



Graminia Flyover

December 2023

Principal's Message

Graminia School

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Facebook:

www.facebook.com/PSD70GRM/

Welcome to December!

Welcome to Winter-- Maybe? With a slow start to the cool temperatures, it is still chilly and cold many days and all mornings. Please make sure to send toques, mitts, snow pants, boots and any other winter gear so that your child can go outside for the full 30 min lunch recess and/or other classes that may go outside. Our PSD Administrative Procedure 750 states we will be going outside until the weather is colder than -23 including the wind chill, this includes all of our students **kindergarten to gr 9**. A reminder that there is **NO PARKING or DROP OFFS in the bus lane**. This is at anytime during school hours. There has been an increase since fall break and this is a safety concern.

As we move through a busy December, we look forward to our upcoming celebrations. We have our Kinette Hampers that are collecting donations until December 8, our Winter Concerts for Kindergarten - Grade 6 students, our Band Students and our Choir. Our Athletics department has moved on from volleyball and has begun the basketball season.

Congratulations to many of our Jr High Concert Band students that performed at the PSD Board meeting!! Thank you to all of our families for meeting with our teachers to discuss your child's learning during Celebration of Learning in early November. It was great to hear the conversations about all of the learning that has occurred.

We value the time we have with your children and are grateful for your support. During this festive season, we wish you and your loved ones a safe and happy holiday!
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 **NO SCHOOL for Winter Break starting December 22 - January 8**.





General Information

Kinette Annual Christmas Hampers:

Each homeroom (K-9), will have a box for donations. The homeroom with the most donations will receive a pizza party! **Items will be accepted until Friday, December 8th at Graminia.** Our school will then drop off the so that the Kinette Club volunteers may assemble the hampers and distribute them to the families in need this Christmas.



Graminia Hawk Holiday Spirit

- DEC. 18TH **FESTIVE FOOTWEAR / SOCKS**
- DEC. 19TH **HOLIDAY HAIR, DON'T CARE
FESTIVE HAT / HAIR ACCESSORY**
- DEC. 20TH **SWEATER WEATHER
HOLIDAY SHIRT / MAD FOR PLAID**
- DEC. 21ST **PAJAMA DAY FOR OUR LAST DAY!**



**CHRISTMAS
CAROLS
DEC. 21ST
LARGE GYM**

Have Fun!





General Information cont



Winter Concert Information Page

We are thrilled and excited for our concerts this year! Classes will be performing together at times throughout the concerts. Due to this excellent ability to blend and bring together our students, we ask that **family limit the at number of people attending the concerts to 4 per student.** This will hopefully allow us to have enough space to fit everyone. We encourage extended family such as grandparents or family friends or for those that the timing works better, to attend the dress rehearsal concert for gr 1-3 or school performance for gr 4-6, if possible as they are open to attend as well. The concerts will be seasonal concerts showcasing the hard work and enthusiasm of our students in our school! The main doors will be unlocked and open for audience members to enter 30 minutes prior to the start of the concerts, but not earlier, as we will be still setting up and doing last minute sounds checks.

We will be collecting TOONIE donations for the Graminia Band Society to supports their yearly trips and equipment repairs (please see last page of this newsletter for more information).

Grade 4-6 & Choir & Band Concert -Wednesday, December 13th

- 1:00 PM-School Concert
- 6:30 PM-Evening Concert

Grade 1-3 & Choir Concert -Thursday, December 14th

- 10:00 AM- Dress Rehearsal
- 1:00 PM- Concert Performance



Kinder Christmas Celebrations will be held in the multipurpose room beginning at 1:00pm.

KM (Munro): Monday, December 18th
KA (Kerr-Arntson): Tuesday, December 19th
KS (Sloan): Wednesday, December 20th

The teachers will be sharing details of the celebrations directly with families.



General Information cont.



Hawk Spirit Recipients - Truth - November

Save the date for this year's remaining events:

- JANUARY - Humility (assembly January 25 @ 1:30)**
3 Weiland and 7 Inglehart
- FEBRUARY - Love (assembly February 29 @ 1:30)**
K Sloan and 5 Holst
- MARCH - Wisdom (assembly March 21 @ 1:30)**
4 Marshall and 9 Lewis
- APRIL - Honesty (assembly April 30 @ 1:30)**
1 Kinsella and 4 West
- MAY - Courage (assembly May 30 @ 1:30)**
K1 Kerr-Arntson and K Munro and 8 Lygo
3 Rupp and 7 Breck

Hawk Spirit!

