

November News



**Grande Prairie
Public School
Division**

PARKSIDE MONTESSORI

Montessori News

The cold weather has arrived! It's time to bring out the toques, mittens, ski pants, and warm clothing! The children of Parkside will continue to take learning outside during the winter months and we have spent time talking about changes and adaptations that occur during the change from fall to winter. Seasonal cycles and changes are an important concept in building understanding about patterns in nature as well as our connection to the land.

October brought several community-building events including Read-A-Thon, Thanksgiving, M.A.L.T., Hot Lunch, Dress Like a Teacher Day, pumpkin decorating and many Halloween themed celebrations. We also welcomed Indigenous Drummer Al Crawford who supported us in recognizing the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Parkside was fortunate to have the Rooted Connections art exhibit at our school for the month of October. The exhibit included art and artifacts from many local Indigenous artists. Our students enjoyed viewing and interacting with the display.

In November we will have our annual Remembrance Day Assembly, which is hosted by Mr. Josh and Miss Desiree's classes this year with a special presentation from our Casa students. As a school community we will recognize the contributions of veterans and peacekeepers who have served or are serving in various global conflicts and are connected to children of Parkside through our Wall of Honour.

In the month of November, we bring together our student assessments, reflect on our student growth and communicate this to our parents through our report cards and Celebrations of Learning. K-6 report cards will be in digital form

again this term and will be accessed through the Parent Portal in PowerSchool on December 6th. Preschool progress reports will be emailed home on December 4th and 5th. It is a good idea to log into your Parent Portal prior to the day that reports cards go live. Please connect with Miss Nancy in the office if you haven't been able to access your Parent Portal.

Information about Celebrations of Learning and Report Cards will be coming out in November. Accompanying the report card information will be a parent handbook that is designed to support understanding of the new GPPSD report card that will be in use this term. It is important to us that parents feel informed of their child's progress at school. If there is anything that we can do to support building your understanding of the new curriculum, our reporting or your child's learning, please connect with us.

We continue to be grateful for our School Council and Fundraising Guild parent teams who support our school in many ways. Please contact the Fundraising Guild (theguild.pm@gmail.com) if you have questions about hot lunches &/or Munchalunch this year or if you would like to know more about you can be involved in raising funds to support our school! All parents of Parkside are members of our School Council. Please consider coming out to both the School Council and Fundraising Guild meetings that take place on the first Monday of the month. More information is included in our weekly parent email.

Thank you again for all that you do to engage with us and help us provide the best educational experiences for our students! If you have feedback for our team, please let us know!
-Miss Corrine & Miss Terra

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Peace begins with a smile.
-Mother Teresa

On the Calendar...

November

Nov. 2- Gr. 5/6 GPPSD Triple Ball Tournament

Nov. 4- School Council @ 6pm

Fundraising Guild @ 7:15pm

Nov. 8- Remembrance Day Assembly @ 10:30am

Hot Lunch (Subway pre-order)

Nov. 11- No School for Students & Staff, Remembrance Day

Nov. 13- School Spirit Day

Nov. 18- Hot Lunch (Tito's pre-order)

Nov. 19- Wacky Hair Day

Nov. 22- No School for Students, (Professional Learning Day)

Nov. 28- Hold & Secure Drill

Nov. 29- M.A.L.T. Morning



Parkside
Montessori

#ParksideYear9

Join us on Friday, November 8th at 10:30 for our Remembrance Day Assembly.

This assembly will be led by Mr. Josh & Miss Desiree's classes, assisted by Casa friends and our Elementary Montessori Voices Choir. As this is open to parents, it is considered a public event and photos may be taken &/or shared by those in attendance. If this is a concern for your family, please let your child's teacher know.



We look forward to hosting our Parkside Montessori families for our upcoming Christmas Concerts!

The first concert is on Tuesday, Dec. 17th featuring our Casa dei Bambini and ELMO Gr. 4,5,6 students.

The second concert is on Thursday, Dec. 19th featuring our ELMO Gr. 1,2,3 students.

Both concerts are held at People's Church, with a 6:30pm start time.

Tickets will be issued to families closer to the concert dates in December, ensuring that we do not exceed the number of seats available.

These concerts are considered public events. Photos may be taken &/or shared by those in attendance. If this is a concern for your family, please let your child's teacher know.

CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

TUESDAY, DEC. 17TH, CASA & ELMO 456
THURSDAY, DEC. 19TH, ELMO 123

BOTH CONCERTS WILL BE AT PEOPLE'S CHURCH, 11850 108 STREET
6:30PM START FOR BOTH

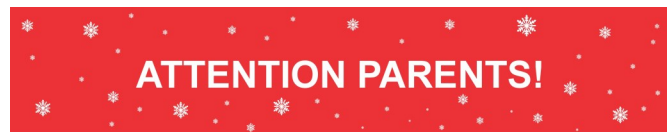


School Council & Fundraising Guild

Parkside Montessori School Council Mission Statement:

Parkside Montessori School Council seeks to support the social, emotional, and academic well-being of our students in partnership with parents and our school staff. As representative, we aim to engage our diverse school community and support initiatives that reflect their unique perspectives.

The School Council of Parkside Montessori meets regularly on the first Monday of every month at 6pm in the school library. All Parkside Montessori parents are welcome to attend meetings.



ArtCards
by Kids



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

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

The Fundraising Guild of Parkside Montessori Purdy's Chocolates fundraiser is happening NOW. Catalogues have already been sent home with students. Orders are open until November 19th and are expected to be delivered to Parkside Montessori the last week of November. Follow the link [HERE](#) to place your orders and share with your family & friends. Customer Number 51117

Regular meetings of the Board for the Fundraising Guild of Parkside Montessori are on the first Monday of every month at 7:15 pm in the school Library (& Zoom, email for link). If you'd like to learn more about our operations or how to get involved please feel free to join us. If you're interested in short-term volunteer opportunities, have suggestions for fundraisers or have any other feedback, we invite you to email us at: theguild.pm@gmail.com

Casa dei Bambini, Preschool & Kindergarten

The Casa classes had a busy and fun month of October. We spent time investigating pumpkins and talking about Halloween and Thanksgiving.

In November, we will be shifting our focus to the continents. The continents are a part of our Montessori Social Studies curriculum. We will be doing hands-on activities to learn about the continents. Our first continent will be North America. Each class will choose the next continent to study based on connections to our individual classrooms.

We will work on Practical Life Skills including pouring, tweezing, lacing, and tonging. Practical Life skills help our students with their fine motor, concentration, and attention.

In Language, we will be continuing to focus on phonemic awareness and letter recognition. Phonemic Awareness is the ability to focus on individual sounds in words. This includes rhyme, identification of beginning and ending sounds, syllable recognition, and compound words.

In Math, we will continue to focus on numbers to 10. We will also spend some time sorting and patterning.

In Science, we will be investigating objects using our 5 senses. The children will learn that our sense include smell, taste, touch, sound, and hearing. Our Sensorial materials provide an excellent opportunity to work on our senses.

We are looking forward to all of the learning that will take place in the month of November!

-Miss Laura & Miss Trisha



Lower Elementary, Gr. 1, 2, 3



Hello from the ELMO123 Team,

We have had a fantastic October in ELMO 123! Our busy month included the continuation of our Montessori Great Lessons, where we presented lessons three, four, and five. These lessons focused on humans on earth, writing and communication, and the development of numbers. These lessons leave a wonderful impression on students as we dive deeper into literacy and numeracy.

It has been exciting to see the progress students are making during our work blocks. Students are showing more independence in choosing activities during work block and are able to sustain focus for longer periods of time. During this time, students have been developing literacy and numeracy skills. Each day, we focus on helping students hear, identify, and manipulate sounds in words, while also enhancing their phonics skills for reading and writing.

In Math, students have been exploring patterns and deepening their understanding of numbers and place value through various Montessori materials.

In Social Studies, we have been learning about the Provinces and Territories of Canada, zooming in to take a closer look at Alberta. As we delve into Alberta, we will explore its landforms, bodies of water, climate, and natural resources.

In Science, students have begun their exploration of matter, focusing on the three states: solid, liquid, and gas. They are learning about both natural and processed materials and how they are created.

As the weather gets colder, please ensure your child comes to school dressed appropriately for winter. Please have your child practice putting on their snow gear independently at home. This allows your child to have the optimum amount of time outside getting fresh air and exercise.

