

OCTOBER 2024

THE MILLGROVE MINUTE

The official newsletter of Millgrove School

October



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Mrs. Cameron

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It has been a busy, but fabulous September! Students are settling in and learning is well underway.

September brought us several opportunities to connect as a school community, including our Welcome Assembly and Terry Fox Assembly. These assemblies are led by our incredible students who are strong ambassadors for the great work here at Millgrove School. We were also so pleased to host many, many families at our Hot Diggity Dog Open House.

HIGHLIGHTS THIS MONTH

- Student Attendance Tips
 - Picture Day
 - Volunteer Record Check
 - Terry Fox Update
 - Literacy
 - School Council & Foundation
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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

Thank you to the many parent volunteers who helped cook and prep 1000 hot dog meals for our families. Students were excited to introduce their teachers and show their parents their classrooms and common spaces around the school.

Thank you to all parents who attended our first School Council and Foundation meeting of the school year. We are so incredibly grateful for your engagement with the school community.

As the 2024-2025 school year is underway, please find some time to read our [Development Plan](#) if you have not done so yet. This plan sets the direction for our work throughout the year. The baseline data and initial assessments, along with our knowledge of evidence-informed pedagogy, set the stage for strategies to meet our school goals and for strong programming, growth, and progress for all students. We are proud of our students and maintain a high standard of academic achievement and growth, beginning where each child is at.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any feedback or questions, please do not hesitate to reach out. Please feel free to email, call, or book a time to meet.

Yours in learning,

Lesley Cameron
Principal

Michael Cherry
Assistant Principal



Calendar of Events

October

- Oct 3 Cross Country Run #4 - High Park School
- Oct 4 World Teachers' Day
Pre-paid Hot Lunch - Pizza 73
- Oct 7 Custodial & Maintenance Workers Appreciation Day
- Oct 8 Millgrove Foundation Meeting - 6:30 pm
- Oct 9 Picture Day for M/W Kindergarten, Grade 1 and Grade 2
- Oct 10 Picture Day for T/Th Kindergarten, Grade 3 and Grade 4
Cross Country Run #5 - Ecole Meridian Heights School
Pre-paid Hot Lunch - DQ
World Mental Health Day
- Oct 11 PD Day - no school for students
- Oct 14 Thanksgiving Day - no school
- Oct 15-18 Swimming Tri Leisure Centre - 4D and 4CL (gr 4's in combined class)
- Oct 17 Cross Country Run #6 - Prescott Learning Centre (at Jubilee Park)
- Oct 18 Dress Like a Teacher Day
Pre-paid Hot Lunch - Pretzel Shack
- Oct 21 - 25 Swimming Tri Leisure Centre - 4G and 4T
- Oct 21 Canadian School Library Day
- Oct 22 Pre-paid Booster Juice
- Oct 25 Pre-paid Hot Lunch - Subway
- Oct 28-Nov 1 Swimming Tri Leisure Centre - 4C
- Nov 5 Parent Teacher Interviews - Day 1
- Nov 7 Parent Teacher Interviews - Day 2
Dress Your Best Day
Remembrance Day Service 10:30 am
Pre-paid Hot Lunch - Pizza 73





WAYS TO ENCOURAGE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE



GET READY

Help your child get organized for school the night before.



SHOW INTEREST

Ask your child questions about school and celebrate accomplishments.



TALK ABOUT IT

Discuss the importance of going to school every day and arriving on time.



BE CONSISTENT

Maintain regular bedtime and morning routines.



PLAN AHEAD

Schedule appointments and vacations for when school is not in session.









REACH OUT

Contact teachers or school administrators about ways to help your child feel comfortable at school.



Too Sick for School?

