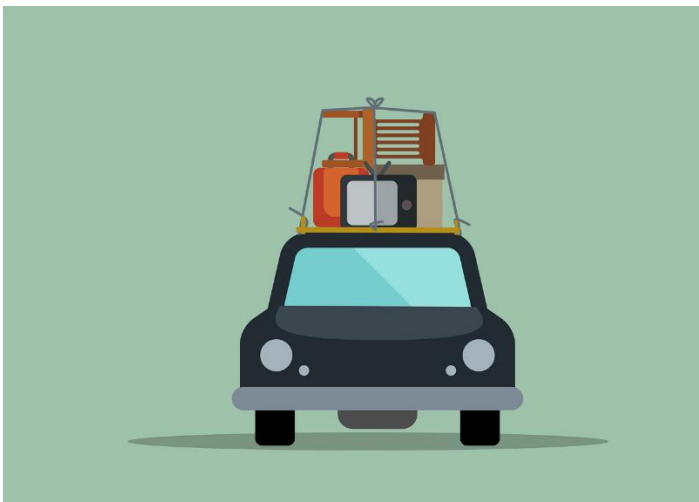
**April 27:** Hot Lunch Order for May is closed at 6PM – no late order will be accepted.

**May 4:** Hats on for Mental Health

**May 9:** Grade 6 Vaccinations

**May 10 & May 11:** Spring Photos

## Are you moving?



- If you anticipate a move to a different school, PLEASE let the office know ASAP
- If you have a child in Grade 6 that will not attend Okotoks Junior High School, PLEASE let the office know ASAP
- Please contact our Office 403-938-6666 should you require further assistance.

## **Registration OPEN**

Big Rock School is pleased to offer Junior Kindergarten (Preschool), Part-Time Kindergarten, and a Full-Day Kindergarten program for the 2022-2023 School year.

- Details can be found online:

[Junior Kindergarten \(Preschool\)](#)

[Kindergarten \(Part-Time and Full-Time\) – Full time program is now full](#)

[Early Learning with Foothills School Division](#)

### **School Fees are now past due:**

Please arrange to get your child's account up to date. Payment options include:

- a) Online using your Maplewood account. Login info has been emailed to you December 1, 2020. The link can be found on the Big Rock School Website >> Parents >>Maplewood Connect
- b) Cheque or Cash – Please make your cheque payable to The Foothills School Division

**Check out the new Learning Commons Website for lots of great learning resources:**

<https://bigrockschoollibrary.wixsite.com/learningcommons>



## **Bell Times**

**1<sup>st</sup> Bell 8:35 am**

**Recess 10:00 – 10:15 am**

**Lunch Recess 11:35 – 11:55 am**

**Lunch 11:55 am - 12:15 pm**

**Recess 1:35 – 1:50 pm**

**End of Day 3:10 pm**



## Message from the Principal

Dear Big Rock Families,

I have some sad news that our dear Vice Principal, Jill Alexander is taking a leave from Big Rock School. We will definitely miss her, and her passion and caring for all of the staff and students at Big Rock School. Jill wanted to pass on the following message to our families:

To the Parents and Students at Big Rock School:

It is with sadness and a few tears that I write this email to let you know that I will be stepping away from my position as Vice Principal at Big Rock School. I would like to start by saying thank you for the support and kindness that you have shown. Serving the learning community at Big Rock has been such a joy and pleasure for me. I have met so many helpful and positive people and I cherish the relationships that have developed. Learning with the students and providing opportunities for them to celebrate their growth has been so rewarding. I will miss all of our Big Rock Students very much.

May our paths cross again,

Hugs,

“Ms. A”

Also known as Jill Alexander 😊

In the interim, we will not be replacing Jill’s role as Vice-Principal and I will be assuming all of the administrative duties. We have hired a classroom teacher to assume the classroom responsibilities that Jill, Mr. Pedscalny, and myself had; as well as some extra in-classroom support for each of our classes. Please welcome Leah Powell, who will be assuming these teaching duties.

If you have any questions about this transition, please feel free to reach out.

