

Millgrove School

# NEWSLETTER

December 2019

LEARNING TODAY

# BRIGHTENS

Tomorrow

## A Message from our Administrators

Good day parents and guardians... It is December!

Just a reminder that our children are outside for recess until it is - 23 degrees celsius with the windchill, so you must dress them for the weather. Mitts, hats, boots and scarves are essential. As perfectly stated by Richard Louv (2012) "The more high-tech our lives become, the more nature we need to achieve natural balance" (p. 5).

We are still looking for volunteers that may be able to work with students that would benefit from some extra reading practice, math review, or catching up on daily work. If you would be **interested in helping** any time throughout a day, in a variety of ways, please contact our assistant principal, Linda Madge-Arkininstall.

December is a special month as our students prepare for Christmas concerts, participate in our carol sing, and anticipate the excitement of the upcoming break.

Please join us **Wednesday, December 18, Thursday, December 19 and Friday December 20** from 9:30-10:00 am as we gather together to **sing carols** in the gym.

### Christmas Concert Time!

**Grade 2, 3 & 4 - December 10, 11 and 12** Family groupings have been made to ensure siblings perform on the same night so please refer to the specific concert information that has come home in your child's agenda.

**Kindergarten & Grade 1** - M/W kinders Monday, December 16 at 12:00, T/TH kinders Tuesday, December 17 at 12:00 pm **PLUS** 1V and 1R Monday, December 16 at 2:00pm and 1C, 1M, 1S Tuesday, December 17 at 2:00pm

Our last day of school before the **Christmas break** will be **Friday, December 20th**. We return to school on Monday, January 6th and we hope that you all find the time to enjoy this break with family and friends.

Archie Lillico

Linda Madge-Arkininstall

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# Parent and Student Literacy Night - January 16

Last year we hosted two wonderful nights for parents to come and play numeracy games with their children under the instruction of the team consultants from Box Cars and One-Eyed Jacks. **January 16** is another opportunity to work with John but instead of numeracy our focus will be literacy games. This evening is open to students with parents from kindergarten to grade 4! We will start at 6 pm with a pizza supper and at 6:30 pm we will launch into the games. The night will be done by 7:45pm. We will host this evening in the Millgrove Library Commons and are limited to 60 people so don't delay in registering. Each child must be accompanied by a parent to play the games with them.

Please pre-register by contacting [aclillico@psd70.ab.ca](mailto:aclillico@psd70.ab.ca) . Please **indicate parent names, student names and grade**. We will **close registration Friday, December 14** so that we can make sure we have space and resources for the evening. If we are at capacity we will send out a message via our email services.

## Kinette Christmas Hampers

The response to our Kinette Christmas Hampers has been unbelievable! Thank you.

We're having a **friendly contest** where the classroom that brings in the most items wins a **pizza lunch donated by Pizza 73**. Thank you for your generosity and keep the items coming!

Hamper items are due **by Friday, December 6**. We are still looking for a few helpers to help deliver the hamper items to the Spruce Grove Alliance Church on Monday, December 9th. If you're interested in helping, please contact our school at 780-962-6122 ext. 0 or email us at [millgrove@psd70.ab.ca](mailto:millgrove@psd70.ab.ca). Thank you!

## Health Champions

In our ever growing digital world we sometimes find it difficult to balance life with and without technology. Well, Google has come up with a tool that could help. They have created a mini portal guide to help families navigate the digital era together. With it you can find ways for you and your family to use technology in healthy responsible ways. So check it out for some great ideas on staying connected in both the digital world and the outside world.

<https://wellbeing.google/>

Your Health Champions

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# Archery

**The NASP (National Archery in the Schools Program) archery program is starting up again at Millgrove!** We are hoping to repeat the successes we have had in previous years. Last year our team won 3 tournaments and we received the Bronze medal at the Alberta Provincial Archery Tournament. **Archery trials will begin for ALL grade 4 students in the month of December.** These initial practices will introduce the students to archery so they can decide whether or not they are interested in joining the competitive team, which starts in January and goes until the end of March. The competitive team attends up to four tournaments around the Edmonton area during the months of February and March. The team practices at least 2 times a week before school and twice a week during lunch hours. Joining the team is a commitment so it is important that if your child is interested in the archery program, that they are committed to attending the practices and 3 of the 4 tournaments the team attends. The practices will be during lunch hour on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and announcements will be made to remind the students to attend. The only requirement for the archery team is that a child must be able to pull an 18 pound bow. This is a mandatory obligation we must follow in order to follow the safety regulations of the NASP program. If your child has trouble pulling the bow but still wants to join the archery team, Mr. Cherry will contact you directly to discuss options for your child. If your child is interested in joining the archery team, Mr. Cherry will give your child a form the week after Christmas break to sign up. This form will also include further important information about archery, practice times and tournament dates/fees. PLEASE remember that to be on the archery team your child MUST be committed and be able to attend tournaments. The school provides ALL necessary equipment. Any grade 4 student who has a great attitude, wants to have fun and is willing to face new challenges is welcome to try out archery and be on the team!

