



NOVEMBER 2024

# THE MILLGROVE MINUTE

*The official newsletter of Millgrove School*



NOVEMBER

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Mrs. Cameron

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope you have been enjoying the lovely fall weather that we've been experiencing. The last few weeks have indeed brought some beautiful sunsets and many evenings with the Northern Lights. I truly look forward to every part of the school year for different reasons. At this point, after two months of school, students have settled nicely into routines, relationships are being further developed, friendships are being formed with new classmates and peers, initial assessments are completed, and learning is well underway.

## HIGHLIGHTS THIS MONTH

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- Share a Thought Survey
  - Parent Teacher Interviews
  - Book Fair
  - Retake Pictures
  - Remembrance Day Ceremony
  - Literacy & Numeracy Tips
  - School Council & Foundation
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## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

Earlier this week, I shared via email a link to our Millgrove School Share a Thought survey. This brief survey invites parents and guardians to share feedback or thoughts about how we're doing as a check-in. If you have not done so already, I invite you to [click here](#) to access the survey should you have any feedback or thoughts to share with us.

In the coming week, we look forward to opening our doors to our families during our Parent Teacher Interview evenings. This is a time to connect with your child(ren)'s teachers, celebrate strengths and progress, and discuss plans to support further learning and growth. We also look forward to our Remembrance Day ceremony and activities, where students will continue to learn about and reflect upon our history and those who have and are currently serving our beautiful country.

Thank you for your continued support. I truly believe that we are in this work of education together and when school and home work together, amazing things can happen. 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

# November

Nov 1	Pre-paid Hot Lunch - Jack's Drive-In
Nov 4-7	Book Fair Week!
Nov 4	Eye See Eye Learn Presentation in Kindergarten
Nov 5	Parent Teacher Interviews - Day 1
Nov 7	Parent Teacher Interviews - Day 2
	Dress Your Best Day
	Remembrance Day Service 10:45 am
	Pre-paid Hot Lunch - Pizza 73
	Eye See Eye Learn Presentation in Kindergarten
Nov 8	PD Day, no school for students
Nov 11	Remembrance Day, no school
Nov 12-15	Fall Break, no school
Nov 18-22	Back to School!
	Bullying Awareness Week
Nov 19	Picture Retake Day
	Millgrove Council & Foundation Meeting 6:30 pm
Nov 20	Pre-paid Booster Juice
Nov 22	Pre-paid Hot Lunch - Bite to Eat
	PD Day for Kindergarten Classes ONLY
Nov 27 & 28	Kindergarten Creative Caravans Fused Glass In School Field Trip
Nov 29	Pre-paid Hot Lunch - Boston Pizza



# Parent Teacher Interviews

Millgrove School's upcoming Parent-Teacher Interviews will be held over two days!

**Tuesday, November 5th and  
Thursday, November 7th  
4pm - 7:30pm**

Please sign up for an interview time with your child's teacher on our [Parent Teachers Interview page](#).

If you require any assistance, don't hesitate to call our office.



## It's Getting Colder Outside

As the weather cools, please ensure children are dressed to be outside. Time for all of us to dig out winter coats, boots, hats and mitts!

## Book Fair!

We are so excited to announce that we will be hosting a Book Fair during Parent/Teacher Interviews!!

**We will be open...**

- **Tuesday, November 5th 4pm til 7:30pm**
- **Thursday, November 7th 4pm til 7:30pm**

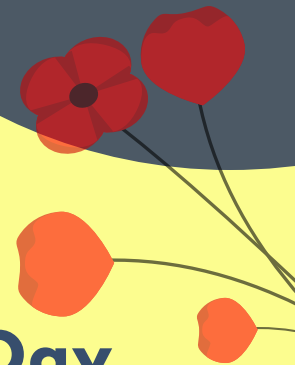
We want you to shop til you drop!! A huge portion of the proceeds go right back to the school to support the library and classrooms. There will be new and upcoming books, journals, erasers, pencils and of course posters!!!

Flyers will be coming home next week.





**JUST SAY**  
*cheese*



## Picture Retake Day!

**Retake Day is on Tuesday, November 19th!**

**Please let your child's teacher know if you want a retake picture!**

Retakes will be available at [Smart Photography](#) approximately **3-6 business days after retake day on November 19**, 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.

**Please use the same code that went home on our original picture day.**

If you ordered pictures from our original picture days, we expect them the week after fall break, November 18-22.

