

FEBRUARY 2025

THE MILLGROVE MINUTE

The official newsletter of Millgrove School



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Mrs. Cameron

Hello Millgrove families,
January certainly kept us on our toes with all kinds of weather - wind, rain, snow, above-zero temperatures, below-zero temperatures, and throw a snow squall in there, as well!

Term 1 report cards were released last Thursday. Please be sure to log into PowerSchool to review your child's progress if you have not done so yet. If you have any questions, please reach out to your child's teacher(s).

HIGHLIGHTS THIS MONTH

- **Report Cards**
- **Archery**
- **Safety Reminders**
- **Kindergarten Open House**
- **Returning Student Registration**
- **Literacy & Numeracy Tips**

MILLGROVE SCHOOL

Phone: 780.962.6122

Email: millgrove@psd.ca

Website: millgrove.psd.ca



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

Registration for the 2025-2026 school year opens on Monday, February 10th. All returning and new student registration is completed online. All returning student verification is completed in PowerSchool; please see <https://www.psd.ca/schools/registration> for information on how to complete this. Feel free to reach out to the school office if you have questions. Please complete by March 28, 2025, especially if you require bus transportation.

We also look forward to welcoming new Kindergarten students for the 2025-2026 school year and their families to our Kindergarten Open House on Wednesday, February 12th at 6:00 pm. To follow up on the survey sent a few weeks ago, we are very excited to announce that we will be piloting a full-time, everyday Kindergarten program next year here at Millgrove, should we have sufficient enrollment. This is a program of choice. Our regular, half-time programming that takes place every other day is still available, as well.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement with your child(ren)'s learning and our school. We greatly appreciate our parents and families as important partners in education.

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

Michael Cherry, Assistant Principal
michael.cherry@psd.ca

February

Calendar of Events

- Feb 3-7 Counsellors, Therapists & Wellness Workers Appreciation Week
- Feb 5 Pre-paid Hot Lunch - Boston Pizza
- Feb 5 Winter Walk Day
- Feb 6 & 7 Teacher's Convention (no school for students)
- Feb 10 Registration Opens for 2025-2026 School Year
- Feb 11 Field Trip Grade 4 - Telus World of Science
- Feb 12 2025-2026 Kindergarten Open House - 6-7 pm
- Feb 13 Pre-paid Hot Lunch - Pizza 73
- Feb 14 PD Day - no school for students
- Feb 17 Family Day - no school
- Feb 21 Pre-paid Hot Lunch - KFC
- Feb 26 Pre-paid Booster Juice
- Feb 26 Pink Shirt Day
- Feb 28 Pre-paid Hot Lunch - Bite to Eat

Report Cards

Report Cards are **NOW** available 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 need a password reset or any other help, please email our office at millgrove@psd.ca or call 780-962-6122 ext. 0.

Safety Reminders

To ensure student and traffic safety, please refrain from stopping and dropping your child off on the north side of Marlboro Drive. Please use the lane to come into the school parking lot and use our drop off and pick up lane or park in the neighbouring streets and walk.



Thank you for your continued attention to the safe traffic flow after school. As previously shared, double parking is not permitted next to the yellow barricades (drop off/pickup lane). Please remain in your vehicle if stopped in this location. If you need to leave your vehicle to meet your child on school grounds, please find a parking spot.

Millstone Archery Club

The Millstone Archery Team is in full swing this season! This year, we're excited to have 63 Grade 4 students from Millgrove join the team, along with an additional 140 archers from Greystone and Spruce Grove Composite. With a total of 200 archers, this is not only our largest team ever but we continue to be the largest archery team in Canada!

The team has been dedicated to honing their skills with practices held Tuesday to Friday during the noon hour and after school. All of this hard work is building up to several upcoming tournaments:



- Feb. 15: Westlock
- Feb. 22: Austin O'Brien
- March 1: Wetaskiwin
- March 8: Ardrossan
- March 15: Greystone
- March 22: Alberta Archery Provincials at the Edmonton Expo Centre

A huge thank you goes out to our incredible volunteer coaches, whose time and effort make it all possible. Their dedication helps build skills and confidence in our archers!

If you have any questions about the Millstone Archery Team, please reach out to Mr. Cherry.

THANK YOU!



**COMING
SOON**

Kindergarten Open House 2025-2026 School Year

We're excited to host our annual Kindergarten Open House on **Wednesday, February 12** from **6:00 - 7:00 pm**.

Kindergarten Registration opens February 10; please visit our [Registration Page](#).

For more information on our Kindergarten programs in Parkland School Division, please visit our [Kindergarten Open House page](#).

We have two program options at Millgrove!

