



Graminia Flyover

March 2023

Principal's Message

Graminia School

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Head Secretary:

Carolyn Velichko

Secretary:

Shelley Kent

Website:

<https://graminia.psd.ca/>

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/PSD70GRM/

March 2023

Welcome to March Graminia Families!

We are so excited about all that has been going on this past month and look forward to some exciting events in March.

February brought us an amazing Hawk Spirit Assembly where we learned about Love, enjoyed fantastic music performances and we came together as a community to support the Caps for the Cure! Many teachers appeared with purple hair and beards and our families and students raised a grand total of \$6140 that will be donated for pediatric brain cancer. The month flew by as we continued the Basketball season, watched a fabulous performance from the Graminia Performing Arts Jr club, and ran two very successful open houses for Kindergarten and the MyPath:Graminia Program.

March brings us the kick off to the Annual Learn-A-Thon, Basketball finals, report cards and Spring Break! We also begin our planning for next year. Please make sure you have completed your child's registration/confirmation of enrollment prior to Spring Break so that we can accurately plan our classes and staffing in addition to bussing.

Thank you for your continued trust in us to work with and learn alongside your children. We look forward to see families out to our School Council meeting on March 8 where our Director of Transportation will be there to present information regarding bussing and answer questions from Graminia families.

Treena Neumann-
Principal

School Events and Calendar

Check out our [school website](#) to see our school's monthly calendar. Here you can filter by type of event and you can also add our calendar to your own iCal or Google Calendar. Please note there is our last day of classes prior to Spring break is Thursday March 23. There is **no school beginning on Friday, March 24 - April 2. Classes resume on April 3.**



PARKLAND
SCHOOL DIVISION



General Information

New Programs at Graminia for the 2023-2024 School Year

Full Day Everyday Kindergarten!

We are excited to announce that Graminia School is planning to pilot an inquiry-nature based full-time (everyday, all day) Kindergarten for the 2023-2024 school year. After consultation with our Early Learning Services Team and review of practices of other divisions similar to Parkland School Division, we plan to pilot a play-based, student-centered, full-day, everyday Kindergarten. Our full-day everyday program would be structured to focus on classroom learning and curricular outcomes of the kindergarten curriculum in the morning and the afternoon programming would be a student-led, nature based, inquiry learning model.



If you are interested in registering your child for full day, everyday Kindergarten, please contact the office and speak with one of our helpful secretaries, 780-963-5035. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at treena.neumann@psd.ca or at 780-963-5035

Or you can [click this link - to read more.](#)

MyPath: Graminis is open for registration!!

If you want to register your child for MyPath: Graminia, you must FIRST complete your registration for Graminia School confirming your child will be in gr 4-9 for the 2023-2024 school year and you must complete [the MyPath:Graminia Registration](#). Once you have completed this registration, the MyPath Navigator and Connections for Learning team will be reaching out to confirm registration, complete the waiver forms and pay for the deposit. We will be accepting registrations until May 1, 2023. If there are too many registrations for the program, a random draw will be used to determine enrollment. If there are not enough registrations to make the program viable, we will cancel the program for the 2023-2024 school year. Confirmation of enrollment will be shared with parents and/or guardians by **May 5**.

Please [click here](#) for additional information about the programs, fees and frequently asked questions.





General Information cont.

2023-2024 Registration is OPEN!!

Please make sure to register/confirm enrollment for your child(ren) prior to Spring Break, March 23. Please click here to [register ASAP.](#)

