The colors of fall can be viewed all around us and the crisp morning air assures us that the season has changed and autumn has arrived! It is hard to believe that we have already been learning together for one month. Thank you for partnering with us on our second September as a school!

September is a time for reviewing expectations, routines, and for building our school community. This month we have been fortunate to have participated in the community Terry Fox Run, the GPPSD annual Fun Run, and our International Day of Peace assembly. We built into our school culture with Crazy Hair/Hat Day and practiced our Emergency Evacuation drills to ensure we are prepared in the event of an emergency that required evacuation.

Each time we practice a drill, teachers discuss the procedures with their students & explain how and when the procedures would be used. This is done to properly prepare students and ensure they are not frightened by the proceedings. Teachers will be discussing the drills with students both prior to and following the event. While we hope we never have to actually use the procedures, we want to make sure all our students and staff are well prepared to execute the protocol should the need arise. In the event of an emergency procedure protocol being used, information will be shared as soon as possible with parents. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation in ensuring the continuing safety of our students.

Information will be coming home this week about our annual Fall Read-a-Thon. The Read-a-Thon is an important fundraiser for our school. The funds earned from the Read-a-Thon, are used to benefit our students with extra experiences such as sporting events, MALT days, field trips, special presenters (Alberta Opera, Science in Motion, Hoja), Author Visits, Practical Life Cooking and is an excellent opportunity to focus time on reading!

Looking forward to our first School Council meeting of the 2016-2017 school year at 6:00 p.m. this evening in the Library!

-Miss Corrine & Miss Terra

“Gratitude can transform common days into thanksgivings, turn routine jobs into joy, and change ordinary opportunities into blessings.”

-William Arthur Ward
On the Calendar...

**October 2017**

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Halloween Parades, Tuesday, Oct. 31- We will be holding our annual Halloween parades. We’ve made a change to plans so please correct it in your Family Calendars.

Morning Casa classes through ELMO 1-6 parade will be at 9 a.m. in the gym. Afternoon Casa students will parade around the library at 12:30 p.m. Parents are welcome to come and watch the parades.

In addition to the parades, our Upper ELMO class is organizing a special Halloween Extravaganza in the gym in the afternoon of Oct. 31st. Watch for more information about what they have planned!
Dear Parent, Guardians, and Students:

In the 2017-2018 school year, Parkside Montessori will have a team of professionals providing coordinated services in our school to better the success of all students.

The following Peace Collaborative Services (PCS) team members are returning to or joining the Parkside school community:

- Michelle Dechaine (Registered Occupational Therapist);
- Tessa Haussecker (Registered Speech Language Pathologist) and
- Ashton Parker, Registered Psychologist.

Earlier this school year, the PCS team members met with your school administrators to begin planning service delivery for Parkside Montessori. Throughout the year the PCS Team members will be observing classrooms and working collaboratively with the Parkside staff to best support the diverse learning needs and strengths of our students. In addition, services may be coordinated with consultants that provide services for students who are hearing impaired, visually impaired or have significant gross motor needs.

If you have any questions, please contact your school administration. The PCS Team is looking forward to spending time in your school.

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School Council

Get Involved!

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

It’s true!

EVERYONE is welcome to the monthly school council meetings. School council meets the FIRST Monday of each month at 6 p.m. in the school library. You don’t have to be on the executive or attend every meeting to be involved.

How do you get involved?

- Attend monthly council meetings
- Provide feedback, input and opinions in school-related discussions
- Volunteer for school functions, events and special days
- Connect with parental community to engage others
- Assist in planning school functions by serving on a council committee
- Connecting with E.L.L. (English Language Learner) parents and students
- Learning more and providing feedback on provincial changes in curriculum
- Attending school assemblies, shows and celebrations

Find us on Facebook!

Parkside School Council group
Email us!
Montessori.schoolcouncil@gmail.com
It was a great start to the year for all of our new and returning Casa friends. A couple of highlights were Hoja and Science in Motion. Our focus for September was learning classroom routines and procedures. The Montessori term for this is “normalization”. In a Montessori environment, this refers to a child being able to regulate their own behavior and concentrate on chosen activity. Our theme for September was “I am Unique”. Children learned that everyone is unique and special. They learned that it’s ok to have differences because differences are what make us who we are.

In October, our themes will be forests, being thankful, and autumn. Children will continue to have presentations in new Montessori materials. We will also do a special art project with both classes. This will give Casa 1 and Casa 2 students a chance to interact with each other. It should be a fun month.

As always, parents are welcome to come into the classroom to volunteer. We look forward to seeing you throughout the year!

-Miss Trisha & Miss Renee
Summer has ended bringing to us beautiful fall weather. During September we had some very rainy and wet weather but now we’re enjoying the lovely sunshine again. We hope to get a few more Fun Runs in while it’s still warm. With the changing of the season and the return to school we have also seen a return of coughs and colds. We have been discussing hand washing and proper personal hygiene in an effort to minimize the sharing of germs. As fall weather can be unpredictable please make students are coming dressed appropriately. They may want to keep extra socks or even mittens at school just in case the weather changes during the day.

September was an extremely busy month for our school. Thank you to all of you for supporting us in getting our permission forms ready so we could bus students to Hoja. The students had a blast! They especially enjoyed Mr. Josh stealing the show with an epic power slide during his performance of a classic country song. This month we also celebrated International Peace day and welcomed Science in Motion to our school. We also showed our school spirit with a Crazy Hat/Hair Day and students participated in Orange Shirt Day.

