

Millgrove School

Newsletter

March 2021



We had an excellent turn out during our parent teacher interviews, thank you all for your commitment. The last four months until the end of the school year begin in earnest, with the issuing of our second report card. As teachers work to cover the remaining curriculum, it is important for all students to show faithful attendance at school. Literacy and Numeracy continue to be our focus and in our newsletter this month we have added tips for parents of ways you can support these areas at home.

Term 2 **report cards** will be available online on **March 18**. If you are having difficulty viewing the report card please contact our office. The report cards contain valuable information and it is important that you are able to access the record .

You should have received an email from the division on February 22 regarding the Thought Exchange. This initiative is an opportunity for you to share and give us feedback regarding your children's education. We value your feedback as it guides us in our decision making on a variety of topics. Please take time to read through the information and add to it. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call.

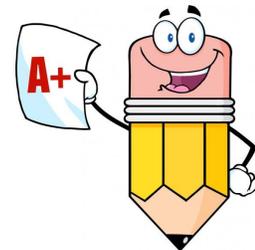
Finally, just a reminder that **Spring Break** begins on **Friday, March 26th**. I hope everyone has a great break and I look forward to students returning on April 7 with rejuvenated minds and a renewed enthusiasm for their learning. Enjoy the beautiful outdoors and time with your wonderful children.

Respectfully,

L. Madge-Arkininstall

Report Cards Kindergarten - Grade 4

We're pleased to have Term 2 report cards available to parents on **Thursday, March 18th** through your [PowerSchool account](#). Marks and comments will not be available on the parent portal until March 18th. If you require assistance with setting up your account or resetting a password, please email our school office at millgrove@psd70.ab.ca and our secretaries will be happy to help.



Once [logged in](#), go to the Report Card button on the very bottom left margin as shown below.



Kindergarten Registration Open - due March 25, 2021

Kindergarten registration is now open! Please fill out the **online 2021-2022 New Student Registration Form** on our Millgrove website. The student's birth certificate and proof of residence will be required as part of the registration process—you will be able to upload these when you fill out the form or you may submit copies of these documents to the school.

Important: Be sure to register using the **2021-2022 New Student Registration Form**. The “New Student Registration Form” link currently live on the Division’s Registration page is only for students registering for the balance of the current 2020-2021 school year.

All parents are encouraged to **complete the registration process** by **4:30pm on March 25, 2021**. This deadline allows us to determine the eligibility of **bus pass applicants**, the routing of buses and data verification before the summer break while schools are still operating. Registrations will continue to be accepted after the deadline for those families who may be moving into the jurisdiction.

For more detailed information on the online registration process, visit PSD’s [Registration page](#).

Returning Student Registration Open - due March 25, 2021

All **Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 12 registrations for both new and returning students** will be conducted online through the PowerRegistration portal for the **2021-2022 school year**.

All parents will be required to complete this online process each school year. New students must register online, while returning students **will receive an email or letter** with further instructions on how to verify and/or update their existing information. **The deadline is March 25, 2021 which is very important for determining eligibility for bussing.**

For more information regarding this process, please [visit our website](#).



Returning Students - Class Placements for 2021-2022

We will soon be moving down the path of planning a successful transition for our students as they move into next school year! This seems like a good time to share a bit about our process for creating class lists for our grade 1-4 classrooms. Our staff devotes a tremendous amount of effort and time into the creation of class lists and student placement in an attempt to maintain balance for each classroom. The process starts with each homeroom teacher who sits with their grade level team and discusses every student within the grade. Teachers discuss many critical elements such as individual learning styles, individual student strengths and areas for growth, social relationships and the emotional wellness of each of our students. We very much understand the value of student friendships and take every step to ensure that all students have some peer support and friends within their classroom. When teachers have taken all of these (and more) factors into account, they then begin to create class lists for the following school year. They work to create classes that will ensure success for all of our students.

