

DECEMBER 2021

THE MILLGROVE MINUTE

The official newsletter of Millgrove School



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

By Mrs. Madge-Arkininstall

As we move into the holiday season we will continue to create an environment for your children that is joyful, positive and engaging. Our tree will be set up in the library, our lights will shine brightly in the hallway and we will play cheerful holiday music some mornings as the children arrive.

Report cards will be available at **NOON** on **Thursday, December 2** so please take the time to access them by logging into your [PowerSchool](#) account. I have the privilege of reading all of the comments and staff share such valuable information that you will find interesting and meaningful.

HIGHLIGHTS THIS MONTH

- **Report Cards on the Parent Portal - Dec 2nd**
 - **Christmas Hamper Time**
 - **Scholastic Book Fair**
 - **Fundraiser Update - thank you Millgrove!**
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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Our school continues to be an environment where children are engaged in meaningful learning experiences, positive interactions with a focus on well-being and I am excited to share with you our literacy intervention program that has begun. Mrs. Lindsay Graham is working with many of our grade 2 and grade 3 students in a small group setting focusing on very specific literacy skills. Our division successfully accessed the *Learning Loss Grant* funded by Alberta Education, and this 16 week intervention program will be an important part of literacy support for our students. Mrs. Leslie Steigel will be working with two small groups but will also continue to provide Levelled Literacy reading to other students. After the break, the grant will also be used to support our numeracy program and grade 1 literacy, and I will update you when we are ready to begin these programs.

Millgrove has participated in the Kinette Hamper Campaign for years and we will continue to do so. This year each grade level will support the campaign, an email outlining the plan has already been sent home.

I am grateful for our Millgrove School Community Foundation and School Council and the positive impact they have as they plan and organize fundraisers, volunteer, and their ability to make recommendations and suggestions to improve our school. To all of the milk and hot lunch, volunteers thank you for your time and commitment - your contribution is greatly appreciated and your presence in the school is valued.

In lieu of an in-person Christmas concert, we will be having classroom performances that will be video recorded and sent out to all parents. Thank you Mrs. Davies for your wonderful music program.

Thank you to each of you for your continued support, trust and thoughtfulness. Your children are gifts to us and there is such a sense of pride at our school. May your holiday season be one of precious family time and joy!

Respectfully,
L. Madge-Arkininstall



We wish you a safe & happy holiday

Mrs Regan

Ms Nelson



Kinette Christmas Hampers 2021

THANK YOU for your continued support, generosity and kindness towards local deserving families that need a helping hand this holiday season.

For the 48th year, the Spruce Grove Kinette volunteers are working to make Christmas brighter for local families struggling with a limited income. Our goal is to support families in need with food and gifts for the holidays and last year, with your help, **we assisted 580 families in our area**, and supported close to 1900 residents!

Again this year, we will **NOT be collecting non-perishable food items**.

We will collect:

- **local grocery store gift cards** which will 'upsized' the Parkland Food Bank December hamper for all clients
- **unwrapped gifts and gift cards** (denominations of \$25 or less work best) to children 17 and under. Last year, we provided gifts to 651 children in our area!

To ensure a diverse selection of age-appropriate gifts, we are asking for donations of new, unwrapped gifts or gift cards that are based on your child's gender and age. For children 10 and older, gift cards are ideal. Please refer to www.sgkinettes.ca for additional information and gift ideas.

We will start accepting drop-offs at the school as of Monday, November 29th. The last day for donations will be **Friday, December 10, 2021**. Hampers will then be assembled and distributed to deserving families throughout the community during the week of December 13th.

Spruce Grove Kinette
Volunteers



Office News

School Fees

School fees were due September 30, 2021. A statement will be emailed home December 10 for any any unpaid fees.

Please pay fees online through the Parent Portal. Methods of online payment include Visa, MasterCard, American Express and Interac Online Debit. Alternatively, we will accept cash or cheque payments at the school office. Please make cheque made payable to Parkland School Division.

