



# THE OUTSIDERS

Volume 5, Edition 3  
November 7, 2025

## LYNX Nature Inspired Programming

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### Principal's Message

Dear LYNX Families,

As November settles in, we're reminded to pause, reflect, and appreciate the beauty of change — both in nature and within ourselves. Our students continue to find wonder and learning outdoors, discovering lessons of gratitude, courage, and connection.

This month also brings **Remembrance Day**, a time to honour those who have served and sacrificed for our freedom. May we each take a quiet moment to reflect on peace and carry those values forward in our daily lives.

Wishing you all a meaningful and peaceful November.

Joe Smith  
Principal, LYNX

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2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

### November 2025

- Nov. 10 – No School, Campus PD
- Nov. 11 – No School, Remembrance Day
- Nov. 20 Fullerton Loop full day trip
- Nov. 21 – Report Cards
- Nov. 26 – Parent Teacher Interviews

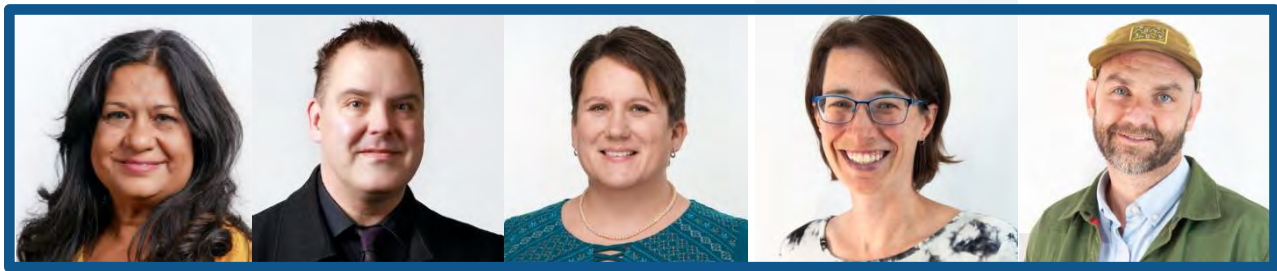
### December 2025

- Dec. 3 – Run Santa Run
- Dec. 19 – Last day of classes
- Dec. 22 – Jan. 4 – Winter Break
- Jan. 5 – Classes Resume

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!



Afisha Jiwani, Jason Ash, Allison Hubenig, Erin Hiemstra, Graeme Ford



Thomas McKilliop, Vicky Ashton, Lisa Dahlseide

### LYNX Parent Activities Committee (PAC)

We invite you to please join our next Parent Action Committee (PAC) Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, **November 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm via zoom**. We would like to welcome our new PAC Board of Directors:

Chair: Dr. Dahlia Mostafa  
Secretary: Chris Wiggins  
Treasurer: Nathan Munro

**Thank you all so much!**

### Fundraising

Hey chocolate lovers!!! 🍫🍫🍫LYNX is kicking off our Purdys Fundraiser!!! Our goal is to raise \$600 to help offset future camping and field trip costs!

👉 Start shopping: <https://fundraising.purdys.com/2131521-133249>

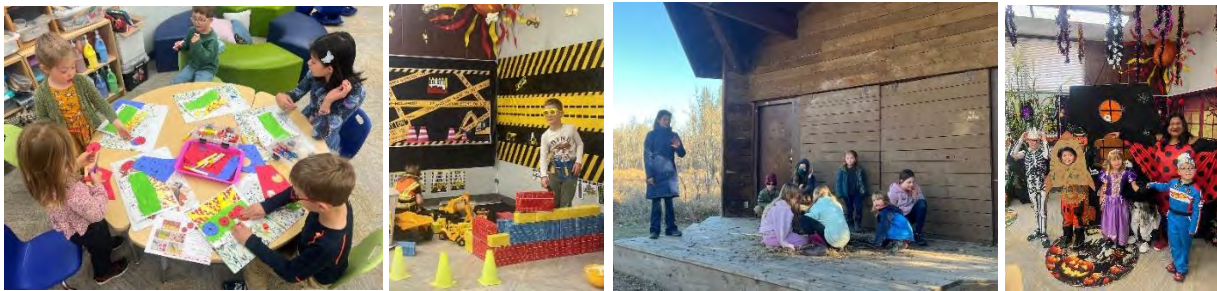
Please order by: November 25

Note: Once you create your account, you will arrive at your dashboard. Click on “Shop Online” to place your order. To view a more descriptive catalogue, click on “Support Materials”. To share the shopping link with family and friends, forward this message or copy the LYNX shopping link from your dashboard

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## LYNX Kindergarten

We are excited to start the new year off with a great group of students! We welcomed our 5<sup>th</sup> student to the ECS Program! Students have been learning about bats, spiders, animals who served in war, poppy's and more! Students enjoyed the Halloween theme in their classroom and are playing hard building things in their new Construction themed play space. They have improved their stamina, joining the older students on hikes and adventure.