Thank you to Mr Kawa and Mrs Jacobs and Mrs Chorney and Mr Fraser classes for an awesome Hawk Spirit Assembly! Many families came out and enjoyed the presentation. We look forward to our next Hawk Spirit Assembly on January 25 @ 1:30 where we will be focusing on Humility. The classes presenting will be Mrs Weiland and Mr Inglehart

A huge Thank You to Miss Ramos for writing and composing and original song!

General Information cont



Graminia Concert Band Delegation

We had the privilege of have many of our concert band student attend the regular board meeting at the Centre for Education on November 28. It was wonderful to see the students perform and share their passion and hard work with others. Many spoke of how the band program has influenced them.

Click the link to the performance:
<https://fb.watch/oJKcOAtPHq/>





General Information



Assessment and Reporting for the 2023-2024 School Year



Term 1 Sept 5 - Jan 30		Term 2 Feb 1 - June 27	
Student Led Conferences	Term 1 Report Cards	Student Led Conferences	Term 2 Report Cards
November 7 & 9 3:30-6:30 pm	Live on PowerSchool January 30, 2024	April 9 & 11 3:30-6:30 pm	Live on PowerSchool June 27, 2024

Regular updates and ongoing communication of student progress via PowerSchool take place **throughout the year** for grade 1-9. Please reach out to your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns. For a video tutorial of how to access PowerSchool as a parent, [please click here](#). Call us at 780-963-5035 if you need support with your parent portal username/password. We will also be running a parent session at the December School Council meeting.

IN 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.





General Information continued

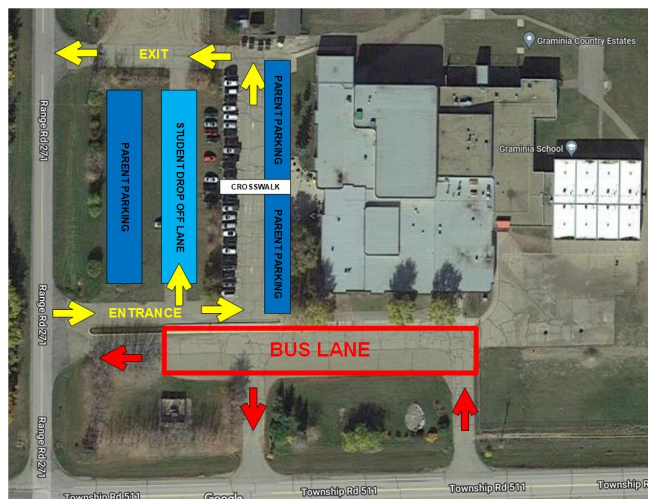
Parking Lot Safety

For those families that are new to Graminia it is important to note that our parking lot is a **one-way street**. The entrance is at the South and the exit is at the North. It helps us to keep everything safe when traffic flows in this direction. In order to ensure the safety of students during pick-up and drop-off we would ask you to follow the following rules:

- If dropping off students in the lane closest to the school, please park in a parking stall following all traffic rules. No dropping off in this lane without correctly parking (**no drop and roll**).
- If dropping off students in the grass/gravel lane (in front of the totem pole), you may drop students off without parking (drop and roll). **This can only happen in this lane, not in the lane closest to the school.**
- It is critically important that students, parents and staff use the crosswalk when crossing the parking lot in front of the front doors. It is not safe to cross from in between parked cars and the Parent Parking areas have cars constantly backing up and moving. As the adults, we can model this for the kids!
- Please **do not park in the bus lane to drop students off!** As the weather turns chillier we typically have buses arriving later and it is not safe for there to be students disembarking from buses along with cars coming in and out.

Thank you for your cooperation. Ms Neumann and Ms Chessor will be out to support a safe drop off and pick up each day.

Please make sure that anyone dropping your child off is aware of the rules.





Hawk's Athletics

Basketball/Athletics Update and Calendar

We thank all of our coaches and athletes for their participation and support throughout the Volleyball Season!

