

January News



Grande Prairie
Public School
Division

PARKSIDE MONTESSORI

Montessori News

Welcome back! We hope you were able to enjoy a relaxing Christmas break and spend some time as a family enjoying the mild temperatures. We are excited to be back and look forward to all that 2024 will hold for our school community.

December was a busy month for the children of Parkside. We enjoyed hosting our Winter Fair, listened to a Métis fiddler, participated in learning about various winter celebrations, dressed in PJs and had our second Brunch for Lunch. Thank you to all our parent volunteers who supported our Brunch for Lunch. We would not have been able to have this event without the team that prepared, served, and cleaned up. Thank you, parents, and friends, for your service to our school. Our students thoroughly enjoyed their lunch!

In December we also took time to celebrate our School Patrollers and Office Helpers. These two groups of students volunteer to support our school community and we are proud of the dedication they have to the roles. There are many different leadership roles for the children of Parkside, and we are grateful to have students who love to lead!

As part of our January School Council meeting, Miss Corrine and Miss Terra will share our annual Results Report. This report is publicly posted with our Education Plan and can be found on our school webpage [HERE](#). Our Education Plan outlines our pri-

orities, outcomes, and strategies to support student learning. The Results Report brings together several pieces of evidence, discusses our interpretation of the evidence, and identifies strategies to support continual improvement across multiple aspects of our school.

We are also looking forward to our annual Literacy Week, January 22nd--26th, during which we take time as a school community to engage in school-wide activities centered on various components of Literacy. Information on these events will be coming home in our weekly parent email so watch for more information over the next two weeks. We will also participate in another M.A.L.T, and Silly Sock Day in January. Hot Lunch ordering is open for all full day Casa and ELMO 1-6 students through MunchALunch.

It has been our goal this year to keep you advised on the learning happening within our school through our newsletters, Facebook page, Instagram, weekly emails, and general school communication. Please let us know if you have feedback for us so that we can continue to refine our communication practices as a school community.

Thank you for your on-going support of our school. We are excited to continue learning with your children as the second portion of our year unfolds and remain committed to giving our best each day.

-Miss Corrine & Miss Terra



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The child who concentrates is immensely happy.

-Dr. Maria Montessori

On the Calendar...

January 2024

~Christmas Break, Dec. 23 to January 7~

January 8- Classes resume, School Council @ 6pm; Fundraising Guild @ 7:15pm

January 12- School Spirit Day

January 16- Silly Sock Day

January 19- Hot Lunch

January 22 through 26th Literacy Week

January 26- Family Reading times, 8:33-9:03 am & 2:41-3:11pm

January 31- M.A.L.T. morning

#ParksideYear8



Parkside
Montessori

Literacy Week, January 22nd through 26th!

Watch your weekly email from teachers and our social media for more information about the themes, events, and activities we will have going on during Literacy Week at Parkside Montessori!

School Council & Fundraising Guild

Parkside Montessori School Council meets the first Monday of each month in-person at Parkside Montessori.

All parents of Parkside Montessori students are welcome. School Council is a great way to get involved as a new or returning family. We work together to make sure everyone feels welcome & supported. Council meets on the first Monday of each month from October to June.

HERE is the link to the our School Council meeting information on our Parkside Montessori webpage.

The Fundraising Guild of Parkside Montessori board is happy to announce that the next session of hot lunches is open for ordering! HERE is the link to start your order. If you are curious about our operations or would like to learn more about the Guild, please feel free to join us at any of our monthly meetings either in person or over Zoom.

Meetings are the first Monday of each month @ 7:15pm.



MunchALunch Winter Menu is open for orders!
First orders are due Jan. 12 for the Jan. 19 Lunch
Happy Lunching!

If you have any questions please contact theguild.pm@gmail.com

Menus Available:
(Scroll down and click Next)

01/19 (Fri) - Majors
02/01 (Thu) - Boston Pizza
02/22 (Thu) - State & Main
03/06 (Wed) - Wingin' It
03/22 (Fri) - Subway

Order in advance up to March 22

NEW parents register here:
<https://munchalunch.com/schools/ParksideMontessori>

RETURNING parents login here:
<https://munchalunch.com/login>

The graphic features a colorful background with food icons like sandwiches, pizzas, and avocados. A blue arrow points from the menu table to the login/register information.

