

JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2024

THE MILLGROVE MINUTE

The official newsletter of Millgrove School



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Mrs. Cameron

Happy New Year! I trust that you had a wonderful Winter Break and are looking forward to all 2024 has in store. I hope that 2024 brings you and your family much health, happiness, and joy.

We would like to thank everyone who was able to enjoy our Winter Concerts and celebrate the musical talent of our students. Our students in Kindergarten through Grade Four did an amazing job singing, playing instruments, and even acting! A huge shout out to Mrs. Kathryn Davies for all of her work with the Music classes. It truly takes a team to pull off our concerts, so thank you to all staff for your contributions!

HIGHLIGHTS OVER THE NEXT TWO MONTHS

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- **Report Cards**
 - **Share a Thought**
 - **School-Wide PJ Day & PEP Rally**
 - **Kindergarten Open House**
 - **Registration Opens**
 - **Archery Club**
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MILLGROVE SCHOOL

Phone: 780.962.6122

Email: millgrove@psd.ca

Website: millgrove.psd.ca

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

We would also like to thank all of our parent volunteers for your ongoing generosity with your time and efforts. We are thankful for the parents and community members who help with the Snack Shack preparations twice weekly, as well as our Toast Tuesday and milk and hot lunch parent crew!

Term One report cards will be live to families on Monday, January 30th, 2024. Report cards can be accessed through the Parent Portal on PowerSchool. If you have any questions about your child's learning and progress, you are encouraged to reach out to your child's teacher.

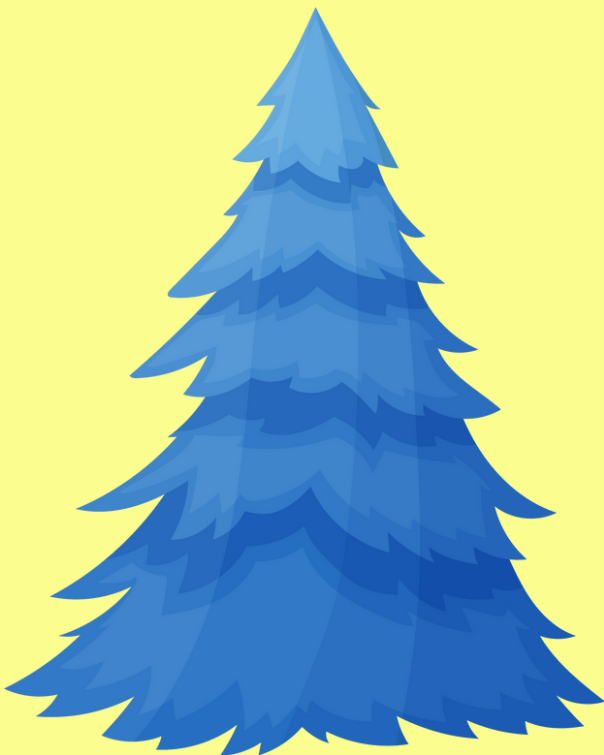
We also look forward to welcoming new Kindergarten students for the 2024-2025 school year and their families to our Kindergarten Open House on Thursday, February 15th at 6:00 pm. If you have a child entering Kindergarten next fall, please Save the Date! More information to come on our website in the coming weeks.

As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or feedback, please call, email, or book a time to meet in person.