## Remembrance Day Ceremony

The Remembrance Day ceremony will be held in the gym on **Thursday, November 7 at 10:45 am.**

We look forward to sharing our service with you in honour of the men and women who have served and continue to serve Canada during times of war, conflict and peace.

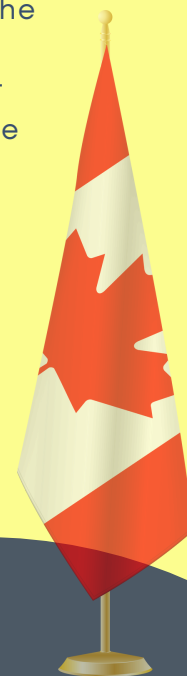
## Colour Guard

All students in youth organizations (Brownies, Beavers, Cubs, Girl Guides, Jr. Forest Wardens, Air Cadets etc) are invited to wear their uniform to school as part of our assembly Colour Guard during our **Remembrance Day Assembly.**

In addition, we invite parents, grandparents or extended family who are members of the Canadian military or reserves, RCMP, EMS and/or Fire department to join our Colour Guard. Please attend the service in full uniform to participate.

To help us plan, **please email [millgrove@psd.ca](mailto:millgrove@psd.ca)** about whether your child and/or you plan to be part of the Colour Guard.

Thank you!



# Literacy

## Fluency

Fluency is the ability to read with accuracy, good speed, and appropriate expression. In order to understand what they read, children must be able to read fluently whether they are reading aloud or silently. Their reading is smooth and has expression.

### Here are some clues that your child may have problems with fluency:

- They know how to read words but it seems to take a long time to read a short book or passage silently.
- They read a book with no expression.
- They stumble a lot and lose their place when reading something aloud.
- They read aloud very slowly.
- They move their mouth when reading silently (subvocalizing).

### What parents can do to help at home:

- Support and encourage your child. Realize that he or she is likely frustrated by reading.
- If your child can decode words well, help him or her build speed and accuracy by:
  - Reading aloud and having your child match his voice to yours
  - Having your child practice reading the same list of words, phrase, or short passages several times
  - Reminding your child to pause between sentences and phrases
  - Read aloud to your child to provide an example of how fluent reading sounds.
  - Give your child books with predictable vocabulary and clear rhythmic patterns so the child can “hear” the sound of fluent reading as he or she reads the book aloud.
  - Use books on tapes; have the child follow along in the print copy.

The key to great reading is practice. Thank you for helping your child by practicing reading at home.

Your Literacy Leads,

Colleen Schmaus  
Kelli Holden



# Numeracy

## **Math Focus in Our Classrooms: Counting**

You might hear your child talking about "counting collections" at school. This activity is essential in helping students practice counting and recognizing patterns in our number system. It may seem simple—give a child a number of items to count—but it supports many important math skills. Students often use whiteboards for counting collections so they can connect the concrete (physical items) with the abstract (written numbers). This helps them not just count but also understand how numbers relate to each other.

## **Why Counting Matters:**

Counting is a fundamental skill, but it doesn't always come naturally. Children need lots of practice, and you can support this at home by counting everyday objects like toys, snacks, or even socks. The goal is to help them notice the patterns in counting—like twenty-one, twenty-two, twenty-three—and how those patterns continue.

## **Counting Over 100:**

It's especially important to practice counting beyond 100. Many kids might jump from 100 straight to 200 or get stuck at tricky spots like 109. By counting regularly up to 120 or more, your child can better recognize these patterns and improve their confidence.

## **Counting Backwards:**

Even if a child can count forward, counting backward can be a challenge. Try timing tasks at home using a countdown. For example, "You have until I count down to 20 to finish putting away your toys." You can start at different numbers, like 41, 40, 39... Counting down helps reinforce number patterns in a new way.

## **Starting from Different Numbers:**

Encourage your child to count starting from numbers other than one. Can they begin counting from 7 or 28? How about counting up from 154? It's also great to practice skip counting (like counting by 2s, 5s, or 10s). See if your child can skip count starting at a two-digit or three-digit number. Using money is a motivational way to practice - just give your child a pile of coins and ask them to count.

