

JANUARY/ FEBRUARY 2023

THE MILLGROVE MINUTE

The official newsletter of Millgrove School



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

By Mrs. Madge-Arkininstall

Welcome back! We are so excited to have everyone back in the building rested and ready to learn.

A huge thank you to all of you for supporting our concerts and attending even on the days when buses were not running. The experience of gathering together and sharing in the gift of music was exceptional. Mrs. Davies and her team did an outstanding job, and the event will forever be remembered as a bonding and celebratory experience.

We are excited to be able to increase our literacy and numeracy lead time. Mrs. Lindsay Graham will now be working full time, Mrs. Leslie Steigel, an extra morning, and Mrs. Gail Wright two more afternoons.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

- Family Literacy Day
 - School-Wide PJ Day
 - Parent Teacher Interviews
 - Kindergarten Open House
 - Mary Lambert Performance
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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

This additional time will allow them to work with more students and directly in the classrooms with staff and students.

I invite you to attend our School Council/School Foundation meeting on Wednesday, January 18 at 6:30 in the library. Our School Council Chair, Mrs. Anna-Marie Jackson has invited Cst. Shawn Cherway from the Northern Alberta Internet Child Exploitation Unit will be sharing basic safety tips for children when accessing the internet.

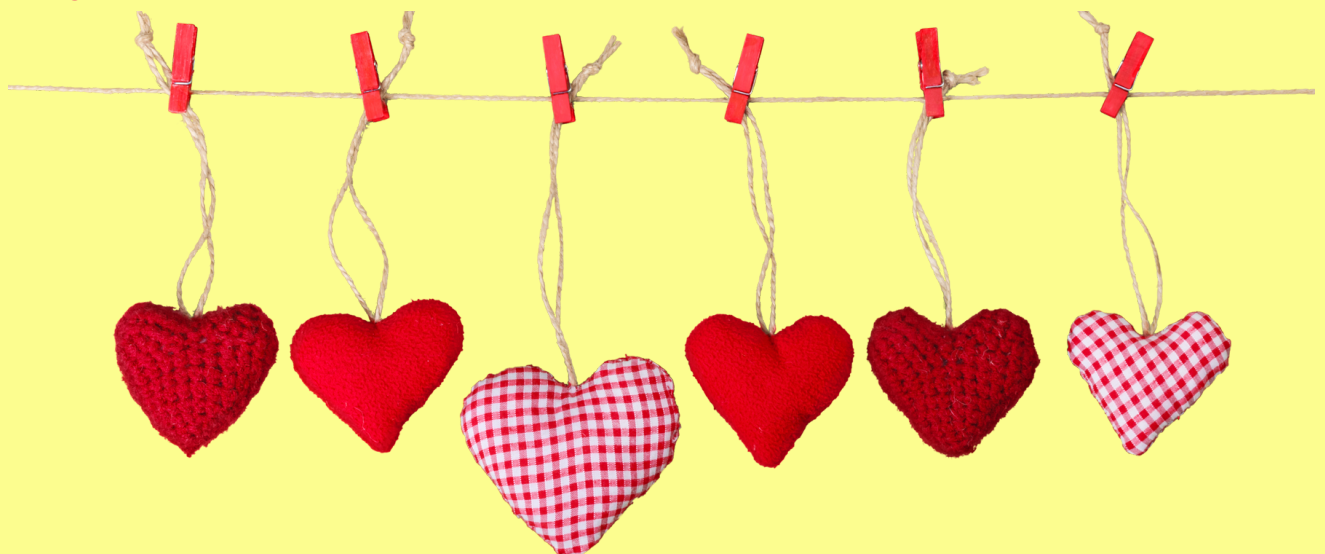
On January 27, we will be celebrating Family Literacy Day. We will have a school-wide Pajama Day, and parents and special guests will be invited to read to students. More information will be coming home closer to the date.

You can look forward to another round of parent-teacher interviews on the evenings of February 6 and February 7, an excellent opportunity to learn more about your child's education. Staff will be involved in an in-person Teachers' Convention on February 9 and February 10, and we look forward to this opportunity to collaborate with colleagues and attend learning sessions.