This year NASP is not allowing Grade 3 students to compete at archery tournaments, HOWEVER, the organizers of the NASP Alberta Provincial Tournament, held during the middle of March in Edmonton, is still allowing grade 3's to compete ONLY at their tournament. Mr. Cherry is willing to organize a grade 3 team to attend this tournament so this means that Grade 3 students will still get an opportunity to join the archery team IF they are able to attend that one tournament in March. The grade 3 students will begin their archery training during the middle of February and information about the grade 3 archery team will be sent out during the first week of February. If you have any questions please contact our head archery coach, Mr. Cherry, by phoning the school or emailing him at [mcherry@psd70.ab.ca](mailto:mcherry@psd70.ab.ca).

## Tabs For Wheels

We have been asked to join a local community member in a year long drive. He is collecting the pull tabs off of cans to then be turned in for a wheelchair. Please collect the tabs and send them into us so that we can see families that can not afford wheelchairs get what they need for their child.

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# Numeracy Tips & Literacy Tips

[Graphic novels](#) ARE real books.

Yes, they are. In fact, the vocabulary is often more challenging in graphic novels because the story must be told succinctly. Let's throw in that picture books are for all ages and stop the glorification of chapter books. Most importantly, no matter what age kiddos are, they're never too old to curl up with their parents and read a good book.

P.S. Check out [Storybird](#) to find pictures you and your child can use when writing your own stories.

## Why is mental math and estimation important in numeracy?

- Estimating helps us to find solutions for problems in everyday life.
- We estimate amounts, time, space, shape, direction and location. We also estimate relationships between objects. How can I help my child?

## Together with your child, try these activities:

- Play guessing games, such as: Which takes more time? How many of these will fit into that?

## Which do you think is heavier, lighter, longer, shorter, etc.? Explain your thinking.

- Collect leaves, stones and pinecones. Before counting, estimate how many you have. Estimate how many stones would cover a leaf.
- Go to the grocery store. Choose a few items and estimate how much it would cost to buy all of them.
- Estimate how fast you can run, hop or wheel to a spot and back and then time it.
- Place small items, like buttons or beads, in a jar or cup and estimate how many there are.
- Find containers of different shapes and estimate which one holds more buttons or beads. • Imagine how you could arrange chairs around a table. Will they all fit?
- Estimate how tall a person is and then measure their actual height.
- Estimate how many scoops or shovelfuls of sand or dirt could fill a bucket. Try it out.

# Library News

Our students have been building amazing things during Makerspaces club at lunch and during Classroom Makerspaces times. Kindergarten classes get to start singing with Mrs. Smith during their library time as well as hearing her read stories. Our students are all loving books and reading and will enjoy hearing Mrs. Smith's favourite Christmas books throughout December.

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# December Classroom Happenings

## Whole School

Tuesday, December 1 - 13 - Hot lunch orders open online

Friday, December 10th and 13th - Hot Lunch cash sales available at school - 8:30 - 9:15 and 3:30 - 4 pm

Wednesday, December 11 - Hot lunch & Milk cash sales available at school

Friday, December 18 - Hot Lunch - Quesada (**pre ordered**)

Thursday, December 14 - 19 - Milk ticket sales available online

Friday, December 13 - Hot Lunch Jack's Drive Inn (**pre ordered**)

Wednesday, December 18, Thursday, December 19 and Friday December 20 is Carol Sing in the gym from 9:30-10:00 all are welcome!

Friday, December 20 - Hot Lunch Pizza 73 (**pre ordered**)

Friday, December 20 - Festive Dress Day (Christmas type clothing)

**Friday, December 20 - last day of school in Parkland - Winter Break from Dec 23-Jan 3, 2020**

## Kindergarten

Tuesday, December 3 - The Lion King Performance (Horizon Stage) Tues/Thurs Kinders 9:30-11:00am

Wednesday December 4 - The Lion King Performance (Horizon Stage) Mon/Wed Kinders 9:30-11:00am

Thursday, December 12 - Xmas Around the World (pm)/ Pajama Day (T/Th)

Friday, December 13 - Xmas Around the World (pm)/ Pajama Day (M/W)