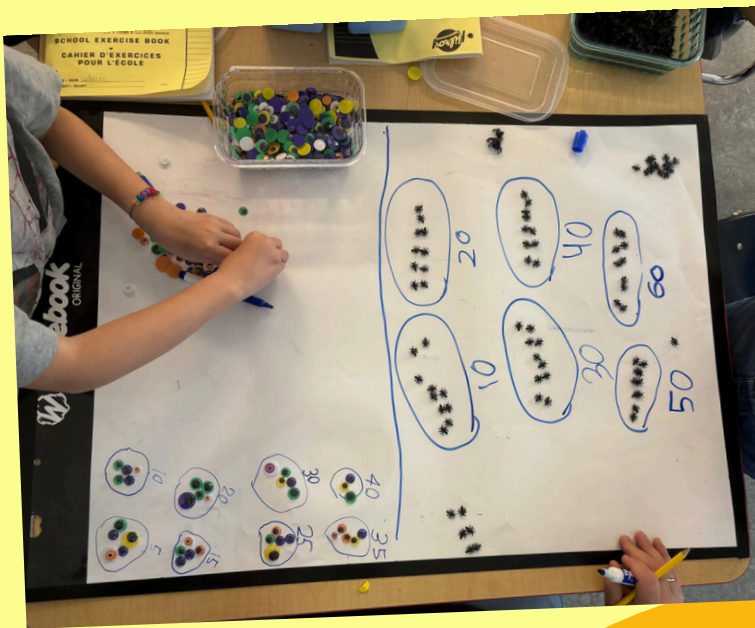
## **Counting with Fractions:**

Counting isn't just for whole numbers! Counting with fractions, like  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{2}{2}$ ,  $\frac{3}{2}$ ,  $\frac{4}{2}$ ,  $\frac{5}{2}$  can help your child build a strong understanding of fractions early on. Many kids struggle with fractions because we often don't make the connection to regular counting patterns. Show them that they can count fractions just like they count whole numbers, which helps them feel more comfortable with this new concept.

By practicing these different counting skills, you're helping your child build a solid foundation in math that will support their learning for years to come!



# Numeracy Fun





# MILLGROVE SCHOOL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Hello Millgrove Families!

We're thrilled to announce our first fundraiser of the year, running from **October 28 to November 19, 2024!** This year, we've partnered with three fantastic suppliers: **Fundscrip** (offering gift cards), **Calahoo Meats**, and **Big Box of Cards**.

Whether you're looking to stock up on gift cards for the holidays, enjoy some delicious local meats, or get creative with unique cards, there's something for everyone!

## Important Dates to Remember:

- **Fundraiser Duration:** October 28 – November 19, 2024
- **Pick-Up Date:** December 10, 2024 (exact time to be announced)

To ensure a smooth pick-up process, we're looking for a few volunteers to help with the distribution and sorting of Calahoo Meats products. If you're available to lend a hand on pick-up day, please reach out to us at [millgrovescfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:millgrovescfoundation@gmail.com). Your support is greatly appreciated!

The next round of ordering for the Hot Lunch is November 13-20, 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 no late orders will be accepted.

We also invite you to our next meeting on **Tuesday, November 19** at **6:30 PM** in the Millgrove School Library. This meeting will be combined with the Millgrove School Council meeting, where we'll be discussing the exciting Millgrove School apparel that will be available for sale in the New Year. I hope to see you there!

Allison Chuey  
Millgrove School Community Foundation  
President  
[millgrovescfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:millgrovescfoundation@gmail.com)

# MILLGROVE SCHOOL COUNCIL

Hello Millgrove families!

Our next parent council meeting will be held **Tuesday, November 19th 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 our 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](mailto:millgrove.scchair@partner.psd.ca)





## **ADDICTIONS AND TEEN DRUG USE**

For **National Addictions Week**, the division is offering a workshop on Addictions and Teen Drug Use. In this workshop, attendees will learn an overview of the popular drugs/trends, be taught to identify signs of substance abuse, learn about prevention and other important information.

Date: **Thursday, November 28, 2024**

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

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

In our upcoming session, we will be joined by Lisa Kimmerly, a Mobile Substance Use Therapist with Alberta Health Services.

Here's the link to register and get more information. (<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/strong-families-addictions-and-teen-drug-use-tickets-1010813639807?aff=erellivmlt>). This session is offered hybrid as well.

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](mailto:fristy.thomas@psd.ca)



# WE HOPE YOU ENJOYED OUR NEWSLETTER! ❤️