Even though September was very busy we were still able to work very hard on establishing classroom routines. Students were very excited to be back with their friends and back at work. We appreciate all of your help with the normalization process.

As we look forward to October we are excited for Thanksgiving, Picture Day and of course, Halloween. We are hoping to also begin using our Practical Life Room to cook with our classes. Please watch for information about all of these upcoming events and much more in our Monday Update and Reminder emails.

-Mr. Josh, Miss Lora Rae, Miss Desiree & Miss Megan
September has been a busy month in Upper Elementary and October looks to be even busier. The students and adults have thoroughly enjoyed the “Paper Bag Me Talks”. It has been so rewarding to learn more about each other and hear the thoughtful questions that the students have asked each other. We have also learned about many important people in our world while studying Peacemakers. The grade 4 students had a chance to take on a leadership role when leading the school through the Peace Day assembly and did a wonderful job. It was exciting to see them speak in front of the school so confidently.

There are lots of events coming up in October such as a Forest Presentation at Evergreen, The Grade 6 Political Forum focused on the upcoming municipal elections and the beginning of our involvement in the Roots of Empathy program. We are lucky to have Suzanne Brooking Bond bringing Roots of Empathy to Parkside. The students are excited to have Miss Laura Noel bring Robin into our class as we learn about child development, empathy and taking care of others and ourselves. We are looking forward to another fun month in Upper Elementary!

-Miss Rebecca
Dear Parents/Guardians,

Beginning October 4th, your child will have the opportunity to participate in Parkside Montessori’s first Fall Read-A-Thon. This is a 100% profit fundraiser, with monies raised going to benefit all students with extra experiences such as sporting events, MALT Days, field trips, special presenters (i.e. Alberta Opera, HOJA, Science in Motion), author visits, Practical Life cooking and is an excellent opportunity to focus time on reading!

All Parkside Montessori students will receive a Read-A-Thon package that includes a sponsorship form for students to set a reading goal and collect sponsors for their efforts and a Reading Record for the designated dates of the Read-A-Thon, October 11\textsuperscript{th}-13\textsuperscript{th}. Please assist your child in setting their reading goal and collecting sponsors.

Our whole school goal is to raise $5000.00. Please remind students that for safety purposes they should not go door-to-door in their neighborhoods but should instead look to family and friends as sponsors. The sponsorship form and money needs to be returned to the school on or before, Wednesday October 18\textsuperscript{th}, 2017.

The Read-A-Thon begins, Tuesday, October 10\textsuperscript{th}, 2017.

Each child needs to keep track of their home reading minutes (independent, being read to or listening to audio books) on the attached Reading Record at home. All minutes read at home will count towards the student’s individual reading goal.

At the conclusion of the Read-A-Thon, we will host an assembly to celebrate our success, top fundraiser and many other participants. All students who participate will receive a certificate of participation.

Thank you for your continued support of our school!
On September 5th of 2017, children flooded in the Parkside doors for their first day of the new school year. Nervous whispers were all you could hear as the students found their classrooms.

Several people reported they were about to faint when they entered. “(I was) kind of a little bit nervous”, reports Bauz, a Grade Two student in Mr. Josh’s class.

New sneakers filled up the hallways with their ‘new-sneaker’ smell. Grade Six girls made their final touch-ups to their hair, boys of all ages starting bragging on how many goals they scored in the summer soccer season, and everyone started off with their fancy, new clothes.

Several children met the new teachers; Mr. Wyatt, our wonderful new gym teacher who is currently attempting the feat of teaching the 4-6 class how to play volleyball, Mr. Josh, the new 1-3 class teacher, and Ms. Rebecca (Baker) our positively AMAZING new Grade 4-6 teacher.

I interviewed students from Mr. Josh’s class to ask for their input. As I interviewed a Grade 1 student by the name of Lucas, I realized he was much more interested in his birthday coming up than my question, “Just a few more weeks until my birthday. Two. Two weeks till’ my birthday.”

A Grade 1 student with the name Tanner, on the other hand, acknowledged my question and felt it reasonable if we had “(a) few more weeks.”

Emma-Fay reported she was “Nervous,” about the first day of school along with several others in her class, except Lucas, who claimed he was “happy.”

Ms. Corrine’s welcoming announcement motivated several children who previously thought they were on the precipice of fainting to feel excited for the upcoming school year, including myself.

By Kate, Grade 6 Reporter

Peace Day Assembly

Thursday, September 21, 2017 was a very peaceful day as it was the International Day of Peace. The assembly was held in the Parkside gymnasium where the kids of the school and some of parents watched the assembly. The grade 4s talked a little about peace and what the day was all about.

After about half of the grade 4s talked, all the kids sang the song they were practicing, which was Light a Candle for Peace. Even some of the parents sang along too! The kids were better at it though. The mood of the crowd was quite respectful. Miss Terra gave a speech about why we were all there and the importance of living peacefully. It was amazing!

Some students at our school were interviewed about peace and the assembly. All these students believed it is an important day and that world peace can come true. Jackson and Colton’s favourite part of the assembly was the song and Zaine enjoyed when the students talked about International Day of Peace. Students around the school were asked “When you think of peace, what do you think of?” Zaine thinks of “Love” and Jackson see children playing. What do you think of?

All and all, the assembly itself was very peaceful and the kids were peaceful and it was the best assembly so far this year. I am really looking forward to the next assembly and I know that the next one will be even better.

By Landon, Gr. 6 Reporter

By Landon, Gr. 6 Reporter