

MARCH 2024

THE MILLGROVE MINUTE

The official newsletter of Millgrove School



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Mrs. Cameron

Dear Millgrove Families,

It has been another wonderful month at Millgrove. The first report card of the year went live at the end of January and can be accessed through the PowerSchool Parent Portal. Teachers spend countless hours gathering assessment data and communicating to parents via comprehensive comments about your child's learning. Please be sure to read your child's report card if you have not done so already. Parent-Teacher Interviews will be hosted mid-April as another checkpoint for formal reporting. As always, if you have any questions about your child's progress, you are welcome to reach out and connect with your child's teacher at any time.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE MONTH

- **Important** Returning Student Registration
- Jump Rope for Heart
- March Book Madness
- School Council and Foundation Meeting
- Spring Break

MILLGROVE SCHOOL

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

We have begun a new relationship as we welcomed Kookum Violet and Mrs. Leanne Traverse from PSD to Millgrove School. Every class attended an Indigenous Storytelling and Teachings session with Kookum Violet and Mrs. Traverse. After a read-aloud of a beautiful piece of literature, students listened to the wisdom and teachings about kindness and respect, aligning beautifully with our focus on Kindness for the month and Pink Shirt Day on February 28th.

We were also pleased to host members of the Parkland School Division Trustees, along with Superintendent Boyce and Deputy Superintendent Francis, for a school visit and tour this past week. This was a wonderful opportunity to showcase the great work of our staff and students, being able to witness our Development Plan in action.

While the recent return to winter with colder temperatures and a great deal of much-needed snow reminded us that we are not out of the woods yet, we are looking forward to March and moving one step closer to spring. Just a reminder that staff and students will not attend school during Spring Break (March 25-April 1 inclusive).

We are incredibly grateful for our parent community who continue to support our staff, students, and school. As always, if you have any questions, comments, or concerns, I am only a phone call away.

Sincerely,

Lesley Cameron, Principal
lesley.cameron@psd.ca



MARCH

*Thank
You*

Calendar of Events

MARCH

- Mar 1 Pre-paid Hot Lunch - Pizza 73
- Mar 8 Pre-paid Hot Lunch - Quesada
- Mar 11-15 Substitute Teachers & Casual Support Staff Appreciation Week
- Mar 13 Millgrove School Council & Foundation Meeting 6:30 pm
Field Trip 3SB, 3KA, 3H at Telus World of Science
- Mar 14 Field Trip 3P & 3W at Telus World of Science
- Mar 15 Pre-paid Hot Lunch - Bites to Eat
- Mar 17 St. Patrick's Day
- Mar 18 Choral Celebration for Choir Students
- Mar 21 Pre-paid Hot Lunch - KFC
World Down Syndrome Day
Last day of School before Spring Break
- Mar 22 PD Day - no school for students
Online Registration Closes
- Mar 22-Apr 1 ***Spring Break - no school***
- Apr 2 Students are back in class!
World Autism Awareness Day
- Apr 5 Pre-paid Hot Lunch - Pizza 73





Returning Student Registration

If you haven't already done so, it's time to register for the next school year! That includes busing if you need it. Registering before the **Friday, March 22nd deadline** will help us immensely in planning for next year both at our school and at the PSD Transportation department. Work is currently underway building bus routes for next year already.

Any applications received after the application deadline may not be processed in time for the first day of school. If your child does not have a valid bus pass for the 2024-2025 school year, they will not be able to ride the bus.

How do I get started?

Visit <https://powerschool.psd.ca/public/> and log into your parent account. Once inside the Parent Portal:

- Select your child's name in the blue bar at the top of the screen.
- Select the RSVP icon on the left side of the screen.
- Begin reviewing all of your current Student Information we have on file, and follow the instructions on the screen to navigate through the various tabs in the form (Student Info, Address, Contacts, Medical, etc.).

I can't remember my login for the PowerSchool Parent Portal.

If you aren't able to retrieve your login credentials using the "Forgot Username or Password?" link on the sign-in page, please contact us directly for assistance logging in to the Parent Portal.



Jump Rope for Heart!

Our annual Jump Rope For Heart event and fundraiser is here! We are learning about healthy hearts and are practicing our skipping skills. We are fundraising online this year from February 20th-March 5th. The last time we held this event we raised over \$2,300!

To access the website and to find out more, please click the following link:<https://jumpropeforheart.crowdfunder.ca/51508>

If you would like to register for prizes, please select "Register". This will take you to a new page. Please click on the + and then enter yourself or your child into the system and provide the required information. At the end of this page, click save and your information will be connected to the school page with our collective goal. Prizes will be awarded digitally.

