



Mustangs News



October 2018

MUIR LAKE SCHOOL

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Happy October!

As October begins and especially over the Thanksgiving weekend, I am reminded of how fortunate we are to live and work at Muir Lake School. We have a wonderful community with great kids and parents and an excellent staff. Even with the snow flying, our students have been positive and active in their outdoor activities and pursuits.

Mrs. Arnold's leadership team did another great job in leading the Terry Fox assembly. Thank you to her team and to all our donors who came together to raise money for the Terry Fox Foundation. The weather cooperated and it was a beautiful fall day! Thank you Muir Lake for your generosity and support as over \$2200.00 was raised.



Thank you also to everyone who was able to attend our Mustang Kick-Off. This annual event is a fun event in which you can come, enjoy a bite to eat and get to meet your child's teacher. We had a great time and the feedback was very positive. A huge thanks goes out to our Muir Lake Community School Foundation for helping to share the cost of this event. Thank you to Anais Lindgren for ordering and organizing the food and also to McDonald's for providing free coffee and orange drink. Thank you also to our staff for helping with the set-up, cooking and clean-up. Many hands do make light work!

Thank you!

Thank you parents for attending P/T Interviews on October 2nd and 3rd. As we work together to increase student achievement and wellbeing, your participation and support for your child's learning continues to be key. Kinder student led interviews will be on October 23rd and 24th so please mark your calendar and plan to attend. Another shout out goes to Anais Lindgren and Muir Lake Community School Foundation for organizing soup and sandwiches for staff to eat before interviews. It was very much appreciated by all.

New to Muir Lake School - Our Very Own [Mud Kitchen!](#)

You may have heard from your child that Muir Lake School has a mud kitchen in the playground and that is very true! Researchers of the benefits of outdoor play have tapped into mud kitchens as providing rich sensory play for our early learners to further develop language, fine and gross motor movement, as well as giving opportunities for cooperative and collaborative play. Our hope is that every grade will have an opportunity to access the Mud Kitchen and explore.

Alberta Reads & Muir Lake Reads

Be a wee read volunteer! Share books and conversations with kindergarten and Grade 1 children.

You will help them:

- Develop their listening and speaking skills
- Strengthen their foundations for reading and school success
- Develop a love of books!

This program runs for 8 weeks, once a week for 30 minutes, during the day at Muir Lake School! Muir Lake needs volunteers like you to give their time to make the wee read program available to our young students. If you would like more information and to be a part of this exciting new program please feel free to contact Kerri Schram at kschram@psd70.ab.ca or 780-963-3535. Our first training session will start: October 16th between 7 pm and 8 pm at the Stony Plain Public Library at 4613 52 Ave #112 Forest Green Plaza, Stony Plain.

To register please email: mniebergall@psd70.ab.ca

Play Parkland - Once again our students in grade 3 - 6 are attending Play Parkland. This year each grade will be attending eight sessions. Thank you to our Muir Lake Community School Foundation for funding the transportation to and from the Tri-Leisure Centre.

The following is to give those who are new to the program an overview of what Play Parkland is all about.

Overview of Program:

Authentic learning experience design delivered by TransAlta Tri-Leisure Recreation Centre in partnership with tri-municipal community partnerships to support student success and well-being. This program has been designed to meet the shared goals of educators, parents, coaches, and recreation partners by providing a learning space for students to actively participate in quality skill development experiences on land, water, air, and ice. The program is tailored to meet the needs of individual learners as well as each unique school community.

Highlights:

- Affordable, regular quality physical literacy programming developed and coordinated by the TransAlta Tri-Leisure Recreation Centre and connected to the Alberta Education Program of Studies.
- Access to high quality coaching and professional recreation staff from the tri-municipal area
- Teacher support and time to develop cross-curricular competencies for their grade level
- Support for connection to Citizenship and Social Responsibility Outcomes
- Evaluation tools to measure confidence, competence, and social-emotional well-being through Canadian Sport for Life.

Our first **Muir Lake School Council** meeting was held on September 17th and we hope more parents will take the opportunity to attend our next meeting. Your voice is important and it's a great way to be informed and provide input into your child's education and school. The next meeting will be on **Monday, November 5th at 7:00 pm** and we will be discussing early literacy and our Language Learning Intervention (LLI) program with Mrs. Brownlee. Please plan on attending!

REMINDERS FROM THE OFFICE

- Students are not to come to school before 7:40 am as there is no supervision before this time and they are to be picked up / gone home by 2:45 as there is no supervision after this time.
- Please let your child's teacher and the office know if your child is going to be away from school or late in the morning.
- Anytime that your child is dropped off or picked up from school - regardless of the time - they must be signed in or out at the office.
- All visitors and/or volunteers must check in at the office.
- When coming to pick up your child, please have the secretaries call their classroom and have them sent to the office to meet you.
- The 4 pm transfer buses are NOT intended for use by the Muir Lake School students. If your child is staying past the regular bus times, for whatever reason, arrangements must be made to either pick up your child or call transportation (780-963-8452) ahead of time to get permission for your child to ride the 4 pm bus.
- When dropping off or picking up your child please do so in the Muir Lake Hall parking lot; this is a serious safety concern.
- As the weather gets colder, please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the fluctuating temperatures and weather conditions.





