

SEPTEMBER 2023

# THE MILLGROVE MINUTE

*The official newsletter of Millgrove School*

**BACK TO SCHOOL**

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

**Mrs. Cameron**

Dear Millgrove Families,

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year at Millgrove School! I am honoured to serve as your Principal and look forward to working alongside you in this great school community.

I trust that you had a fabulous summer and enjoyed some rest, relaxation, and also had fun making some special memories. We had a wonderful week with all staff back in the building at the end of August. They are a great group of people and we were all so pleased to welcome your children earlier this week!

## HIGHLIGHTS THIS MONTH

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- Hot Diggity Dog
  - Running Club Dates
  - Terry Fox Run
  - Library News
  - Literacy and Math
  - School Fees
  - Dot Day - Sept 15
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## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

The beginning of a new school year is always an exciting time as we foster connections and relationships in our school community, continue our work with strong and effective teaching practices to support all students, and move learning forward. Our Welcome Assembly was a fabulous gathering of students, staff, and some parents who were able to join us. What a great kickoff to the school year! Our Grade 4 student leaders did a fabulous job leading the assembly. All students were great audience members, listened respectfully to the speakers, and sang our Millgrove School songs beautifully.

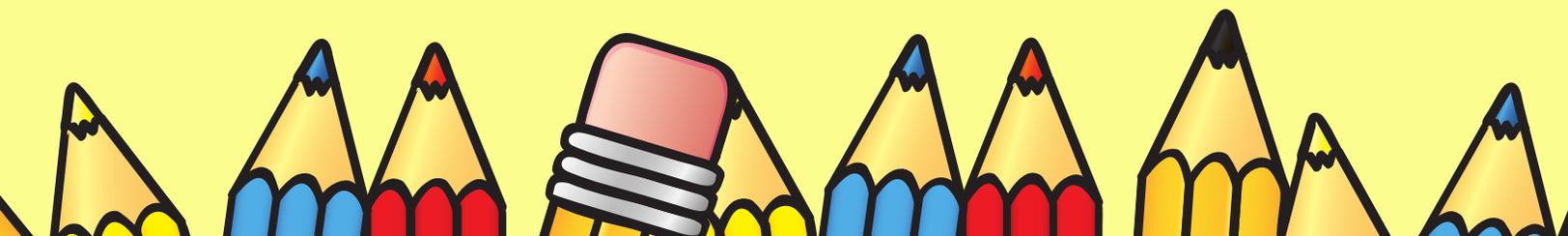
Millgrove is a buzzing place! The Facilities team from Parkland School Division and the many contractors involved in our renovation project have been working extremely hard and things are looking amazing. While the project is not quite 100% complete, all new portables are in place and students are settling in. Finishing work is being completed on the "link" (hallway connecting the new pods of the modular classrooms) and is expected to be open soon. Students and staff access the main school building using designated exterior entrances until the link is open as a connector. As student safety is our number one priority, students whose classrooms are in the portables are accompanied by staff any time they need to visit the main building. Work continues on the school grounds as well with the laying of sod set to take place next week.

Our staff is committed to the success and well-being of our students. As parents and caregivers, you are integral partners in your child's education and we look forward to continuing to work together for the growth and continued success of your children. As always, please feel free to reach out to your classroom teacher, the fabulous secretarial staff, or the administration if you need assistance or support.

Here's to a fantastic year ahead at Millgrove School where "Learning Today Brightens Tomorrow"!

Respectfully,  
Lesley Cameron, Principal

**WELCOME ✨  
to the TEAM**



## Arrival Procedures

We love to see your faces bright and early but our supervision does not start until 8:45 am. Please see the [Student Handbook](#) for information about our school.

Our parking lot is one-way starting south of the school on Marlboro Drive and entering at the alley, and exiting north on Millgrove Drive.

There is no parking in bus lanes, staff parking, and fire lanes.

Handicap parking is for registered tag holders only.

Please drive slowly and be considerate; we are a busy place!

REMINDER: Please get the UPDATED [Bus Status 4 app](#) on the [PSD Website](#).