Sincerely,

Lesley Cameron, Principal
lesley.cameron@psd.ca

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

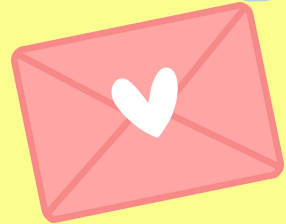


Calendar of Events

Jan 8-12	Swim at School Tri Leisure - 4T & 4C
Jan 12	Pre-paid Hot Lunch - Pizza 73
Jan 17	Council and Foundation Meeting 6:30 pm
Jan 19	PEP Rally! School Wide PJ Day! Pre-paid Hot Lunch - Bite to Eat
Jan 26	Pre-paid Hot Lunch - Jacks Drive Inn
Jan 29-Feb 2	Swim at School Tri Leisure - 4D & 4G
Jan 29	Aerials Gymnastics - 1L, 1C, 1M & 1CA
Jan 30	Aerials Gymnastics - 1J Report Cards published to the Parent Portal
Feb 2	Pre-paid Hot Lunch - Pizza 73
Feb 5-7 & 12-13	Swim at School Tri Leisure - 2A & 2L
Feb 7	Winter Walk Day Pre-paid Hot Lunch - Boston Pizza
Feb 8 & 9	Teacher Convention - no school for students
Feb 12	Parkland School Division Registration Opens for 2024-2025
Feb 13	Aerials Gymnastics - 1J
Feb 14	Valentine's Day!
Feb 14-15 & 20-21	Swim at School Tri Leisure - 2G & 2C
Feb 15	Clay for Kids Grade 3 - 3W, 3KA & 3SB Snow Valley Ski Day - Grade 4 Aerials Gymnastics - 1L, 1C, 1M & 1CA Kindergarten Open House 6-7 pm Pre-paid Hot Lunch - Subway
Feb 16	PD Day - no school for students
Feb 19	Family Day - no school
Feb 22	Clay for Kids Grade 3 - 3P & 3H
Feb 23	Pre-paid Hot Lunch - Dairy Queen
Feb 27 & 28	St. Albert Museum and Multicraft Studio - Kindergarten
Feb 28	Pink Shirt Day

JANUARY

February



COMING
SOON

REGISTER

SAVE
THE
DATE

Kindergarten Open House 2024-2025 School Year

Returning Student Registration

We're excited to host our annual Kindergarten Open House on Thursday, February 15 from 6:00 - 7:00 pm.

Registration for 2024-2025 opens on February 12

Kindergarten Registration Opens February 12; please [visit our website](#) for links and information.

In addition to New Kindergarten registration, Parkland School Division's annual online registration/verification process for **ALL RETURNING STUDENTS** opens **Monday, February 12, 2024**.

Important: A child entering kindergarten must be 5 years old by the last day of December of the school year in which he or she begins Kindergarten. For example, a child registering for Kindergarten in September 2024 needs to be 5 years old by December 31, 2024.

Please [visit our website](#) for links and information.



thank you

Report Cards to Parent Portal

Report cards will be available on **Tuesday, January 30th** on the Parent Portal, please log in to your [PowerSchool](#) account.

Once in Power School, you'll see the Report Card icon on the left menu.



If you require a password reset or any help whatsoever, please contact our office at millgrove@psd.ca or 780-962-6122 ext. 0.



SHARE A THOUGHT



Millgrove School and Parkland School Division rely on stakeholder feedback to learn and improve for the benefit of students, families, staff and the community.

We truly appreciate your feedback. This form may be used to provide items for consideration for Millgrove School specifically or Parkland School Division in general. Thank you!

[CLICK HERE TO SHARE A THOUGHT](#)

Bus Cancellation Days

When buses are cancelled, please continue to report your child's absence as you normally would. Email our school at millgrove@psd.ca or call 780-962-6122 ext 1 to leave us a message.

Many families still drive their children to school on such days, and we can't assume bus students are all automatically home.

Safe arrival for students of this age is important, and we appreciate your attendance messages. Thank you for your continued support.



PJ Pep Rally!

Families are invited to our 2nd Annual Millgrove Pep Rally on **Friday, January 19th at 11:40 am** in the gym.

We will celebrate belonging to our Millgrove School community by gathering together and sharing our school song, a new cheer, and even a skit by a few staff members!

After the assembly, students will return to their classrooms and cozy up in their PJs for some school-wide reading.



Literacy Tips

VOCABULARY



QUICK
TIPS

One key ingredient that shapes your child's journey towards becoming a proficient reader and communicator is their vocabulary. Vocabulary, often described as the building blocks of language, is the collection of words and phrases we use to express ourselves. It helps us understand, interpret, and convey our thoughts, emotions, and experiences. Vocabulary plays a role in:

- **Improving Comprehension:** When children encounter new words in texts, conversations, or even during playtime, a strong vocabulary enables them to grasp new concepts more easily. It unlocks the door to comprehension, allowing them to understand and follow complex ideas.
- **Enhancing Expression:** Vocabulary gives wings to your child's thoughts and feelings. With an extensive range of words at their disposal, they can paint vivid pictures, express emotions accurately, and captivate others with their storytelling abilities.
- **Unleashing Curiosity:** A rich vocabulary empowers your child to explore the world around them with a curious mind. It helps them make sense of their surroundings, ask questions, and seek answers, fostering a lifelong love for discovery.

