



THE OUTSIDERS

Volume 4, Edition 1
October 1, 2024

LYNX Nature Inspired Programming

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Principal's Message

Wow! Summer came and went and it is time to start another year of learning with LYNX. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the new students to LYNX and our returning students back to our program this year. We are excited to provide our students with the opportunity to learn outside in nature's classroom. I am pleased to announce that we have opened the LYNX program to students in Okotoks this year. I wish you all the best in a successful and fun year!

Please join us for our upcoming Parent Action Committee (PAC) meeting on October 10 at 7pm via zoom. This is an excellent way to be involved in your child's school, which will include fundraising opportunities to increase our field trip adventures.

Link to join the scheduled zoom meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84137438139?pwd=LhZmQao6FJDeHPMgIP8a5NOFnNK3yb.1>

Joe Smith
Principal, LYNX

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2024-2025

SCHOOL YEAR

October 2024

September 26 – System PD – NO School

September 27 – Campus PD – NO School

September 30 – National Day for
Truth and Reconciliation – NO School

October 2024

October 1 – Wear Orange

Oct. 3 – Farmyard

Oct. 11 – Grotto Canyon K-9 all

LYNX groups field trip

Oct. 14 – Thanksgiving – NO School

October 16 – Picture Day –

East Campus in the afternoon

Oct. 18 – Confluence Calgary/Okotoks

Oct. 25 – Heart Creek Bunker all

We acknowledge that we are on traditional territories in Alberta of the many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries.



Your Students Nature Inspired Instructors!



Jason Ash, Thomas McKillop, Bradley Bridgewater, Vicky Ashton, Scott Finney, Lisa Dahlseide

Cold – Illness - Smoke

Please help keep us healthy, and the other students, by keeping your sick child at home until they are no longer symptomatic.

Smokey days have posed problems for our outdoor school in the past, and it seems we are in the clear for the rest of the year. We have aligned our policy with outdoor sport organizations to go inside when the air quality reading is at a 6 or higher.

Winter is coming! We go indoors when it is -15 degrees Celsius or colder for ambient temperatures, and -20 degrees Celsius or colder when considering wind chill. While your instructor's and some of the students might be just fine in the cold temperatures, we find that the majority of students are not and learning becomes too challenging. On heavy snow days or days when the roads are terrible, we may choose to move the class online as a way to help keep everyone safe.

When LYNX goes online, we utilize Canvas. For those who are not already familiar with the program, we ask that you try logging in and getting yourself familiar with it. We may have assignments posted on it, and if we move to online classes, you will find the zoom link there. Your child's log in should be their first initial followed by their last name, and if new to canvas this year, their password will be Changemenow2024

Do not use the regular canvas link; you will only be able to access our program via:

<https://thirdacademy.instructure.com>

Sun, our school theme for 2024-25

The 2024 – 25 Third Schools theme is the Sun. You will notice sun's all around the west and east campus' and the theme will be carried into the instructional aspect of our classes.



LYNX Kindergarten

My name is Afisha Jiwani and I am the LYNX kindergarten teacher. Currently, we have five students and we continue to accept new students. For the month of September, we studied beavers and owls. We took field trips to weasel head with the Lynx students. The kindergarten are also learning to recognize the letter A and B and the sounds associated with them next month. We are looking forward to a trip to the Calgary farmyard with the LYNX students.



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Cochrane LYNX



Students have focused on community and the Indigenous culture in their social studies themes. In science, the focus has been on biodiversity and ecosystems. Wilderness skills have been introduced with tent and shelter construction as well as using flint and steel to create a fire to cook over.

Calgary LYNX



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Characteristics of a community has been our introductory theme in Social Studies. Students have built a village at the drop off and pick up site, which blends in and complements our lessons. We have also examined the geographic location of our last names, and our family history. Now we are learning about the history of and defining characteristics of democracy.

We have completed our first scientific observations through our pond sampling studies, learning about the biodiversity that exists in the waters of the Weaselhead. We have started investigating the interconnections between species present today along with bison interactions from the past.

For health, we learned about the basic features of the cardiovascular system and about the importance of sleep, nutrition, and exercise. For physical education, we continue to play more cooperative and competitive games, which heighten our cardio and challenge our stamina.

Okotoks LYNX



We have had a wonderful September at LYNX Okotoks with the beautiful weather! Together we have been focusing on foundations. We have been learning skills in the outdoors such as shelter building, first aid, risk management and river crossings so we are prepared to adventure safely throughout the year. During our Science classes, we have been covering the foundations of ecosystems and biodiversity. For Social Studies, we have been learning all about our home, Canada and pre-colonial indigenous people. We are looking forward to a colourful and spooky October at Okotoks LYNX.

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Student and Family Resources

COUNSELLING

“Everyone can benefit from counselling.” You have probably heard this before, but maybe you did not think it applied to your kids too. It does. We encourage you to explore the options available to support your child’s mental health. You might discover that your family doctors office has a councillor available, at no charge. If not, you can easily find resources available... here are a couple links:

<https://www.mcateepsychology.com/child-counselling-calgary>

<https://www.ywcalgary.ca/programs/family-counselling/>

Student Highlight ENARA



Enara has already demonstrated amazing leadership qualities! On day one, she offered to invent and teach a game that aligned with our lesson on bison and the brown-headed cowbird. We collaborated and delivered a successful lesson on the topic with her game helping to balance the understanding of parasitic egg layers. In addition to that, she is always making herself available to help and support the younger students. She has already exemplified what it is to be a LYNX student in our “one room school house” philosophy of blending the grades and ages while displaying the values of respect that LYNX aligns with. Thank you Enara for setting such a good example and being such a wonderful role model!