In an effort to reduce our consumption of paper, we encourage our students and their families to view newsletters and calendars on our school website: <http://muirlake.psd70.ab.ca> or our blog: <http://www.psdblogs.ca/muirlake>. If you haven't already signed up to receive email notifications when new information is posted to the blog we would encourage you to do so.

School Fees & Important Information

Invoices for the 2018-2019 school year fees will be going home with each of your students. Upon receipt, fees can be paid online by debit or credit card through our [PowerSchool Parent Portal](https://powerschool.psd70.ab.ca/public) at <https://powerschool.psd70.ab.ca/public> or by cash or cheque payable to Parkland School Division #70 (PSD#70). These school fees were due in to the office by Friday September 28th but due to circumstances statements were not able to go out on time so we ask that fees be paid ASAP. If for some reason you are unable to pay the fees right away arrangements may be made by calling Gail Ferguson at 780-963-3535.

Data Verification In PowerSchool

We are asking that if ANY of your demographic or emergency contact information changes at any time, please go into your child's profile on the PowerSchool Parent Portal and update it accordingly. This links with our database as well as the transportation system and we will be sure to have all of your CURRENT information on hand in case of an emergency.

SMILE! Portrait Day is Coming

School photos will be taken at Muir Lake School on October 10th and 11th. We will get through the Monday/Wednesday kindergarten and as many other classes as possible on Wednesday the 10th and then the Tuesday/Thursday kindergarten class and the remainder of the students on Thursday. So please be prepared on Thursday if you did not get photographed on Wednesday - typically we have been able to get through most of the classes on the first day. Retakes are scheduled for Tuesday November 20th. Also, if you are one of our most valued school volunteers we are asking that you have a volunteer tag - so come on in on Wednesday October 10th and have your volunteer photo taken for your tag - it's free.



Volunteers

Volunteer forms should be filled out each year as they are only good for approximately a 12-month period. Any volunteers that put in more than 8 hours of time in the school whether it is in the class or on field trips over the year must have a current criminal record check on file. Please obtain a volunteer form from the office and have your free criminal record check done ASAP. If you have already done this, thank you.



Remembrance Day at Muir Lake School

Lest we forget... Our Remembrance Day Ceremony will be Friday November 9th. Parents are welcome to attend. Watch for more details to come out.

Lunch Programs VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The Hot Lunch Program runs from November through April and the Fundraising Lunch runs from the end of September through June. You will have seen the paperwork already for the fundraising lunches. If you would like to be a part of these wonderful and important programs - please contact Crystal (HL Coordinator 780-709-7677) Or Anais at muirlakelunches@gmail.com

Halloween at Muir Lake School

Guidelines for Halloween Costumes:

1. Costumes must still follow the rules of the dress code implemented in our school.
2. No weapons (fake or real) are to be brought to school. This includes, but is not limited to, plastic swords, fake guns, or any type of cane or stick.



3. Students are to be respectful of others in the community. Please ensure that we are considerate of other cultures and religions when choosing our costumes.
4. No costumes are to be worn until after lunch recess on October 31st. Students will be able to change into their costumes at lunch time for the afternoon activities.

From School Council - Your School Council Needs You!

Our Annual General Meeting is being held on **November 5th, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Library Learning Commons.

The positions up for election are:

- Chair
- Vice-Chair
- Secretary
- Grade Representatives -K-9
- Teacher Representative - to attend Council (this is elected from the teachers at Muir Lake School)
- Community Hall Representative
- Student Representative (elected by the students).

If you are interested in being nominated or have questions for regarding the above positions, please email Christy Sherwood at muirlakescchair@psd70.ab.ca or attend the AGM and voice your nomination in person! School Council meetings are held once a month on the second teaching Monday of the month. Please come out and join us, everyone is welcome and it is a good way to get information on what is happening within your school and community!

Foundation Fundraising at MLS

A great deal of our Fundraising money comes from our Casino dates. Volunteers are needed to work at the St. Albert Casino on November 27 & 28, 2018. For more information or to sign up to help, please contact Maureena at muirlakefoundation@gmail.com

McDonalds Receipt Fundraising Program

If our School collects receipts from the McDonald's Restaurants in Spruce Grove/Stony Plain, they will give us back 10% of the total dollar value of the receipts collected up to \$500.00 yearly for the McDonald's Receipts Fundraiser each year.

Boston Pizza Receipt Fundraising Program

Did you know that our school can get money from the Stony Plain Boston Pizza? Have your food & beverage receipts stamped "Operation Education" by the cashier or server and send it to the school office. It's just that easy! **Please bring in your receipts!**

Muir Lake Community News - Follow our social media pages for event details!

- October 26 - Halloween Family dance
- December 9 - Ham & Turkey Bingo

Muir Lake Playschool

- December 8 - Santa Pancake Breakfast
- January 26/19 - Ladies Night

Muir Lake Community Inclusive Playground Project

A joint effort between Muir Lake Community League and Muir Lake Playschool. Construction of new playground Spring of 2019. To inquire or donate please contact Keltie 780-963-6326

- The Stony Plain Bottle Depot is accepting bottles donations for the new playground.
- November 2 - Hypnotist Event featuring Keith Miller.
- November 30 - Comedy night (3 comedians with headliner Andrew Grose)