

APRIL 2022

# THE MILLGROVE MINUTE

*The official newsletter of Millgrove School*



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

**By Mrs. Madge-Arkininstall**

Report cards were available Thursday, March 17. If you are having difficulty viewing this information please contact the office. I have the pleasure of reading all of the comments and there is valuable information and insights into your child's progress.

April is a lovely time of year as we experience warmer days, new growth and new beginnings. It is also a time that we see continued growth in our students' progress. Routines are well established, curriculum expectations are clearly outlined and after spring break we observe renewed energy in the students and academic gains. It is important that you continue to commit to excellent attendance and support with home reading and homework.

## HIGHLIGHTS THIS MONTH

- 
- **Calling all Artists!**
  - **School Fees Overdue**
  - **Returning Registration NOW DUE!**
  - **Strong Families: Anxiety and Mindfulness**
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## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

We are also very excited to be participating in extracurricular activities and field trips. To watch the students head out on an adventure has been delightful.

Congratulations to Mrs. Tanya Nelson, our secretary, who welcomed a baby girl into her family on March 21. Welcome to Mrs. Carol Weisbrod who will be covering the office. Carol has extensive experience and has previously worked at Millgrove so she is familiar with our procedures and knows many of the families. Also, welcome to Mrs. Katelyn Johnstone, who is working in Grade 3 as Mrs. Jessica Byrne has begun her maternity leave. Mrs. Johnstone worked for a number of years at Ecole Broxton and has excellent experience working with students with complex needs.

As always, I thank you for your tremendous support, your commitment to your children's education and wellness, and a partnership that benefits everyone.

Respectfully,

L. Madge-Arkininstall





# Calling All Artists!

All Millgrove students are invited to create an awesome piece of artwork for the cover of the 2021-2022 Millgrove Memory Book.

**Grand Prize Winner** - Artwork featured on the cover AND a free Memory Book

**Runner Up Prize** - Artwork featured on the back AND a free Memory Book.

## SUBMIT ART ON

- 6.5" X 8" sheet of white paper
- Portrait (Vertical orientation) see example below



Millgrove School  
2021-2022

## ALL ART MUST INCLUDE

- The words "Millgrove School"
- The year "2021 - 2022"

## TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL ENTRY

- Anything goes! Use bold colors, be creative, colorful and interesting! You may use crayons, markers, paint, colored pencils, or any other medium to draw and color, just make sure they are bright.
- Use up the whole sheet of paper (the bigger the better)

## HOW TO ENTER YOUR ART - choose one of three options

1. Fill out our [online form](#)
2. Email [millgrove@psd.ca](mailto:millgrove@psd.ca) a high-quality scan of your drawing, be sure to include child's full name and grade
3. Drop off in our school office, be sure to include child's full name and homeroom teacher in pencil on the back of the entry

Ensure all pictures are high resolution and are in one of these formats: JPEG, TIFF, PDF.

Please submit all entries **on or before April 11, 2022**. If you have any questions, please contact our school office.



## Office News

# School Fees Overdue

School fees were due September 30, 2021. A statement was emailed home on March 1, 2022.

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 Toresa Regan at 780-962-6122 ext. 0 or email her at [toresaregan@psd.ca](mailto:toresaregan@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>



# RSVP

**NOW!**

## 2022-2023 Returning Registration NOW DUE!

*This is very important in helping us to plan for next year.*

Visit <https://powerschool.psd.ca/public/> and log into your parent account. Once inside the Parent Portal:

1. Select your child's name in the blue bar at the top of the screen.
2. Select the **RSVP** icon on the left side of the screen.
3. Begin reviewing all of your current Student Information we have on file, and follow the instructions on the screen to navigate through the various tabs in the form (Student Info, Address, Contacts, Medical, etc.).

If you require any help logging into your parent portal or run into technical issues, please contact our office.

# Calling all Library Volunteers!

We are still needing volunteers to help in our library with shelving, labelling and repairing books.

If you are interested, kindly contact our office at 780-962-6122 ext. 0 and speak to Toresa or Carol.

Thank you!



# RunWild - Spruce Grove

RunWild is excited to return to in-person racing, where we can celebrate 10 years of running! Events include the 5km, 10km, Half Marathon and WildOnes Kids MaraFun.