## Calgary LYNX

**November 4 – Shannon Terrace**

**November 7 – Battalion Park**

**November 13 – Big Hill Springs**

**November 18 – Marshal Springs**

**November 20 – Fullerton Loop – Full Day**

**November 27 – Westside Recreation Centre (Swimming)**

Calgary LYNX has aligned their year plan with the Medicine Wheel and seasonal changes. With a focus in September that included the circulatory and digestive systems, we have stepped into fall with a water focus. The start of September had deep attention on respect, as LYNX prides itself on our 4 rules of Respect for self, others, the environment and community. We also focused on acts of kindness. Adopting a regular journal entry, students have had an opportunity to improve on their writing skills complemented with several worksheets. We have engaged in Citizen Science, obtaining water quality data for Creek Watch and have partnered with the City of Calgary and the Weaselhead/Glenmore Park Preservation Society in seed collection, and future plant propagation to help nourish a section of Glenmore Parks Aspen stand which has undergone extensive invasive plant removal over the summer.

What a wonderful fall we are having this year! I am so grateful for all of the gorgeous fall days we have been able to enjoy. October flowed with the rivers and watersheds as we dove deep with the American Beaver. We did an interdisciplinary project comparing how beavers shape their landscape and help other animals to how city council affects our city and landscape that we live in. We even participated in the Student Vote for Mayor! We experimented with buoyancy and calculating water velocity as well as talking about the Water Cycle. We also had an amazing Halloween Party turning west campus into a wonderful party space!

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## Cochrane LYNX

**November 7 – Battalion Park**

**November 13 – Big Hill Springs**

**November 20 – Fullerton Loop – Full Day**

**November 27 – Westside Recreation Centre (Swimming)**

LYNX Cochrane has been enjoying this beautiful fall season outside, we have been learning about our new classmates and building community together. We have been learning about seasonal changes, learning to reflect and observe. In social we have been learning about our neighbours on Treaty 7 territory. We are currently learning about the Medicine wheel, fire and the importance of sacred items in our lives. Building and learning about community as well as identifying our space within it.

Students have been joining the Calgary group every Thursday and Friday. There they have explored the concepts of respect and acts of kindness. They have extended their critical thinking skills and applied the Scientific Method. With the American Beaver as the focus animal in Calgary this year, the Cochrane students have examined structures and forces while observing beaver dams, lodges and habitat. Students have investigated ecosystem interactions and considered the consequences of removing beaver while connecting to historic timelines and the influence the

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American Beaver had reaching to Great Brittan and France. They have investigated seasonal changes, calculated water velocity, connected with the land through Indigenous teachings all in various environments.



## Okotoks LYNX

### November 20 – Fullerton Loop – Full Day

LYNX Okotoks has settled into their environment as new students explore our wonderful river valley led by their courageous senior students! At the same time, they learned about the first colonial explorers to land, Leif Erikson to Jacques Cartier, and explore the wilderness on the shores of eastern Canada from a European perspective. In Science we covered the foundation of everything, matter and energy! Both things that drive our LYNX kids to always be moving. Our Outdoor adventures included lessons in Leadership and pacing, Risk management including the Risk formula, Severity x probability and last but not least some lessons in first aid in the outdoors!

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## Edmonton LYNX

The LYNX Edmonton classroom is up and running with two months of learning under our belts. We currently have 10 students registered. In September we participated in some special events, including the Terry Fox Walk, Orange Shirt Day, and a Welcome Back Park Day with **ursa** families. Our students started off as strangers to one another and have quickly developed connections. This month, students have learned about the 5 C's of survival, citizenship, and our planet Earth. We even spent a day learning to fish (although we only caught weeds)! Students have enjoyed team building challenges, hikes to different places in the river valley, and identifying some edible and medicinal plants.

We enjoyed some fall activities in October including a field trip to Prairie Gardens where we sluiced for gems and fossils, found our way in a corn maze, and tasted some edible plants from the food forest (sorrel, lovage, and tarragon). We learned about skeletal systems and created our own skeletons reusing plastic. Our class learned how to build fires and a shared a meal together that they cooked themselves.

On October 31, we said goodbye to White Mud Park and we are now learning at Gold Bar Park, another beautiful green space in Edmonton. Special events for this month include a tour of the Waste Water facility that is in the park, the Hug a Tree and Survive program from Adventure Smart, and an off-site field trip to the Muttart Conservatory.