## Visitors to Millgrove

We ask parents picking up students during school hours to please sign them out in the *visitor book* just inside the office doors.

Thank you, we appreciate your continued support.

## School Fees

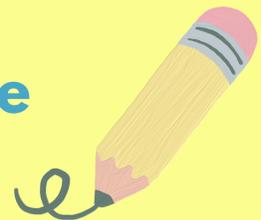
Fee notices have been sent home. Please remit payment by September 30, 2023. Families can pay online through the [Parent Portal](#). Methods of online payment include Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Interac Online Debit. Alternatively, we will accept cash, cheque, and credit card payments at the school office. Please make cheques payable to Parkland School Division.

See our website for detailed [Field Trip Information](#).

The division does have a waiver process outlined on its 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 get in touch with Mrs. Regan at 780-962-6122 ext. 0 or email her at [toresa.regan@psd.ca](mailto:toresa.regan@psd.ca).

## Important Attendance Reporting



If your child is away for any reason, it is very important to contact our school to report your child's absence. This helps us to complete our daily attendance as quickly as possible to ensure everyone arrives safely.

**Call 780-962-6122 Ext. 1 to leave a message  
OR email us at [millgrove@psd.ca](mailto:millgrove@psd.ca)**

# Literacy Tips

## Millgrove Writing Journey



Welcome back to a new school year! Many of you will be asked to do home reading or promote reading at home. Reading is an important part of your child's overall success. You can help your child develop good reading skills. Here are a few ideas from the article entitled "What are some ways to encourage school-age readers?"

### What are some ways to encourage school-age readers?

#### Continue being a good role model

- Let your child see you read.

#### Encourage your child to read on her own at home

- Reading at home can help your child do better in school.

#### Keep a variety of reading materials in the house

- Make sure to have reading materials for enjoyment as well as for reference.

#### Encourage your child to practice reading aloud

- Frequently listen to your child read out loud and praise her often as she does so. Offer to read every other page or even every other chapter to your child. Have conversations and discussions about the book with your child.

#### Write short notes for your child to read

- Write down his weekly household responsibilities for him to keep track of or put a note in his lunch bag.

#### Encourage activities that require reading

- Cooking (reading a recipe), constructing a kite (reading directions), or identifying a bird's nest or a shell at the beach (reading a reference book) are some examples.

#### Establish a reading time, even if it's only 10 minutes each day

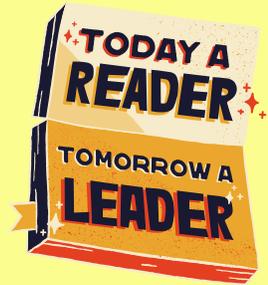
- Make sure there is a good reading light in your child's room and stock her bookshelves with books and magazines that are easy to both read and reach.

#### Talk with your child

- Talking makes children think about their experiences more and helps them expand their vocabularies. Ask your child to give detailed descriptions of events and to tell complete stories.

# Literacy

## NEWS CONTINUES...



### Give your child writing materials

- Reading and writing go hand in hand. Children want to learn to write and to practice writing. If you make pencils, crayons, and paper available at all times, your child will be more inclined to initiate writing activities on his own.

### Restrict television time

- The less time your child spends watching television, the more time he will have for reading-related activities.

