



# NEWS FROM THE NEST

May 19 -23, 2025

**EAGLES S.O.A.R**  
(Safe Organized Accountable Respectful)

Dear Parents and Advocates of East Lake School,

Last weekend, a team of seven East Lake staff members had the opportunity to attend the ATA English as an Additional Language Conference in Canmore. This professional learning experience was especially meaningful for us, as 34% of our students speak a first language other than English. We are committed to creating inclusive, universally designed learning environments that meet the needs of all our learners.

English language proficiency develops over time through four key areas: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Supporting our students in each of these areas is essential to their academic success.

One of the conference highlights was a keynote by Dr. Dianne Schmitt, a teacher and lecturer from Nottingham Trent University. She shared compelling research on vocabulary acquisition for English as an Additional Language learners:

- 2,000 words – needed for everyday conversation
- 5,000 words – to read authentic texts with support
- 6,000–7,000 words – to understand oral discourse
- 8,000–9,000 words – to comprehend written texts
- A native English speaker typically knows 30,000- 40, 000 words

Schmitt emphasized that vocabulary growth strengthens all domains—reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Her message affirmed the importance of the work we’re doing at East Lake.

Our Literacy block (K-3) is structured around key components: reading, writing, oral language, word study, and explicit instruction in phonemic awareness and phonics. These foundational pieces support both our English as an Additional Language (EAL) learners and all students as they build their literacy skills.

We are proud of the progress we are making and excited to continue growing together as a learning community.

Yours in all things learning,

Amanda Schultz, M.Ed  
Principal, East Lake School  
Rocky View Schools  
403.248.1091

For translation into other languages, please click here: [translate.google.com](https://translate.google.com)

Website: <http://eastlake.rockyview.ab.ca>  
Phone: 403-248-1091

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## **This Week:**

### **May 19**

Victoria Day  
No School

### **May 21**

Parent Council and  
Friends AGM  
6:00 pm

### **May 22**

East Side Block Party  
4:00 – 6:00 pm

### **May 23**

Popcorn Fundraiser

## **Upcoming:**

### **June 4**

Volunteer Tea  
1:00 – 2:30 pm

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## Literacy and Numeracy Reassessments for Grades 1-3

Some students in Grades 1-3 who have been receiving intervention support in literacy and/or numeracy will be reassessed on one or more [provincial assessments](#) in late May to early June.

Please note:

1. **Not all students** will be reassessed.
2. **Kindergarten students** are not required to be reassessed.
3. Final data will be returned to RVS in August; your child's next-year teacher will have access to the information to make informed decisions about intervention supports needed.

Thank you for your understanding and support in our ongoing commitment to support student learning. If you are unsure if your child is being reassessed please reach out to their teacher.

Read more about [understanding provincial and divisional assessments on the RVS website](#).

## Register Now to Save on Transportation Fees

Rocky View Schools (RVS) has opened transportation registration for the 2025/26 school year through SchoolEngage. Parents/guardians are encouraged to register by June 30 to receive a \$40 discount or by Aug. 1 to ensure bus service for the first day of school.

In response to rising costs, transportation fees have increased for the coming school year. A list of fees is available on the [RVS website](#). Families are encouraged to take advantage of the early registration discount to offset some of the transportation cost. Eligible families may also apply to have their transportation fees waived by completing a Transportation Fee Waiver.

The June 30 early registration discount of \$40 is extended to each of the first two Kindergarten – Grade 12 students in a family, with additional students receiving \$20 off if registering early. A minimum payment of 50 per cent is due at registration. Bus service may be cancelled up until Oct. 31 to receive a full refund for all fees paid.

Families are urged to register as soon as possible for transportation to ensure a smooth start to the fall. To guarantee service for the first day of school, registration must be received before Aug. 1. Students registered after this deadline may experience delays of two to three weeks before they can ride the bus.

A step-by-step guide to registration, fee information and more is available on the [Transportation section](#) of the RVS website.

Website: <http://eastlake.rockyview.ab.ca>

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## EAST SIDE BLOCK PARTY

**MAY 22, 2025 | 4:00 PM TO 6:00 PM**

Join us at East Lake School to close out the  
2024 / 2025 School Year !!

We welcome our friends at Rainbow Creek, Prairie Waters, &  
Chestermere Lake Middle School (CLMS) to our block party  
celebrating 2024 / 2025. We look forward to moving into the  
new year together as a community.

### MIX & MINGLE OUTSIDE



**FOOD TRUCKS**



**GIVEAWAYS**



**FREE ICE CREAM!\***

\*First 150 People



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