As always, I appreciate this incredible parent and staff community that rallies around one another and supports the wellness of our children.

Respectfully,
L. Madge-Arkininstall



Office News

Parent Teacher Interviews

K-4

Millgrove School's upcoming Parent-Teacher Interviews for grades K-4 will be held on February 6 and 7, 2023, from 4:00-7:30 pm.

Our interview booking tool will **OPEN** on **January 23**; please watch your inbox and our website for further details.

Kindergarten Open House

Thursday, February 16

6:30-7:30 pm

We are excited to host our annual Kindergarten Open House. Watch our website for details!



Safety First

Please help us to continue to keep our students safe by **not** parking or stopping in the no-parking zone on Marlboro Drive. This is a busy location, especially with students accessing the crosswalk. Do not allow children to cross in the middle of the road; always walk students safely to the crosswalks.

Please park in the neighbourhood and walk your child to school or drive up the alley beside the school, where staff supervisors are available to safely guide you and allow you to drop off your child in a secure location.

We appreciate your cooperation.



Calendar of Events

Jan 18	Millgrove School Council and Foundation Meeting, 6:30-7:30 pm
Jan 20	Hot Lunch - Boston Pizza (Prepaid)
Jan 23-27	Swimming - Grade 4C/4G, 1-3 pm
Jan 27	Hot Lunch - Pizza 73 (Prepaid)
Jan 27	Schoolwide PJ Day
Jan 31-Feb 6	Swimming - Grade 4D/4T, 1-3 pm
Feb 1-2	Gr 3 In School Building Bridges
Feb 3	Hot Lunch - Bite to Eat (Prepaid)
Feb 6 & 7	Parent/Teacher Interviews, 4-7:30 pm
Feb 8	Hot Lunch - KFC (Prepaid)
Feb 8	Winter Walk Day
Feb 9-10	Teacher Convention, no school
Feb 15	Millgrove School Council and Foundation Meeting, 6:30-7:30 pm
Feb 16	Hot Lunch - Pizza 73 (Prepaid) Kindergarten Open House 6:30-1:30 pm
Feb 17	PD Day, no school
Feb 20	Family Day, no school
Feb 22	Pink Shirt Day
Feb 24	Hot Lunch DQ
Feb 27	Mary Lambert Performance, 1:30 - 3:00 pm
Mar 2	Gr 4 Ski Trip Snow Valley
Mar 3	Hot Lunch - Pizza 73 (Prepaid)



Numeracy News

The Importance of Struggle

As teachers and parents, it is natural for us to step in and help children when they are struggling. Brain research shows that it is important to let children struggle to some extent. An amazing Math professor, Grayson Wheatly, once told me, "If a child can solve a problem right away they are not learning." So when your child is working on Mathematics and they say "I can't do this" or "this is hard" encourage them to try and think about it. You can use comments like "Okay, your brain is growing because it's hard." Encourage them to try. Then give them a short time to try (I count to ten slowly in my head). If they continue to struggle, ask some of the following questions to guide them:

1. What do you know?
2. What do you need to find out?
3. Could you draw a picture to figure it out?
4. Would using some blocks, Lego or toothpicks help?
5. What's a small step you could take to start?
6. If it's a word problem, would you like me to read it to you?

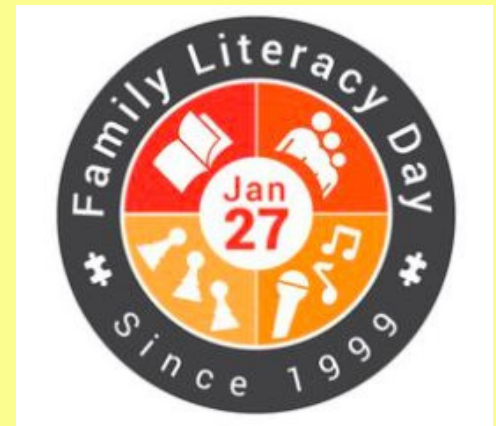
Remember playing card games and board games of many types improves Math skills. Have fun playing games while learning Math!

