

# May News



**Grande Prairie  
Public School  
Division**

PARKSIDE MONTESSORI

# Montessori News

May has arrived and the beautiful signs of Spring are popping up all around us! We continue to spend time exploring the outdoors and taking our learning outside when the weather permits. We have been fortunate to start the month off with such beautiful weather. This month our butterfly larvae will arrive, and our Casa-Grade 3 students will have an opportunity to watch their life cycle unfold. We are looking forward to bringing additional spring learning opportunities in our classroom as students gain hands-on, up-close experiences with life cycles of plants and living creatures. Thank you to International Paper for supplying these for our school!

May 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> is Staff Appreciation Week and we are recognizing the dedication of the teachers, educational assistants, support staff, and additional professionals who are part of our team. Thank you to our School Council for coordinating acts of appreciation for our staff and to all parents and students who participated. Your kind words, thoughts, and acknowledgements are greatly appreciated and warm our hearts.

As part of our on-going school planning and assurance to stakeholders, we are in the process of creating our new 3-year Education Plan for Parkside Montessori. If you are interested in engaging in discussion about the priorities of our school, please let us know! We continue to share and discuss our existing priorities, strategies, and results with our School Council each month. At our June School Council meeting, we will share some of our draft planning for our new Edu-

cation Plan thus far. Thank you also to our parent community for completing the Division and Provincial Assurance surveys. The information we receive back from the surveys is used to assist in planning priorities, outcomes, and strategies for our school. We will share highlights from these surveys over the next few weeks.

May is going to be another exciting month of learning for the children of Parkside. We will have Star Wars Day, Western Day, School Spirit Day and Hot Lunch. Grade 4-6 students will have the opportunity to play in the 3D Children's Charity ball hockey and soccer tournament May 10<sup>th</sup> and our Spring Concerts are coming up on May 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. We are very excited to be hosting the Opening Ceremony of our playground on May 24<sup>th</sup> and are looking forward to welcoming and thanking the many sponsors and volunteers. Closing off the month, our Grade 5/6 students will participate with students from GPPSD in the annual Grade 5 and 6 Track Meet.

Wishing you a May full of sunshine, laughter, and hope.

*-Miss Corrine & Miss Terra*



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**When children come into contact with nature, they reveal their strength.**

*-Maria Montessori*

# On the Calendar...



may

2024



May 1- Fire/Evacuation Drill

May 2- Montessori Parent Night, 6:30-8pm

May 3- Star Wars Day; Hot Lunch (Mucho Burrito pre-order)

May 6-10, Staff Appreciation Week

May 6- School Council @ 6pm; Fundraising Guild of Parkside Montessori @ 7:15pm

May 8- Hats On for Mental Health

May 10- 3D Charity Ball Hockey & Soccer Tournament

May 14- Casa & ELMO456 Spring Concert

May 15- School Spirit Day

May 16- ELMO123 Spring Concert

May 17- No School for Students (Professional Learning Day for staff)

May 20- No School for Students & Staff (Victoria Day)

May 24- Playground Opening Ceremony, 1pm

May 28- Gr. 5-6 Track & Field Day

May 31- Western Day



Parkside  
Montessori



Our Lost & Found is full of lonely mittens, gloves, hats, sweatshirts & more! Please come and see if any of these items belong to your child(ren). All remaining items will be donated at the end of June.

# School Council & Fundraising Guild

## ATTENTION PARENTS!

**ArtCards**  
by Kids



**Our school is participating in the Art Cards by Kids fundraiser this spring!**

Watch for a sample card with instructions on how to order your child's art made into beautiful keepsake art products in the coming weeks.

Get excited because your child is hard at work creating their masterpiece in the classroom!

[www.artcardsbykids.com](http://www.artcardsbykids.com)

Our School Council meets monthly in the school library on the first Monday of each month.

Please join us on Monday, June 3rd at 6pm for our final School Council meeting of the 2023-2024 school year.



## MAY 2024 FUNDRAISING CALENDAR

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| <b>MAY 2 -</b>  | <b>GROWING SMILES ORDER PICK UP</b>                                     |
| <b>MAY 3 -</b>  | <b>MUCHO BURRITO HOT LUNCH (ONLINE PRE-ORDER)</b>                       |
| <b>MAY 6 -</b>  | <b>REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD<br/>7:15PM SCHOOL LIBRARY (OR ZOOM)</b> |
| <b>MAY 16 -</b> | <b>BOSTON PIZZA HOT LUNCH (ONLINE PRE-ORDER)</b>                        |
| <b>MAY 24 -</b> | <b>PLAYGROUND OPENING CEREMONY</b>                                      |



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

Spring has officially sprung in the Casa dei Bambini, welcome May!