- Our regular half time Kindergarten program is offered on Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday with alternating Fridays.
- New next year, we are offering an all day, every day Kindergarten. Information is available at our open house or contact us for more information at millgrove@psd.ca

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 2025 needs to be 5 years old by December 31, 2025.

welcome to
kindergarten

Registration for ALL Returning Grade 1-4 Students

In addition to New Kindergarten registration, Parkland School Division's annual online registration/verification process for **ALL RETURNING STUDENTS** opens **Monday, February 10, 2025**.

Important Registration Dates

- **Monday, February 10, 2025** - Registration opens. Families of returning PSD students (i.e. students currently enrolled in a PSD school) complete the registration process starting in [PowerSchool](#).
- **Friday, March 28, 2025 at 4:30pm** - **Registration deadline**. For further information, visit our [Registration](#) page.
- **Friday, June 20, 2025** - **Bus pass deadline** to make payment arrangements or pay-in-full.
- **Early July 2025** - Bus passes and route numbers will be mailed to parents starting at the beginning of July.

thank you

Literacy

WRITING AND SPELLING

Writing is a terrific way for children to express their thoughts, creativity, and uniqueness. It is also a fundamental way in which children learn to organize ideas. Learning to write well helps children to be better readers.

When engaging in writing, young children often mirror what they see around them: adults and older children writing lists, letters, text messaging. They are observing the way writing is used in our everyday lives.

Here are some suggestions that engage your child in the writing process:

- Have your child write instructions for taking care of the family pet. These will be useful as you plan your summer vacations!
- Write a letter or thank you note to a relative. Talk through what your child wants to say before writing begins.
- Make a shopping list before going to the grocery store.
- Write an online review of a book or an item you recently purchased or a recipe you tried.
- Find a picture in the newspaper and write an article to accompany it.
- Start keeping a personal diary, a household guestbook, or a baby book for a younger sibling.

Does spelling count?

Early attempts at spelling are not the random swings they sometimes appear. Children's "invented spelling" gives us a window into what they understand about written language.

Writing tip: Stay positive!

Kids who are worried about spelling every word correctly will often stick to a small group of words they can spell, or may avoid writing altogether.

What should I write about?

Help your child get their thoughts together in an organized way. Especially when a child starts writing, they may need help planning out what they want to say.

Writing tip: Get organized!

Use sticky notes to help organize ideas. Put each idea or important word on a note, and lay the notes out on the table for easy rearranging. This helps with planning and organization.

If your child avoids writing, use materials and tools that support both the thinking process and the physical act of writing:

- Use wide lined paper which helps kids line up and space their letters
- Use a whiteboard, which allows them to easily erase and try again
- Use a keyboard, which also allows kids to easily edit

Most of all, have fun and support your child with their writing!

Your Literacy Leads,
Colleen Schmaus and Kelli Holden

Numeracy

Exploring Money and Building Number Sense

Did you know that money is one of the most motivating tools for children to explore math? Kids love playing with money! However, with the decline of physical currency, children rarely see adults using cash or calculating change. Instead, they see a quick wave of a card, which has made it harder for kids to develop strong number sense.

Here are some tips to make money a valuable math tool for your child:

Make Shopping a Learning Experience

- **Show prices.** Take a moment during shopping trips to point out prices to your child. Talk about rounding and how much items cost.
- **Set a budget.** Give your child a spending limit and let them choose items within that budget. It's a fun and hands-on way to build number sense and decision-making skills!

Build Key Math Skills with Money

To be great mathematicians, kids need to be **accurate, flexible, and efficient** – and using money is a fantastic way to practice these traits!

- **Counting change:** Can your child count 40 cents? Can they make 40 cents using all dimes, all nickels, or even pennies?
- **Finding the most efficient solution:** Encourage your child to find the quickest way to make 40 cents. For example, using a nickel, a dime, and a quarter is faster than counting out all pennies.

Discover Connections in Math Through Money

Money is based on the number 10, just like our number system! The more connections kids make between concepts, the stronger their understanding becomes.

- **Connections to fractions:** Help your child see that 25 cents is a quarter because 4 quarters make a whole dollar. Money is a great way to introduce simple fractions in a real-world context.

Explore More with the Bank of Canada Museum

For more fun ideas, check out the Bank of Canada Museum's website. They have an excellent blog post, [Talk to Your Kids About Money \(link\)](#), filled with activities and resources to make learning about money engaging and educational.

Let's bring money back into their learning – it's fun, practical, and a great way to build essential math skills!

Happy counting!





PARKLAND
SCHOOL DIVISION



THANK YOU!

**Counsellors, Therapists
& Wellness Workers**

APPRECIATION WEEK

February 3-7

WE HOPE YOU ENJOYED OUR NEWSLETTER

