

April 2024



FOOTHILLS DIGITAL SCHOOL **NEWSLETTER**

Spring Has Sprung!

We hope that you all had a great spring break ! Now that we have returned, our school will begin our preparations for the next school year. Our work involves surveying parent and student intentions for the next school year, registering our high school students in their next year courses, and preparing for High School Graduation and the upcoming end-of-the-year assessments.

Over the next few months, you will receive several actionable emails from Foothills Digital School. We thank those families who responded to our family intention form for next year, which has helped us plan.

Please take the time to read through this month's newsletter, as there is important information on the following subjects:

- **Student Attendance at Foothills Digital School**—It is important to remember that **students under 16 are legally required to attend school**. Please read this critical section regarding what constitutes student attendance at an online school and the consequences of not attending.
- **High School Course Registration for 2024-2025**—Students will be sent information via email after Spring Break. Students need to follow registration deadlines, as this determines which courses we will offer for the upcoming school year.

- **High School Course Withdrawal Choices.** We understand that some of our high school students may struggle with a class or a load of online courses. Please read this section regarding the procedure for withdrawing a class. **Please note: Foothills Digital School will not automatically withdraw students who will not complete the course. If they have already graduated, this is the responsibility of the parent(s) or student.**

We wish you a wonderful month of April!

Sincerely,

Sarah Clark and Brad Skeet, Foothills Digital School Admin Team

SPRING FLING

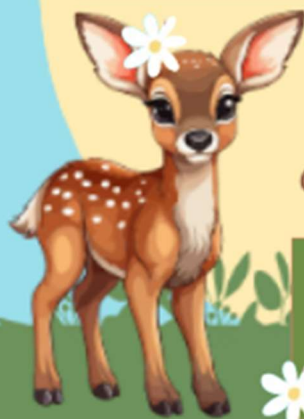
Foothills Digital School
Elementary & Jr High Students:

JOIN US IN PERSON FOR AN
AFTERNOON FULL OF FUN!

1 - 3 PM

Friday April 19, 2024

Crafts, Outdoor Play/Games, and
Sweet Treats



**DOCTOR MORRIS
GIBSON SCHOOL**

147 Crystal Ridge Dr,
Okotoks, AB T1S 2B2

Please RSVP to Mrs.
Shaw-Dearden by April 17
shaw-deardenj@fsd38.ab.ca



Parent/Teacher Conferences will be scheduled on April 24th and April 25th.

Please follow this [link](#) to schedule your meeting times with your student's teacher.

Summer School 2024: July 2 - 29, 2024

Summer school is offered annually to students who want to:

- participate in new opportunities
- take a course that doesn't fit in their timetables during the school year
- understand high school learning and expectations
- take Math 15 to prepare for Math 10C
- do not prefer the traditional physical education setting
- have a flexible learning schedule to accommodate athletics, arts, or travel commitments.

Registration:

Registration for 2024 will open April 15, 2024.

We will not accept registrations after 4pm on June 7, 2024.

1. Already registered with Foothills School Division? [Log into the Edsembli Family Portal](#)
2. Select Online Registration from top left corner
3. Select "FSD Summer School" from dropdown of schools

***Please note that Summer School *is not* Foothills Digital School. You will need to complete the separate registration form.**

Details are being finalized this week. Changes to the [website](#) may apply before registration opens April 15.



Student Attendance at Foothills Digital School

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As a digital school, we do not measure students' attendance in the traditional manner that an in-person school does. Instead, we look for our students to be logging into their

Moodle classes, engaging within those classes, and submitting assignments. Interaction and correspondence with their teachers are also factored in. Students currently not logging in regularly to their classes, simply clicking links without engaging in the class, and not completing the assignments are considered truants from school.

We remind families that the School Act requires students up to 16 to be enrolled and attending school. We will email families of students who are currently not attending their classes or submitting assignments as a courtesy to see if there is an improvement in attendance. We will employ an attendance plan after meeting with parents. Should we not see an improvement, we must forward the student's name to our school division attendance officer for legal action. For students in Grades 1-9 who have not submitted enough learning for a teacher to assess, we will contact families regarding the next steps for the 2024-2025 school year.

High School Students over the Age of 16 who are not engaging with their teachers or the course will receive a courtesy attendance letter as well as a reminder that they have fallen off the pace of their course and should be in contact with their teacher(s) as soon as possible.

We thank you for your attention and support in this critical manner.

High School Student Registration for 2024-2025

After spring break, we focus on the 2024-2025 school year. We will send out a specific email at the beginning of May to our high school students (and their parents if they are under 18) to make their course selections for the 2024-2025 school year. We are currently setting our course selections for the next school year and will be in touch soon!

Mental Health and Wellness Supports

Foothills School Division is pleased to offer a host of wellness supports available to our students and their families.