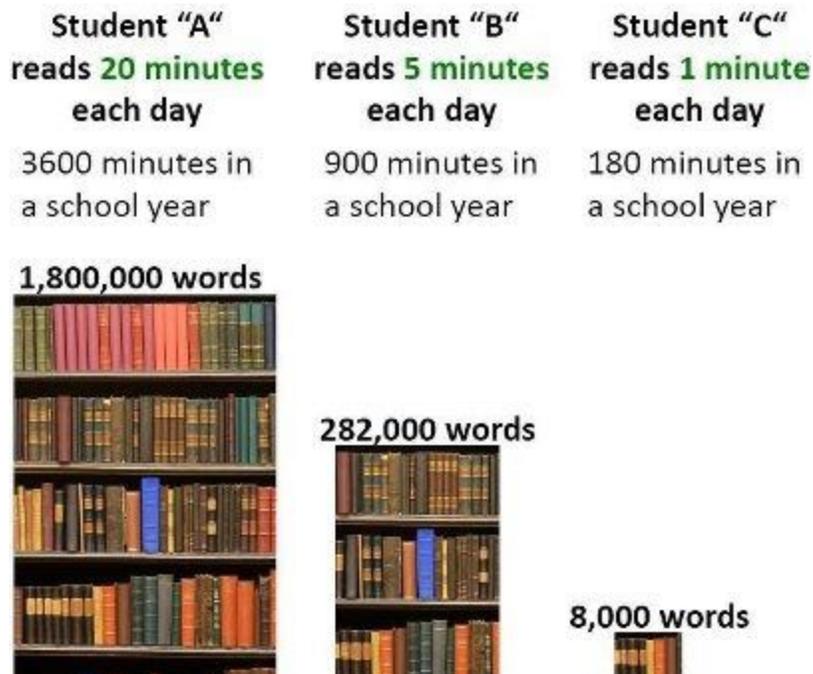
Once these lists have been created by the classroom teachers, our principal Mrs. Madge-Arkininstall works through these lists with our Inclusive Education Lead (Assistant Principal), Mrs. Miners, who can provide additional information on our students with diverse learning needs.

Finally, we work to match the resources that we have available with the needs of our students. As you can certainly appreciate, the staff of Millgrove School invest much time and energy to ensure success for all of our students throughout the school year, and transitioning into next year is no exception. While we cannot manage all parent requests for 2020-2021, if you feel that your child has a learning need which their classroom teacher is not aware of, or which would assist us during this placement process and you have not yet had the opportunity to share this need with your child's homeroom teacher, please do so in the coming months. We greatly value your unique understanding of your child as a learner in our school community.



Literacy Tips- The Importance of Home Reading

Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?



“By the end of 6th grade, Student ‘A’ will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student ‘B’ will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school?” (Nagy & Herman, 1987)

What is a Percentile score? If you lined up 100 students of the same age, a student in the 90th percentile would be at the top, if a student is at the 50th percentile, they would be in the middle, and the 10th percentile significantly below mid-range.

In the earlier grades students are ‘learning to read’, starting around grade three, they are ‘reading to learn.’

Time, time, time! It is what we are all trying to manage in our busy days. Some hints for fitting reading time in:

- When preparing supper, have your child read to you in the kitchen. As you are an experienced reader, you can determine when your child has made a miscue, you don't necessarily have to be looking at the book. (This works well for spelling practice and sight word work.)
- When driving in the car, have your child read out loud.
- Model! Take time to read as a family, this shows your child the importance of reading.
- Establish and maintain a home reading routine, you may say, "first reading and then..."
- Raz Kids is a great alternative, however, in many homes there is limited access to the technology. And many parents are trying to limit the amount of screen time their child has in a day. Most classes provide home reading books, which your child is invited to take home. Remember the books they are taking home are at their Independent Level. They will be working on Instructional Level at school.

ASK QUESTIONS!

The goal of reading is not to just use strategies to decode words, but to comprehend what was read.

Setting the purpose, tell your child we are reading this to find out.....

Pre-reading strategies: look at the title and pictures with your child and discuss what they think the story will be about. Point out some more challenging words and talk about them before reading.

Stop reading at regular intervals to ask your child questions about what they have already read, and to make predictions of what may happen next in the text.

After reading, have your child retell the story in their own words and/or you ask specific questions. Text questions are questions that come directly out of the story and inference questions where they answer the 'why' questions.

