



## Muir Lake School

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# Mustangs Memo

May 5, 2023

**Muir Lake School Newspaper:** We are very excited to announce that the first ever edition of the Muir Lake School Newspaper is now ready and available for you to enjoy. The Newspaper was the idea of a Grade 4 student, Daniel, who is now our Editor. We really wanted to support Daniel's great idea and we were blown away by the enthusiasm of all of the students that signed up. Great job, everyone!

[NEWSPAPER LINK HERE](#)

**Visual Arts Celebration:** We are pleased to invite you to the 2023 Visual Arts Celebration which is being hosted by Memorial School at 50 Westerra Centre, Stony Plain, AB T7Z 1R3. This annual celebration features the work of students at all grade levels from across Parkland School Division.

You can view the artwork at Memorial School on either May 9th or 10th from 4:00 - 7:30 p.m. with the Opening Ceremony of the Visual Arts Celebration on May 9th at 7:00 p.m.

**Smile on May 4th:** Our MLCS Foundation is pleased to have helped support the Bissel Centre by providing Tim Horton's Smile Cookies to staff and students on Thursday May 4th. Thank you to our School Foundation, the yummy treat was appreciated.

**MLCS Foundation:** Our school Foundation will be hosting their Annual General Meeting on Monday June 5 at 6 pm in the school Library. Elections will take place at this time. Everyone is welcome. The school Foundation oversees the fundraising for the school and helps to decide which projects are next for the school. If you would like to be a part of this committee, then please attend the meeting.

**Breakfast Program:** We have had quite a few of our grade 4 to 9 students express their interest in assisting with the breakfast program in the morning before school. If your child is in grade 4 to 9 and is able to be at school before 7:40am, then please fill out the permission form that is [LINKED HERE](#) and have them bring it in to their homeroom teacher.

Cookie Wookiee

# MAY THE 4TH BE WITH YOU

Complimentary smile cookies are being provided to all students and staff with proceeds going to Bissell - Child Care.

Thanks for your continued support of the Muir Lake School Foundation.

**Library Books:** Just a quick reminder to parents to pay a little extra attention when returning books to the Stony Plain Library that they are not Muir Lake School books. We have been notified that some of our books are being dropped off at the public library. Thank you

**2023 2024 School Year Registration:** Parkland School Division's annual online registration/verification process opened on Monday February 13th. We respectfully request that if you have not already done so, that ALL parents have this process completed BEFORE March 24th in order to insure that your child(ren) has transportation in place for the 2023 2024 school year.

All Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 12 registrations for both new and returning students will be conducted online for the 2023-2024 school year.

For existing PSD students, parents can find the RSVP link (Registration) in their [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#). For more information, please visit our Division website at <https://www.psd.ca/schools/registration>.

Any New-to-PSD students (eg. kindergarten) are directed to complete the “NEW STUDENT REGISTRATION” which can be found on the PSD website at <https://www.psd.ca/schools/registration>. Kindergarten students will need to be 5 years of age by December 31, 2023 (born in 2018).

Families that physically live in the Muir Lake School boundaries with students that are entering grade 10 are reminded that they're directed to attend Memorial Composite High School in Stony Plain. If you have a child that is currently in grade 9 and he/she will **not** be attending MCHS in the fall, then we ask that you please contact us ASAP with where they will be attending for grade 10 so that we can process their transition to high school accordingly. Students that are looking at attending a school other than their designated school need to ensure that they have permission from the desired school to register there.

At this time of the year we are already planning for next year’s staffing and class configurations. If your family is planning to not attend Muir Lake School in the 2023 2024 school year, then we respectfully request that you advise us as soon as possible as this will affect our planning process.

If you have already finalized and submitted your child's registration for next year, then we say a big thank you. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school at 780-963-3535 or by email at [MuirLake@psd.ca](mailto:MuirLake@psd.ca)

**Student Placement:** Student placement is a very complex process that we take very seriously.

**Teacher/Specialists:** our school staff and specialists (such as teachers, counselor, administration, etc) review student placements several times up until the opening day of the 2022-2023 school year.