COME TO SCHOOL WHEN	COME TO SCHOOL WHEN	COME TO SCHOOL WHEN	COME TO SCHOOL WHEN	COME TO SCHOOL WHEN	COME TO SCHOOL WHEN
Cough is mild and infrequent or is related to allergies.	Have a mild rash but no itching and/or fever.	Free from diarrhea and vomiting for at least 24 hours.	Have a sore throat but no other symptoms.	Have infection but began antibiotic drops/ointment at least 24 hours ago.	Fever-free for 24 hours without using fever reducing medication.
 COUGHING <small>NOT ALLERGY RELATED</small>	 RASH	 DIARRHEA/ VOMITING	 SORE THROAT	 EYE INFECTION	 FEVER
STAY HOME IF Coughing won't stop or having other breathing problems.	STAY HOME IF Have a body rash with itching and/or fever.	STAY HOME IF Experienced diarrhea or vomiting within the past 24 hours.	STAY HOME IF Have a sore throat with persistent cough and/or fever.	STAY HOME IF Eye is red and oozing a yellow or green discharge.	STAY HOME IF Have a temperature of 100°F (37.8°C) or higher.

Still not sure? Call the school office for help.





JUST SAY
cheese

Picture Day!

Students will be photographed on the following days.

Wednesday, October 9

Monday/Wednesday Kindergarten Classes
Grade 1
Grade 2

Thursday, October 10

Tuesday/Thursday Kindergarten Classes
Grade 3
Grade 4

ORDERS ARE DONE ONLINE! View images and order pictures online at [Smart Photography](#). Ordering information and online access code will be sent home with students on picture day.

Important time-sensitive reminders:

- Photos will be available at [Smart Photography](#) approximately **3-6 business days after picture day**, and FREE shipping is available for delivery to the school for one week after proofs are online. After that date, orders can be shipped to your home address with a minimal shipping fee. There is no deadline to order.
- All students and staff will receive a complimentary class photo, courtesy of SMART Photography.
- Memory books will be available to purchase online in the SPRING. Watch for further details at a later date.

Picture retake day will be on November 19!

School Fees

Fee notices have been emailed to parents. Please remit payments 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. Partial payments can be made through the parent portal. If you would like a scheduled payment plan, please contact our Parkland School Division office at 780-963-4010 and they would be glad to assist you.

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 Ms. Kohuch at 780-962-6122 ext. 0 or email her at char.kohuch@psd.ca.



Volunteering

We're so grateful for so many volunteers that have already been in our school! To name a few!

- Hot Lunch/Milk
- Tuesday Toast
- Snack Shack
- Field Trips
- Classroom Helpers
- Lost & Found

If you anticipate **volunteering in excess of 10 hours** over the course of the 2024-2025 school year, we do require a **volunteer form and criminal record check** to be completed. This is done on an annual basis.

See our [Volunteer Registration Form](#) online or stop by our office for a copy. Part of this package includes a letter to waive the fees associated with getting a criminal record check.



Terry Fox

Together we raised \$1 468.00 for the Terry Fox Foundation, bringing us one step closer to one day finding a cure for cancer.

Thank you to everyone who donated to this great cause and joined us for our Terry Fox assembly and run. Remember, No Matter What.....Try Like Terry!

"Anything is possible if you try. Dreams are made if people try." - Terry Fox



Literacy

Decoding

Decoding is the ability to apply your knowledge of letter-sound relationships, including knowledge of letter patterns, to correctly pronounce written words. Understanding these relationships gives children the ability to recognize familiar words quickly and to figure out words they haven't seen before. Although children may sometimes figure out some of these relationships on their own, most children benefit from explicit instruction in this area. Phonics is one approach to reading instruction that teaches students the principles of letter-sound relationships, how to sound out words, and exceptions to the principles.