We are grateful to all of those who have supported The Fundraising Guild of Parkside Montessori in our efforts in supporting the students of Parkside!

Theguild.pm@gmail.com

Casa dei Bambini, Preschool & Kindergarten

Welcome to January!

The Casa team is thrilled to be welcoming a new month after the excitement of December. We are hopeful everyone had a restful break and cannot wait to see what this month has in store for our students!

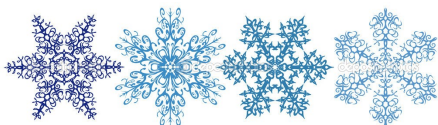
The past month we took part in many seasonal activities with the anticipation of winter break building and found many opportunities to create crafts and learn songs together. One highlight for many of our students was the opportunity to participate in our Family Holiday Event. It was incredible to see the students interacting with one another and their joy when sharing in the fun. Both Casa classes also found more time to have students engage with older peers when we did reading buddies with our friends in Lower ELMO.

Continuing to build on our students' great work with our secret kindness project, this month we will be diving deeper into it and spreading the kindness to others amongst our school. Our students will be brainstorming different ways to spread kindness as well as reflecting on things they already do that help others feel valued. This month will also be focused on literacy and finding ways to incorporate literacy in engaging ways in our classrooms in preparation for Literacy Week.

January is sure to be a busy month for the whole school as we continue with hot lunch, theme days as well as a M.A.L.T morning. We are sure to have another busy and fun-filled month of learning!

Hoping you and your family have a wonderful January!

-Miss Amber and Miss Laura



Lower Elementary, Gr. 1, 2, 3

Hello Parkside families,

We hope that everyone had a fun and restful winter break. We are excited to be back together and continuing our learning adventures.

December was full of fun, hands-on, learning opportunities. Students had a variety of occasions to participate in seasonal activities and learn about different celebrations around the world during our December M.A.L.T and Winter Crafter-noon days. Miss Jen and Miss Julianne's classes also went on a field trip to the post office to deliver Santa letters as a part of their letter writing unit. This was an excellent way for students to apply the skills that they are learning in class to a real-world situation. Our Lower ELMO classes have been working with and getting to know, their reading buddies over the past few months. This helps to build a sense of community within our school, and we are looking forward to completing more activities with our buddies in the new year! At the end of the month many of our classes participated in sock or mug exchanges. This was another excellent way for students to get to know each other's personalities in a fun and festive way.

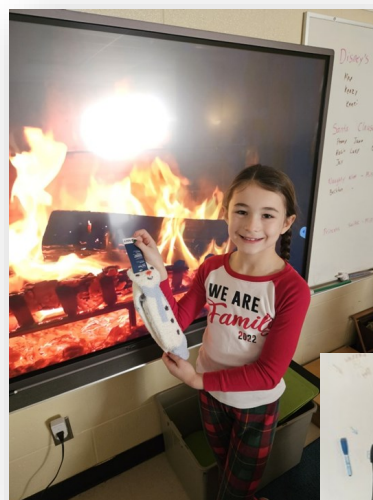
In Science, we are planning a field trip for January. This fieldtrip will bring what they have learned during our Great Lessons to life. More information will be shared by your child's teacher later this month. In Social Studies, our grade 1-3 students are continuing with their study of the community of Meteghan. During this unit, students will be learning about the geography, people, and resources of Nova Scotia. In Math, students will be developing their knowledge of number sense. This includes concepts such as skip counting, odd/even, 1 more/1 less and place value. These skills will help to improve your child's ability to work with numbers when adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing. Please check your weekly email for the skills being practiced in your child's class. At the end of the month, we will be having our school Literacy Week. This week will include a variety of activities that showcase the fun of reading. These activities will provide students with opportunities to interact with families and classmates from our school community.