I want to finish off by extending early Easter greetings to all of our families. This has been a long year of pivoting, transitions, patience and cooperation. I am grateful to be part of an outstanding school community that works together for all of our students. I hope that all of you have an amazing Easter break!

Scott

# School Protocols

## Attendance/Lates

When a child is going to be absent from school, please advise the school as soon as possible with name of student, class, and reason for the absence.

[Bigrock@fsd38.ab.ca](mailto:Bigrock@fsd38.ab.ca)

403-938-6666

If students are leaving early from school for any reason or have made other home time arrangements (pick up, transportation), parents must contact the office and their bus driver.

## Communication

Communication between individuals can open doors and build trust. Open and frequent communication cultivates a climate of mutual respect that builds rapport and fosters relationships between students, staff, parents and community members.

**Student Agendas:** Please check your child's agenda **daily and initial**. The school, teachers and parents use the agenda to communicate with each other including messages, classroom notes, school notices, information bulletins and newsletters.

**Phone/email/eblasts:** The school, teachers and parents will use these tools for communicating.

**Class and School Newsletters and Notices:** Newsletters and notices pertaining to student learning and school activities and are distributed throughout the year.

**School Website:** <https://www.foothillsschooldivision.ca/bigrock>

## Student Illness and Masking

- Please continue to **keep your children home if they are sick** and monitor their condition before sending them back. We thank you for your continued cooperation in keeping Big Rock School safe and healthy for our students.
- Link to the Alberta Health Daily Checklist : [AHS Daily Checklist \(For Children Under 18\)](#)



## Note from our Patrollers

### Crosswalk Safety



When you are in your car and you see the Patrollers on the crosswalk, please **STOP** when their signs are out. If you are a pedestrian, please wait until the Patrollers have opened the crosswalk before you proceed to cross. Remember that these students are all volunteering their time and are doing their best job to keep our crosswalks safe!



# Our Lost and Found is Full!

Our Lost & Found is overflowing, so please have your child check if they are missing anything. Parents are also welcome to check the lost & found (**Please check in at the office first**).

**Items not collected by Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup> will be donated**

## Sample of items in the Lost & Found





## School Parent Council

### Home and School Association (Society)

#### ❖ Hot Lunch



- Hot Lunch ordering for **May** opens April 7<sup>th</sup> and will close April 27 at 6pm No late orders will be accepted.

<https://munchalunch.com/login.aspx>

- If you have any questions or concerns about the Hot Lunch program, please contact the Lunch Coordinator at: [bigrocklunch@gmail.com](mailto:bigrocklunch@gmail.com)
- Volunteers are needed for about 1hr/shift. If you're interested please contact Mandy at [bigrockhotlunch@gmail.com](mailto:bigrockhotlunch@gmail.com) for more information

❖ Bottle Depot donations would be greatly appreciated

❖ Check out our Facebook page for info and updates

❖ Email us: [schoolcouncilbigrock@gmail.com](mailto:schoolcouncilbigrock@gmail.com)

❖ School Parent Council Meetings:

- Next Meeting Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> (6:30PM)

## **Our Spring plant fundraiser is up and running!**

Please share with family and friends. Note this is online only! There is no paperwork, order forms or cash to collect.

No orders will be accepted at the office.

Closes April 22 at 3pm with Delivery on May 10th!

<https://bigrockschool.growingsmilefundraising.com/>

## **Big Rock's Easter 50/50**

<https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/bigrockhsa>

## Community Connections

# ORENDA girls



8-10 YRS

**ORENDA GIRLS // Monday // 4:15-5:15pm // April 4th - May 11th**

This registered youth yoga program is a unique opportunity for youth ages 8-10 to connect with their peers, and with themselves in a safe and supportive community. The ORENDA Team uses yoga and mindfulness as a gateway to create raw discussion and transformation with youth, introducing yoga and mindfulness practice, group discussion, journaling, and leadership activities.

**MONDAY'S  
4:15 - 5:15 PM  
APRIL 4TH - MAY 9TH**

Check out <https://orendasociety.ca/> for more details about what Orenda Society has to offer and other spring programs available.