How to help with decoding at home:

- Help your child learn the letters and sounds of the alphabet. Occasionally point to letters and ask your child to name them.
- Play with magnetic letters. See how quickly you can put them in alphabetical order while singing the alphabet song. Practice saying the sounds that each letter makes.
- Sort pictures and objects by each sound. Say the letter sounds over and over again.
- When your child is trying to sound out a word, pay close attention to the print. Try to look at all the letters in the word, not just the first one or two.
- Talk with your child about the “irregular” words that they’ll often see in what they’re reading. These are the words that don’t follow the usual letter-sound rules. These words include said, are, and was. Students must learn to recognize them “at sight.”
- Help your child understand the purpose of phonics by engaging them in reading and writing activities that require them to apply the phonics information you’ve taught them.

Beginning reading is hard work! Thank you for helping your child toward reading success.

Your Literacy Leads,

Colleen Schmaus
Kelli Holden





grateful
♥

MILLGROVE SCHOOL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Hello Millgrove Families!

We recently held our Annual General Meeting, and I'm thrilled to report that the turnout was nothing short of amazing! It was heartwarming to see so many new faces in attendance, all eager to contribute to our community and its future.

As we look ahead to the upcoming school year, I'm excited to introduce our newly elected board members. Please join me in welcoming back a fantastic group: Kayla Repetowski, Melissa Halliday-Ostash, Kristine Giurissevich, Joella Anderson, and myself, Allison Chuey. Together, we are committed to making this year our best yet!

I'm also excited to share that all of our volunteer positions are in full swing! With **Toast Tuesday**, **Snack Shack Prep**, and **Milk** starting in October, we have almost **30 dedicated volunteers** helping to run these initiatives. We're incredibly grateful for their support—and we're always looking for more volunteers to join us!

The Hot Lunch and Milk Program is up and running. The next round of ordering for hot lunch, booster juice and milk tickets is October 16-23, 2024. If you are paying with cash/cheque please deposit in the lock box that has been installed in the main office. **Please remember that orders and payment are due by 4:30 pm on October 24; no late orders will be accepted.**

Fundraising information will be coming out at the beginning of November. More details to follow.

Our **next meeting** is **Tuesday, October 8** at **6:30pm**. It will be in the Millgrove School library. We will be discussing upcoming fundraisers and are always looking for new ideas. We hope to see you there!

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

MILLGROVE SCHOOL COUNCIL

Hello Millgrove families!

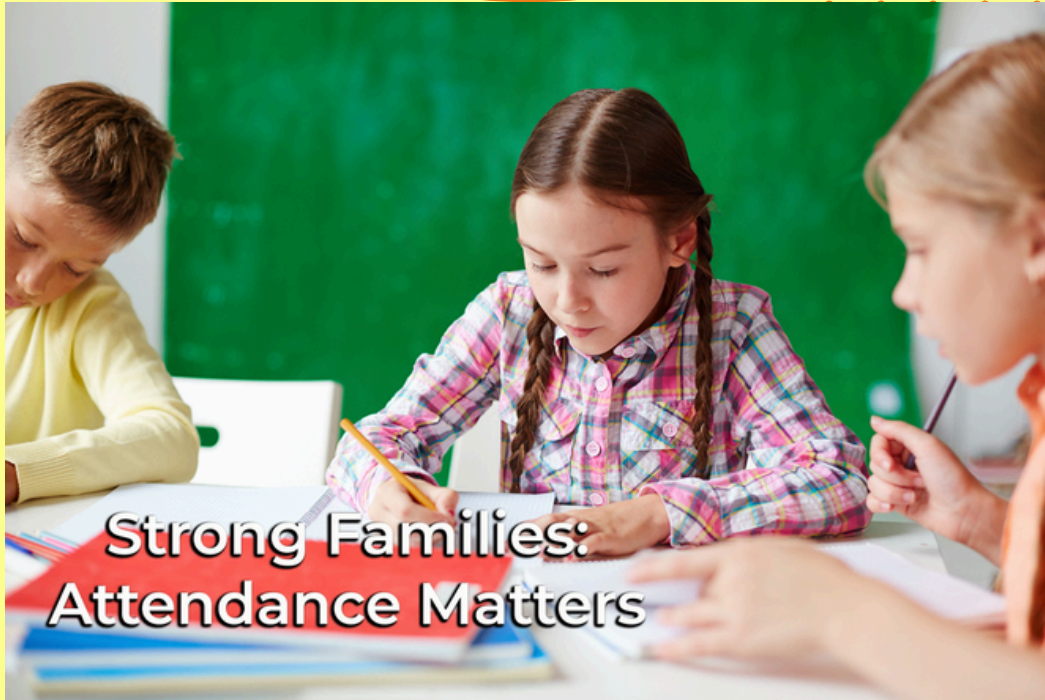
I want to thank you our parents for such an amazing turnout to our 2024 Millgrove Parent Council AGM. We love seeing new faces and showing the school our support.

