

March News



**Grande Prairie
Public School
Division**

PARKSIDE MONTESSORI

Montessori News

February was a bustling month of activity for Parkside Montessori! We had our Lock-Down Drills, Have A Heart & Wear Red/Pink Day, Valentine's Day, Pink Shirt Day, and our annual Community Kindness Week. Thank you to our School Council for hosting a Blanket Exercise for parents. It was an impactful experience for all those who attended.

Thank you for your support in another successful Community Kindness week. Our students and staff were able to build relationships with and support many different community groups and our First Responders! If you haven't had a chance to check out our video on Facebook, take a moment to see the results of Community Kindness Week 2024!

Grade 1-6 students at Parkside experienced an interactive poetry workshop with Calgary poet Miranda Krogstad. Grade 1-3 students worked specifically on descriptive language and having students describe nouns without using a specific title/name. This required students to think outside of the box and be creative in word choice. Grade 4-6 students did "Canadian Rap Battles" creating rhymes to give compliments. We are looking forward to seeing the impact of this creative workshop in their daily writing at school.

March brings our second set of report cards and the opportunity for parents to be part of our Celebrations of Learning. Progress report cards for Pre-school will be sent home March 20th and 21st. K-6 report cards will go live via the Parent Portal in PowerSchool on March 22nd. If you need support in

logging in to your account, please let us know. The process for accessing report cards remains the same as last term.

We are excited that our Celebrations of Learning on March 26th (4:00-7:00) and 27th (3:30-6:30) will be in-person and student led. As is typical for our in-person Celebrations of Learning, there will be an additional student and their family in the room with your family during your visit. If you would like to book an appointment to speak to your child's teacher one on one or are more comfortable receiving a phone call instead of an in-person Celebration of Learning, please let your child's teacher know. It is important to our school that our parents are informed about student progress and development. Please join us in celebrating the excellent learning your child is doing at our school. Information regarding signing up for Celebration of Learning will be coming home next week. Our Spring Book Fair will also occur in-person during Celebration of Learning.

We are looking forward to another M.A.L.T. afternoon and experiencing the art and music of Alberta Opera toward the end of March. We are also looking forward to our annual Egg Hunt. Wishing your family, a marvelous March! As always, please let us know if there is anything we can do to support your family at Parkside!

-Miss Corrine & Miss Terra



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**Creativity is
intelligence
having fun.**

-Albert Einstein

On the Calendar...



Parkside
Montessori

March 2024

March 1- Twin Day

March 2- Gr. 5/6 GPPSD Basketball
Tournament

March 4- School Council @ 6pm; Fundraising
Guild @ 7:15pm

March 6- Hot Lunch (Wing n' It pre-order);
Mom's Pantry Delivery

March 7 & 8- No School for Students
(Teachers' & EA Conventions)

March 12- Plaid Day

March 14- End of the Rainbow Family Dance

March 15- No School for Students (Professional
Learning Day)

March 18, 19, 21- Shelter in Place Drills

March 20- M.A.L.T. afternoon; M/W Preschool
Reports sent home

March 21-T/Th Preschool Reports send home

March 22- Hot Lunch (Subway pre-order); K-6
Report Cards live in PowerSchool; No School
for Casa Students only, Celebration of
Learning

March 26- Celebration of Learning 4-7pm

March 27- Celebration of Learning
3:30-6:30pm

March 28- Egg Hunt

March 29- No School for Students & Staff
(Good Friday)

March 30 to April 7, Spring Break, No School

Join us for our Spring Book Fair!

Open during Celebration of Learning in the school library.

School Council & Fundraising Guild

END OF THE RAINBOW FAMILY DANCE!

Thursday, March 14, 2024
6:30 to 8:00 pm
at the Composite High School
Music by Absolute Entertainment

There will be a concession, raffles and 50/50.

All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Hosted by the Parkside Montessori School Council and the Fundraising Guild of Parkside Montessori

Parkside Montessori

#ParksideYear8

We are still looking for donation items for the raffle that will be taking place at the dance.

If you or your business would like to contribute, you can donate an item or make a monetary donation and we can do the shopping for you.