*-Miss Karissa, Miss Julianne, Miss Shalini,
Miss Melissa, and Mr. Josh*

Upper Elementary, Gr. 4, 5, 6

Hello Families,

October was done in a blink – but we packed in some great learning and leadership tasks! For example, the 4,5,6 students worked very hard in planning, setting up and hosting fun Halloween centers or games for the younger students to end the month. We have also had a few different clubs led by different 4,5,6 students begin this fall including mini sticks, yo-yo club and Cree club! Parkside Montessori has started our own Destination Imagination club, where students can participate in critical thinking and creative challenges with their peers. Contact Miss Kristen if you think your child would be a good fit for this after-school learning extension!

In Math, we continued to focus on place value and the four operations. These important numeracy skills build the foundation for our learning all year. We also started working with fractions, decimals, ratios and percents. Seeing how these concepts work together and applying operations to those as well has been intriguing for many. We will continue all these numeracy-based concepts yearlong to build understanding and fluency. It is important to meet the child where they are in their learning and build on those successes over a longer span of time.

In Language, we have been able to continue small group and one on one conferencing with students to meet their reading and writing needs. Giving students timely feedback is an important part of ensuring they are growing in their Language work. In that feedback loop, students are figuring out what the specific things they need to work on are and will continue to revise and edit their work. We know they will have some favourite pieces of writing to share with you at the upcoming Celebration of Learning times!

Our Grade 4 and 5 students are learning about Matter with topics such as recycling, waste and hazardous materials in Science. In Social Studies, they are focusing on the history of Canada. The Grade 6 students are learning about various democratic principles and how they can connect to the Canadian Charter of Rights and

Freedoms. In Science, they are learning about Matter with topics such as changing states, particle theory and impact of temperature.

At this time of year, the students and teachers are busy assessing learning and reflecting on the first term in all subject areas. We would like to thank you for your continued support and engagement with your child's learning. Please continue to reach out to us to ask any questions you may have as Celebration of Learning and report cards approach.

-Miss Desiree, Miss Jackie, Miss Kristen, & Miss Stefanie



Community Programming

Caregiver Education Team Newsletter November/December 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.

Girls Matter!

Connect with your inner strength, and beauty.
Build new friendships, talk about stressors, and social media.
Have fun and find new ways to love yourself for who you are, naturally.

Every Tuesday from November 5th - December 3rd, 2024
4:45pm - 6:45pm

Everyone is eligible, cost is free
8- 13 years of age welcome

Email cayprograms@gpfes.com to register today or call 780-830-0920

THE CITY OF GRANDE prairie | fcSS City of Grande Prairie Family and Community Support Services | Grande Prairie Family Education Society

NO COST AFTER SCHOOL & EVENING PROGRAMMING

Mental Health Initiative Afterschool Program
Age 5-14, 3:00 PM - 5:30 PM, Monday- Friday

Mental Health Initiative Evening Program
PreTeen & Teen
Age 10-18, 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM, Monday- Friday

Expreience innovative, no cost- programs at The Cool Aid Society! We empower youths aged 5-18 with mental health support, mentorship, and community connection.

Join us for inclusive Afterschool & Evening Programming to build life & social skills.


www.coolaidsociety.ca



FALL READ-A-THON

With your help we exceeded
our goal & raised
over \$10000!!!
Thank you for your support!



#ParksideYear9



Parkside
Montessori

Lest We Forget



Multi-activity Learning Time, MALT is a special time that students from Parkside Montessori engage in extending our curricular learning to areas of specific passion. We partner with our school community to offer students sessions in a variety of subject areas. Examples of M.A.L.T. morning or afternoon activities may include, painting, music, drama, construction, baking, sewing, nature walks, and different physical activities and much more! Our next MALT afternoon of the 2024-2025 school year is on Friday, Nov. 29th. We would love it if you would consider being a session leader or session helper! Forms will be sent home Nov. 7th looking for volunteers. Please contact the school office if you have any questions about this.

Remaining MALT Days for the 2024-2025 School Year:

- November 29**, morning
- February 5**, morning
- March 20**, afternoon
- April 29**, morning

Morning Session times are:
8:40-9:40/ 10:10-11:10am

Afternoon Session times are:
12:30-1:30/1:50-2:50pm

*We ♥ our
Volunteers*

Parkside Montessori

Corrine Shmyruk, Principal
Terra Shewchuk, Vice Principal



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