Numeracy Tips

Numeracy is really easy to fit into your child's day and does not take long or require fancy materials. Below are some numeracy tips you can use at home!

- Tap into your child's curiosity. Go on a number hunt together and discover places where numbers are used such as a clock, TV, computer keyboard, calendar, telephones and license plates.
- Use everyday activities. Your child's world is filled with everyday math problems that can be solved. For example, "Dinner is at 6:00 and it's 4:30, how many hours until dinner?", "How many people in our family? How many eyes, fingers and toes in our family?" "What's our house number? What would the house number be 4 houses down?"
- Predict and compare. Start to measure and estimate things like how many steps it is from the driveway to the house or how long a trip will take and then measure and compare the actual time it takes.
- Kids LOVE to grocery shop! Give part of your shopping list to your child. Have them find the item and tell you the price. For older students, have them find the cheapest item or look for an item that is more than 20% off! They can write down the price of each item on their list and total it up.
- Cash is a BLAST! Give your child a loonie or a toonie. Ask your child, "How many quarters, dimes, or nickels are in that loonie or toonie." "How many toonies would you need to pay for a toy worth \$20?"
- Bring back family game night! Commit to a day each week that your family plays a board game or card game. Add some addition and subtraction by incorporating 2 or 3 dice. The dice can be added or subtracted to determine the amount moved. Older students can multiply the dice together and divide that number by 2, 3, 5, etc. to determine the amount moved. The card game War can be spiced up by drawing 2 cards and adding or multiplying those cards together.

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- Cooking can be fun! Involve your child in helping out at dinner time and let them help measure ingredients for recipes or estimate the number of potatoes that are needed to feed everyone.
 - Play the estimate game. Ask your child to estimate measurements, distances and grocery bills. Compare the estimate with the actual number.
 - Mystery Number! Think of a number and give your child clues and see if they can guess your number. You can give clues like; my number is even. My number has 3 digits. There are 2 even digits and 1 odd digit. The number in the tens position is how many days in a week. The number in the ones is how many quarters in \$2. The number in the hundreds is how many vertices on a cube. My number is between 700 and 800. What's my number?

Library News

Grade 1 classes are learning about sheep and wool. They will get to see wool carding , weaving, crocheting and knitting. Grade 2 are happily searching for books in the Non-fiction area safely. Mrs Smith is reading realistic fiction books so that they are learning Non-fiction at the same time. Grade 3 classes are starting the Explore a New book contest like the Grade 4 classes. The winning students get to choose a bookmark each month. We can't wait to see the books they choose. Grade 4 classes are continuing to learn about Indigenous ways over the next few weeks. We will talk about the Red River Cart, Bannock, the Sharing Circle, and the Medicine Wheel.

Character Education

During the months of March and April our Millgrove focus will be on **Self Control**.

Self Control is how you display your emotions through your behaviour in socially acceptable ways.



Self Control Videos

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5oX7uRcnHdl>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j0YDE8_jsHk

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BK25r16Bv3A>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pd7_GpERNOM

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XfFdoZZMSrk>

Mrs. TeLeni Woloszyn and Mrs. Elaine Dynan

Millgrove School Council



Our **next virtual meeting** for the Parent council will be on **Wednesday, March 24th at 6:30pm** where we will be discussing all things Millgrove!

We would love to continue to see new faces at these meetings!

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Anna-Marie Jackson
Millgrove Parent Council Chair
millgrove.scchair@psd70.ab.ca

Millgrove School Community Foundation

Hello Millgrove Families

Hope everyone is enjoying the nicer weather!

Our next round of **Hot Lunch & Milk sales** will be running at the same time, **March 8-14**. There will be 1 day of **cash sales** on **March 11** from **3:50 pm to 4:30 pm**. This will be for April hot lunches and milk. For anyone that had milk tickets left over from last year we will be able to honour them, please send them into the school with parents name/child name/email address.

We have set up an account at the **Spruce Grove Bottle Depot** (Located at 39 Diamond Avenue) under Millgrove School Foundation for donations. When you take your bottles in for refunds just ask them to put the money towards the school. This will run until the end of the school year.

We will be having our **Spellathon in April**. Look for that information to come out before Spring/Easter break.