In addition to individual circumstances, criteria considered in the placement process include:

Workable instructional groups considering:

- the child's academic needs and strengths
- teaching and learning styles
- the child's work habits

Positive social groups considering:

- placements where a child can work positively and productively with other children in the class
- peer support or conflicts
- establishing the presence of positive leaders in each class
- ratio of grades in split classes

Balanced classes considering:

- gender (male/female)
- students with Special Needs
- students who are English Language Learners
- academic, social, and emotional needs and abilities

- leadership abilities
- Other Information considered:
- the past history of students in combined or single grade classes
  - school-based resource team recommendations

The class placement process ensures thoughtful consideration of each child's social, emotional, and academic needs is aligned with the need to create balanced and effective learning environments. The assignment of students to classes is decided by a team, which includes the child's current teacher, possible teachers for the coming year, the School Counselor, and the School Administration. This professional team considers each placement carefully as they create classes that include a wide range of students who learn in a variety of ways.

### **A Note about Combined Classes**

Combined class organizations result from imbalances in the number of students in particular grade levels. In today's reality that often means that the school organization needs to include some combined classes. For example, we might have 41 Grade One students, but the class size limit is 25; we would need to create a Grade One class and a Grade One/Two class with the remainder of the Grade One students and some Grade Two students. Depending on the number of students at each grade level, using all of the criteria above may well result in the creation of some combined classes. Many areas of the student's growth are considered in a student's placement such as: social skill development, physical size, independence in work habits, leadership potential, personal initiative, and organizational skills. Consideration is also given to previous placement in a combined class. Please rest assured that if your child is placed in a combined class, the grade appropriate curriculum that is prescribed by the Ministry of Education will be taught.

**Order Your School Yearbook Now:** Great news! After not producing a yearbook for a few years due to “covid gathering restrictions”, we are happy to announce that we will be producing one this year. Yearbooks will be produced over the summer and be distributed in the Fall when they arrive. The cost of the yearbook will be \$25 each and will be available to all K to 9 students. To order one simply go on to the “**Student Fees**” button/link on the left side of your [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) account, scroll to the bottom of the fees page, add a yearbook to your cart, pay for it online, and you are set.

**PSD Stronger Together - Family Supports:** Parkland School Division is proud to partner with the Alberta Parenting For The Future Association to present the upcoming FREE sessions for local families. Click [HERE](#) for more information on the sessions being offered as well as other resources that are available.

**Comprehensive School Health:** When children have a strong awareness of how they move, and how they feel in their bodies, that's when they are starting to embody physical literacy. They're feeling the mind-body connection. Learn more about mind-body connection here: [Link here.](#)

**Food for Thought:** We all know that children learn better on a full tummy. We have a fridge in our office - “The Nutrition Nook” - that is stocked with healthy snacks and food for the students. Kids can access it at any time during the day and out of consideration to everyone's privacy, staff will not be monitoring who uses it.

**Lunch Program:** If your child will not be at school and you have ordered a hot lunch, please email [info@bitetoeat.ca](mailto:info@bitetoeat.ca) to cancel their lunch. Please be sure to include your child's name and which school they attend. To receive a credit for the meal, **you must notify us by 12:00 noon the day before delivery.** We will accept late hot lunch cancellations, but no credit will be given. Please note that we cannot give away lunches to other students if you do not notify us that your child will be absent. If you have any questions with regard to any part of the lunch program, please contact the lunch program volunteers at [muirlakelunches@gmail.com](mailto:muirlakelunches@gmail.com). **The next lunch order deadline is May 24th**, so please be sure to get your order in and paid ONLINE before this date.

**School Council:** All parents and guardians are invited to attend our next **VIRTUAL** School Council meeting on Tuesday, May 16 at 7 pm. Please click the [LINK HERE](#) to add your name to receive the School Council Google Meet Link. Meetings will be held on the third teaching Tuesday of the month except for December and June. We hope to see you there.

