

November News



**Grande Prairie
Public School
Division**

PARKSIDE MONTESSORI

Montessori News

After a long and beautiful Fall season, Winter has arrived! 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.

We have had several community-building events in October including school pictures, positive self-belief statement backpack hearts, pumpkin decorating/carving, Halloween Centers organized by our 4-6 students, M.A.L.T., Read-A-Thon and a return of our in-person Halloween Parades! Thank you to Cold Room Creations for supporting our backpack hearts for our October School Spirit Day!

Starting off November, our Grade 3-6 students will attend "Chemistry All Around You" hosted by the Alberta Science Network. In November we will also have our annual Remembrance Day Assembly, which is hosted by Mr. Josh and Miss Jen's classes this year. 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. Rounding out the month we will look at all things "Patterns" and dress in our patterned clothing.

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 November 25th. Preschool report cards will be emailed home on November 23rd and 24th. 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.

With the implementation of the new curricu-

lum, report cards will include different content than previous years. Last week we sent home a letter that describes some of the changes. A document called "Understanding Your Child's Report Card" will be coming home this week and additional information on Celebration of Learning and Report Card access will be coming out next week. 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. Thank you to the Fundraising Guild for setting up Munchalunch for hot lunches this year. Instructions for setting up a Munchalunch account were sent home with students. Please contact the Fundraising Guild (theguild.pm@gmail.com) if you have questions about hot lunches this year or if you would like to know more about you can be involved in raising funds to support our school and playground! 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 is what every human being is craving for, and it can be brought about by humanity through the child.

-Dr. Maria Montessori

On the Calendar...

NOVEMBER 2022

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov. 4- M.A.L.T. afternoon

Nov. 7- School Council, 6pm; Fundraising Guild, 7:15pm in person at Parkside

Nov. 10- Remembrance Day Assembly, 10:30am

Nov. 11- *Remembrance Day*, NO SCHOOL for students and staff

Nov. 15, 16 & 17- Hold & Secure Drills

Nov. 23-M/W Casa preschool report cards go home

Nov. 24- Pattern Day! T/Th Casa preschool report cards go home

Nov. 25- K-6 Report Cards go live on School Engage; NO SCHOOL for students (*Professional Learning Day for staff*)

Nov. 30 & Dec. 1- Celebration of Learning

Dec. 2- ELMO1-6 School Spirit Day; NO SCHOOL for Casa students only, Casa Celebration of Learning.



Parkside
Montessori

Please be respectful of the marked parking stalls for those who have disabilities and have the appropriate placard. By-law will issue fines to anyone parked in those stalls without a placard. Thank you for supporting our families who have placards and require parking in these stalls daily.



School Council & Fundraising Guild

School Council of Parkside Montessori will be holding our next regular meeting of the school year on **Monday, November 7 @ 6PM, 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.

Thank you for supporting our Fall Fundraising !



Little Caesars®
Pizza Kits

Did someone say
Pizza Pizza!!!

The Fundraising Guild of Parkside Montessori would like to thank YOU for your purchases!

The Foam Laser-cut Pumpkins raised \$420

Little Caesars purchases raised almost \$400

Ice Melt is now sold out!

Ordering for the Growing Smiles Winter Products (wreaths, poinsettias & more) closes Nov. 9th (delivery Nov. 24th) AND Purdy's Chocolate ordering closes Nov. 27 (approx. delivery Dec. 12)

Check out the Guild FB page [HERE](#) for links!

Wondering how you can get involved and connect with the Guild, send them an email!

theguild.pm@gmail.com



Did you know that all Parkside Montessori parents are members of the school council?

It's true!

EVERYONE is welcome to our monthly school council meetings.

Both the School Council of Parkside Montessori and

The Fundraising Guild of Parkside Montessori are active on

Facebook.

Find us on Facebook!

Parkside School Council Group

Fundraising Guild of Parkside Montessori



The Fundraising Guild of Parkside Montessori holds a public meeting every month following our School Council meeting. Join us Monday, November 7th at 7:15 pm, in-person at Parkside Montessori

Casa dei Bambini, Preschool & Kindergarten

We had a great October in the Casa Dei Bambini! The children have become accustomed to our routines and are able to follow the workflow of our day. Everyone is becoming more independent in choosing their own Montessori activities during work block and are receiving presentations from their teachers.

In October we drew self portraits, used our five senses to explore sunflowers and made lots of Thanksgiving and Halloween crafts. We learned about half of the alphabet's letters and sounds and created patterns in Math.

In November we will learn about Remembrance Day and attend our special school Remembrance Day assembly. We will also be learning about healthy habits such as healthy eating, personal space, and emotions.

We look forward to hosting our first Celebration of Learning of the school year on November 30, December 1st & 2nd. These are not traditional parent-teacher interviews but rather an opportunity for our students to share their learning with families in student-led conferences. Reminder, there is no school for Casa students on Friday, December 2nd as Casa teachers will be busy with Celebration of Learning. Watch your email for more information about how to sign-up for your Celebration of Learning spot!



-Miss Sonja & Miss Emma



Lower Elementary, Gr. 1, 2, 3

October brought lots of fun and learning to the lower elementary classrooms. Our class families continue to grow together as students learn to cooperate, to care for each other and to build positive friendships.

