

APRIL 2025

THE MILLGROVE MINUTE

The official newsletter of Millgrove School



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Mrs. Cameron

Happy Spring! I trust you had a wonderful Spring Break and hopefully some time for rest, relaxation, fun, and connection. We are pleased to welcome the students back to school for our final three months of the school year. The days are longer, we have more sunshine, and I personally love the growth and energy that spring brings.

March saw many wonderful opportunities for students at Millgrove School. These include field trips and authentic learning opportunities both at school and off-site, our choir performing at Parkland School Division Choral Celebration, Choir Day at Greystone, and also performing at the Greystone Spring Concert as a guest choir. Thank you to Mrs. Davies and Mrs. Davidson for their work with our Choir students.

HIGHLIGHTS THIS MONTH

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- **Millstone Archery Club**
 - **Literacy - Spell-a-Thon**
 - **Numeracy - Fact Fluency**
 - **School Council & Foundation**
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MILLGROVE SCHOOL

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

Our Millstone Archery teams continued to find a great deal of success at tournaments, as well as Provincials again this year. These experiences complement our day-to-day focus on academic, personal, and social growth in such positive ways. Thank you to Mr. Cherry and his incredible team of teacher and volunteer coaches for their dedication to our Archery team once again this year.

We are looking forward to seeing families at Parent-Teacher Interviews on April 23rd, should you wish to book a meeting with your child's teacher. More info to come shortly about booking online. We also look forward to celebrating our volunteers at our Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon on April 28th. We are so thankful for the dedicated involvement and support of our volunteers in every capacity you serve our school. Please watch your email for an invitation and opportunity to RSVP coming soon.

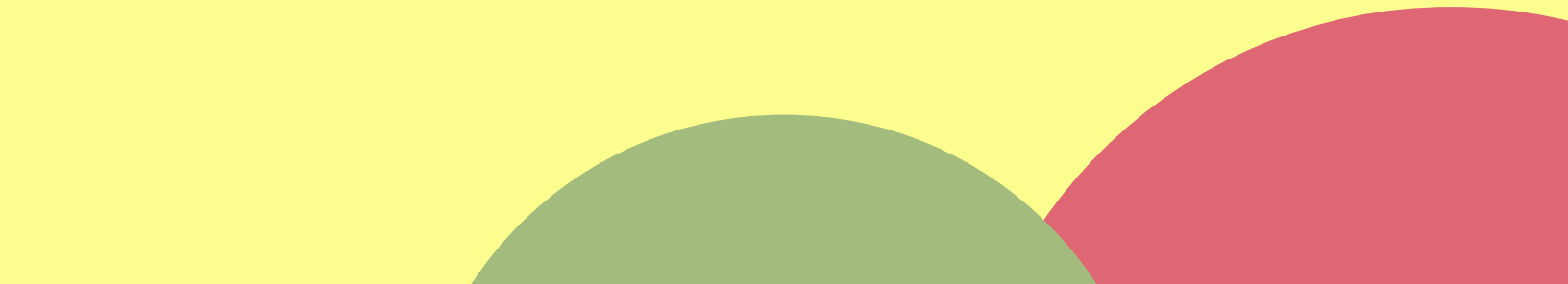
This is the time of year in a school where we are living in two worlds: continuing this school year and planning for next. Thank you for your cooperation in completing your child(ren)'s registration for the 2025-2026 school year as planning is underway with respect to transportation routing for those families who require bussing, as well as here at the school level. If you have not completed your child's returning registration (RSVP in PowerSchool), please do so as soon as possible. If you require support in any way, please call the school office.

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, please feel free to reach out.