### Visit the library once a week

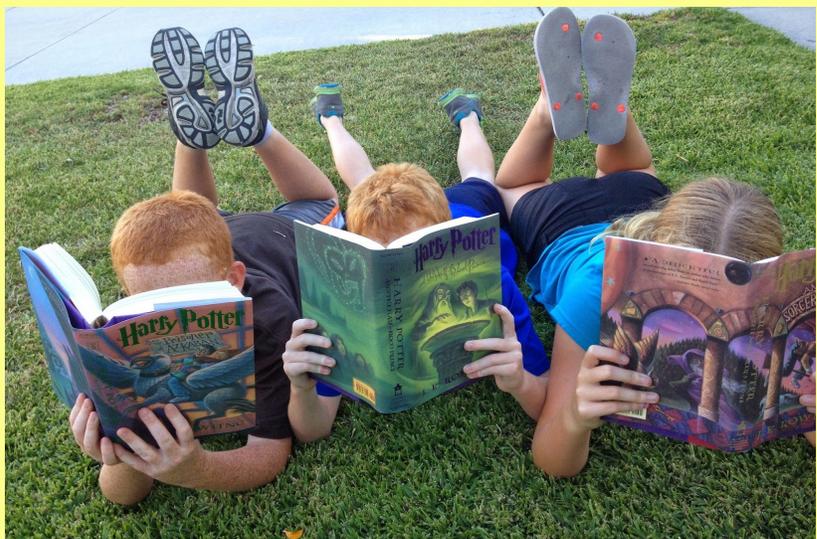
- Have your child apply for her own library card so she can check out books on her own for schoolwork and for pleasure reading. Ask your child to bring home a library book to read to a younger sibling and encourage her to check out books on tape that she can listen to on long car trips.

### Work in partnership with your child's school

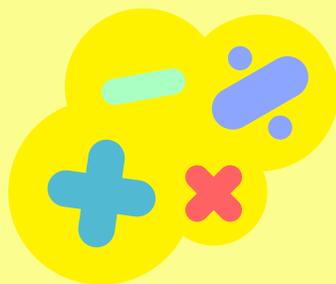
- The more you know about the type of reading program his school follows, the more you can help by supplementing the program at home. Offer to volunteer in the classroom or school library as often as your schedule allows.
- Reading for pleasure and interest will help your child to develop reading skills and will give your child the opportunity to practice these skills in meaningful ways.

*Happy reading!*

Mrs.Schmaus and Mrs.Barker  
Literacy Specialist



# Numeracy Tips



## September Numeracy News

I am excited to continue our Mathematical journey this year! This month my focus is working within classrooms. It's a great way to get to know children and their teachers. I get to work with small groups and whole classes at a variety of grades.

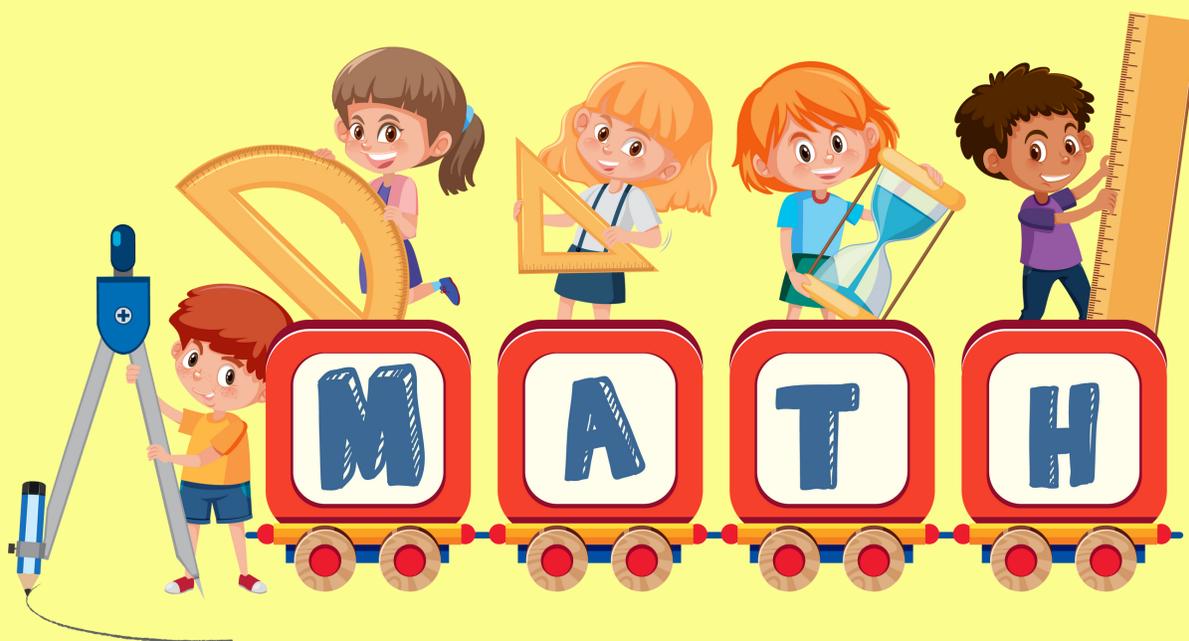
Here are a few tips for parents as you talk to your child about Math:

1. Keep a positive attitude about Math. e.g. "What did you **get to do** in Math today?"
2. Use Math vocabulary when talking about Math concepts: e.g. sum, difference, equation, etc.
3. Have your child teach you something they did during Math. Listen carefully to how they explain it. Talking about Math concepts helps them learn and make connections to concepts they already know.
4. Look for and point out Math that you/they see or do on a regular basis.

Have a great year!

Mrs. G. Wright

Numeracy Lead/Intervention



# Calendar of Events



Sept 4	Labour Day - No School
Sept 5	First Day of School
Sept 8	Welcome Back Assembly in the Gym @ 11:45am-12:15pm
Sept 14	Cross-Country Run #1 @ Blueberry School
Sept 15	Dot- Day; your child can dress in their "dot-iest" outfit!
Sept 20	Grade 3 Tacky Tourist Day
Sept 21	Cross-Country Run #2 @ Jubilee Park Hosted by <i>Living Waters Christian Academy</i> Hot Diggity Dog (Open House Night) @ 5:30-6:30pm
Sept 22	Terry Fox Run
Sept 28	Cross-Country Run #3 @ Entwistle Millgrove Foundation & Council Meeting @ 6:30pm
Sept 29	Orange Shirt Day for National Truth and Reconciliation



## Terry Fox Run

The 2023 Terry Fox School Run is set for this month and we are so excited to be taking part! Our event will be taking place on **Friday, September 22nd**. We need your help to boost our student's fundraising. This event supports vital cancer research while also building incredible school spirit for our students. Let's all show how incredible and generous our school community is and work to reach the fundraising goal of \$1000.00.

The Terry Fox Foundation has created an online fundraising page customized for our school. Don't delay, let's start fundraising today!

- Donate online** at: <https://schools.terryfox.ca/30726>
  - Click the link above to donate or search for our school name at [terryfox.org](http://terryfox.org).
  - Receipts are issued immediately to donors by email from the Terry Fox Foundation
- Support your child's fundraising efforts**
  - Share their fundraising link or your child's school's link with family and friends to help them reach their goal
  - Share a "[#DearTerry](#)" message to celebrate Terry's legacy and inspire others to go the distance

We are very excited to be a part of this year's Terry Fox event. This is our opportunity to "Try Like Terry" and go the distance for this year's event. Please join us to support cancer research while building incredible school spirit for all of our students. Thank you in advance for your support!



## Running Club Dates

Running club starts early this year! If your child is interested in joining the running club, please mark your calendar with the following dates and [fill out this form](#) to the school by **September 12th**.

### Dates to Remember

- September 15** Duffield School (at Grouse Nest Golf Course, leave early)
- September 22** Woodhaven (at Brookwood School)
- September 29** Entwistle School (leave early)
- October 6** Ecole Meridian Heights School
- October 13** Blueberry School
- October 20** High Park School

Please remember that parents are expected to provide and arrange transportation for their children to and from the race events.



## Library Corner

Hello families of Millgrove,

My name is Mrs. Pirie and I am the librarian at Millgrove School. The Millgrove library is a place where students have the opportunity to explore the library world.

Millgrove school library is not just about books.

We also host students in the exploration of Makerspace/Tinkerlab. That is when students come in and have the opportunity to create, build, and design to their heart's content.

*Would you like to know more about the library here at Millgrove?* This is an opportunity to get to know what happens in a school library and be part of your students' learning experience. **I am always looking for a helping hand in book organization, displays, book fairs (one of Millgrove's biggest fundraisers) and so much more.**

If you would like a chance to come in and learn more please send me an email at [pamela.pirie@psd.ca](mailto:pamela.pirie@psd.ca) or stop by the library and I can show you around.