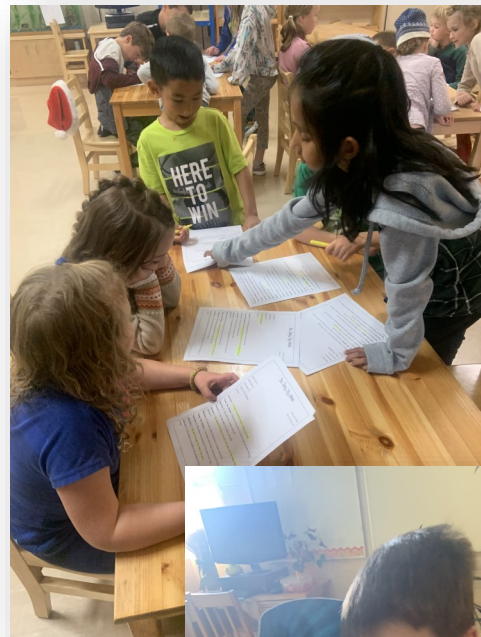
We have been very excited about the progress students are making during our work block periods. The children have been working hard to build their understanding of fundamental literacy and numeracy skills. We are working daily on our ability to hear, identify, and manipulate individual sounds. We are also building our phonics skills so that we can accurately sound out words and record them in writing. In Math, students have been exploring patterning and building their understanding of number and place value. We have been working with number lines, the hundred grid, and using a variety of Montessori materials to extend our understanding of number concepts.

In Science we have been observing the changing of the seasons. We have explored the orbit and rotation of the earth and how this creates both day and night as well as spring, summer, fall, and winter. This relates to our pattern work as we explore patterns in nature, as well as the Indigenous medicine wheel which we have been introduced to. We are learning how plants, animals and people prepare for the winter season. Students are enjoying their work on hibernation and migration.

In Social Studies we have wrapped up our mapping unit and we are beginning to explore the continents. Each class will be studying a different continent and we will rotate throughout the school year. We will explore physical geography, language, culture and customs, food, clothing, and music as we explore each continent.

The winter season has come in like a lion. Please make sure that your child is appropriately dressed for the weather each day. It is also helpful to have them practice at home how to put on their snow gear in such a way that they can be independent. This allows for them to have the optimum amount of time outside getting fresh air and exercise. We look forward to spending November with you!

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



Upper Elementary, Gr. 4, 5, 6

Greetings from Upper ELMO!

Students have been very excited to see the return of many pre-pandemic favorites such as our Halloween parades and carnival. Upper ELMO classes also experienced their first all-day field trip of the year. Students enjoyed viewing the exhibit at the art gallery and learning how to research at the library.

In Math, our focus continues on place value and operations. These important numeracy skills build the foundation for our learning all year. Students have enjoyed accessing Xtra Math which is a website that builds fluency and accuracy of basic addition, subtraction, division, and multiplication skills. We also worked with fractions and decimals, applying operations to those as well and as mentioned, will continue year long.

In Language, students received presentations, one-on-one conferencing and practice in reviewing teacher or peer feedback, continuing learning on how to create complete sentences and organize creative ideas into paragraphs. Students will continue to experiment with different types of writing such as letters and stories depending on the day of the week. They are working in small groups to build their reading skills and taking time to extend beyond the book with comprehension questions or independent activities.

Our grade sixes are wrapping up their unit on Forensic Science. They have learned all about fingerprints, footprints and other types of evidence that might be left at a crime scene. In Social Studies they are learning about the structures of government and how Canadian citizens participate in democracy.

Our grade fives are combining their learning of Canada and Electricity & Magnetism into a cross-curricular hands-on project. They will be creating an electronic trivia game based on Social Studies content and applying Science know-how. Please keep an eye out for these at Celebration of Learning!

Our grade fours are wrapping up their Alberta projects. Students will be presenting their findings to the class and together will vote on which Alberta town is the best. In Science, they are moving into learning about the Waste in our World and how to be responsible citizens when it comes to the role we play in this process.

It is a busy time of year with lots of learning to share at our upcoming Celebration of Learning. Please continue to reach out to us to ask any questions you may have about what is going on in our classrooms. We are grateful for your continued support and engagement with your child's learning and we look forward to seeing you at the end of the month for our student-led conferencing!

-Miss Becky, Miss Desiree & Miss Stefanie





Christmas Concerts

Please save the date!

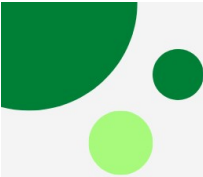
Thursday, Dec. 8 at 6:30pm- Casa & ELMO 456

Tuesday, Dec. 13 at 6:30 pm- ELMO 123

Both concerts will be at People's Church,



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PROFESSIONAL LEARNING DAYS



2022-23



Are you curious about what goes on during our PL Days?

Parkside Montessori staff are actively engaged in school improvement and learning to support our students.

On our October Professional Learning Day (October 21st) Parkside Montessori Staff was deep-diving into our fall data to get a good picture of each class and each student. Through this exploration, staff were building understanding and connections that will inform practice and planning in the weeks to come.



Celebrating Success!



Striving for Excellence Awards

Dinner, October 5th, 2022

On Wednesday, Oct. 5th the GPPSD Education Foundation was pleased to once again host their annual Striving for Excellence Awards Dinner.

Congratulations to our 2022 Parkside Montessori Gr. 4, Gr. 5 & Gr. 6 Striving for Excellence and Outstanding Student recipients!

53rd GPPSD Board Social, October 15th, 2022

Congratulations to Miss Desiree (10) & Miss Corrine (20) on your amazing years of service to our division and Miss Rebecca for being our 2021-2022 Exemplary Staff Member!



Parkside Montessori

Corrine Shmyruk, Principal
Terra Shewchuk, Vice Principal



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Caregiver Education Team Newsletter

November 2022



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.

Visit our school page:

www.gppsd.ab.ca/school/parksidemontessori

[Click here](#) to link to the November 2022 CYF Caregiver Education Newsletter!