**Dropping off or Picking Up your child at School?** If you are driving your child to school, then we respectfully ask that you drop them off in either the **Muir Lake Hall** parking lot **or** use the drop off lane and let them out at the **SOUTH** end **or** **NORTH** end of the parking lot so that they can use the designated crosswalks which is monitored by the staff. Please assist us in keeping your children safe **by not** dropping them off in the **middle of the drop off lane.**

**We also ask that for the safety of all staff and students, that you not drive through the staff parking lot, please use the drive-through lane and the crosswalk at the south end of the parking lot.**

For the safety of everyone, we remind everyone that there is to be absolutely **NO PARKING on the side of the highway.** The parking can sometimes get VERY busy, so we appreciate your patience as our top priority is to keep all of our students and staff safe. We have asked the Bylaw officers for assistance with this and we would hate to see anyone be ticketed for parking on the highway or worse yet, for someone to be injured. We thank you for your cooperation with this very extremely important safety matter.

**Busing:** If you are picking up your child from school and they will NOT be taking their regular bus home, please notify the driver, teacher, or school office so that the driver is not looking for them at the end of the day and delaying the departures of the buses.

**Guest Bus Riders:** There are to be absolutely **NO GUEST RIDERS** on any of the school buses. This is a huge safety concern should that bus ever be involved in an accident. If your child is having a friend visit after school then a parent will have to pick them up at the end of the day. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

**Attendance Calls:** If your child(ren) is not in attendance, please be sure to either call (780) 963-3535 and press 1 to access the attendance mailbox OR email the office at [MuirLake@psd.ca](mailto:MuirLake@psd.ca), stating when and why your child will be away. If the office does not know why students are away then the fan-out message will automatically go out as they will be marked as absent with an unknown reason.

**If Your Child is Ill:** We encourage anyone who is feeling ill to stay home from school. If you are exhibiting any of the key symptoms known for COVID-19, we encourage you to access one of the many test kits that are also available at the school. Meanwhile, PSD will continue the following:

- Hand sanitizer will still be readily available at all schools,
- Students will continue to be reminded of the importance of thorough hand-washing hygiene,
- School staff will ensure that appropriate cleaning of high touch areas will continue,
- The frequency at which air filters are changed in PSD has also been increased and air handling/ventilation equipment in all schools has been adjusted to maximize the number of air exchanges within the schools.
- All schools will operate filtration systems that meet or exceed the Minimum Efficiency Reporting Values (MERV) 13 air filtration rate, and
- Where practical, entrances and exits can be used to efficiently reduce crowding during high traffic times of the day.

Should you require test kits or masks, please contact the school office by email at [MuirLake@psd.ca](mailto:MuirLake@psd.ca) or by phone at 780-963-3535.

Thank you, take care  
Muir Lake School Admin Team

# MEMFEST 2023

## Memorial's Annual Anime Festival

\$5.00 ADMISSION

SATURDAY, MAY 13

11:00am – 4:00pm

Memorial Composite High School,  
50 Westerra Centre, Stony Plain

### JOIN US FOR:

- Anime Viewing
- Artists & Vendors
- Video Games
- Contests & More
  - Drawing & Colouring Contest
  - Cosplay Contest
  - Ramen Eating Contest
  - Yu-Gi-Oh! Tournament

SGCHS IS PROUD TO HOST AN

# INDIGENOUS ARTISAN MARKET

FEATURING VENDORS FROM THE I.AM COLLECTIVE

**THURSDAY, MAY 18TH**

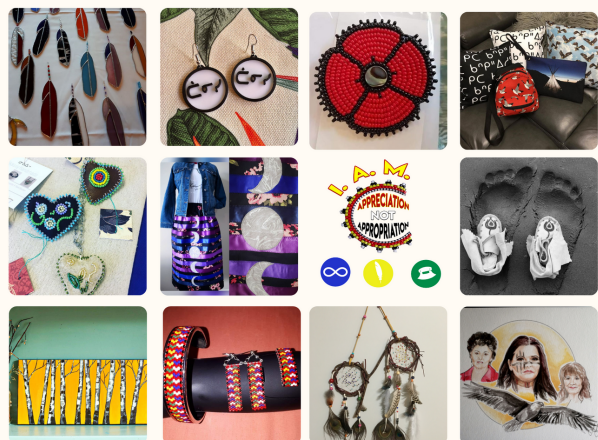
**4:00 PM - 9:00 PM**

**SGCHS Lounge/Cafeteria**

**1000 Calahoo Road**

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

I.AM Collective is an Indigenous Arts Collective of nearly 100 First Nations, Metis, and Inuit artists, Traditional Knowledge Holders, Entrepreneurs, Performers and Creatives who promote authenticity over appropriation by providing a place for market goers to purchase authentic, local, Indigenous arts and experience the splendor of Indigenous culture.



