



# Mustang Memo



**December 8th, 2023**

## Today's Top Stories



### **Kinsmen Christmas Hampers Due by Dec 11th**



It is that time of year again that we are hoping to support local families in need through donations to help make the season brighter for them. This year we are going to make a



This year we will be working together as a school and placing all the collected donations (not just the toys!) outside the library to build a MOUNTAIN!

**\*\*See page 3 for our list of families\*\***

## RAFFLE


### **CHRISTMAS CONCERT RAFFLE**

Foundation will be hosting a basket raffle for the music department at both Christmas concerts this year. Tickets will be available as families enter the gym for \$5 per ticket. We have two prizes to draw for! One Purdys Chocolates gift basket and One Keg gift card! Each prize is valued over \$100.

Please remember to bring cash for tickets!

We look forward to raising some money to support the purchase of additional music program instruments. Thank you for your continued support of Foundation and our amazing school!





**Absence?**

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**Call 780-963-3535**

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**Press #1**

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**Please provide your child's full name, grade and the reason for the absence so that we can enter the absence accurately!**




**PARKLAND SCHOOL DIVISION ATTENDANCE MATTERS!**

In PSD, we help support families who need help getting their child(ren) to school. We know there are many factors that affect attendance:

- Parents' work schedule
- Transportation
- Family events
- Appointments


Often families don't realize how much school their child is missing and the impact that has on everyone. They are more behind than you think.

**1 DAY MISSED = 2 DAYS BEHIND**




**19 or more days**

Missing just **TWO** days every month can add up to **19** days in a school year. This is the equivalent of missing an **ENTIRE MONTH** of instructional days.



**10 to 18 days**


Students who are absent an average of 15 days per year miss **1 YEAR'S WORTH** of school by their graduating year.




**9 or fewer absences**

Students with good attendance generally achieve higher grades and enjoy school more.

**BOOK FAIR - DOOR PRIZE**



Congratulations to Logan Patzer for winning the door prize for himself and Ms. Maser!!



**GRADE 9 IMMUNIZATION FORMS**

**THE FORMS WILL BE GOING HOME TODAY, DECEMBER 8TH! PLEASE FILL THEM IN AND SEND THEM BACK BY NEXT FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15TH.**

# SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

We now have our very own student Newspaper *The Mustang News*. Click the link below!!



[The Mustang News](#)









Here is our December Calendar. You can also read what we have planned for October on our school website at <https://murlake.psd.ca> and we encourage you to keep up to date of what is going on by visiting our school calendar on the website.



## December 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8 <b>Last Day for Hamper Donations!</b> 	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 Kindergarten Concert 1:00 pm	19 Christmas Concert K-3 7:00 pm Board of Trustees Regular Meeting 9:00 am	20 Christmas Concert 4-6 7:00 pm 	21	22 Staff Planning & Development Day 	23
24	25 Christmas Day  Winter Break (PSD South)	26 Boxing Day Winter Break (PSD South)	27 Winter Break (PSD South)	28 Winter Break (PSD South)	29 Winter Break (PSD South)	30
31						

### Dates to Note:

**Last day for Hamper donations – Dec 11th**

**Christmas Concerts Dec 18th–20th**

**PD Day – Dec 22nd**







## Kinsmen Christmas Hampers

THANK YOU for your continued support, generosity and kindness toward local deserving families that need a helping hand this holiday season. For the 45th year, the Stony Plain Kinsmen and volunteers are working to make Christmas brighter for local families who are struggling. Our goal is to support families in need with food and gifts for the holidays. Last year with your help, we assisted 738 families in our area and supported over 2000 residents!

Each grade level in the school has been assigned a family. It is our hope that we will be able to make Christmas a happier time for these families through our community's generosity.

For information on how to make a cash donation or to see a list of Gift Donation Ideas simply go to the Stony Plain Kinsmen Website @ <https://www.stonyplainkinsmen.ca> that is [LINKED HERE](#) or see page 2 of this document.

Items donated **should not be wrapped** and should be in to the school **before Friday, December 8th**.

Thank you for your part in making Christmas brighter for these families!