Thank you for your support.
Millgrove School

Thank You



Student Attendance

Every minute counts

Good time keeping benefits your child's healthy morning routine and prevents loss in their learning.



Your child has arrived in good time.



Morning routine begins.



Your child has missed their time to settle and get ready to learn. Anxiety may be setting in.



Your child will enter the classroom and students will have already gone over today's schedule and discussions will have begun.



The day's lessons are in full swing. Your child is now starting the day in a deficit. Anxiety can develop, leading to low participation or heightened emotions.

Better late than never, but never late is better!



PARKLAND SCHOOL DIVISION ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

In PSD, we help support families who need help getting their child(ren) to school. We know there are many factors that affect attendance:

- Parents' work schedule
- Transportation
- Family events
- Appointments

Often families don't realize how much school their child is missing and the impact that has on everyone. They are more behind than you think.

1 DAY MISSED = 2 DAYS BEHIND



19 or more days

Missing just **TWO** days every month can add up to **19** days in a school year. This is the equivalent of missing an **ENTIRE MONTH** of instructional days.



10 to 18 days

Students who are absent an average of 15 days per year miss **1 YEAR'S WORTH** of school by their graduating year.



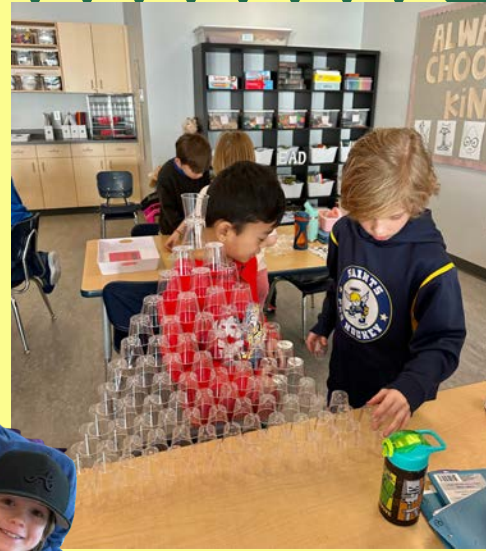
9 or fewer absences

Students with good attendance generally achieve higher grades and enjoy school more.

We loved
winter walk day!



100 Days of School!



Indigenous Storytelling

We enjoyed a visit from Elder Kookum Violet Poitras and Parkland School Division Indigenous Facilitator, Leanne Traverse, engaged students in Indigenous Storytelling with a read-aloud and Teachings around kindness.

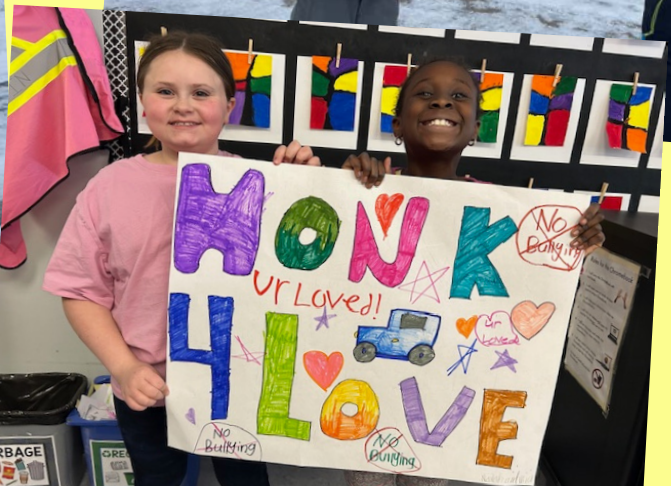


Pink Shirt Day! Grade 4's Honk for Kindness!

Grade 4's celebrated kindness and friendship
by Honking for Kindness on Calahoo Road!



THANK YOU
GRADE 4'S!