Our WildOnes MaraFun is expanding. WildOnes MaraFun racers will have the option to RunWild with us on Saturday May 14, 2022, in Sherwood Park or Spruce Grove at our satellite locations, or they can join us in St. Albert on Sunday May 15, 2022. Check out the Gateway Pediatric Dentistry WildOnes Kids MaraFun page for more details!

Leading Edge Physiotherapy RunWild 2022 registration is now open! See the website [runwild.ca](http://runwild.ca) for further information.



# APRIL

## Calendar of Events

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| April 1  | Prepaid Hot Lunch - Pizza 73<br>World Autism Awareness Day - Wear blue!                                  |
| April 7  | Play Parkland Skating Field Trip 3G/3BY and 4C/4D<br>Play Parkland Swimming Field Trip 4T/4G             |
| April 8  | Prepaid Hot Lunch - Bite to Eat  |
| April 12 | Millgrove School Foundation Meeting - Virtual 6:30 pm  |
| April 14 | Prepaid Hot Lunch - Boston Pizza<br>Play Parkland Swimming - 4T/4G and 3G/3BY                            |
| April 15 | Good Friday - no school  |
| April 18 | Easter Monday - no school  |
| April 21 | Play Parkland Skating - 3G/3BY and 4C/4D<br>All Grade 1's at Aerials Gymnastics                          |
| April 22 | Prepaid Hot Lunch - Jack's Drive In<br>Earth Day   |
| April 27 | Visual Arts Celebration  |
| April 28 | Visual Arts Celebration<br>Light and Shadows In-School Field Trip - All Gr. 4's<br>Play Parkland - 4T/4G |
| April 29 | Visual Arts Celebration<br>Prepaid Hot Lunch - KFC   |

# Literacy Tips



Last month, I posted ways to introduce sight words to your child. It highlighted the phonological approach to sight word introduction. The next steps are working with your child on the words.

**Step One: RECOGNITION** of the words. Place 3 to 5 sight words in front of your child. YOU say the word and your child points to it (recognizing the word.) To make this more challenging put words out that start with the same initial sound, this will encourage your child to look past initial sounds and look at the other features of the word. To continue to challenge put out words with similar features, this will further assist your child to look at all features carefully, for example, 'went and want'.

**Step Two: LABELLING** the words. In this step you point to a word and ask your child to tell you what it is, (labelling.) As you child masters the words, encourage them to use the word in a sentence. Again, to challenge, put our words with similar features.

The following links show teaching strategies for working with sight words after you have introduced the words to your child:

[Sight Words Teaching Strategies](#)

You may or may not want to use all of these strategies, but experiment with them to see what works best for your child.

Click on the following links to learn more:

A child sees the word on the flashcard and says the word while underlining it with their finger.

A. Spell Reading

The child says the word and spells out the letters, then reads the word again.

B. Arm Tapping

Your child says the word and then spells out the letters while tapping them on their arm.



### C. Air Writing

Your child says the word, then writes the letters in the air in front of the flash card.

### D. Table Writing

Your child writes the letters on a table, first looking at and then not looking at the flash card.

Games and Activities when working with sight words.

**Sight Word Detective** – Show your child a sight word with a missing letter. Have children act as detectives to find the missing letter. To make it more challenging, remove more than one letter. Also consider using the word with the missing letter in a sentence to help children practice context clues. You can write letters on a white board or use magnetic letters.

**Sight Word Scramble** – Using magnetic letters or letter cards, mix up the letters of the sight word and have children unscramble the words to reveal the correct spelling of the sight word. You can involve more children by giving each child a letter and have them spell out a sight word.

**Sight Word Bingo** – Create individual bingo cards using sight words that you have introduced. You can also give students a blank board and have them write the words in the boxes from a list you provide. Be sure to have the words written on index cards and pull them out of a container to call the sight words. Students should place a marker on the word when it is called. Students must yell "Sight Word Bingo!" when they have covered a vertical, horizontal, or diagonal row.

**On the Back Activity:** Print the words on your child's back and see if they can label (say) them.

**Stamp Out Sight Words** – Using alphabet cookie cutters, have students stamp out letters using dough, then have children build sight words. Model for students first, then have them do it with you. After guiding them, have them try to build it independently. This fun activity is also great for building fine motor skills.

**Play-dough/plastercine:** Have your child make the letters with play-dough or plastercine and then spell the sight word.