Here are some practical tips to help you boost your child's vocabulary:

- **The Power of Reading Together:** Set aside dedicated time for reading with your child. Whether it's picture books, storybooks, or even magazines, reading aloud and engaging in discussions about the story builds their vocabulary organically. After you're done reading, engage your child in a conversation about the book.
- **Word-a-Day:** Introduce a "Word-a-Day" routine, where you and your child explore a new word each day. Discuss its meaning, use it in different contexts, and encourage them to apply it in their day-to-day conversations.
- **Connecting Through Conversation:** Engage your child in conversations every day. If possible, include new and interesting words in your conversation.
- **Categorizing:** Help build word knowledge by classifying and grouping objects or pictures while naming them.
- **Word Games:** Help build your child's understanding of language by playing verbal games and telling jokes and stories.

Your Literacy Leads,
Cait Barker
Colleen Schmaus





MILLSTONE ARCHERY CLUB

We are excited to announce the beginning of the archery season! The National Archery in the Schools Program aims to improve educational performance among students in grades 4 to 12. Students learn focus, self-control, discipline, patience, and the life lessons required to be successful in the classroom and in life. This will be the 8th year that the NASP (National Archery in the Schools Program) program will be running at Millgrove. Our team has several NASP-trained archery coaches and has gained a reputation throughout the years as having one of the best-trained teams in Alberta.

The team has won multiple tournaments throughout the years, and earned the title of Provincial Champions in the Elementary Division and Reserve Champions in the Middle School Division last year. We are looking forward to continuing this success. With over 150 archers on the team ranging from grades 4 to 12, we hold the distinction of having the largest archery team in Canada!

The school provides ALL of the necessary equipment, and archery is for ANY child who ENJOYS archery and is willing to learn and follow directions. All grade 4's had the chance to try out archery in January. They also have the opportunity to join the Millstone Archery Team if they are further interested in archery and archery competitions. Team practices are after school on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, with the first competitions happening in February. Grade 3's will get the chance to try out for the team at the end of February.

If you have any questions about the archery program, please contact Mr. Cherry
michael.cherry@psd.ca

ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL TEAM



MIDDLE
HIGH
SCHOOL
TEAM



MILLGROVE SCHOOL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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

The next round of **hot lunch sales** will be **January 17-24 for the February menu and February 14-21 for the March menu.**

Please make sure all orders and payments are completed by 4:30 pm on the last order day.

We are looking for feedback (positive or negative) on the new milk ticket selling schedule as we changed it this year. The change was done to decrease the amount of administration time for our milk coordinator.

Please email millgrovescfoundation@gmail.com with any comments.

Our **next meeting** will be **January 17 , 2024 @ 6:30 pm** in the school library. It will be in combination with the Millgrove School Council Meeting. Come out to have input on the next fundraiser!

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



MILLGROVE SCHOOL COUNCIL

Happy New Year Millgrove Families!

Hope you all had a nice relaxing holiday break!

Our next parent council meeting will be **Wednesday, January 17th, 2024, at 6:30pm** in the library at the school. As usual, this will be a joint meeting with the Millgrove Foundations board as well. This meeting will discuss anything happening in the school or in the division. Meetings are short and sweet but informative!

As always, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Thanks,

Anna-Marie Jackson
Millgrove parent council chair
millgrove.scchair@partner.psd.ca



**WE WANT YOUR
FEEDBACK**



Stronger Families: Hello to Meal Prep Stronger Families Style

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 the upcoming session, you're encouraged to bring your children so you can make three meals together that you can take and share at home. The session will also offer info for budget meal planning and tips for picky eaters. Attendees will also receive useful information on food security resources and WeCan information. AFPA will provide childcare for children under the age of five. In our upcoming session, we will be joined by Heidi Johnson-Hemeyer from Alberta Parenting for the Future Association.

Date: Saturday, January 20, 2024

Time: 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

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

Presenter: Heidi Johnson-Hemeyer (from Alberta Parenting for the Future Association)

Please register early to reserve your spot by visiting <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/family-kitchen-strong-families-style-lets-meal-prep-tickets-768628296927>

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, please visit the [Stronger Together Newsletter page](#).

For more information, please contact:

Fristy Thomas

Family Support Coordinator

Email: fristy.thomas@psd.ca.



WE HOPE YOU ENJOYED OUR NEWSLETTER