

MARCH 2023

THE MILLGROVE MINUTE

The official newsletter of Millgrove School



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

By Mrs. Madge-Arkininstall

Welcome March, as we look forward to some warmer days and the hint of spring in the air. Your children continue to arrive ready to learn, and I am grateful to each of you and your commitment to your child's education.

We began the month hosting 35 teachers from other Parkland School Division Schools who spent time in a variety of our classrooms observing "literacy in action". I could not be more proud of this amazing staff that continues to grow their practice, share their skillset and provide children with an outstanding education.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR MARCH

- **Report Cards**
 - **Calling All Artists**
 - **Memory Book Order**
 - **Write-on School Supplies**
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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Parent-teacher interviews were well attended and once again it was lovely to have you in the building celebrating your children's growth. We had our kindergarten open house on February 16 and had approximately 50 families attend. Students that will be attending Millgrove can register online.

On February 27 we welcomed Juno award nominee Mary Lambert back. Great fun was had by all as she entertained the students with songs such as "Buzzy The Busy Bully Bee" . We look forward to the Parkland Ukrainian Dancers performing for us on March 17.

Our School Council and School Foundation meeting is on Tuesday, March 8 at 6:30 and will be held in the library. Mr. Serge LaBrie, our director of facilities for Parkland School Division, will be sharing the blueprints and timeline for our modular renovation. Please join us for the informative meeting.



Report cards will be released on March 16. Please be sure to take time to look at this progress report as it contains valuable information. If you need help accessing the document, please contact the office.

Wishing you a relaxing and enjoyable spring break. We look forward to seeing you all back on Monday, April 3.

Respectfully,
L. Madge-Arkininstall





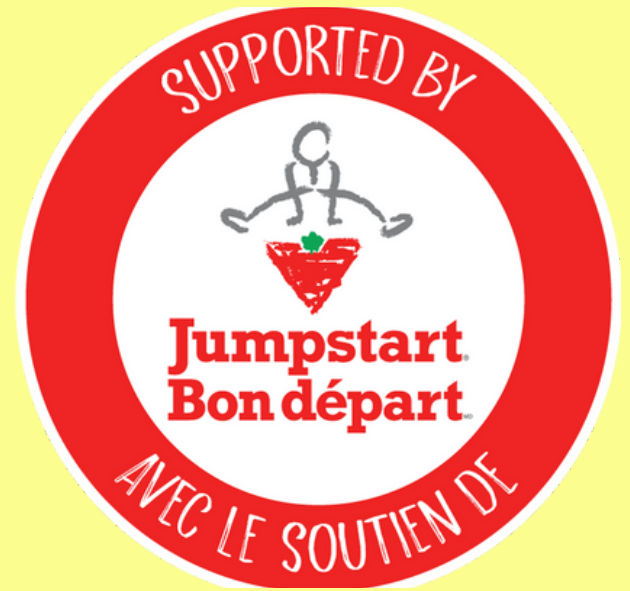
Office News

School Fees Due

Fee statements have been sent to families. Please remit your payment online through the **Parent Portal**, or you can visit our office to pay in person, we accept cash or cheque payments.

If you require assistance with your Parent Portal account or have questions, please contact Toresa Regan at 780-962-6122 ext. 0 or email me at toresaregan@psd.ca.

Parkland School Division does have a waiver process outlined on its website, or payment options are available through the Parent Portal. Please see attached waiver [form](#).



Canadian Tire Jumpstart

We are excited to share that Millgrove School has been selected to receive a Community Development Grant from Canadian Tire Jumpstart. This grant will go a long way towards helping us to provide the opportunity for all students in grades 1-4 at Millgrove to experience the Swim at School program offered through the TransAlta Tri Leisure Centre. Thank you Jumpstart!

If your family could benefit from some financial assistance through our grant funding for specifically **Swim at School (swimming) fees**, please fill out our confidential [request form](#) or contact Toresa Regan at 780-962-6122 ext. 0 or email toresaregan@psd.ca

Thank you!



Parkland School Division's annual online registration/verification process is open now. **All Kindergarten to Grade 12 registrations for both new and returning students will be conducted online for the 2023-2024 school year.**

For important registration deadlines, please [click here](#).