Sincerely,

Lesley Cameron, Principal
lesley.cameron@psd.ca

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





Calendar of Events

Mar 31 - Apr 4	Spring Break - no school
Apr 7	First Day Back After Spring Break
Apr 9	Kick-Off Autism Acceptance Month - wear favourite color!
Apr 11	Pre-Paid Hot Lunch - KFC
Apr 17	Rapunzel Performance (student attendance only)
Apr 17	Pre-Paid Hot Lunch - Pizza 73
Apr 18	Good Friday - no school
Apr 21	Easter Monday - no school
Apr 22	Earth Day Family Picnic - school wide 1:00 pm
Apr 23	Parent Teacher Interviews (For Kindergarten Apr 23 & 24)
Apr 23	Administrative Professionals Day
Apr 23	Pre-Paid Booster Juice
Apr 25	Pre-Paid Hot Lunch - Boston Pizza
Apr 28	Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon 12:45 pm
Apr 29 & 30	Visual Arts Celebration
Apr 29	Grade 4 In-Class Field Trip
May 1	Principals & Assistant Principals Appreciation Day & Directors & Supervisors Appreciation Day
May 2	Pre-Paid Hot Lunch - Pizza 73
May 2	Millgrove Spring Fling Family Dance





Millstone Archery Club

The Millgrove Archery Team had an incredible season, demonstrating skill, dedication, and sportsmanship at every level of competition. With 200 team members, it was the largest archery team in Canada! The elementary team and middle school team went undefeated in all 6 of the tournaments they competed at. The highlight was defending the Alberta Provincial Title, with the Elementary team winning gold and silver in Bullseye, and the Middle School team earning gold for the first time! Both teams also claimed 3D championships. The High School team also had a strong showing, finishing fourth in a highly competitive division.

We are proud to have two archers and their Coach representing Canada on the NASP All-Star Team in Namibia, South Africa, this summer.

We also say goodbye to our graduating archers in Grade 12 this year. Two of these members have been part of the team since Grade 4, which is when it began, and they will be the first archers to complete the full program.

This season would not have been possible without our incredible volunteer coaches, including Brandon Thiessen, Brayden Byers, Charlotte Pardely, Rich Blackstock, Emma Berg, Jada Harris, Jeremy Giurissevich, Jodiene Schaber, Quentin Isley, Hunter Arthurs, James Easthope, Jeremy Baxter, Melissa Minks, Mr. Arndt, Mrs. Robert, Mrs. Taylor, Miss Clarke, Mrs. Pritchard, and Mr. Kolody.

With Archery Phase 1 complete, the team now looks ahead to Archery Phase 2, which will encompass the Smoky Lake Tournament on April 12 and the Canadian National Tournament on May 10. It has been a fantastic season, and the Millstone archers continue to bring pride to Millgrove School.

Mr. Cherry



Literacy

The Millgrove Annual Spell-a-Thon fundraiser is taking place during the week of April 22-25. A list has been created and sent home by your child's teacher. Please practice these words so your child can feel successful.

To help your child at home:

1. Give your child a practice quiz, saying each word aloud within an example sentence and having them write the word down.
2. Ask them to correct the test themselves, identifying the words they missed and saying the word aloud while looking at the correct spelling.
3. Ask them to close their eyes and visualize the misspelled word, then spell the word out loud.
4. Then ask them to write the word again and then check to see if they spelled it correctly. If it's still wrong, ask them to repeat steps 2 and 3 before moving on.
5. On the night before the test, give them another practice quiz.

Happy Spelling!

Your Literacy Leads,
Colleen Schmaus and Kelli Holden

Numeracy

Math Focus in Our Classrooms: Fact Fluency – What Does It Mean?

When we talk about fact fluency, we don't just mean memorizing math facts. Instead, we want students to be:

- **Accurate** – Getting the right answer.
- **Flexible** – Using what they know to make connections and solve problems in different ways.
- **Efficient** – Finding quick strategies to reach the answer without unnecessary steps.

Many families include reading in their daily routine, but what about practicing math? Just a few minutes a day can make a big difference, and the best part is—math practice can be FUN!