**Ms. LeDressay & Mrs. Matheson  
Family #1**

1 adult female & 1 adult male  
2 girls ages 7 & 14

**Mrs. Lee, & Mrs. Priddle  
Family #2**

1 adult female & 1 adult male  
2 girls ages 5 & 10  
2 boys ages 3 & 4

**Ms. Douglas, Mrs. Pollard & Miss Sanders  
Family #3**

1 adult female & 1 adult male  
3 girls ages 4, 9, & 15

**Mrs. Knowles, Mr. Opatril & Mr. Solomon  
Family #4**

1 adult female & 1 adult male  
1 girl age 11  
3 boys ages 1, 6 & 9

**Ms. Maser & Mr. Sherington  
Family #5**

1 adult female & 1 adult male  
3 boys ages 7, 12 & 14

**Mrs. Byrne, Mrs. Gadoury & Mrs. Rich  
Family #6**

1 adult male  
1 girl age 13  
3 boys ages 8, 10 & 16

**Mrs. Arnold & Ms. Wayken  
Family #7**

1 adult female  
1 girl age 8  
2 boys ages 14 & 16

**Miss Hong & Mrs. Pugh  
Family #8**

1 adult male  
1 girl age 12  
2 boys ages 2 & 13

**Ms Garrison  
Family #9**

1 adult female  
1 girl age 2  
1 boy age 5

**Mr. Brown & Mr. Shaw  
Family #10**

1 adult female & 1 adult male  
1 girl age 1  
2 boys ages 11 & 15





**Label!! Label!! Label!!**

**Please make sure to label all your children's mitts, gloves, coats, snowpants. That way we can help make sure to get the items back to the kids when are misplaced.**



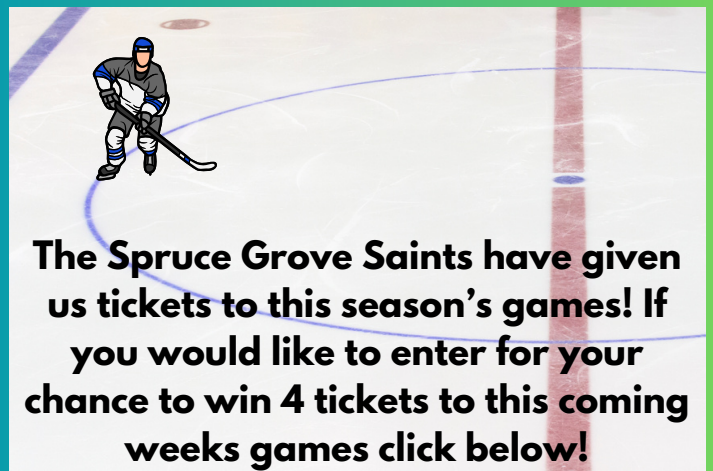
## **Ski Club**

**The Ski Club is officially up and running with the first day for skiing being on January 15th! We are no longer taking registrations. If you have not paid yet, please do so as soon as possible either through PowerSchool or by cheque or cash in the office.**

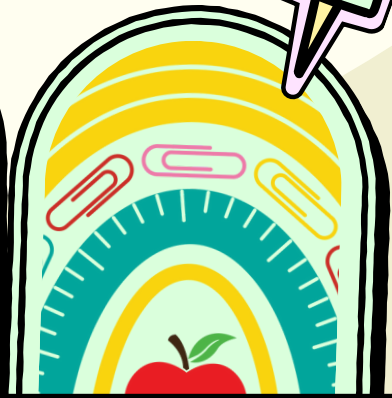
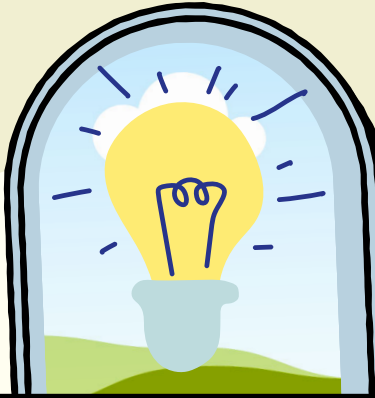
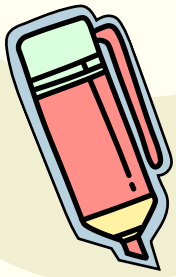


