

MAY 2022

# THE MILLGROVE MINUTE

*The official newsletter of Millgrove School*



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

By Mrs. Madge-Arkininstall

Welcome, May! It is hard to believe that we are nearing the end of the year; however, the learning is continuing, and your students are thriving. Our literacy and numeracy intervention programs continue, LLI (leveled literacy intervention) is occurring daily, and the involvement in extracurricular field trips continue to be a positive experience for everyone!

## HIGHLIGHTS THIS MONTH

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- **Volunteer Appreciation**
  - **Spell-a-thon Update**
  - **Strong Families: On Their Best Behaviour**
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## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

As we plan for next year, our grade four students will engage in activities to make the transition to middle school a positive experience. On May 11, the Greystone administration team will visit Millgrove to share information and answer questions. On May 13, students will go to Greystone for a tour and fun activities. We are so pleased that we can engage in onsite grade 4 activities this year!

Congratulations to Mrs. Efi Kourmenous, our grade three teacher, who welcomed a baby boy into her family on April 14.

Juno Award Nominee, Mary Lambert, will be touring and performing in Alberta this spring and we may be lucky enough to have her visit our school on May 19. We will keep you posted once the details are finalized. It will be wonderful for our students to gather and sing together again.

Thank you for your support this year. The moment we welcomed volunteers into our building, we had never-ending support on field trips, tying skates at the Tri, hot lunch and milk delivery, and many other tasks that enriched our school. Please stop by our front foyer on Thursday, May 5, or Friday, May 6, to pick up a token of our appreciation. I am grateful for this involved and caring community!

Respectfully,  
L. Madge-Arkininstall





OVERDUE

## Office News - School Fees Overdue

**A final statement will be emailed in May.** Please pay fees online through the Parent Portal.

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>



## Calendar of Events

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|--------|---|
| May 4  | Hats on for Mental Health   |
| May 5  | Play Parkland Aerials Gymnastics 3G/3BY / Inferno Evening at Greystone 6-7 pm<br>Volunteer Appreciation     |
| May 6  | Prepaid Hot Lunch - Pizza 73  |
| May 10 | Foundation Meeting 6:30 pm  |
| May 11 | Art Gallery of Alberta - Grade 3s   |
| May 12 | Prairie Gardens in Bon Accord - Grade 1s / Teachers Pet Soapstone Grade 4s<br>Play Parkland Swimming 3G/3BY |
| May 13 | Inferno Day - Gr 4s to visit Greystone<br>Prepaid Hot Lunch - DQ  |
| May 19 | Prepaid Hot Lunch - Jack's Drive-In   |
| May 25 | Royal Alberta Museum - Grade 3s (two classes)<br>Pots' n' Pansies pickup                                    |
| May 26 | Play Parkland Swimming 3G/3BY / Aerials Gymnastics - Kindergartens<br>Track Day (tentative)                 |
| May 27 | Rainbow Day   |
| June 3 | Prepaid Hot Lunch - KFC   |

# Literacy Tips



## Early Literacy Tips for younger children

The following is from this resource if you wish to explore further:

<https://www.startearly.org/post/12-tips-to-boost-early-literacy/>

Through just this one simple act you are bonding with your child, inspiring a love of reading—and are helping them develop strong early language and literacy skills that will become the foundation for future learning and success. In fact, studies show that reading aloud is a primary driver of young children’s early language development.

Here are 12 early literacy tips:

1. **Start early.** Reading to babies is important for healthy brain development and lays the foundation for language and writing skills.
2. **Make reading a part of your daily routine.** Establishing a routine helps ensure that reading is part of your daily schedule, such as at naptime and bedtime. It also creates times during the day that both of you can look forward to.
3. **Try board and cloth books for babies.** By age 1, babies can grab books. Board and cloth books are great options for babies who like to touch things and put everything in their mouths.
4. **Take turns with your toddler.** By age 2, toddlers can hold a book and point at the pictures. Let your toddler turn the pages of a board book and respond when they point or react to the story.
5. **Ask your child questions.** As you read to your child, make the experience interactive by asking them questions, such as “What do you think will happen next?” “What was your favorite part of the story? Why?”
6. **Reread your child’s favourite books.** By age 3, children can complete sentences in familiar stories. Read their favorite books over and over to help them learn through repetition.
7. **Point out similar words.** By age 4, children begin to recognize letters. You can point out words in a book that begin with the same letter to your preschooler to help him become familiar with the letter and begin to associate certain words with that letter.
8. **Count objects on the page.** As you read to your child, count objects on the page together to help strengthen early math skills.
9. **Have your preschooler tell you the story.** By age 5, children can sit still for longer books and can create their own stories based on the pictures. Ask your preschooler to tell you the basic plot of the book or to make up stories based on what he sees on each page.
10. **Read with passion!** Using inflection and maintaining the same highs and lows in your voice at the same point in a story helps your child begin to remember the words.
11. **Set an example.** Let your child see you reading your books to help them develop their own love of reading.
12. **Just keep reading.** Reading to your child helps them develop a habit of listening to stories and loving books. One the most important pieces of advice is to make sure you are reading to them early and often.