To access these supports, please visit

<https://www.foothillsschooldivision.ca/page/3124/wellness>

If your child requires mental wellness support and you are unsure where to begin, please contact your child's teacher(s). We can connect you with our Family School Liaison Counsellor, Ms. Lindsay Boucher, who can connect with you and determine the next steps for support.

SUMMER CAMPS

Bot Basics and Beyond:

Innovate & Apply
Solutions to Food Scarcity

Ages: 12-15



July 15 - 19 &
August 12 - 16, 2024
Strathcona Tweedsmuir School



Register now at 10peaks.ca/camps



GET YOUR "TECH ON"
AND TACKLE A REAL
WORLD PROBLEM:
FOOD SCARCITY.

Proudly Sponsored By: ATB

**Bot Basics and Beyond Camp: Innovate and
Apply Solutions to Food Scarcity
Students ages 12-15 (\$375 + GST)**

Ten Peaks Innovation presents a five-day camp, where students will work in teams to get their 'tech on', innovate and be inspired for solutions for a real-world problem - food scarcity.

Students will be exposed to five days of immersive and hands-on robotics camp on the Strathcona-Tweedsmuir School campus where they are introduced to concepts of design thinking, UN sustainable development goals, ag-tech and automation. They will code and design a robot and its SMART world add on, with an award-winning science and robotics teacher, Steve Schutlz, and discover their ability to become entrepreneurial thinkers and change makers. Through engaging and dynamic activities, campers will learn about sustainable technologies and possible solutions for a real-world problem: food scarcity. Students will be inspired and learn about the latest ag-tech and SMART farming concepts from three guest speakers in industry and academia.

High School Course Withdrawal Procedure

If your child is in high school, we understand that there are circumstances where students need to withdraw from a class. Students under 18 will need the course withdrawal completed by a parent and sent to Foothills Digital School by email. For our adult students, you must complete and submit the withdrawal form. **Foothills Digital School will only complete a withdrawal from a course with this form. Please use this link: <https://forms.office.com/r/7WHeWGbjZU> to fill out the form. You will receive an email confirming the withdrawal.**

Please contact us if you have further questions. Please note that if a high school student **is in danger of not completing the course, the parent or student needs to take responsibility for the withdrawal to avoid a non-passing grade being placed on transcripts. **Foothills Digital School will not withdraw a student from a course. This is a parent/student responsibility.**

Student Aid Client Connections

Alberta Scholarships Update



Scholarships

The Government of Alberta has released more information regarding scholarships. Follow this link to learn more: [email : Webview : Alberta Scholarships Update - February 2024 \(e2ma.net\)](mailto:Alberta.Scholarships.Update@e2ma.net)

Important School Dates

April 11 - Math 30-1 Diploma Exam (for those who are scheduled) 9:00 - 3:00 PM

April 15 - Social Studies 30-1 Diploma Exam Part "B" (for those who are scheduled) 9:00 - 3:00 PM

April 22-23 - Professional Development Days (**School Closed**)

April 24-25 - Foothills Digital School Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences – 3:30 PM–6:00 PM – **Online**. Please watch for a separate email to sign up.

May 13 - Grade 9 PAT, ELA Part "A"

May 17 - Professional Development Day (**School Closed**)

May 20 - Victoria Day (**School Closed**)

June 11 - English Language Arts 30-1 & 30-2 Diploma Exam Part "A" (for those who are scheduled) 9:00 - 3:00 PM

June 12 - Social Studies 30-1 & 30-2 Diploma Exam Part "A" (for those who are scheduled) 9:00 - 3:00 PM

June 12 - Gr. 9 PAT, ELA Part "B"

June 13 - Gr. 6 & 9 PAT, Mathematics Part "A"

June 13 - Grade 12 Graduation Ceremony - Details to Come

June 14 - Gr. 6 PAT, Mathematics Part "B"

June 17 - Math 30-1 & 30-2 Diploma Exam (for those who are scheduled) 9:00 - 3:00 PM

June 18 - English Language Arts 30-1 & 30-2 Diploma Exam Part "B" (for those who are scheduled) 9:00 - 3:00 PM

June 18 - Gr. 9 PAT, Mathematics Part "B"

June 19 - Social Studies 30-1 & 30-2 Diploma Exam Part "B" (for those who are scheduled) 9:00 - 3:00 PM

June 19 - Gr. 6 & 9 PAT, Social Studies

June 20 - Biology 30 Diploma Exam Part (for those who are scheduled) 9:00 - 3:00 PM

June 20 - Gr. 6 & 9 PAT, Science

June 24 - Chemistry 30 Diploma Exam Part (for those who are scheduled) 9:00 - 3:00 PM

June 25 - Physics 30 Diploma Exam Part (for those who are scheduled) 9:00 - 3:00 PM

June 26 - Science 30 Diploma Exam Part (for those who are scheduled) 9:00 - 3:00 PM