The division does have a waiver process outlined on their website or payment options are available through the Parent Portal. Please visit [PSD's REGISTRATION FEES page](#) for more information.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ms. Tanya Nelson at 780-962-6122 ext. 0 or email her at tanya.nelson@psd.ca.

Please Note when paying school fees through the parent portal please use the following link, do not use the Parent Portal App.

<https://powerschool.psd.ca/public/home.html>

Calendar of Events

Wed, Dec 1	Field Trip - Frozen Jr Horizon Grade K-2
Thurs, Dec 2	Report Cards available on the Parent Portal
Fri, Dec 3	Prepaid Hot Lunch - KFC
Tues, Dec 7	Millgrove School Fundraiser Pick Up Day
Fri, Dec 10	Prepaid Hot Lunch - Dairy Queen
Fri Dec 17	Prepaid Hot Lunch - Pizza 73
Thurs, Dec 23	Festive Wear Day
	Prepaid Hot Lunch - Boston Pizza

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL - Winter Break December 24 - January 7



Library - Scholastic Book Fair!

We are pleased to be hosting our online Scholastic Book Fair which started on **Saturday, November 20th and will end December 4, 2021**. Use the link below to explore new books!

<https://virtualbookfairs.scholastic.ca/pages/5166482>

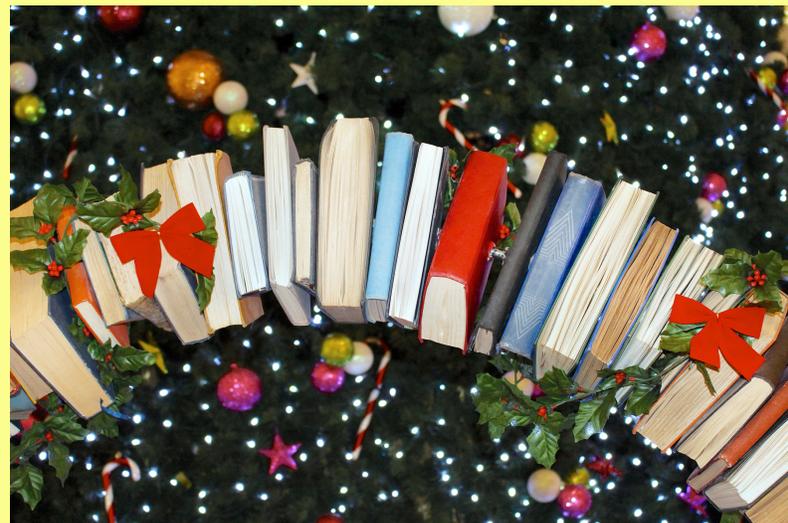
All orders are delivered to our school free of charge and will then be delivered to students to take home.

Thank you for supporting our school library.

Authors in the House

Authors in Mrs. Barker's grade 3 class have **written** and **published** books that are now part of our school library.

Students are signing them out and enjoying the awesome talents of our very own authors!



Numeracy Tips

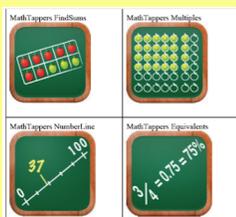
Do your kids like technology? Here are some amazing numeracy apps and websites that your child can explore now that the weather has turned colder. You can find these for android and apple products by searching the app store or googling the titles.



Teachley Apps: These are apps that are great for kids Kindergarten to Grade 4. They are not simply drill style games but instead they take your child through multiple strategies to deal with addition, subtraction, division, multiplication and fractions. There are levels and characters that keep children engaged and motivated to continue practicing and learning.



Quick Math Jr.: This app is best suited for Kindergarten and Grade 3. It focuses on number sense and subitizing. We use this program in the classrooms and it is one of the favourites! It will start off very easy but the more your child plays the more challenging the program becomes. There are monsters to create and in-game prizes your child can earn!



Math Tappers: There are several apps available from this developer and it is suitable for Kindergarten to Grade 4. These apps are memorization based and deal with finding sums and multiples as quickly as you can. The best part of these apps is that your child can play and then parents can play to see who can have the fastest time. If you have multiple devices you can play side by side and have a race!