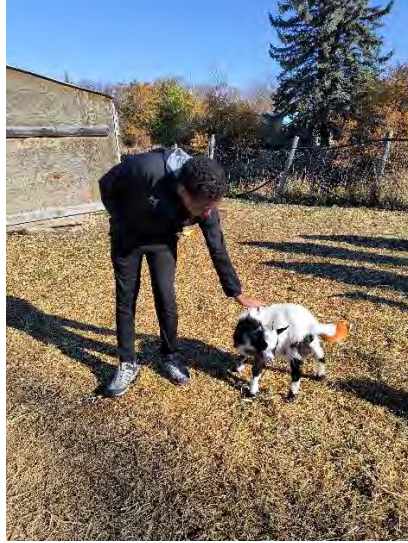
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## Heart Creek Trail

Students bonded with the Calgary and Area LYNX students as they explored different forest habitats along Heart Creek.



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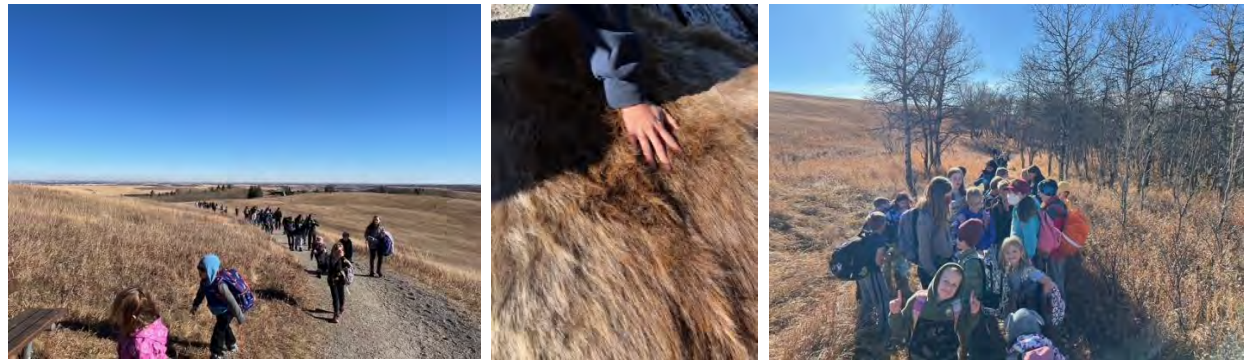
## Calgary Farmyard

Students learned about caring for domestic animals, the life cycle of a pumpkin and had a lot of fun physical activity!



## Ann and Sandy Cross Conservation Area

Students learned about local history and conservation hero's, Ann and Sandy Cross, who donated 9 sections of land to be preserved for education, wildlife and biodiversity. We learned about bats, tipi's, ungulates, ecosystem interactions and got to experience touching an American beaver pelt, our animal of focus this term.



## Halloween



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## Remembrance Day

Students from Calgary, Cochrane and ECS LYNX visited Battalion Park to learn about the service of both humans and non-humans whose lives were sacrificed in war. We were joined by Carol Tracy from Advocating for Animals and the Environment to learn about animals who served and the medals they were awarded. We were also honoured to hear from Squadron Sargent Major, Master Warrant Officer Logan Gray (aka Charlotte's dad).



## Student and Family Resources

### NATURE ALBERTA & EVENTS AT THE ANN AND SANDY CROSS CONSERVATION AREA

The Nature Alberta Summer 2025 edition is full of treats and is focused on water! Head to pages 32-35 for some great kid resources, even a feature of beavers who will be the species of focus this October in Calgary! Check it out here: [Nature Alberta Magazine Summer 2025](#)

Check out the upcoming events at the Ann and Sandy Cross Conservation Area! [Events | Ann & Sandy Cross Conservation Area](#)

## Student Highlight VOLLEYBALL TEAM!

This year Third Schools **ursa** and LYNX students have had the opportunity to join the Jr. High Volleyball Independent School League for the first time! Big thank you to Coach Ash who has spent over a year making arrangements for this opportunity! Only enough girls stepped up to join the Ravens, so for this year there is no boy's volleyball team (maybe next year?) and both teams, the 7/8 and 8/9 team had fun and played great! Wonderful job girls!

We would like to highlight our amazing LYNX students who made the team...

Ella is in LYNX Okotoks and is a new *'ish'* student to LYNX. Many of you know Ella from the 2025 camping trip and several hikes as her little brother Dawson has been a LYNX Okotoks student. You may also know her from online classes as she has been with **ursa** for sometime. She has made the glorious transition to officially join our LYNX community along side her brother.

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And might we add that Dawson has been an incredible help during the volleyball games as well!

Enara, Cassidy, Nina and Marley hail from LYNX Calgary and are valuable members of the team with their stellar serves, bumps and team spirit! Between each play the girls quickly huddle for a team hand-stack as they shout out “GO RAVENS!”. This team spirit has been contagious as parents and coaches have observed the competing teams working out some way to match that spirit between their own plays.

Overall the teams have done so well in their first year playing and we hope that we can expand this opportunity to additional sports.



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