Our **next foundation meeting** is **March 9th at 6:30 pm**. If you would like to attend please email millgrovescfoundation@gmail.com for an online invite.

Allison Chuey

Millgrove School Community Foundation President



COVID-19 Protocols

Our [website](#) is always the best source for the newest information. If your child is sick please refer to our Stay at Home Guide below.

COVID-19 INFORMATION

STAY AT HOME GUIDE

**THE
BOTTOM
LINE**

The amount of time a student needs to stay home from school depends on the type of symptom(s).



WHICH SYMPTOM DOES YOUR CHILD HAVE?



Does your child have ANY of these symptoms?

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Loss of sense of smell or taste

Yes, that's my child. Now what?

- **Your child must isolate at home for a minimum of 10 days from when symptoms started or until symptoms resolve, whichever is longer.**
 - COVID-19 testing is recommended.
 - Your child must not enter any long-term care settings for 10 days and until his/her symptoms have resolved.
- **Your child can return to school before 10 days only if his/her COVID-19 test is negative AND his/her symptoms are gone AND he/she was not a close contact of someone with COVID-19.**
- **If your child's test results are positive for COVID-19, isolate at home for at least 10 days and follow instructions received from Alberta Health Services (AHS).**



Does your child have ANY of these symptoms?

- Chills
- Sore throat/painful swallowing
- Runny nose/congestion
- Headache
- Muscle or joint aches
- Feeling unwell/fatigued
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
- Unexplained loss of appetite
- Pink eye (conjunctivitis)

Yes, that's my child. Now what?

- **Keep your child home from school and monitor him/her for 24 hours. If after 24 hours symptoms improve, your child may return to school, if feeling better.**
 - A COVID-19 test is not required.
 - Your child must not enter any long-term care settings for 10 days and until his/her symptoms have resolved.
- **If your child has any two of these symptoms or after 24 hours their condition gets worse or a second symptom develops:**
 - A COVID-19 testing is recommended.
 - Your child may return to school after symptoms are gone, even without a COVID-19 test or results.
 - If test results are positive, isolate at home for at least 10 days and follow instructions received from AHS.



REMEMBER

It is the parents' responsibility to screen their child(ren) for symptoms each day before school. Visit [psd70.ab.ca](#) and click on the COVID-19 quick link to complete the AHS Daily Checklist.

Close Contact:
If your child is determined to be a close contact of a case of COVID-19, you will be notified and will be legally required to self-isolate your child for 14 days.

Office News



Visitors Entering the School

Please be reminded that we are limiting visitors in our school, so rely on our office staff to call students to the office to collect dropped items. Please continue to wear masks at all times and sign in when you arrive.

Thank you for your continued support.

Student Pick-ups During School Hours

For the safety of your child, when picking up students during school hours, we ask parents to please enter the school and check in with the office staff so we know you've connected with your child. Thank you for your cooperation.

March Happenings

March 4 - **Hot Lunch** - Subway (online orders)

March 5 - PD Day (No School)

March 8-14 Hot Lunch Orders OPEN Online (for month of April)

March 9 - Millgrove School Community Foundation Meeting

March 12 - **Hot Lunch** - Dairy Queen (online orders)

March 12 - Tues/Thur Kindergarten Day

March 15-18 - Milk Orders OPEN Online (for month of April)

March 18 - Report Cards available online (after 3pm)

March 19 - **Hot Lunch** - Bite to Eat (online orders)

March 19 - Mon/Wed Kindergarten Day

March 18 - World Down Syndrome Day

March 19 - Mon/Wed Kindergarten Day

March 24 - Parent Council Meeting

March 25 - **Hot Lunch** - Pizza 73 (online orders)

March 26 - April 6 - Spring Break, students returning to school Wednesday, April 7

Parkland School Division - Strong Families Newsletter

Understanding and being aware of ADHD is important for everyone. We all have friends and family who have this diagnosis and just by being aware of what ADHD is and what it can look like can make a big difference. If you need more information or would like help getting connected to community supports we are here to help.

[ADHD - Stronger Together Newsletter](#)

Take care,

Vicky Mamczasz -Family Support Facilitator, Dena Davis- Sunrise Supports Program Liaison