**Word Searches:** Control alt click: to get a create your own word search where you can put in your child's words.

<https://puzzlemaker.discoveryeducation.com/word-search>

There was a lot of different strategies and tips for working with your child on sight words, as always, use what works for you.



# Numeracy Tips

Spring is a great time to work on grouping. To expand children's thinking processes and help them "see" groups, ask questions like:

- "7 and how much more make 10?" "70 and how much more make 100?" "700 and how much more make 1,000?"
- "10 and how much more make 15?" "10 and how much more make 18?" "10 and how much more make 25?"
- "17 and how much more make 20?" "87 and how much more make 100?" "667 and how much more make 1,000?"
- "How far is it from 6 to 10?" "How far is it from 89 to 100?" "How far is it from 678 to 1,000?"
- "How many 10s are there in 70? ...100? ...200? ...340? ...500? ...1,000? ...10,000? ...1,000,000? ...a quadrillion (there are 15 zeros)?"
- "How many 4-person teams can you make out of 12 kids? ...20 kids?... 100 kids?...50 kids?"
- "How much is 5, four times? ...ten times? ...a hundred times? ...a thousand times?"

Notice how these questions focus on the number 10, multiples of 10, and powers of 10. These exercises can all be done by counting mentally, and do not require students to do pencil-and-paper computations. Great for in the car and on the go!



# Strong Families: Anxiety & Mindfulness

Parkland School Division is proud to partner with Alberta Parenting For The Future to present another FREE information session for local families.

In our upcoming Strong Families session, Kelly Pilkie and Brenna McKerrall of Aspire Counselling and Psychology will provide a space for individuals to talk about anxiety - what gets it going, what keeps it going, and what you can do to find calm and get relief from it. Learn how our brains, bodies and behaviours can work together to generate and manage anxiety, and how the practice of mindfulness can help calm the storm of anxiety when it threatens to overwhelm us.

**Date: Thursday, April 14, 2022**

**Time: 6:30-8pm**

**Location: Online Zoom Webinar / Discussion Group**

**Presenter: Kelly Pilkie and Brenna McKerrall from Aspire Counselling and Psychology Inc.**

Anxiety is an evolutionary trait designed to keep us safe from danger and ready to react accordingly when under stress. Anxiety can become a problem for some individuals when their perception of a stressor outweighs the actual threat, it kicks in more often and/or more intensely than it should, or it stops them from participating in the important and/or enjoyable aspects of their lives. Mindfulness, the practice of paying attention to the present moment to the exclusion of all else, can help settle and focus an anxious mind, and by participating in this session, you can learn how to use this tool effectively to fend off the worst of your worries.

Please register early to reserve your spot by visiting <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/calming-the-storm-and-mindfulness-registration-296904849397>.

For more information, please contact:

Vicky Mamczasz

Family Supports Facilitator

Email: [vicky.mamczasz@psd.ca](mailto:vicky.mamczasz@psd.ca)



# MILLGROVE SCHOOL COUNCIL

Hello Millgrove Families!

We hope you are all enjoying this spring weather!

We will be having our next Parent Council meeting on **Wednesday, April 20 at 630pm**. We love it when we have new faces join us from our Millgrove family. There will be updates from our principal, as well as a member of our school board should you have any questions you are interested in getting answers for regarding Millgrove or Parkland School Division!

Meeting details will be sent out closer to the meeting date.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to reach out to me!

Anna-Marie Jackson  
Parent Council Chair  
[millgrove.scchair@partner.psd.ca](mailto:millgrove.scchair@partner.psd.ca)



# MILLGROVE SCHOOL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Hello Millgrove Families!

We hope you are all enjoying this spring weather!

The next round of **hot lunch and milk sales** will be **April 20-27** for the May menu. Please make sure all orders & payments are complete by 4:30 pm of the last order day.

We will be having our Spellathon in April. The forms will be coming home the 2nd week in April. Money and forms are **due April 27th** and the spelling tests will be done the week of May 2nd. Each child that raises money will receive a prize as well as the top class from each grade will receive a class prize.

Our **next meeting** will be **April 12 , 2022 @ 6:30 pm**. It will be online so watch for a meeting code email to come out that week. Would love to see more people come out to talk about where our fundraising money goes!!

Allison Chuey  
Millgrove School Community Foundation President