Our students were busy throughout the month of April and as we transition into May we are able to reflect on the journey of growth and discovery they have made! April was a month that allowed for the children to immerse themselves in nature and feed their curiosity for Science. From learning about the solar eclipse to beginning to help nurture the plants in our classroom, this will lead into our inquiry on exploring the different parts of plants in the upcoming month.

Looking into May we have lots of exciting stuff coming up. Our students have all been working hard to prepare for our Spring Concert. Everyone will be ready to share their wonderful voices with an audience full of family and friends! In the coming days we will also be welcoming butterfly larvae into our classrooms, which will allow the students to begin a new inquiry of exploring and observing how these insects grow and change before we release them as adult butterflies.

We can't wait for another busy month of fun in Casa!

*-Miss Amber and Miss Laura*



# Lower Elementary, Gr. 1, 2, 3

Hello Parkside Families,

April was full of fun and exciting learning opportunities. We are busy practicing our performances for the upcoming Spring Concert in May!

During work block, students complete their independent work and continue to participate in Language and Math groups and presentations. In Math students are exploring four operations, fractions, measurement, time, and money.

The Lower ELMO classes are exploring different areas of the Science curriculum including Energy, Matter, Living Systems, and Computer Science. Within each of these units we are continuing to learn about Scientific Investigation. In Social Studies we are investigating and comparing an Inuit, Acadian, and Prairie community in Canada. We participated in presentations on Inuit clothing and inuksuks, and students even built their own inuksuks to bring home!

We are in the process of planning some fantastic field trips for the students to explore in these last two months of school. Stay tuned for more information on these exciting field trips. We will want to spend more time outdoors as the weather has been lovely. As we know, the weather can change quickly and drastically during this time of year. Please ensure that your child has the appropriate outerwear and a set of spare clothes at school. We are looking forward to what May has in store for us!

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





# Upper Elementary, Gr. 4, 5, 6

Greetings from the Upper ELMO team!

Spring break made April seem like a short month – but we still packed it full of fun events and great learning. Bravo to all students that bravely shared their talents with us!

Art students are continuing with symmetry, tessellation, and digital art. Some students are venturing into using the school cameras to create art through photography. In Music we are practicing our Ukulele pieces for the upcoming Spring concert and will soon be starting a percussion unit.

In April, our Math focus was all things geometry. Students have been investigating shapes and angles. They are exploring the attributes of various 2D and 3D shapes. As well as using protractors to create and measure angles! In May we will move into measurement to explore area and volume.

In Language, students continue to build their reading and writing skills. Students are expanding their comprehension skills and connecting what they are reading to information they already know or other things they have read. We continually want to promote passion research projects for students to work on during their own time in daily work block. Ask your child what are some areas that they want to learn more about as we share the last couple months together of this school year!

In Grade 4 Social Studies, students have been working on researching and creating mini books on either “The Fur Trade”, “Metis Culture”, or “The Hudson’s Bay Company”- Ask your child which topic they are researching! For Grade 5 Social Studies, students have been working through their ‘Murder on the Canadian’ read aloud. It has been great to see them decipher the clues as they listen along! Grade 6 has been focused on levels of Canadian government and the responsibilities of each.

In Grade 4 Science, students have been learning about our solar system, and the rocky planets and gas giants. We have been creating a small model of the solar system as we learn. For Grade

5 Science, students have chosen a human body system and started to research its function and major parts! The options are digestive, respiratory, circulatory, or musculoskeletal – ask your Grade 5 child which one they chose! Grade 6 students are finishing up their studies of forces and sky science. They will move into studying ecosystems and the environment. In May, grade 6 students will be taking part in the Walk Through the Forest program at Evergreen Park!

-Miss Desiree, Miss Jackie, & Miss Stefanie



# TOOLS 4 SCHOOL

UNITED WAY ALBERTA NORTHWEST



## READY TO SUCCEED

SHOW  
YOUR  
LOCAL  
LOVE

United Way is reaching out in the community for support in organizing school supply drives. Our goal this year is to assemble **1,500** backpacks and we need your help! Please consider making a donation to help support this program:

<https://www.unitedwayabnw.org/tools-for-school>

SCAN ME!



Many students live below the poverty line and cannot afford the necessary tools for starting a successful school year.

We aim to reduce one of the know barriers preventing children and youth from successfully learning and participating in school.

Our goal is to make sure no student is in need throughout our region by providing the children with school supplies.