## MY FIRST BICYCLE



The My First Bicycle Foundation is a registered Canadian charity established in 2014. We began as a foundation that helped financially disadvantaged kids play hockey. We have now transitioned to donating bicycles to under privileged children across Canada.

Our foundation believes that all youth deserve access to outdoor activities and exercise. Physical activity and sports give kids an extra opportunity to grow and develop physically and mentally while building character, confidence, and relationships.

The My First Bicycle Foundation provides bicycles to youth in financially disadvantaged households across Canada. The package includes a bicycle, helmet and lock. Our charity encourages physical and mental well-being through outdoor activities and exercise. **Applications open January 1, 2022**

[My First Bicycle | More than transportation, more than sport](#)

## Resource for Grandparents

Grand Connections is a six week workshop intended to assist grandparents who are providing care and support for their grandchildren in some way.

Grandparents will learn how essential their role is while understanding to developmental needs of children.

Friday Mornings 10am-12pm (April 29-June 3)

More information: [Grand Connections](#)



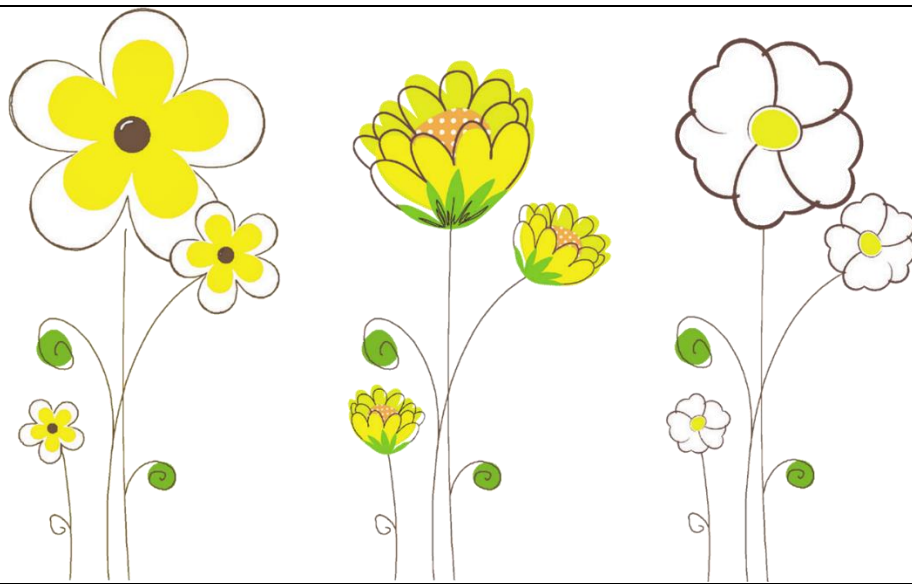
Annika Johansson BCHSt, CYCW  
Early Childhood Educator, Family Resource Network

p: 587.586.0964 | f: 403.995.5478


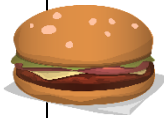
22 Crystal Ridge Drive  
Okotoks, AB T1S 2C3  
[mcmancalgary.ca](http://mcmancalgary.ca)

[Link to Grand Connections](#)





**MONTH of APRIL**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> <b>Fire Drill – AM</b> Hot Lunch Open	<b>8</b> 3P & 3/4M Okotoks Art Gallery
<b>April 4 – April 13</b> Egg Picture Coloring Contest				
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 3S Okotoks Art Gallery Dental Presentations	<b>14</b> <b>Early Dismissal</b> <b>12:10PM</b>	<b>15</b> <b>No School</b>
<b>April 11 – April 14</b> Guess the Picture Trivia				
<b>18</b> 	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>April 18 – April 22</b> Easter Break				
<b>25</b> <b>Welcome Back!</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Grade 1 & 2 Vaccinations  Hot Lunch Order Closed 6PM  Parent Council Meeting	<b>28</b> 	<b>29</b>
<b>May 2</b>	<b>May 3</b>	<b>May 4</b> <b>Hats on for</b> <b>Mental</b> <b>Health</b>	<b>May 5</b>	<b>May 6</b>