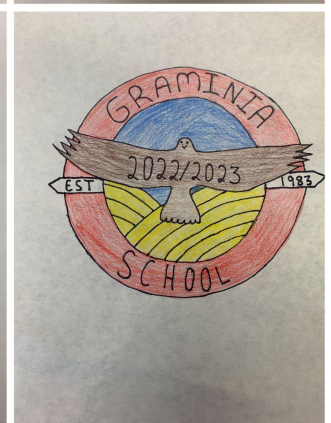
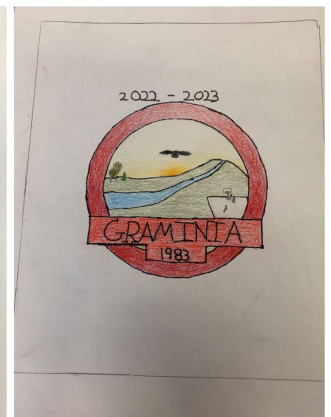
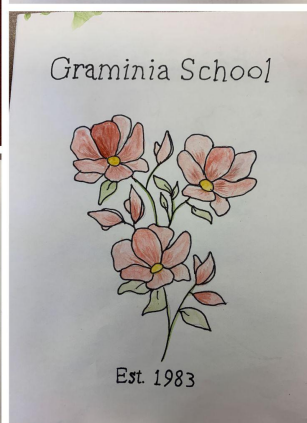
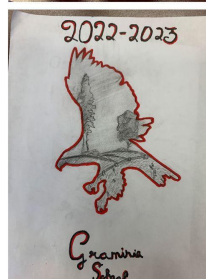
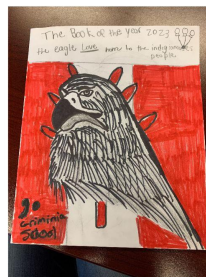


Report Cards!

Our Term 2 report cards will be live on PowerSchool on **March 23**. If you would like a paper copy, please let your child's homeroom teacher know and they will send it home with them. PowerSchool will be unavailable to parents and students at the end of the day on Friday, March 3 to allow for teachers to prepare the report cards. Teachers will be reaching out prior to Spring Break with information regarding **Parent Teacher Student Conferences which will be held on April 4 & 5.**

Our Annual Picture Book Contest Entries!

Please take a look at all of the amazing entries for our contest to be the front and back cover of the 2022-2023 school picture book for Graminia. The chosen artists will be contacted later this week!





General Information cont.

Registration and Class List Planning for 2023-2024

Parkland School Division registration and confirmation of enrollment is OPEN!! Please go [to the website for directions](#) on how to enroll a new student or to confirm registration on a returning student. We very much appreciate families completing this as soon as possible. The transportation deadline for registration is March 23 and as a school, we really need the information to plan for staffing and class lists for the 2023-2024 school year!

Class List Planning for 2023-2024 school year

As we begin our planning through the registration process, our teachers will be building our class lists for the upcoming year. Our teachers work carefully to create balanced and inclusive class lists that are designed to provide a supportive learning environment for all students. We remind families that all of our teachers diligently meet the needs of all of their students and work collaboratively regarding their planning, assessment and in class activities. Additionally, we will not have completed our staffing assignments prior to the end of May or beginning of June, and even some years in August. Class lists are created to grow your child's experiences socially, academically and emotionally. Each year gives a students an opportunity to build new peer groups, create connections within the school community and connect with new teachers. We ask if you have a class request that you please email erin.chessor@psd.ca **PRIOR to April 25**. As our teachers will be building the class lists on the the April PD day.

Class Configurations for 2023-2024 school year - ONLY an estimate as registration is not complete and the budget funding manual has not been shared with School Divisions:

- 3 - Kindergarten classes
- 2 - Grade 1 classes
- 1 - Grade 1/2 split class
- 2 - Grade 2 classes
- 2 - Grade 3 classes
- 2 - Grade 4 classes
- 1 - Grade 4/5 split class
- 2 - Grade 5 classes
- 2 - Grade 6 classes
- 2 - Grade 7 classes
- 2 - Grade 8 classes
- 1 - Grade 8/9 split class - with support
- 1 - Grade 9 classes





General Information cont.



Hawk Spirit Recipients - Love - February

Hawk Spirit!

Thank you to 5J, 2K and our FSL/Leadership/Options students for an incredible assembly this past month. We also had some incredible performances from our choir and Music students. Many families came out and enjoyed the presentation! We look forward to our next Hawk Spirit Assembly on **March 23**, where we will be focusing on Humility. The classes presenting will be 10, 6M, KSB and 7B.

Save the Date: The last two Hawk Spirit Assemblies of the year are planned for April 27 and May 25.

General Information cont.

