



Mustangs Memo

June 9, 2023

Milestones for Muir Lake Staff: Congratulations to the following Muir Lake staff on achieving Milestones within Parkland School Division.

- Melanie Chiles celebrates 5 years
- Dana Page celebrates 5 years
- Melanie Lee celebrates 10 years
- Todd Opatril celebrates 10 years
- Selena Saunders celebrates 10 years
- Kerri Schram celebrates 20 years
- Shelley Gadoury celebrates 35 years

After 19 years of service at Muir Lake School, Mrs. Garley has made the decision to retire and will be leaving us at the end of June; we wish her all the very best in her new adventures. We are pleased to announce that Mrs. Marcinew has accepted the position of Head Secretary and we welcome Mrs. Ellert back to Muir Lake as the second secretary in the office. We would like to congratulate all of our staff on their milestones.

NEW for 2023 2024 - OSC Program at MLS: Parkland School Division, Muir Lake School and [My Happy Place Daycare](#) are partnering to bring Muir Lake families an [Out of School Care program](#). This program will be run completely by My Happy Place but will be housed at Muir Lake School. For more information on the program go to <https://myhappyplacedaycare.ca/muir-lake-osc>.

Fun Day Volunteers Needed: Wednesday, June 28th will be Muir Lake's 2023 Fun Day! Fun Day celebrations will be from 11:55 am - 2:15 pm. The school will be providing a hotdog lunch. Please still pack your child a snack for the morning.

Students in kindergarten through grade 6 will move independently from station to station. Students in kindergarten through grade 2 will be encouraged to buddy up with a friend to go to stations. All stations will be outside, please come dressed and ready for any weather! Please send hats if it is sunny. We recommend applying sunscreen and bug spray before coming to school. If you send any, it must be lotion and not aerosol.

Students will be rotating around stations that teachers and parents have prepared. Students will have punch cards to show they have gone to stations. When their cards are full, they can turn them in to get a prize. Prize options are a freezie, bag of popcorn or a temporary glitter tattoo, based on how many stations they get to in the afternoon they may get some or all of these prizes.

To make this event a success and fun for all, we need your expertise! If you want to bring in items for a station or are able to volunteer, please complete our Google form [LINKED HERE](#) by Friday, June 16th. Thank you in advance, without parent volunteers these fun school activities would not be possible!

Write-On Stationery Supplies Fundraiser: As in previous years, Muir Lake School is once again partnering with Write-On Stationery to give parents the opportunity to order school supplies for your students as a Fundraiser. Write-On Stationery will package your child's supplies that you have ordered and deliver them directly to Muir Lake School in the last week of August. Simply pick up the box from the school when it comes in and your child will be ready to go. To order their grade supplies according to what your child will need in the fall, simply go to <https://www.write-on.ca/shop> and follow the instructions below. Be sure to place your order by **August 1st** in order to have it delivered to the school for the start of school.

- Go to www.write-on.ca
- Click on "PARENTS – Order Here"
- School Name: Muir Lake School – STONY PLAIN
- Choose your grade and place your order.
- Complete your order by clicking 'PLACE ORDER'
- You will receive an automatic email confirmation to confirm your order has been received
- We accept VISA, MC, AMEX, Visa Debit and Interac On-line.

Breakfast Program Survey: The breakfast program coordinators are asking that you please take a few moments to fill out the survey that is [LINKED HERE](#). Your answers will help to improve the breakfast program. Thank you for your assistance with this.

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.

Muir Lake School Newspaper: We are very excited to announce that the second 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! To view the editions that have been published thus far go to the [NEWSPAPER LINK HERE](#)

Lost & Found: Our lost and found tables are overflowing once again. Please have your children check to see if any of it is theirs. Anything left behind at the end of June will be sent to Goodwill.

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

PowerSchool - Did you Know? Did you know that you can set up your [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) account to notify you when marks have been added to your child's grade book? Simply go into your [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) Account and click the link on the left hand side titled "Email Notification". This can also be set up in the Mobile App. For more information about the Mobile App visit the PSD Website at <https://www.psd.ca/schools/exams-report-cards/powerschool>

Email Notifications: [redacted]

Contact Information

Account Email [redacted]

What Information Would You Like to Receive?

Summary of Current Grades and Attendance

Detail Report Showing Assignment Scores for Each Class

Detail Report of Attendance

Additional Notification Emails

Email Address(es) [text input field]
(Separate multiple email addresses with commas)

Frequency

How Often?

Apply These Settings to All Your Students?

Send Now For [redacted]

Check off the boxes according to the information that you would like to be notified of by email.

Introducing Gr. 2-4 Summer School: [Parkland School Division is excited to announce an all-new summer school opportunity for students registered in Grades 2, 3 or 4 for the 2023-2024 school year.](#)

Academic Mornings & Active Afternoons!

Grades 2-4 Summer School runs July 4-14, 2023, and offers academic mornings combined with active afternoons. Students choose one of three academic morning options (literacy, numeracy or French Immersion) and then all students enjoy afternoon programming that focuses on a variety of activities, provided through [CFL's My PATH program](#). Afternoon activities may include recreational sports, outdoor adventure activities, horsemanship and performing arts.

Registration and More Information

For program details, including registration information, fees and schedules, please visit [CFL's Grades 2-4 Summer School page](#).

Spots are still available for high school summer school too! For more information, visit [CFL's High School Summer School page](#). **Please note that summer school registration closes on June 23, 2023.**

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.

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 2023-2024 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.](#)

Lunch Program: If your child will not be at school and you have ordered a hot lunch, please email 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.

School Council: We would like to take the opportunity to thank all of our parents that took the time to participate in our School Council meetings; your input is greatly appreciated. School Council meets the second teaching Tuesday of every other month; if you would like to take part for the 2023 2024 school year then just watch for the information to be coming out in the fall.

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, 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 or by phone at 780-963-3535.

Thank you, take care
Muir Lake School Admin Team

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

Volunteers Needed!



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To make this event a success and fun for all, we need your expertise! If you want to bring in items for a station or are able to volunteer, please complete our Google form (scan QR code or go to <https://forms.gle/mrMbv2ma3M3wGhrp9>) by Friday, June 16th.

Thank you in advance, without parent volunteers these fun school activities would not be possible!

Thanks in advance!

Muir Lake K-6 Staff