Calendar of Events

Mar 2	Gr 4 Ski Trip Snow Valley
Mar 2-3	2P, 2W and 2H Swimming
Mar 3	Hot Lunch - Pizza 73 (Prepaid)
Mar 6-10	2A and 2V Swimming
Mar 7	Gr 1 Aerials Gymnastics
Mar 8	Millgrove School Council & Foundation Meeting
Mar 10	Hot Lunch - Jacks (Prepaid)
Mar 14	Gr 3 Telus World of Science
Mar 15-16	Gr 2 Hands-on Science In Class
Mar 17	Hot Lunch - Subway (Prepaid)
Mar 17	Parkland Ukrainian Dancers
Mar 20	Choral Celebration
Mar 21	World Down Syndrome Day - wear your fun socks!
Mar 23	Hot Lunch - Quesada (Prepaid)
Mar 24	PD Day - No School
Mar 27-31	Spring Break - No School
Apr 3	Autism Awareness - wear your favourite colors!
Apr 6	Hot Lunch - Pizza 72 (Prepaid)
Apr 7-10	Easter Weekend - No School

A graphic for Spring Break featuring the words "SPRING BREAK" in colorful, 3D-style letters on a light-colored wooden plank background. The letters are in shades of blue, yellow, purple, red, and pink. Scattered around the text are several colorful balloons in various colors including yellow, red, orange, green, purple, blue, and brown.

SPRING
BREAK



Calling All Artists !


All Millgrove students are invited to create an awesome piece of artwork for the cover of the 2022-2023 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 see example below



Millgrove School
2022-2023

ALL ART MUST INCLUDE

- The words "Millgrove School"
- The year "2022 - 2023"

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 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

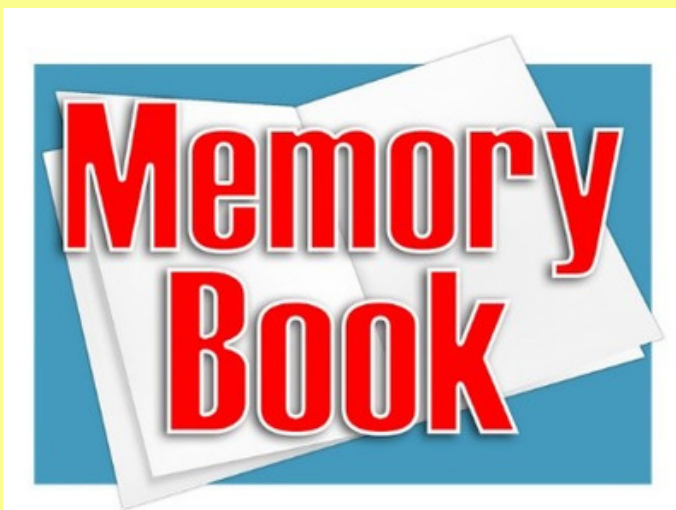
Ensure all pictures are high resolution and are in one of these formats: JPEG, TIFF, PDF.

Please submit all entries [on or before March 17, 2023](#). If you have any questions, please contact our school office.



Millgrove is again offering parents the opportunity to pre-purchase school supplies for fall through Write-On Stationery. This online service is not mandatory, but it promises to save you time, and as an added benefit, a portion of your purchase will be returned to the school as a fundraiser.

We usually offer this service in the spring and deliver supplies in August. Due to our portable renovations this year, we'll start this earlier and have supplies available for pickup at the school in June before we close for the summer. Please watch for an email coming soon with details on how to order.



Millgrove School's 2022-23 Memory Book

can now be pre-ordered online
at www.smartphotography.ca

\$12.50 plus tax

Memory Book Online Code:

MIL_2022-23

The deadline to order is June 1st, 2023.

Memory Books will be shipped to home in late June.

MILLGROVE SCHOOL COUNCIL

I'd like to take the time to thank all of those who joined us for our last parent council meeting. We had a great meeting with our special guest, Constable Shawn Cherwaty, and we thank him for taking time out of his evening to talk to parents and answer questions regarding internet safety. It was very informative.

We'd love for you to join us for our upcoming meeting next **Wednesday, March 7th at 6:30pm** in the library.

We will discuss all things Millgrove including a presentation from our Director of Facilities, Serge LaBrie, on our modular renovation.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Thank you,

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

MILLGROVE SCHOOL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

We are constantly amazed with the support of our Millgrove families. With our last round of fundraising we raised around **\$4500!** Thank you to everyone that purchased items. This money will go towards things at the school that the school budget doesn't account for such as replacing broken/missing playground equipment, items for the school quiet room and much more.

Pick up for Kernels Popcorn, Indeygo, Fundscrip and the First Aid Kits will take place on March 15, 2023 in the afternoon. Times will be sent out closer to the date.

Pick up for The Big Greenhouse will be at the end of April/beginning of May. Dates & times will be sent out at a later date.

The next round of hot lunch and milk sales will be March 15-22 for the April menu. Please make sure all orders & payment are completed by 4:30 pm of the last order day. If you are paying by cash/cheque you will need to have it into the school by 3:30 pm on March 22.

Our next meeting will be March 8, 2023 @ 6:30 pm in the school library. This meeting will be in combination with Millgrove School Council. Would love to see more people come out to talk about where our fundraising money goes!!

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





Numeracy News

Why Not to Teach the Algorithm (Procedure) First

There are a number of reasons why we don't encourage learning the typical stacking method for addition and subtraction of numbers greater than ten before exploring other methods.