No matter how old your child is – from babies to toddlers to preschoolers – these tips will help you capitalize on this valuable time with your child, making reading a fun, educational and memorable experience for both of you



# Numeracy Tips

Have you ever played Beat the Dealer!? This is a great game for comparing numbers and place values by building numbers from ones, tens and hundreds. The easier version is to use tens and ones. The game with ones, tens, and hundreds is more challenging.

This game can be played with two to four players. Run at least two sets of cards ([PRESS HERE](#) to get access to the cards). The cards will be shuffled and each player is dealt seven cards. The remaining cards are placed facedown at the center of the table. After the cards are dealt, each player will sort their cards into place values of ones, tens and hundreds and use those groups to calculate their number. Each player will shout out their number and compare it to the dealer's number. If the player's number is greater than the dealer's, a point (shown by a penny, counter or tally on a paper) is earned. After ten rounds are played, the scores are revealed and whoever has the most points wins! If you have any questions about the game please contact Mr. Cherry.



# Strong Families: On Their Best Behaviour

Parkland School Division is proud to present another FREE information series for local families. In our upcoming Strong Families series, Registered Psychologist Kelsey Wittebolle will discuss all things behaviour, including how individuals can encourage the best behaviour from their children.

Topics will include:

- Age-appropriate expectations
- The importance of relationships
- Shifting the parent's perspective
- How to honour the child's experience while setting limits
- Handling tantrums, separation anxiety, and big emotions

Following this discussion, families will be able to ask questions, and then have some time to try out the strategies they learn before returning in two weeks for a second session, where they can share their experiences and hone their skills further.

Please note: The content in each two-part series is the same, and most suitable for parents and guardians of children ages 2-6.

Wednesday Afternoon Series

Thursday Morning Series

Date: May 4 & May 18

Time: 1-2:30pm

Location: Online Webinar / Discussion Group

Presenter: Kelsey Wittebolle

Date: May 5 & May 19

Time: 9-10:30am

Location: Online Webinar / Discussion Group

Presenter: Kelsey Wittebolle

To register for these sessions, please email Kelsey Wittebolle at [kelsey.wittebolle@psd.ca](mailto:kelsey.wittebolle@psd.ca), and indicate:

- The name(s) of those who would like to attend the series;
- Which series you would like to attend (Wednesday Afternoons or Thursday Mornings);
- The name of your child; and
- Any specific topic you would like to see covered in these sessions.

After you register, watch your inbox for a reply containing the information you will need to connect to the online sessions.

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!

Thank you to all who attended our last meeting. It's always nice to see friendly faces!

Our final meeting of the year will be on Wednesday, June 8th at 6:30pm. We hope to see you there!

If you have any questions or anything you'd like us to discuss at the meeting, don't hesitate to reach out. Our next meeting details will be sent out in June.

Thanks!

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



# MILLGROVE SCHOOL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

We would like to thank everyone that supported the Spell-a-thon fundraiser. We raised an impressive amount.....\$12,326 and counting!! Way to go Millgrove Families!! We are all blown away by the support. The top classes will be announced later in the week.

Our last round of Hot Lunch & Milk sales will be running May 18-25 for the June menu. Please make sure all orders & payments are completed by 4:30 pm of the last order day

A reminder to those that ordered from the Pots'n'Pansies fundraiser that pick up will be May 25th at the school. Will send out the time closer to the date as well as an email reminder.

Our next foundation meeting is May 10 at 6:30 pm. It will be online so watch for a meeting code email to come out that week. We will be discussing plans for the fundraising money, plans for year-end as well as discussing how next year might look.

Allison Chuey  
Millgrove School Community Foundation President