Tap To Learn Software: This developer has many different apps to fit your child's numeracy preferences. Their focus is on number lines and basic facts. They have ninja, chicken and zombie themes so there is something for everyone!

Literacy Tips

Developing Reading Comprehension Through Retelling, Relating, and Reflecting.



Retelling, relating, and reflecting are all important steps in the reading process. Better responses are created once your child has grasped these elements.

RETELLING:

Retelling will give you an insight into your child's comprehension process of a text. Retelling can help you determine:

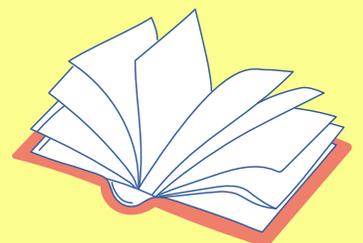
- How much or what your child remembers.
 - What your child considers to be important details.
 - How your child sequences information.
 - How your child organizes information.
- Here are a few Retelling prompts:
- Who was in the story?
 - Was there a problem?
 - What was it?
 - How was it solved? (names things the character did)
 - What were the important things that happened?
 - Where did the story take place?

RELATING:

Relating will also give you insight into your child's comprehension process of a text. Relating can help you determine:

- How your child connects to a text.
 - If your child can recall a personal experience that connects to the present text.
- Here are a few relating prompts:

- This reminds me of...
- I remember (when)...
- This is like...
- This sounds like...
- This makes me think of...
- I can identify with this...



Literacy Tips

REFLECTING:

Reflecting is often the most difficult task. However, breaking down the elements of a story assists in the reflection process.

Here are a few reflection prompts:

I wonder if...

I believe that...

I realize that...

I know that...

My predictions are...

I understand...

“Retell, relate, and reflect” are oral and written responses that show various levels of comprehension. Each step requires more experience than the previous step. When your child retells, they are able to discuss or write an original story using their own vocabulary. When your child relates to the original story, they are able to make personal connections. Finally, being able to reflect on the meaning of the story engages your child in the ability to infer what the story is about (the heart of the message) and predict any consequences or future implications as a result.

Children have been accustomed to retelling texts and relating texts to their own personal experiences. We have found that when students are asked to reflect upon their experiences or responses, there is generally a pause, because it is a more difficult process.



Strong Families Sessions

Parkland School Division is proud to partner with Alberta Parenting For The Future to present two more FREE sessions for local families.

In our upcoming Strong Families sessions, parents/guardians and their children can join Kristi Sikorski for an hour of calming, mindful movement to help them unwind from the day and regulate their bodies for a peaceful sleep. These yoga sessions are specially geared toward children who struggle with settling down and relaxing at bedtime: the first session will address the needs of children still in their early school years, while the second will cater to their older peers.

Please [see our website](#) for detailed information on our Bedtime Yoga Sessions.

For more information, please contact:
Vicky Mamczasz
Family Supports Facilitator
Email: vicky.mamczasz@psd.ca



MILLGROVE SCHOOL COUNCIL

We had a great meeting in November and I would like to thank everyone who attended. We heard from our lovely principal about the goings-on in the school, and we were joined by trustee Anne Montgomery to let us know what was happening in the school division. It was very informative. Please think about joining us for our next virtual meeting on

Jan 12, 2022 @630pm.

On behalf of the Millgrove School Council, I hope you and your families have a wonderful holiday season.

Anna-Marie Jackson
Parent Council Chair
millgrove.scchair@partner.psd.ca



MILLGROVE SCHOOL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

We are blown away by the success of our winter fundraiser. We would like to thank all the families that supported the fundraising campaign this past month. We managed to raise just over **\$8,000!! Remarkable!!**



The next round of hot lunch and milk sales will be **December 15-22**. This will be for January lunches and milk.

We will not be having a Foundation meeting in December as everyone is busy preparing for the holidays. Our **next meeting** will be on **January 11, 2022 @ 6:30 pm**. It will be online so watch for a meeting code email to come out that week.

On behalf of the Millgrove Foundation, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year!

Allison Chuey
Millgrove School Community Foundation President
millgrovescfoundation@gmail.com