Our next **parent council meeting** will be held **Tuesday, November 19, 2024** at **6:30pm** in the library at the school. This will be a joint meeting with the Millgrove Foundations board as well. This meeting will be discussing anything happening in the school or in the division.

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



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

The “**Attendance Matters**” presentation will review the importance of regular school attendance for children in elementary, middle and high school. The presentation will highlight how consistent attendance is essential for building a strong academic foundation, developing social skills, and fostering a sense of belonging within a school community. In our upcoming session, we will be joined by Archie Lillico, Attendance Officer at Parkland School Division, who will give parents practical strategies for overcoming barriers to attendance... with evidence-based insights and resources, this presentation empowers parents in actively supporting their child’s education and well-being.

Date: **Tuesday, October 15, 2024**

Time: **6pm-7:30pm**

Location: **Centre for Education (4603 48 St, Stony Plain)**

Presenter: **Archie Lillico, Attendance Officer, Parkland School Division**

Please register early to reserve your spot by visiting <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/1010804291847?aff=oddtcreator>.

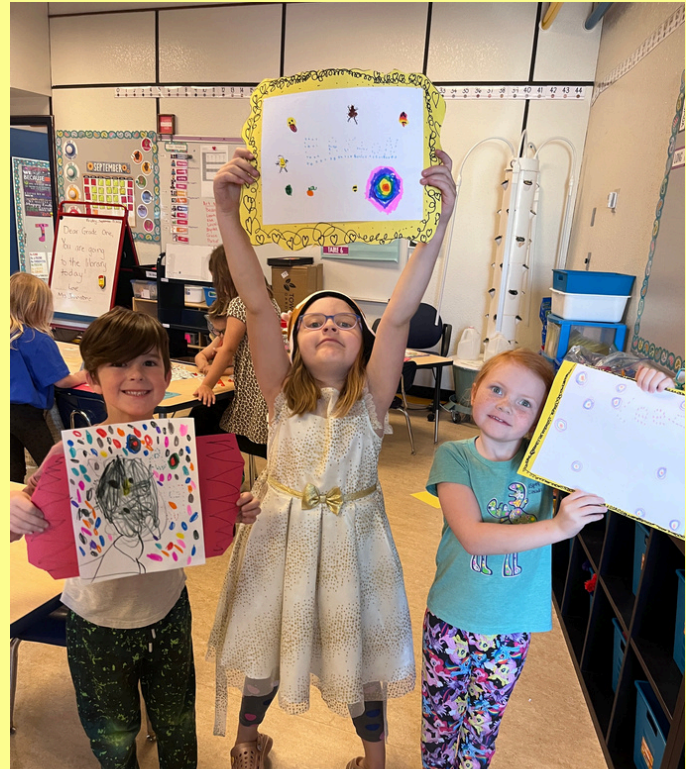
Did you know that PSD publishes a **monthly newsletter** with information, opportunities and strategies to help families navigate their children's educational journey? To view the current issue (or past issues), please visit the [Stronger Together Newsletter](#) page.

For more information, please contact:

Fristy Thomas

Family Support Coordinator

Email: fristy.thomas@psd.ca



**WE HOPE YOU ENJOYED OUR
NEWSLETTER! ❤️**