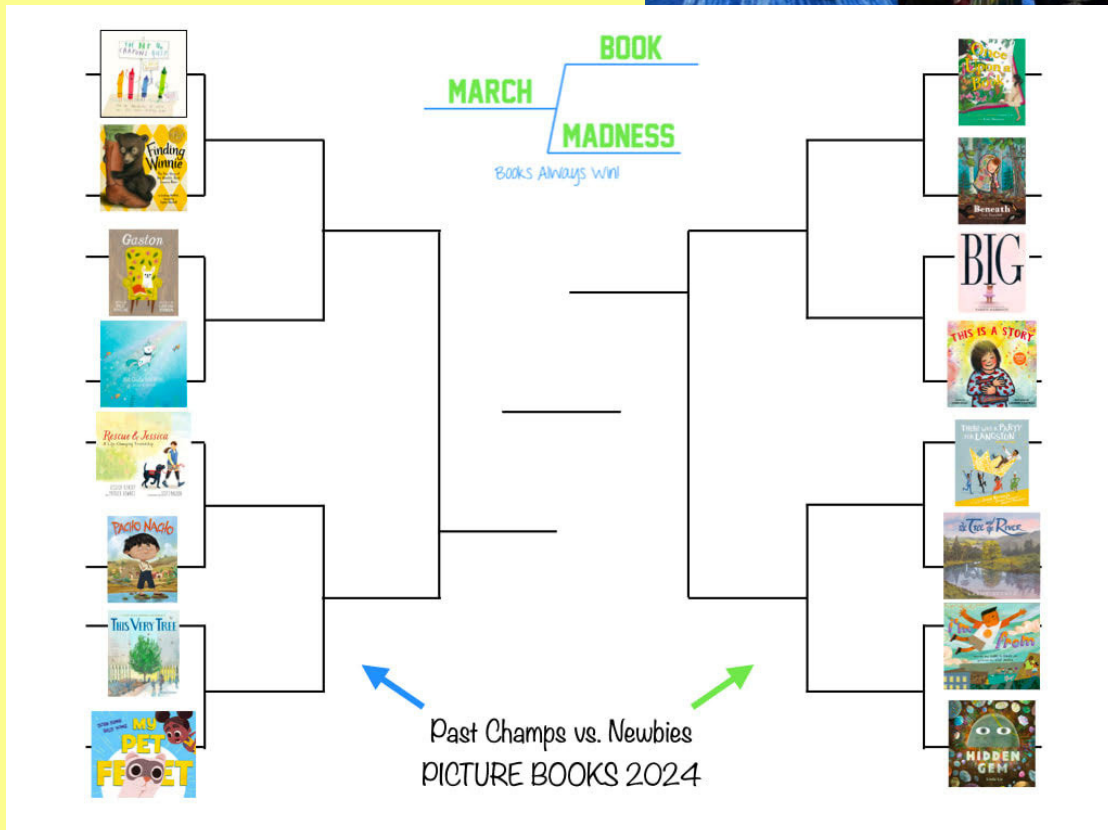


March Book Madness

Taking inspiration from basketball's iconic March Madness, Millgrove students are participating in their own book-related tournament! Instead of shooting hoops, our students are flexing their reading muscles this month. March Book Madness is a worldwide literacy initiative that pits 16 picture books against each other, similar in format to the NCAA March Madness basketball tournament. During each bracket, two books go up against each other and are then voted on—majority-rule style. Votes are then tallied, and whichever book gets the most votes moves on to the next round. In February students at Millgrove began reading the book contenders with Mrs. Pirie. Voting opens on March 6, and we can't wait to find out which books make it to the second round!

Pam Pirie
Librarian

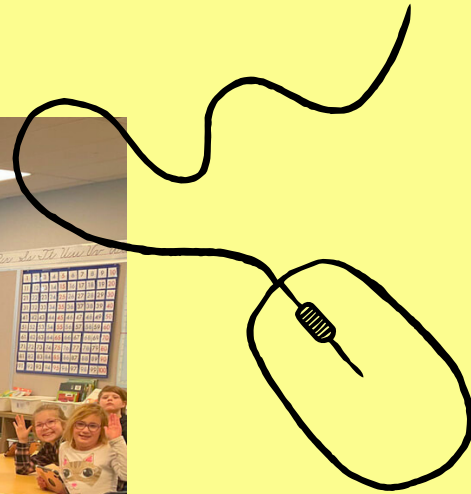
Cait Barker
Colleen Schmaus
Literacy Leads



Grade 3 Coding Club

Our Grade Three Coding Club is buzzing with excitement as students dive into the world of computational thinking! Meeting every Tuesday, students have been learning how to use block-based coding to create programs. Our group has learned about strategies like debugging, loops, and detecting patterns, and the students have been making excellent use of their problem-solving skills. We're looking forward to working with robots and making our own arcade games in the weeks ahead!