Mrs. G. Wright



Literacy Tips

Family Literacy Day takes place every **January 27th** to raise awareness about the importance of reading and engaging in other literacy-related activities as a family. Since 1999, thousands of schools, libraries, literacy organizations and other community groups have taken part in the initiative. ABC creates free learning and promotional resources for anyone that wants to get involved. Taking time every day to read or do a learning activity with children is crucial to a child's development, improving a child's literacy skills dramatically, and can help a parent improve their skills as well."



[ABC Life Literacy Website](#)

Millgrove will be recognizing Family Literacy by having guest readers come into our classrooms and read to our students. Every Friday in January (or another day you can coordinate with your teacher) we are inviting guest readers in. These guest readers could be Grandmas, Grandpas, Aunts, Uncles, family friends etc. You may wish to read in other classes as well as your child's home room. A note will be sent in Seesaw inviting you. You will need to indicate which Friday(s) you are available, the time you would like to come, if you are willing to read to other classes and if you are bringing a picture book or if you would like your teacher to provide one for you. In the higher grades perhaps you can read a portion the read aloud the teacher is doing. We will finish on Friday January 27th , which is Family Literacy Day in Canada.

On the 27th we will have a school wide pajama/blanket/stuffy reading time. The children can snuggle up with their favourite book(s).

At home, you can also celebrate Literacy by doing different activities as a family. The following links gives you lots of great ideas you can do together.

<https://abclifeliteracy.ca/all-programs/family-literacy-day/>

<https://abclifeliteracy.ca/blog-posts/family-literacy-blog-posts/5-family-literacy-activities-for-the-holiday-season/>

Happy New Year!
Mrs. Steigel

MILLGROVE SCHOOL COUNCIL

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday break! We will be having our parent council next Wednesday, January 18th at 6:30pm in the school library. For this meeting, we have the good fortune of being joined by Cst. Shawn Cherwaty from the Northern Alberta Internet Child Exploitation Unit. Cst. Cherwaty will be there to give parents some basic tips on keeping our children safe on the internet and would welcome any questions you might have. This will be very informal, and no questions are bad questions!

As always, we will have a school board trustee attending, along with our leadership team from the school. It should be a great meeting!

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Looking forward to seeing some new faces!

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



MILLGROVE SCHOOL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and a great New Years!

The next round of hot lunch and milk sales will be January 18-25 for the February menu and February 15-22 for the March menu. Please make sure all orders & payment are completed by 4:30 pm of the last order day. And if paying by cheque or cash please drop it off in the mailbox in the office.

Our next meeting will be January 18 , 2023 @ 6:30 pm in the school library, along with the Millgrove School Council Meeting. Come out to have input on the next fundraiser! As well as a chance to win tickets to an upcoming Spruce Grove Saints hockey game!

We have our next fundraising campaign running in February. Watch for information coming out in February!

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



Strong Families: Decreasing Explosive Behaviour

**THROUGH
EMOTIONAL
REGULATION**



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

This two-part workshop is designed to help you support your child through big emotions and explosive behaviours. Come prepared to think critically about your child's temperament, strengths and emotional/behavioural challenges. You will have opportunities to brainstorm and practice ways to be a source of co-regulation for your child. With effective use of these strategies, you are likely to see improvements in your child's behaviours, self-regulation and resilience.

Childcare is available.

Dates: Wednesday, January 11 and Wednesday, January 18, 2023

Time: 9:30am (Jan. 11) and 11:30am (Jan. 18)

Location: Family Connection Centre (5600 - 50 Street in Stony Plain)

Presenters: Chelsea Ohlmann—M.A., R. Psych. (Clinical Lead, Infant and Preschool Services; Mental Health Consultant, Community Geographic Team CASA)

Please register early to reserve your spot by visiting <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/decreasing-explosive-behaviour-through-emotional-regulation-tickets-474772054997?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>.

For more information, please contact:

Vicky Mamczasz

Family Supports Facilitator

Email: vicky.mamczasz@psd.ca



WE'RE HIRING!

Various administration, teaching and support positions are available.

APPLY TODAY

psd.ca/employment/current-openings



PARKLAND
SCHOOL DIVISION