Caps for the Cure



What an incredible event this was! Students of Graminia raised \$3070 for Pediatric Brain Cancer in the name of Naomi Nevesely. Huge thank you to the Buote family for committing their company Aurora Machines to match all donations and bringing our total to an incredible \$6140. Thank you to the Nevesely family, the Boisvert family, Mrs. Sloan, Lorna Amyotte and all others involved in making this event such a success and a special way to honor this sweet girl's memory.





General Information cont.



GRAMINIA'S ANNUAL LEARN-A-THON*

*Formerly known as SPELLATHON

We have made some exciting changes to the format of this Graminia Foundation Fundraiser. There will be new options and all students from K-9 will be invited to participate. This event will kick off on Wednesday, March 15 with a brief assembly in the Gym - look for information to be sent home with students that day.

The actual Learnathon event will take place in classrooms on Friday, April 14.

2023-2024 Calendars

The PSD Calendars for next year have been published to the PSD website. Click [here for the regular school calendar](#) and [here for next year's Kindergarten calendar](#).





Distraction Free YouTube is a great no-cost Chrome Extension to add to your Chrome profile at home when allowing your children to view YouTube videos. This extension “cleans up” what the user has access to and prevents the endless stream of suggested videos and clickable ads that may lead your child to videos and websites that are outside of the realm of what you would like them to access.

From the developer: “DF Tube disables autoplay, hides the video recommendations sidebar as well as the related videos that appear at the end of videos. It also removes the grid of recommended videos that appear on your homepage. These settings are all configurable. It can also hide comments and disable playlists sitewide.”



Unfortunately this extension does not work on tablets - Chrome browser only. [For more information or to download, please visit the Chrome web Store.](#)

Hawk's Athletics



Basketball/Athletics Update and Calendar

Congratulation to all of our Basketball teams for a stellar season so far! [Playoffs](#) are happening early this month. Please keep an eye on Miss Lewis' emails for the most up to date information and remember that the [Graminia Athletics calendar](#) is constantly updated with new information.

**BASKETBALL
SEASON IS
WRAPPING UP!**






General Information cont.

Morning Breakfast Program & Snack Shack

Our Breakfast Program is up and running in the Multipurpose Room starting at 7:35 every day. We also have a Snack Cooler that is available for students to grab a healthy snack at any point in the day. These programs are for everyone and anyone!

Speech Support Through AHS

Alberta Health Services is currently offering speech sound and fluency intervention for school aged children at no cost to families in the Queen Street Health Unit in Spruce Grove. The AHS SLPs have reported the school aged service is being underutilized in our area. Parents can self refer by calling the health unit directly at 780-342-1300 and selecting option #3.

	Clear Speech: Using speech sounds	New functional speech concerns due to diagnosed or undiagnosed speech delays and disorders, including: articulation, phonology, functional concerns of unknown etiology, motor/neurological (e.g. dysarthria, childhood apraxia of speech, brain injury), structural (e.g. cleft palate, orofacial anomalies), sensory perceptual (i.e. hearing impairment). What does this mean? A child or youth may have difficulty being understood by others because of how they say their sounds, words or sentences.
	Clear Speech: Speaking smoothly and easily	Fluency, dysfluency, stuttering or cluttering. What does this mean? A child or youth may have difficulty talking or being understood due to stuttering.
	Clear Speech: How the voice sounds	Voice and resonance; voice disorder; hypernasality; hyponasality. What does this mean? A child or youth's voice may sound harsh, hoarse or too high or low pitch. It may seem like they are 'talking through their nose.'



Vending Machine

This is open for students in **gr 7-9 to use during recess and lunch break only.**

The gr 6's are welcome to use the vending machine on Monday and Wednesdays and gr 5's are welcome to use the vending machine on Tuesday and Thursdays.

Stronger Together Newsletter

Each month, Parkland School Division's Learning Services team compiles a newsletter for parents and guardians of students. Inside you will find information, opportunities and strategies to help you and your family connect with us on your child's educational journey.

Each month we will provide you with information about mental health and ways we can work together to support your family. [Please click here to see the latest issue.](#) You can also access the [Caregiver Education Team Newsletter](#) to learn more information and find sessions regarding child/youth mental health and parenting topics.