LAST YEAR WE HELPED...



## GET INVOLVED



More info: [director@unitedwayabnw.org](mailto:director@unitedwayabnw.org)  
or 780.532.1105



# MENTAL HEALTH Week, May 6th-12th, 2024

“If you want others to be happy, practice compassion. If you want to be happy, practice compassion.”

-Dalai Lama

## Canada Dental Benefit

Smile!  
It is here.

For kids **under 12 years old**

For families with an adjusted net income **under \$90,000 per year**

For those who **don't have access to private dental care insurance**

Find out more at [Canada.ca/dental](https://Canada.ca/dental) or 1-800-715-8836

Government of Canada / Gouvernement du Canada

Canada

As you may already know, the CDCP is a federally delivered plan that is being rolled out across all provinces and territories. Applications are being accepted in phases, starting with seniors. **Persons with a valid Disability Tax Credit certificate and children under 18 will be able to apply online beginning June 1, 2024.** All remaining eligible Canadian residents can apply in 2025.

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

## Hats on! for Mental Health

Wear a special hat to school to raise awareness of the importance of good mental health.

### MAY YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM UPDATES

## MENTAL HEALTH May

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			YOUTH WEEK MAY 1ST-7TH			Youth Events @ Sunrise House
		Family Crafts @ Nordic Court 2nd floor	Youth Drop-in @ FCSS in Clairmont			
	MENTAL HEALTH WEEK MAY 6TH-13TH					
		Family Crafts @ Nordic Court	Support & Friendship Night Cosmic Bowling			
						Phoenix Youth Workshop

May 1st - 7th - Youth Week various activities through out the city.  
 May 4th - Youth Events @ Sunrise House 10:30-3:30  
 May 6th - 13th - Mental Health Week various events in the city  
 May 9th - Youth Drop-in @ FCSS in Clairmont (ages 13-17) 6:15-7:15 Pizza & Birdhouse making.  
 May 7th - Family Crafts @ Nordic Court 2nd floor 5:30-7  
 May 15th - Support & Friendship Night (ages 10-17) Cosmic Bowling 6-7@ Bowling Stones **REGISTRATION REQUIRED**  
 May 25th - Phoenix one day workshop (grades 4-6)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

780-539-7142  
 youthsupport@sp-rc.ca  
 780-402-1579  
 @GryphonAndPhoenixGP



# TALKING TO YOUR CHILD WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ABOUT PUBERTY



## What is this session about?

All youth need to learn about their changing bodies. Having “the talk” is often overwhelming, especially for parents of youth with developmental disabilities. You may be worried about giving too much information or that their child will not understand. This session will give you an introductory overview of what to teach for sexual health. Tips and resources for teaching about puberty as well as hygiene skills will be provided.

**FREE to Register**

Attend in person or online. In-person attendance is encouraged.

## When?

May 14, 2024  
1:00 to 2:30 pm

## Where?

In Person  
Virtual Session

## Who?

Parents and guardians  
of youth Grade 5 and  
up.

Register at  
<https://nrlc.net/learning-opportunities>



# TALKING TO YOUR CHILD WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ABOUT SEXUAL HEALTH



## What is this session about?

All youth need to learn about sexual health, and healthy relationships. “The talk” is often awkward for parents, especially when your child has a developmental disability. Parents worry about giving too much information or that their child will not understand. This session will give you an introductory overview of teaching sexual health to children with developmental disabilities. Tips and resources for teaching about consent and healthy relationships will be provided.

**FREE to Register**

Attend in person or online. In-person attendance is encouraged.

## When?

May 14, 2024  
6:00 to 7:30 pm

## Where?

In Person  
Virtual Session

## Who?

Parents and guardians  
of youth Grade 5 and  
up.

Register with the  
NRLC  
<https://nrlc.net/learning-opportunities>



# Caregiver Education Team Newsletter

May/June 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.

**Parkside Montessori**

## Spring CONCERTS

**Tuesday, May 14-Casa & ELMO456**  
**Thursday, May 16-ELMO123**

**Concerts are held at People's Church,**  
**11850 - 108 Street**  
**6:30pm start time**  
**Tickets, 4 per family\***

\*It is important that we do not exceed the number of seats available to us. Families not using all their tickets are asked to return unused tickets to the office by Tuesday, May 7, for redistribution to those seeking additional tickets. Any families needing additional tickets are to contact the office.

Visit our school page:  
[www.gppsd.ab.ca/school/parksidemontessori](http://www.gppsd.ab.ca/school/parksidemontessori)



**Parkside Montessori**  
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