Items to consider would be: Lego, science kits, art kits, plushies, outdoor toys, Easter gifts, gift cards, camping items, family games, jewelry


All donations are appreciated and will be recognized on social media and at the dance.

To sign up for a donation please click [HERE](#)

MARCH 2024 FUNDRAISING CALENDAR

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD
MARCH 4
7:15PM SCHOOL LIBRARY**

FEB 26- MARCH 8	DELIVERY WINDOW FOR MOM'S PANTRY (CUSTOMERS WILL BE NOTIFIED FOR PICK UP)
MARCH 6	HOT LUNCH - WINGIN' IT ONLINE PRE-ORDER DEADLINE FOR SWEETNESS COLORING COOKIE ORDERS
MARCH 14	END OF THE RAINBOW FAMILY DANCE DEADLINE FOR MARCH 50/50 (OPENS FEB. 29TH)
MARCH 18	DELIVERY WEEK FOR SWEETNESS COOKIES (CUSTOMERS WILL BE NOTIFIED FOR PICK UP)
MARCH 22	HOT LUNCH - SUBWAY ONLINE PRE-ORDER

 THE FUNDRAISING GUILD IS WORKING TOWARDS TWO FUNDRAISING INITIATIVES THIS YEAR. NEW SCHOOL GYM MATS AND A SCHOOL GARAGE WHICH COULD HOUSE MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT AND SCHOOL SPORTS EQUIPMENT.

Casa dei Bambini, Preschool & Kindergarten

Hello Casa families and welcome to March!

The month of February was a busy one for our classes and was filled with wonderful learning opportunities for all our students. We got to learn all about Lunar New Year, celebrate traditions, read lots of stories and try some new food. We finished up our dinosaur inquiry, created artwork and our all-day casa friends worked with buddies from older grades to research their wonders.

Our classes also participated in Community Kindness Week which is school wide and focusses on many different areas within our community. This helps us explore the idea of connection and how we can positively impact others. Building off our understanding from Community Kindness Week we will begin a top-secret kindness mission that will help further develop this concept in March.

Looking into March we have many exciting events coming up including a family dance and activities for learning about St. Patrick's Day, School Spirit Day, M.A.L.T afternoon, and Celebration of Learning. Our classes also plan to take a field trip in the beginning of March where the children will have an opportunity to visit the public library and walk through the art gallery.

The students have been hard at work in all areas of the classroom, and we are so excited for you to see what they have been learning at our upcoming Celebration of Learning!

Looking forward to another fun filled month in Casa!

-Miss Amber and Miss Laura



Lower Elementary, Gr. 1, 2, 3

Hello Parkside families,

In the month of March, students are exploring Poetry. This exploration has been inspired by the work we did with our guest poet, Miranda Krogstad. On February 26th our students participated in workshops with Miss Miranda. Grade 1 & 2 students described senses by doing the blindfold mystery suitcase. They were asked to close their eyes and then either smell or touch an object. Miranda asked them describing questions, with the students then narrowing things down to figure out what the object was. They also listened to different sound clips and described the tones and emotions of the sounds. Grade 3 students focused on how to think outside of the box when trying to explain a thought or item in writing. Miranda was teaching them how to use descriptive language and ideas without actually using the specific title/name. One of the tasks was to describe "I am hot" by making a sentence with a group of describing words. She also had a list of words that she did not want them to use. Students had to think outside of the box. They also had to come up with a sentence to describe something. A potato chip was transformed into a "complex potato", a snake became "a long rope with a head." We cannot wait to see how this experience expands their poetry writing in the weeks to come.

In Math this month, students will solidify their knowledge of geometry, fractions and graphing. In Social Studies, students are comparing life in Iqaluit to life in Grande Prairie and are learning interesting facts that contribute to the above,

such as the Arctic tree line. In Science, students are learning about light and sound as energy and are practicing vocabulary such as volume, pitch and reflection, through hands-on science experiments. To tie their learning to music, students are learning about instrument families and the qualities they have to create sound. Many classes are continuing their relationships they worked on building during Community Kindness Week through field trips, letter writing, and phone calls. There has been incredible growth this term, both academically and socially. Please keep your eyes out for communication from your child's teacher with more information regarding our Celebration of Learning.