1. When children are taught a procedure (such as, borrowing and carrying) as they are learning to do multiple-digit addition and subtraction they tend to use that procedure rather than trying to understand place value and our base ten number system.
2. The research of Kamii et. al (1993) showed that children memorizing a procedure for solving multi-digit equations actually interferes with a child's development of number sense.
3. Before learning the procedures, if children are given the opportunity to develop their own strategies and procedures for solving multi-digit equations that make sense to them, they develop understanding of place value, how addition and subtraction work and see themselves as problem solvers that can use a variety of strategies.
4. They become efficient at solving multi-digit equations and problems. They are not likely to use "the procedure" when they come across an equation such as; $45+19$. They are more likely to think about $45+20$ and then one less rather than writing out the whole procedure of carrying the group of ten to the tens and then adding the "tens column".
5. Children become more confident with number sense when they realize there is more than one way to solve problems and equations.

The children are taught the "typical procedure" (algorithms) once they have had experience with developing their own strategies and trying a variety of ways. Parents are often concerned this will confuse them. With understanding of place value and our base ten system it actually deepens their understanding. Giving children time to use objects and pictures to actually see how place value works is part of working toward understanding. As they use a variety of ways to solve multi-digit problems they begin to use the most efficient method for the situation.

Everyday Math - Our fluctuating temperatures are a way to think about Math. e.g. If it's -23 today and it's supposed to be -5 tomorrow, how much warmer will it be tomorrow?)

Mrs. G. Wright



Literacy Tips

There have been many “buzz” words floating around in our hallways regarding Literacy instruction such as: Science of Reading, Phonological Awareness, Phonemic Awareness, Guided Reading, Choral Reading, Literature Circles, HLAT, Words Their Way, Phonics, Morphology, Decodable books, Reading Intervention and LLI to name a few. The list is long but each and every day at Millgrove School we put ALL these terms into our literacy practices!

However, with all the great practices our staff does every day in literacy, some students still struggle to read. WHY?? According to [Reading Rockets](#), there are 8 reasons why reading and writing are difficult for some students. Some of these reasons could be a reading disability, exposure, motivation, second language, or lack of targeted instruction. At Millgrove, we are working hard to help those children who need a bit more assistance with reading and writing skills. We are learning the science of how literacy skills develop in children, why some children struggle to develop these fundamental skills, and what research tells us about how to best teach them. We are bridging the gap between the Science of Reading (SoR) and educational practice. This past year we have had the opportunity to work in classrooms and small groups to help facilitate targeted reading, writing and word work instruction.

WHAT ?? The Science of Reading (SoR) is everything that is scientifically known about how children learn to read, and the most effective way for reading to be taught. The Science of reading is not a methodology or system designed to teach reading but rather the PROCESS which uses the scientific findings for teaching reading and helping children become competent readers. This research provides us with the information we need to gain a deeper understanding of how we learn to read, what skills are involved, how they work together, and which parts of the brain are responsible for reading development with Comprehension as the ultimate goal for reading. The SoR identifies five essential components that make up the Simple View of Reading:

- **Phonemic Awareness**-The ability to hear, identify and manipulate sounds(phonemes)
- **Phonics**-The ability to identify a relationship between sound (phoneme) and what is written (grapheme)
- **Fluency**- The ability for readers to read easily with automaticity (they don't have to sound out all words)
- **Vocabulary**- The meaning and pronunciation of words that we use in speech and text
- **Comprehension**- Understanding the text/words that we read and the bigger meaning they provide

Literacy Tips

At Millgrove we use a tiered approach to Literacy: **Tier 1** is in the classroom receiving direct instruction as a whole class. **Tier 2** is when students get to work in class with peers or a teacher in small groups with targeted lessons. **Tier 3** is when a student would receive some individual/small group intervention literacy support on target areas that need repetition or were missed at some point (LLI/Literacy intervention). It truly takes a village to help our students learn literacy and make it an automatic part of their daily lives.



We have amazing teachers who have embraced the new [K-3 Literacy curriculum](#) and challenged themselves to new ways of approaching literacy and it is working! We are fortunate to have many supports outside of the classroom to help give your children some more tools so that they can build a love of literacy at a young age. As a parent you can help your child develop with more exposure to literacy by reading for 10-20 minutes daily with your child, using levelled/library books sent home, your child's [Raz Kids](#) membership provided by the school, accessing [Flyleaf decodable books](#) or [half-pint decodables](#) listening to [Just Books Read Aloud](#) Playing with words using [UFLI](#) tiles or if your child has difficulty with letter sounds try these online lessons [UFLI alphabet unit](#). Literacy is a fun way to share some time together!

Mrs.Lindsay Graham & Mrs.Leslie Steigel