## Strong Families: Starting the School Year in **STRENGTH**

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

In our upcoming session, we will be joined by Joel Pukalo, a Registered Psychologist, who will share supportive strategies for common back-to-school challenges. This session will offer practical strategies for managing anxiety, emotional regulation and readjustment to routine. Parents/caregivers are encouraged to bring questions or specific areas of challenge/interest to the session.

Date: Tuesday, Sept. 19, 2023

Time: 6:30-8pm

Location: PSD Division Office/Centre For Education (4603-48 Street in Stony Plain)

Presenters: Joel Pukalo (Registered Psychologist, [Family Life Psychology & Wellness](#))

Please register early to reserve your spot by visiting <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/strong-families-starting-the-school-year-in-strength-tickets-706808151207>.

Did you know that PSD publishes a monthly newsletter with information, opportunities and strategies to help families navigate their children's educational journey? To view the current issue (or past issues), please visit the [Stronger Together Newsletter](#) page.

For more information, please contact:

Jenn Goulden

Family Support Coordinator

Email: [jenn.goulden@psd.ca](mailto:jenn.goulden@psd.ca)

# MILLGROVE SCHOOL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

On behalf of the Millgrove School Community Foundation I would like to welcome you all to the 2023/2024 school year at Millgrove! For those of you new to the school the Millgrove School Community Foundation is a group of volunteers and elected board officials that run the fundraising efforts, hot lunch and milk program. The money we collect through fundraising goes to support many different programs and items that benefit the students.

**Our AGM is scheduled for Thursday, September 28 @ 6:30 pm.** It will be held in the library at Millgrove School. This is a great opportunity to come and see what we are about or even run for a position! By being part of the Millgrove School Community Foundation you have the chance to discuss and vote on things like the fundraisers we do and how some of the money is spent to improve the lives of the students at Millgrove. Here is an overview of the positions:

**President** - chair meetings, coordinate programs, work with the principal

**Vice President** - assist President, chair meetings if President is unable to

**Treasurer** - take care of all the financial aspects of the foundation

**Secretary** - take minutes at meetings

**Hot Lunch Coordinator** - book vendors, set up hot lunch site, organize volunteers

**Milk Coordinator** - order milk, organize volunteers

**Fundraising Coordinator** - book vendors for fundraising, work with a team of volunteers to distribute items

Our hot lunch program will run exactly the same way as last year with parents pre-ordering on a monthly basis. Our milk program will be done using milk tickets that will be bought in advance. Milk tickets will be sold online every 3 months. Hot lunch and milk delivery will start in October. More information will be coming out in the next week or 2.

If you have any questions or would like more information please contact me at

[millgrovescfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:millgrovescfoundation@gmail.com)

I hope to see you at the AGM!

Allison Chuey  
Millgrove School Community Foundation  
President



# Dot Day

Dear Families,  
This year Millgrove will be celebrating Dot Day on **Friday, September 15th**. Dot Day is a global celebration inspired by Peter H. Reynolds' book, *The Dot*.

It is a day all about creativity, courage, and collaboration. This is also a day when your child can dress in their "dot-iest" outfit! This could be as simple as wearing a shirt with a circle, or wearing an entire outfit full of dots.

We look forward to seeing all of the creations and collaborations that come out of this special day, as well as all of the creative outfits!

It's time to make our mark!

## MILLGROVE SCHOOL COUNCIL

Hello Millgrove families!

Hard to believe summer is over!

Our first meeting of the year will be on **Thursday, September 28th at 6:30pm** in the library.

The Parent Council is a group of parent volunteers and board members who provide the school's administration team with parent perspectives. This helps support decisions that meet both the needs of home and school. The meetings are a casual way to meet some other parents while keeping up on the exciting things going on in the school. We also have a school board trustee attend to give us a recap of what's happening in the division. Meetings are generally short and sweet as we all know you are as busy as we are! We'd love to see new faces!

If you have any questions or anything you'd like us to discuss at the meeting, don't hesitate to reach out. Meeting details will be sent out a few days prior.

Thank you!

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

THANK  
YOU

WE HOPED YOU ENJOYED OUR NEWSLETTER