**THE SPRUCE GROVE SAINTS HAVE GIVEN US TICKETS TO THIS SEASON'S HOME GAMES!! ENTER FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN 4 TICKETS TO SOME OF THE UPCOMING GAMES!**

**[CLICK HERE!](#)**



**The Spruce Grove Saints have given us tickets to this season's games! If you would like to enter for your chance to win 4 tickets to this coming weeks games click below!**



## General Information



**Parking at School Safely:** 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 NORTH and SOUTH end of the parking lot so that they can use the crosswalk which is monitored by the staff. For the safety of everyone, we remind everyone that there is to be absolutely NO PARKING on the side of the highway. Please do not use the staff parking lot for drop off, the parking lot can get VERY busy, so we appreciate your patience as our top priority is to keep all of our students and staff safe.

**Visiting the School:** Last year we had new security doors installed in the front entrance. This allows us to leave our front door unlocked. If you are at the school for any reason, please check in at the office.  
**Morning Supervision:** Staff will begin supervision at 7:45am so we respectfully request that you do not drop your children off until after this time. Students will remain outside until the bell rings at 8:00am, then at this time they will make their way to the classroom through their designated doors. If they arrive ANY time after 8:10am they are required to go to the office through the front door to obtain a late slip.

**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.

**School Fees:** Statements for the 2023 2024 school year fees will be going out via email soon, if you do not receive it then check your junk mail or let the office know. Upon receipt, fees can be paid online by debit or credit card through our [PowerSchool Parent Portal](https://powerschool.psd.ca/public) at <https://powerschool.psd.ca/public> or by cash or cheque payable to Parkland School Division (PSD). If for some reason you are unable to pay the fees right away arrangements may be made by calling Andy Fuñe at 780- 963-3535.

**Fair Notice - Violent Threat Risk Assessment:** The goal of Violence/Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) process is that every incident of youth violence in our communities be addressed. VTRA is early intervention – which is quite possibly prevention. The process is initiated and managed by school administrators who have received VTRA training from the Center for Trauma Informed Practices. For more information, please visit our [PSD website](#) and read the news article [LINKED HERE](#).





# Food Programs

**Food for Thought:** We all know that children learn better on a full tummy. We have a cooler inside our office that will be stocked with healthy snacks and food for the students. They will be able to access it at any time during the day and out of consideration to everyone's privacy, staff will not be monitoring who uses it.

**\*\*In keeping with Parkland School Division's commitment to student success and well-being, we are once again working to promote healthy eating and create a positive food environment for all students.**

**We would like to acknowledge the President's Choice Children's Charity Power Full Kids program in providing support for food security at Muir Lake for the 2023 – 2024 school year.\*\***

**Breakfast Club – We have started our Breakfast Club for the year and it is busy! Breakfast club is for everyone! We know that mornings can be busy. Every morning starting at 7:45 till 8:10 our kitchen is serving up toast and other healthy options. We are always looking for more volunteers to help the program run smoothly. Reach out if you are available during these times to help out at [christine.ellert@psd.ca](mailto:christine.ellert@psd.ca).**

**Lunch Program is Back!! Bite to Eat is excited to begin another year of hot lunch service to Muir Lake students. Deliveries will again be on Mondays & Thursdays.**

## HOT LUNCH MONTH PAYMENT DUE DATE

December 2023 – November 24, 2023

January 2024 – January 4, 2024

February 2024 – January 24, 2024

March 2023 – February 23, 2024

April 2024 – March 27, 2024

May 2024 – April 24, 2024

June 2024 – May 29, 2024



# Resources

Check out some of these great websites!!



[Newsletter – Weaving Indigenous Ways of Knowing](#)

[Active For Life – www.activeforlife.com](http://www.activeforlife.com)

[12 Stocking Stuffer Ideas or Active Kids](#)

[The ABC's of physical literacy](#)

[December Stronger Together Newsletter](#)

[Alberta Parenting for the Future](#)

**Muir Lake Hall Information:**

<https://www.facebook.com/MuirLakeHall/>