School Council and Fundraising Foundation

Upcoming School Council Meeting

All Graminia Families are invited to our School Council meeting on **Wednesday, March 8, 2023 at 6:30pm**. This meeting will be held in person in the Graminia Library. Attendees are welcome to bring their children if necessary. An agenda will be sent via email prior to the meeting.



Bike Rodeo - Help Needed

Planning for the Graminia Bike Rodeo is beginning! This is a primarily parent led event (with some staff support) so we are looking for volunteers for the Graminia Bike Rodeo in June and if anyone knows of any potential prize donors, please reach out Amber Darragh at robamber@gmail.com or 780-886-3387! Thank you.



Mabel's Labels and Tru Earth

Graminia also has ongoing fundraisers with the following companies:

[Mabel's Labels](#) and [Tru Earth](#)

Little Caesars

Thank you for supporting the Little Caesars fundraiser this year!

Write-On (School Supplies) Fundraiser

We are looking for someone to take the lead on the Write-On School Supplies Fundraiser for this spring, working and learning aside our current volunteer, Angie Gehlert. This fundraiser runs over several months with only a few hours of time needed each month between April, May, June and August. A few of the duties include obtaining current supply lists, arranging delivery and pick up in June and August. For more information please email angiebyouth@yahoo.ca.

Upcoming Fundraisers

Here are some great things we've got coming up for the remainder of the school year:

- New and Improved Graminia "Learnathon 2023" will kick off on March 15! Stay tuned for more information!
- Spring Flowers
- Write-On school supplies

Upcoming Hot Lunch Vendors

- Friday, March 3** - Edo
- Friday, March 10** - Subway
- Friday, March 17** - Marci's
- Thursday, March 24** - Little Caesars



School Council and Fundraising Foundation cont

Last day to
Donate: March
13th, 2023

GRAMINIA SCHOOL TEACHER & STAFF APPRECIATION

LET'S SHOW THE TEACHERS, EA'S, OFFICE
ADMIN, CUSTODIANS, AND BUS DRIVERS
HOW MUCH WE ALL APPRECIATE THE
IMPACT THEY HAVE ON OUR LIVES!

THINGS YOU CAN DONATE

- GIFT CARDS
- CASH OR CHEQUES MADE OUT TO GCSF
- NEW PRODUCTS / ITEMS

DONATIONS CAN BE LEFT AT
SCHOOL OFFICE LABELLED
"TEACHER APPRECIATION"

Write a note of encouragement
or appreciation through the
One Small Thing Project at this
link:

OneSmallThing.GSCF.ca



School Council and Fundraising Foundation cont.

Please consider taking a moment to spread some joy and gratitude to a school staff member - your kind words make a world of difference! [Click here to visit the form.](#)

One Small Thing



SHOWING GRAMINIA STAFF OUR APPRECIATION

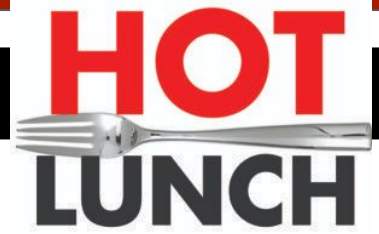
Scan the QR or click here to
submit
your One Small Thing!



We know the staff at Graminia, including the administration, teachers, educational assistants, office staff, custodial staff, librarian, and our counsellor are working hard everyday to make Graminia an amazing place for our children. Let's fill up their buckets and send them words of support and encouragement throughout the year! Please share this link with other Graminia parents and come back periodically throughout the year to send a new message.



School Council and Fundraising Foundation continued



2022/2023 Hot Lunch Program

The hot lunch program will be running similar to last year. We will be offering hot lunch on Fridays with food being provided by local vendors. We strive to offer a variety of options and try to offer gluten free and vegetarian options when available by our vendors. For any dietary questions please contact the vendor directly.

Communications

Please note that there will be weeks when hot lunch needs to be offered on a different day to accommodate the PSD calendar (e.g., non-instructional days, holidays, etc.). The hot lunch program will communicate regular updates through email, the Graminia Flyover, and the Graminia Community School Foundation (GCSF) Facebook page.

How To Register

Visit graminia.hotlunches.net to register and to create a profile for your child(ren).