Cait Barker
Coding Club Teacher

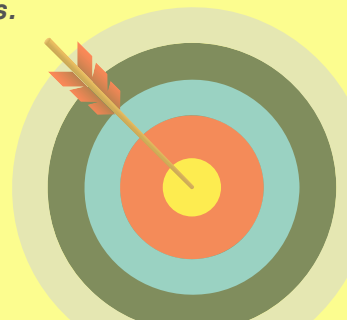


MILLSTONE ARCHERY CLUB

All 175 archers on the Millstone Archery Team have been working hard at practice and are excited to be attending tournaments throughout the month of March. This will be the second year in a row that the team will be hosting a tournament at Greystone on March 9th, and they are excited to welcome other teams from around the province to compete in the tournament.

Unfortunately, grade 3's are not permitted to attend the Alberta Archery Provincials this year. They will get the opportunity to try archery in the spring during regular PE classes.

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



MILLGROVE SCHOOL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



Hello Millgrove Families!
We have our fundraiser (Kernels Popcorn, Indeygo, Fundscrip and The Big Greenhouse) currently running and **orders are due Tuesday, March 5.**

Pick-up for Kernels Popcorn, Indeygo, and Fundscrip will take place on March 20, 2024, in the afternoon. Times will be sent out closer to the date. We will require a few volunteers to help sort and hand out.

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 ticket sales will be March 13-20 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 20. Note that this is the last round of milk ticket sales for the year.

Our **next meeting** will be **March 13, 2024 @ 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

MILLGROVE SCHOOL COUNCIL

Please join us for our next **Parent council meeting on Wednesday, March 13, 2024** at 6:30pm in the Millgrove library. We will be discussing all things millgrove! It's a great opportunity to hear all about what's happening in the division and within our amazing little school!

There will be a school board trustee in attendance as well as our principal. Meetings are short and sweet but informative. New faces are always welcome at any point throughout the year.

If there are any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out!

Hope to see you there!

Thanks,

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

La tire - Canadian Maple Shack

Skating

Music

Games

Bonhomme
Carnaval

Hot Chocolate
by Perks

Bonfire

VIVE LE FRANÇAIS

Come Celebrate
French Language and Culture

MARCH 7TH 5PM-7PM
CENTRAL PARK
SPRUCE GROVE



**SPONSORED BY CPF PARKLAND &
PERKS COFFEE HOUSE**



PARKLAND
SCHOOL DIVISION

Local Art Programs



Miss Vs On Main

March

COLORED PENCIL & SKETCHING

Learning to sketch can be so much fun, it takes practice and repetition. We will learn the tips and tricks to sketching and being able to catch the shapes and values of objects. We often confuse sketching and drawing, though they have similarities, they have many differences. Colored pencils are a popular form of medium to add color to artwork, but learning useful techniques can make using colored pencils really stand out from other mediums. We will learn how to transition colors, shade and use them to brighten our art work.

ROUGH SKETCHING AND FINAL COPIES

Start a drawing with a rough sketch, a light and easy to erase first stages. A good copy will be done after and we will learn how to make the temporary lines more permanent. Practice makes progress.

AGES 4-9

Our ages 4-9 class has been doing great. We are looking forward to the months to come, and encourage parents to share the opportunity with friends and colleges.

We will continue to build on skills and work towards gaining confidence and community as the club grows.

AGES 10±

Our 10+ group has been wonderful to work with, and we are excited to see as the class fills up and gets busier. We encourage our parents to share the excitement as their preteens and teens work on building confidence in their work.

AGES 14 AND UP

We are looking at possibly opening up a group for adults as well as our older teens. Once word spreads and the group becomes closer to capacity we will add in more options for classes.





Strong Families: Selfcare, Stress and Resilience

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, attendees will learn about increasing resilience through meditation and art. Learn techniques to ground yourself, become self-aware, regulate emotions, and connect to nature through art. All art supplies will be provided in the session and it is aimed at parents and their children to attend.

The upcoming session will be led by Angela Hall, owner of Aguenus Art, The Art of Being, a studio in Stony Plain.

Date: **Tuesday, February 20, 2024**

Time: **6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**

Location: **Parkland School Division Centre for Education** (4603-48 Street in Stony Plain)

Presenter: **Angela Hall**, (owner of Aguenus Art, The Art of Being studio located in Stony Plain)

Please register early to reserve your spot by visiting <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/strong-families-self-care-stress-resilience-tickets-760753202307>. There is a maximum of 25 participants allowed in this workshop.

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:

Fristy Thomas

Family Support Coordinator

Email: fristy.thomas@psd.ca

*Substitute Teachers
and
Casual Support Staff*

APPRECIATION WEEK

♥ MARCH 11-15, 2024 ♥



WE HOPE YOU ENJOYED OUR NEWSLETTER