## INDIGENOUS



## ARTIST MARKET COLLECTIVE

**MORE INFORMATION: [IAMCOLLECTIVE.CA](http://IAMCOLLECTIVE.CA)**



# 2023 PARKLAND COUNTY SUMMER DAY CAMPS



In partnership with CHANGE Health



**REGISTRATION FOR PARKLAND COUNTY RESIDENTS OPENS APRIL 3, 2023.**  
**Registration for non-residents opens April 10, 2023.**

DATE	HALL	ADDRESS
July 3-7	Golden Spike Hall	51302 Rge Rd 275
	Duffield Hall	2 1 St, Duffield
July 10-14	Parkland Village Community Centre	60 Parkland Gate Rd
	Graminia Hall	51101 Rge Rd 270
July 17-21	Wabamun Jubilee Hall	5132 53 Ave, Wabamun
	Holborn Hall	51132 Rge Rd 13
July 24-28	Sandhills Hall	52032, Rge Rd 270
	Fallis Hall	53303 Rge Rd 52
July 31-August 3	Clymont Hall	51423 Hwy 60
July 31-August 4	Westland Park Hall	53304 Rge Rd 32
August 7-10	Muir Lake Hall	53424 Hwy 779
August 7-11	Tomahawk Agra Centre	51122 SH 759

**Cost: \$100.00 | Time: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**For more info or to register, visit [www.parklandcounty.com/SummerCamps](http://www.parklandcounty.com/SummerCamps)**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Virtual Author Workshop 4-5pm*	2 Family Storytime 10:30-11am Tick Tock Time 10:30-11:30am* Tech Savvy Seniors: 2 sessions Tech Bowl 12-7:30pm Coffee and Cards 1-3pm	3	4 Tech Bowl 1-5pm	5 Teen Takeover 3-5pm*	6 COMIC CON 2023 Builders Club 2-3pm*
7	8	9 Family Storytime 10:30-11am Tick Tock Time 10:30-11:30am* Tech Savvy Seniors: 2 sessions Tech Bowl 12-7:30pm Coffee and Cards 1-3pm Pokémon Club 6:30-7:30pm*	10 Homeschool Meetup 1-3pm	11 Sensory Play Hour 10:30-11:30am* Tech Bowl 1-5pm Talking Circle 5:30-8:00pm	12 Teen Takeover 3-5pm*	13 Tech Bowl 1-5pm RPG My Little Pony 1-3pm*
14	15	16 Family Storytime 10:30-11am Tick Tock Time 10:30-11:30am* Tech Savvy Seniors: 2 sessions Tech Bowl 12-7:30pm Coffee and Cards 1-3pm Furry Friend Visit 3:30-4:30pm*	17	18 Tech Bowl 1-5pm	19 Teen Takeover 3-5pm*	20 Tech Bowl 1-5pm Minecraft Mania! 1-3pm**
21	22 VICTORIA DAY	23 Family Storytime 10:30-11am Tick Tock Time 10:30-11:30am* Tech Savvy Seniors: 2 sessions Tech Bowl 12-7:30pm Coffee and Cards 1-3pm	24 Homeschool Meetup 1-3pm	25 Tech Bowl 1-5pm	26 Teen Takeover 3-5pm* NERF Battle Royale 6:30-7:30pm*	27 Tech Bowl 1-5pm Dungeons & Dragons 1-3pm*
28	29	30 Family Storytime 10:30-11am Tick Tock Time 10:30-11:30am* Tech Savvy Seniors: 2 sessions Tech Bowl 12-7:30pm Coffee and Cards 1-3pm	31	 <p><b>Comic Con</b> Join us on May 6, 2023 to celebrate Free Comic Book Day</p>		* = Registered/ In-person program ** = Registered/ Online/Hybrid program * = Online program