To order, please register your child(ren) into the classes they are in. All families, new and returning, must register each year. Please note if this is your first time ordering, please send cutlery to school with your child(ren) as we do not provide this to them.

Orders can be placed starting on Saturday, with the cut off being firm at 1pm on Thursday for hot lunch the following week. Payment can only be received through PayPal. Payment must be received by Thursday at 1pm, for your order to be accepted. Note, that a PayPal processing fee will be added to your order.

Cancellations & Refunds

Unfortunately, your volunteers will not be able to handle any refunds or cancellations. If your child is absent, we will accept a transfer request to another student by 10:00am on hot lunch day by email to: graminiaparentcommunity@gmail.com.

Donations

One of the menu items weekly on our menu is a donation. The money collected from this will go towards purchasing a hot lunch for a child in need at our school.

Please be patient with your hot lunch volunteers. The hot lunch program was a huge success last year. Our goal is to run a program with a variety of appealing options for the kids that will also generate funds for the school. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer for the hot lunch program please email us at: graminiaparentcommunity@gmail.com.



Graminia Rink Society

Ice Cleaning Volunteers: We are always looking to add more helping hands (young or old) over the winter to clean the rink ice!

Contact us at any time through Facebook messenger or via email graminiarink@gmail.com.

Check us out on the [Rink Project's Facebook Page](#).



Secure your Tickets for the Upcoming Rink Gala for a Chance to Win a Pair of Oilers Tickets!

May 6th - Clymont Hall

Our long-awaited Gala is set for **May 6th**. The theme is "Hockey Night In Graminia".



**PRE-SALE
ENDS
MARCH 4TH!**

The ticket presale runs from **Feb 26th to March 4th**. Secure your tickets during this time period for a chance to win a pair of tickets to the **Oilers vs Sharks on March 20th**. After the pre-sale is complete, look to our Facebook page for a link to purchase your tickets through Eventbrite.

Gala

Ticket prices:

\$60 for an individual ticket
\$440 for a table of eight

How to Purchase Presale Tickets:

Simply send an e-transfer to graminiarink@gmail.com with your name and number of tickets you would like to purchase in the comment section.



Graminia Swingin' Band Society

Who Are We?

The Graminia Swing'n Band Society (GSBS) welcomes students back to Graminia! What is the GSBS? Starting in 1995, a group of parents created this non-profit organization to sustain the Graminia Hawks Band program.

Our efforts to fundraise, over the years, have allowed students to reap the benefits of receiving a high quality musical education. Last year, with Band starting back up from COVID, we contributed to buying new chairs for the band students to have good posture and support!

Please consider following us on Facebook at: -search "Graminia Swing'n Band Society"- <https://www.facebook.com/GSBS2022>

Or on Insta: @graminiaband
You can ALWAYS email us at: graminiaband@gmail.com

Help Wanted!

We are looking for a new Treasurer. Please contact Jenn King at 780-445-0621. This position requires around 20 hours of volunteer time over the course of a year. You will have support to learn the new role if you are not familiar with it.



FUNDrive® Coordinator
Jenn
(780) 445-0621

Our Goal: \$1000
385 Tall Kitchen Bags (avg. 13 lbs.)
75 Medium boxes (household goods)
Fundraiser Dates:
04/19/2023 - 04/19/2023

Clean out your closets and cupboards for Graminia Swingin' Band Society!

Graminia Swingin' Band Society is hosting a Fundrive on Wed, April 19th from 7:30am to 3:00pm at Graminia School. All donations collected will go directly to funding the Hawks Band Program. Can't make the drop off time? Text Jenn King at 780-445-0621 to make arrangements. Thank you for your support!

We Are Collecting

Clothes

men's, women's and children's clothes, coats, shoes, scarves, handbags, wallets, fashion accessories, ties, belts, backpacks, etc.

Household Textiles

bedding, comforters, blankets, sheets, towels, linen, tablecloths, curtains, pillows, etc.

Small Household Goods

kitchen items (such as pots/pans, dishes, silverware, glasses, serving pieces and hand-held appliances), home decorative items, knick-knacks, toys, games, and small electronics

Please use bags for clothes and textiles and tightly packed boxes for small household goods.

All items must be clean and in sellable condition.