



229 Woodhaven Drive
Okotoks, AB
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ÉSFCHS | AHSFA

Home of the Falcons

March 2026 Newsletter

To our ÉSFCHS | AHSFA students and families,

We hope everyone has had a great start to the new semester. March is a busy month with important graduation information, school events, and opportunities for students to get involved. Please take a few moments to review the updates and key dates below.

General School Information

Please take the time to review the Student Reference Guide (Handbook) with your child which can be viewed using this link: [Student Reference Guide 2025-2026](#).

The Cell Phone Policy and Use of Devices information listed on pages 10-13 is of particular importance as it is aligned with the *Government of Alberta Ministerial Order*. For more information, follow these links:

[Ministerial Order #14/2024](#)

[Standards for the Use of Personal Mobile Devices and Social Media: Parent Guide](#)

Open House

Our annual Open House is quickly approaching! On the evening of **March 19th from 5-8pm** we will be welcoming grade 9 students and families into the building and showcasing our amazing school and classrooms. If you have a 2029 Graduate, come check out our amazing programs.

School Council Information Session

The next School Council Information Session will be on March 10th @ 6:30 pm in our Learning Commons. The focus will be on Academic Transitions from grade 10 to 11 and 11 to 12. Our admin team will help families navigate some of the resources we have on our school website, discuss some of the frequently asked questions around what classes students should take, and answer any questions families may have to help with class selection for the upcoming school year. Hope to see you next Tuesday.

Student Fees

Fees for this semester have now been added to student accounts. Please double check to see if you have any outstanding fees.

For those grade 12 families with outstanding fees, just a reminder that these fees need to be paid by Mar. 20th to purchase Grad Banquet Tickets on Mar. 23rd. Tickets will go on sale, through EventBrite, at 8am.

French Language Challenge Exam (FSL)

French speaking students may challenge FSL exams to earn course credits without enrolling in an FSL class. The exam is optional, can count toward graduation requirements, and the final mark may be used for the Alexander Rutherford Scholarship.

Students must complete a review booklet for each level they wish to challenge. Booklets are completed independently, outside of class time, and must be submitted to Ms. Stephenson before students are permitted to write the exam.

Each challenge exam includes a **written** and an **oral** component. Written exams are offered on scheduled dates in March, April, May, or June and require advance sign-up. Oral exams are more flexible and can be completed during B Block, Connect, or lunch by appointment with Ms. Stephenson.

Students interested in challenging a French course or seeking more information should speak directly with Ms. Stephenson.

Garbage is a Community Effort

The Okotoks Municipal Enforcement (OME) would like to share an update regarding litter and waste concerns in the area behind the Viking Centre, a space often used by Foothills Composite High School students.

The Town of Okotoks is committed to keeping our community clean, vibrant, and sustainable. This commitment is reflected in our Waste Bylaw 18-16, Community Standards Bylaw 31-23, and provincial legislation such as the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act (EPEA). While these regulations do

allow for fines—typically starting at \$250 for litter-related offences—our primary focus is always on education, awareness, and community responsibility rather than penalties.

At this time, our goal is to work together to support positive habits and shared stewardship of our public spaces. We truly value the partnership we have with the school community, and we believe that by working together, we can continue fostering respect and care for our environment.

To help with this effort, OME Peace Officers will be increasing proactive patrols in the parking lots and surrounding areas behind the Viking Centre. Their presence is intended to be supportive and preventative, helping students make responsible choices and keeping the area clean and welcoming for everyone.

Please have a conversation with your child if they use this parking area.

Canadian Blood Services' Stem Cell Registry

The Canadian Blood Services' Stem Cell Registry is proud to collaborate with local high schools in Alberta, seeking the support of our young leaders to help save lives by registering as potential stem cell donors and donating blood. Stem cell donors can help patients with illnesses such as leukemia or lymphoma return to healthy lives with their loved ones. This event will take place on Tuesday, March 17th at the school.

Your son/daughter may register at a swab event organized at the school. The age criteria to register is 17-35 years of age. Although the Stem Cell Registry accepts individuals 17 and older to register as a stem cell donor, we encourage all registrants to have a conversation with parents/legal guardians regarding their decision to join the Stem Cell Registry. We need to ensure that all potential donors that register are fully committed to the program and are supported by their families in making that decision. **It's also important to understand that your child is NOT donating stem cells**, they are simply joining a registry of Canadians who *would* (health permitting) be willing to donate stem cells, in the rare case they were found to be a match for a patient.

Town of Okotoks Upcoming Programs

Exploring Watercolours - \$160 [4 Classes] (16+) - <https://www.okotoks.ca/your-community/living-okotoks/community-event-calendar/exploring-watercolour...z>

Exploring Watercolours is a relaxed, hands-on class designed to help you explore this exciting and expressive medium without pressure or perfection. Over several weeks, we'll experiment with a variety of fun projects that introduce essential watercolour techniques—flow, layering, texture, and colour mixing—while encouraging curiosity and creative freedom

Registration for Spring and Summer Community Programs, Aquatics, and Summer Day Camps is right around the corner! Here's when resident registration will open up this year, so mark your calendars:

Spring Community Programs & Aquatics

Thursday, March 12, 8 a.m.

Summer Day Camps:

Tuesday, March 17, 8 a.m.

Summer Community Programs & Aquatics:

Thursday, May 7, 8 a.m.

Find program details, non-resident registration dates and more at okotoks.ca/get-active



STUDENT INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES 2026/2027

- Exciting Opportunity! Study and Travel to **Spain, Mexico, France** or **Quebec** for an unforgettable educational experience in 2026/2027. You need Spanish 10 or French 10 to participate
- Immerse yourself in a new culture, language, and adventure!
- Meet new friends, enhance your global perspective, and grow as a leader. 🌍👤
- Perfect for students who love learning, exploring, and challenging themselves.

For more details, speak to **Ms. St. Dennis and Ms. Doyle today!** Applications Dates TBA

Alberta
Education

Have a wonderful March! As always, please reach out if you have any questions,

Jeremy Hall

Acting-Principal

Upcoming Important Dates

March 10- School Council @ 6:30pm

March 16 – Non-Instructional Day for Professional Learning

March 17- Stem Cell Registry Event

March 19- Open House 5-8pm

March 30-April 6- Spring Break

The daily announcements are posted on our website here: [Daily Announcements](#)

Stay Connected:

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