Monday, December 16 - Christmas Concert - Mon/Wed Kinder 12:00 - 12:30

Tuesday, December 17 - Christmas Concert - Tues/Thur Kinder 12:00 - 12:30

Wednesday, Dec. 18 - Dress Festive Day, Popcorn and show (M/W)-Last day before break

Friday, Dec. 20 - Dress Festive Day, Popcorn and show (T/Th)

## Grade 1

Tuesday, December 3 - The Lion King Performance (Horizon Stage) 9:30-11:00am 1M, 1R, 1S, & 1V

Thursday, December 5 - The Lion King Performance (Horizon Stage) 1:00pm-2:30pm 1C

Thursday, December 5 - Gingerbread workshop

Thursday, December 12 - Tree workshop

Monday, December 16 - Christmas Concert 1V & 1R 2:00 - 3:00

Tuesday, December 17 - Christmas Concert 1C, 1M & 1S 2:00 - 3:00

Friday, December 20 - 1C - PJ day and board game party in the afternoon

Friday, December 20 - 1V Gingerbread decorating in the morning and Christmas Celebration in the afternoon

Friday, December 20 - 1R, 1S and 1M Stuffy/ PJ Day and Christmas Celebration in the afternoon

## Grade 2

Tuesday, December 3 - The Lion King Performance (Horizon Stage) 9:30-11:00am

Thursday, December 5 - 2A & 2W Play Parkland 12:45 - 3:15 (Skating & Dance)

Thursday, December 12 - 2B & 2S Play Parkland 12:00-2:30 (Swimming & Dance)

Thursday, December 19 - 2B & 2S Play Parkland 12:45 - 3:15 (Skating & Yoga)

Thursday, December 19 - 2A stuffy and games afternoon

Friday December 20 - 2B popcorn and a movie in the afternoon

Friday, December 20 - 2S classroom party in the afternoon

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### Grade 3

Wednesday, December 18th - 3SK building candy Christmas trees in the morning  
Wednesday, December 18th - 3D - reading party in the afternoon  
Friday, December 20 - All grade 3 classrooms Christmas activities in the afternoon

### Grade 4

Monday, December 2 - 4K & 4W Play Parkland 1:00 - 3:15 (Aerials Gymnastics)  
Monday, December 9 - 4K & 4W Play Parkland 12:45 - 3:15 (Skating & Dance)  
Friday December 20 - all grade 4 classes Christmas Celebration in the afternoon

## School Council News

There is no council meeting in December. The next Millgrove School Council meeting is January 15, 2020 at 6:30 in the Millgrove teacher's lounge. All parents are welcome to attend this short meeting where we discuss the issues affecting your child's school.

Tara Zieminek

Millgrove School Council Chair

millgrovescchair@psd70.ab.ca

## Millgrove School Community Foundation News

Hello Millgrove Families!

It's hard to believe December is already here! We would like to thank all the families that supported the fundraising campaign by purchasing gift cards!

We have officially been accepted for the casino! We have now been placed on a wait list. Once we receive the dates we will be doing a call out of volunteers. We will need between 16-30 people to volunteer to help out at the casino. We will be able to raise between \$15000-\$30000 over the weekend! This will be a huge help towards the new inclusive park that we are looking at building! If you are interested in volunteering for the casino and would like to sign up ahead of time please email [millgrovescfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:millgrovescfoundation@gmail.com)

We will not be having a Foundation meeting in December as everyone is busy preparing for the holidays! Our next meeting will be **January 14, 2020 at 230pm**. I hope to see you there!

On behalf of the Millgrove Foundation I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year!

Jody Bergey - President

Millgrove School Community Foundation

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# Offerings from Division Office & The Community

## Center For Education

Parkland School Division is proud to present another FREE information series for local families.

### Managing fighting & Aggression discussion group

It is natural for children to have disagreements or arguments at times. When children fight there is a risk that someone will be hurt. Children can learn healthy ways of dealing with their frustration with the help of a caring adult. In this workshop, we will discuss this challenging behaviour and offer suggestions to help you teach your child to solve problems and get along with others.

**Date: Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2019**

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

Location: Centre for Education (4603 - 48 Street, Stony Plain)

Presenter: Rebecca Plant (Alberta Parenting for the Future Association)

Information and topics discussed will build on each other, so participants are asked to attend all dates, if possible.

A light supper will be provided. Limited childcare is available.

Space is limited, so please register early to reserve your spot.

### To register, please contact:

Vicky Mamczasz, Family Supports Facilitator

phone: 780-963-8472

email: vmamczasz@psd70.ab.ca