Thank you families for your incredible involvement this past month, and always.

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



Upper Elementary, Gr. 4, 5, 6

Greetings from the Upper Elementary team!

Even though February had an extra day due to the leap year the month flew by. February is always our month for Community Kindness. The whole school participates in various outreach projects that help our students connect with the community. This helps to foster the Montessori principles of grace, courtesy and engaged citizenship. This year the classes enjoyed connecting with a variety of different organizations and learning how they could help.

In Language students continued to work on writing and editing. They are learning about peer editing and about the various tools that Google docs has available to help them with their writing. Students are also practicing their typing skills, and some are using Speech to Text Software to help them record their ideas. Students are learning that proof-reading is different from editing and that both skills are important to improve their writing.

In Math students have continued to work with data analysis and statistics but have also begun working with algebra. Students have really enjoyed working with the Montessori Algebra Symbols to create their own equations and learn about the preservation of equality. Students have also been learning about the importance of The Order of Operations in solving questions. They continue to demonstrate their skills through Montessori materials as well as problem solving.

In Social Studies, the grade 6 students have continued learning about the Iroquois Confederacy. In Science they were excited to start working with the Sphero Bolt coding robots. These robots instruct students about different types of coding starting from the extremely basic and moving through steps to end up coding using text commands. Grade 5 students have been busy putting the finishing touches on their Social Studies mini book project and Science weather tool project. We are excited to have students present their projects in March! Grade 4 students are starting to wrap up their Non-Contact Forces unit and have been discovering how the push/pull force of gravity, static electricity, and magnetism works. In Social studies they continue learning about Alberta's first peoples, as well as about the Fur Trade.

As we move into March, we will focus on assessing student learning and setting goals and priorities for the rest of the year. Report cards and Celebration of Learning will be here before you know it!

-Miss Desiree, Miss Jackie, & Miss Stefanie



ADHD Information Session



What is it?

This presentation is designed to be an overview of ADHD. It includes what ADHD is, where it comes from, how it is diagnosed, the gifts of ADHD, the impact ADHD can have on an individual if left untreated, the impact ADHD has on executive functioning, improving academic outcomes, effective treatments for ADHD and some classroom strategies and parenting tips.

When and Where is it?

Time: 6:00pm – 8:00pm

I.V Macklin Public School
8876 108 Avenue
Grande Prairie, AB

March 20th, 2024

May 8th, 2024

Alexander Forbes School
7240 Poplar Drive
Grande Prairie, AB

January 24th, 2024

April 24th, 2024

Parenting Anxious Children and Youth



Where and When is it?

Time: 6:00pm – 8:00pm

I.V Macklin Public School
8876 108 Avenue Grande
Prairie, AB

April 10th, 2024

May 22nd, 2024

Alexander Forbes School
7240 Poplar Drive Grande
Prairie, AB

January 31st, 2024

May 1st, 2024

What is it?

This presentation provides a brief overview of anxiety, including the different types of anxiety, the origins of anxiety and it describes some of the possible ways anxiety can be expressed behaviorally, emotionally, physically and cognitively. There will be discussion on both helpful and unhelpful ways to support children and youth who struggle with anxiety through classroom management, coaching and parenting tips and speaking to your physician about pharmaceuticals.



Caregiver Education Team Newsletter

March 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.

Preschool & Kindergarten Online Registration

Prepopulate Registration
February 28

Submit Registration
March 11 @ 8:30 am



2024-2025
School Year



Grande Prairie
Public School
Division
Every Student Succeeds



Parkside
Montessori

Online Registration for the 2024-2025 School Year opens on March 11. We invite families of Preschool and Kindergarten-aged children to begin early. Preschool & kindergarten school tours are being booked for February 26th & 27th, 2024. Call to book your tour, 780-5327429. To learn more click [HERE](#).

Visit our school page:

www.gppsd.ab.ca/school/parksidemontessori



Parkside Montessori

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