Please take an opportunity to check your child's indoor footwear and spare clothes to ensure that they still fit. Many of the students have had growth spurts since the beginning of the year. We will be monitoring the weather daily and attempting to get

outside as much as possible for recess. Please ensure that your child is dressed in layers for the weather. Having outdoor gear (i.e. gloves, mittens, hats, and more) labeled will help us ensure are returned to their owners if they get dropped outside, in the boot room or hallway.

We are looking forward to another exciting month of learning!

*-Miss Jen, Miss Jennifer, Mr. Josh,
Miss Julianne, & Miss Melissa*



Upper Elementary, Gr. 4, 5, 6

Greetings and a Happy New Year from the Upper ELMO team!

The first four months of our school year have flown right by, and December was a whirlwind of festive fun with one another.

Students worked on many crafting projects, practical life activities and learning which incorporated different winter celebrations. We also got to enjoy each other during the Winter Family Fair; it was amazing to hear and see the excitement in our hallways, classrooms, and gym. Brunch for Lunch was also a highlight and once again the parents and other volunteers made it a special event!

The Math focus of December was to start learning about number patterns and sequences; as well as statistics as students analyzed their bowling data. Miss Rebecca and Miss Angie also led a 456 project of graphing vote data for various popcorn flavours, such as gingerbread or 'Grinch'. It was so fun to see the engagement and enthusiasm of connecting learning outcomes to real-world experiences in our school! In the coming month, students will be using the Montessori Algebraic pegboard to investigate various number patterns and have been already using the Decanomial Beads to build winter scenes and discuss number patterns, skip counting and basic facts.

Language continues to be a favourite area of the classroom for students as we loop through various concepts. We used themes of winter, holiday celebrations, snow globes, gingerbread houses and more to spark creative thinking and writing all month long. We also explored figurative language, such as metaphors, similes, onomatopoeia, alliteration, and personification in festive classroom décor!

Grade 4 students have been learning about the people, history, and stories of Alberta; as well as various forces in Science. Grade 5 students started making mini books about Indigenous stories. For Science, Grade 5 students completed their Air vs. Water project and just started their new unit on Weather. Grade 6 students have been wrapping up Ancient Athens; as well as thermal expansion in Science.

Looking forward to January, we will be spending time reviewing the expectations and setting individual learning goals. January tends to be a time of

great growth for all the students. We are committed to supporting them in their learning. As always, please reach out to your child's teacher if you have any questions about what is going on in the classroom.

-Miss Desiree, Miss Jackie, & Miss Stefanie



Photos:

Top- Bowling Day for Upper ELMO. This going-out activity provided all kinds of fun and math for days to come using the statistics collected from their games.

Left- Snowboarding STEM-Challenge. Students had to make a "snowboarder" out of pipe cleaner and popsicle sticks. Then problem solve to build a slope and race them down making adjustments to their snowboarder as needed

FROM THE STUDENTS & STAFF OF
PARKSIDE MONTESSORI,

Thank you for your support of Brunch for Lunch!

*Thank you to our School Council and all of
the volunteers who made this event possible!*



INDIGENOUS FAMILY CIRCLE

You are invited!

Indigenous families are welcome to be part of our school division's Indigenous Family Circle (IFC). Bannock tacos, dessert and refreshments start at 5:00 pm, circle and craft for youth to follow.

École Montrose

January 15, 2024
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Scan the QRCode to register or visit
<https://bit.ly/3w07gnF>



Scan to register

**register by Jan. 11 to reserve your meal*

An opportunity to create deeper connections

At the IFC, we will share a meal, visit with other Indigenous families, have your voice heard, and have the opportunity to connect with your child's Indigenous Liaison. For more information, please email us at indigenous@gppsd.ab.ca



Caregiver Education Team Newsletter January/February 2024



Alberta Health Services is proud to offer FREE online programming to caregivers of school-age children and youth as well as adults in the community who want to learn more about addiction and mental health topics.

Sessions are offered online through the Zoom conferencing application. A link to access the online session will be sent by email to those who have registered for the session.

Click [HERE](#) to view the full edition of the Caregiver Education Team Newsletter.

Visit our school page:

www.gppsd.ab.ca/school/parksidemontessori

Parkside Montessori

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