Ways to Build Fact Fluency at Home

Fun Dice Games

- **Ten Thousand (or Farkle)** → A fantastic game for practicing addition and strategic thinking! Players roll six dice and try to score points based on number combinations. Keeping a running total helps build fluency with adding and mental math.
- **Make Ten** → Roll two dice and try to make a sum of 10. If you roll a 6 and a 3, you need to figure out how much more is needed to make 10!
- **Multiplication War** → Each player rolls two dice and multiplies the numbers. The highest product wins that round!
- **Race to 100** → Roll a die and keep a running total until you reach 100. Add a challenge by rolling two dice and adding or multiplying the numbers!
- **Even or Odd Challenge** → Roll a die and call out if the number is even or odd. Add a twist by rolling two dice and predicting whether their sum will be even or odd.

Play Math Card Games

- **Go Fish with a Twist** → Try "Go Ten" instead! Instead of matching cards, players find two numbers that add up to 10.
- **Cribbage** → This classic game helps children practice addition, number combinations to 15, and strategic thinking.
- **Solitaire for Math** → Lay out four cards above and four below. Find combinations that make 10, then replace them with new cards. Can your child clear the whole deck?

Numeracy continued

Math While You Cook

- While preparing dinner, have your child grab a deck of cards. Pick a number (like 5), then draw a card and add it.
 - Example: If they pull an 8 $\rightarrow 8 + 5 = 13$.
 - Reinforce fluency with fact families:
 - $8 + 5 = 13$
 - $5 + 8 = 13$
 - $13 - 8 = 5$
 - $13 - 5 = 8$
- This game works for multiplication and division facts, too!

Math on the Go

- Number Hunt \rightarrow While driving, look for numbers on license plates or signs and add or subtract them.
- Skip Counting Challenge \rightarrow Take turns skip counting by 2s, 5s, or 10s. Try starting at different numbers (e.g., start at 7 and count by 2s: 7, 9, 11...).
- Math Would You Rather? \rightarrow Ask fun math-related questions, like “Would you rather have 3 packs of 4 stickers or 2 packs of 6?”

Quick Practice Makes a Big Difference

Encourage your child to practice for just 10 minutes a day—whether it’s playing a game, using flashcards, or spotting math in everyday life. The goal is to make fact fluency a natural and enjoyable part of learning!

By practicing regularly and having fun with math, students will become confident, flexible thinkers who can tackle any problem with ease!

Millgrove School Foundation

Exciting Events Coming Up!

Spring Fling School Dance: We will be hosting our 2nd annual Spring Fling school dance on Friday May 2nd! Information about tickets will be sent home after Spring break.

Spellathon: Sharpen your spelling skills and get ready for our Spellathon! This fun and educational event will challenge students to spell their way to success while raising funds for our school. Information packages went home a few weeks ago. Money and forms are due back April 9th. Each child that raises money will receive a prize based on how much they raise as well as the top class from each grade will receive a DQ Dilly Bar Party!

School Apparel Fundraiser: Get ready to show your school spirit! Our first fundraiser will feature a variety of school apparel. From t-shirts to hoodies, there will be something for everyone. Stay tuned for more details on how you can purchase and support our school. Information will be coming home after Spring break.

Hot Lunch Sales: The next round of hot lunch sales will be from April 16-23 for the May menu. Please ensure all orders and payments are completed by 3:30 pm on April 23.

Next Meeting: Our next meeting will be on May 6, 2025, at 6:30 pm in the school library. This meeting will be in combination with the Millgrove School Council Meeting. We encourage everyone to attend and participate in the discussions.

Allison Chuey
Millgrove School Community Foundation
President

Millgrove School Council

Hello Millgrove families!

We hope you all had a fantastic Spring Break!

Our next parent council meeting will be held **Tuesday, May 6th 2025 at 6:30pm** in the library at the school. This will be a joint meeting with the Millgrove Foundation board. 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 HOPE YOU ENJOYED OUR NEWSLETTER

