



# Alpenglow Weekly Acorn

October 11, 2024



THIS WEEK'S **Spotlight:** I am kind, I am safe, I am a learner

Hello Families,

At our Truth and Reconciliation Ceremony on Monday, Ms. Keon and I were so grateful to the Alpenglow and CCHS students who danced in honour of lives lost to Residential schools, the 60's Scoop and other Canadian colonial policies. We are grateful to Mr. Eli Snow and Mr. Ethan Hunter who were our MC and Drummer for this special occasion as well as to the Knowledge Keepers who support our Division for all their work in putting together such a meaningful ceremony. Ms. Keon and I have been out at recess this week looking out for students who are living the values they have set together in class around our focus of **"I am kind, I am safe, I am a learner."** Ask your child to reflect on what they do each day to bring these expectations to life at Alpenglow. We hope that all our families are looking forward to the Thanksgiving weekend

and are able to spend some time together with loved ones and out in nature in the beautiful Bow Valley. We look forward to welcoming students back to school on Tuesday next week.

### **Nature Immersion - we need volunteers to help us go outside!**

As a nature immersion school we highly value taking our students outside. As an elementary school we are required to have at least one adult per each 10 students to go beyond our school boundaries. In order to support our nature immersion programming and allow our students to continue going off site frequently to engage with nature, it is essential that families seek to support their child's class by volunteering for field trips and morning walks. Please reach out to your child's teacher to offer to join them on a morning walk on a certain day and consider how you can support field trips and nature immersion programming within your work or daily schedule. If daytimes don't work for your family we are always grateful for help to support our Waldorf programming via volunteering at Martinmas, Winterfest, Springfest and so on. We depend on volunteers to keep our nature immersion program thriving. Please reach out to Sarah in our main office (403-678-6192) or [sarah.mckay@crps.ca](mailto:sarah.mckay@crps.ca) to get the required Criminal Record Check documentation to join our students outside. Thank you to the many families who are already joining us on our outdoor adventures.

### **Demographic Form - Please update your information**

Please ensure that you have updated your demographic information that was sent via email on August 27th 2024. If you can't find your electronic form, please contact our main office and ask for Sarah McKay and she can help you. The demographic form asks for updates of important contact information that allows us to contact you in case of an emergency. It also includes Division FOIP permissions which are important for us to be able to continue sending photos out in our weekly newsletters! Finally, this form contains our official walking field trip form. As a nature immersion school this is essential for you to update via this form each year. Thank you for updating this form as soon as possible.

### **Smudging**

As part of our ongoing journey of reconciliation, Alpenglow has visits from our division Knowledge Keepers. At times, and as part of a learning experience led by our Knowledge Keepers, students at Alpenglow School will have an opportunity to participate in a traditional smudge if they wish. A smudge involves burning a small amount of dried plant such as sage, tobacco, sweetgrass or cedar inside a cast-iron dish or abalone shell. During a smudge, participants sit in a circle and listen to the Elder/Knowledge Keeper/facilitator offer teachings about the practice and its role in historical and contemporary Indigenous communities. The smudge bowl may be passed around the circle as part of this traditional way of opening or beginning time together. Each year we inform our families of this and seek consent. Please complete the attached Google Form to indicate your choice for your student. [Smudge Form](#) If you complete this form giving consent, your child has the choice to participate if they wish to, they can always choose to opt out even if you have given your consent. Contact

[annabel.preece@crps.ca](mailto:annabel.preece@crps.ca) if you have questions. Thank you to all the families who completed this form already.

### **Food for Learning Program**

The Food for Learning Program is a voluntary program available to students of Alpenglow School who are in financial need, and is made possible by a grant. The purpose of the program is to provide snacks and lunch to children of families who need financial assistance with the costs of school lunches. The program is intended to support only the children of families who are having ***financial difficulty providing a nutritional, balanced lunch for their child***. It is available, free of charge, to children who attend Alpenglow. If you believe your family would benefit from this nutritional assistance program please complete the [Food for Learning Form](#). You can contact [annabel.preece@crps.ca](mailto:annabel.preece@crps.ca) confidentially if you have questions.

### **CRPS International Student Homestay Families Needed!**

CRPS is currently looking for 6 new Homestay families in Banff, Canmore or Exshaw who can open their home to an international high school student (grade 10-12) from Feb-June 2025. Remuneration is provided at a rate of \$1300.00/month. You can go to our [Homestay Website](#) for an overview of the program. Here is a direct link to our [Homestay Application](#). Email [homestay@crps.ca](mailto:homestay@crps.ca) or call 403-609-6072 ext. 6220 for more information.

**October 18th is an 11:40 dismissal day at Alpenglow and CRPS buses will be running.**

Have a great week!

Ms. Preece, Principal

Ms. Keon, Assistant Principal

#### Important Links

[Alpenglow 2024-25 Parent Handbook](#)

[CRPS Website](#)

[ACES \(Alpenglow Community Education Society\) Website](#)