The Basketball season is officially starting this week with our Seeding Games. These are mini games that are used to figure out what division we will play in for the season.

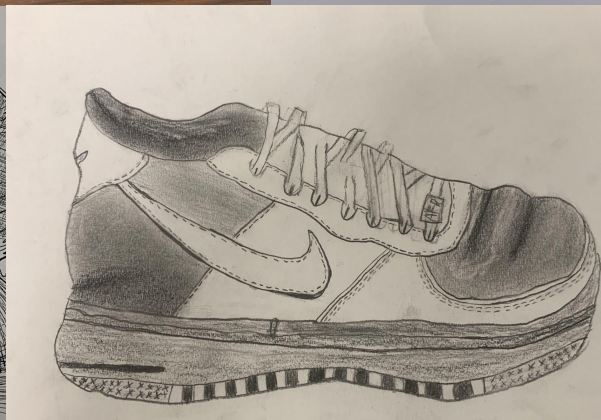
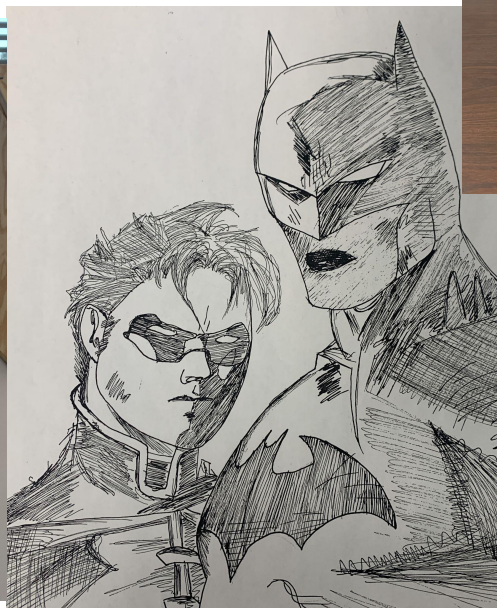
The [Athletics Calendar](#) will also be updated as information is available.



Jr High Complementary Courses Term 2

Starting Monday December 11 our gr 7-9 Complementary courses will change to the Term 2 options. Band is a full year courses and will not change. Fees are due by December 20, teachers will be sending letters home on the first day of classes with information and the fees will be loaded into Powerschool for payment.

Check out some of the amazing projects from Term 1!





General Information cont.

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.



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!

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.



Graminia Rink Society

Graminia Rink Society AGM & Festive Potluck

Please join us to celebrate another amazing year at the Graminia Rink Society on December 5, 2023 at 7:00PM.

Date: Tuesday December 5, 2023

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Bentham Residence #32 51514 Range Road 262 (Birch Hill subdivision).

- 🍷 Bring a dish if you wish, for the festive potluck 🎄 and help us fill out our Board and Graminia Rink All-Star rosters!
- 👁️ Everyone is welcome to attend the evening! We are also seeking community members for Board Members and Rink Maintenance volunteers.

We hope to see you there to celebrate with us!



School Council and Fundraising Foundation

Upcoming School Council Meeting

All Graminia Families are invited to our School Council meeting of the school year on **Wednesday, December 6 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 has been sent via email prior to the meeting.



Mabel's Labels and Tru Earth
Graminia also has ongoing fundraisers with the following companies:
[Mabel's Labels](#) and [Tru Earth](#)

West Edmonton Mall Waterpark Fundraiser

We are so excited to announce a new fundraiser to our school. West Edmonton Mall Waterpark tickets! The whole place is blocked off for only our ticket holders on the date and time below. If you're thinking what I'm thinking, these will make excellent Christmas gifts. Tickets are first come first serve and are purchased through a Graminia family just like all the other fundraisers. Forms can be filled out on paper and returned to the school with your children OR filled out online by visiting the following link:

<https://forms.gle/UjKcXsbCCx6fCfig9>

Please complete the entire form. Once completed your tickets are held with the understanding that you will be paying upon pick up date. Tickets not picked up and paid for on pick up days will be released back for others to purchase. This fundraiser is raising proceeds for our school to build a new playground! (an initiative that will take us some time, but every little moment of fun like this supports us to get there!)



Event Date: January 26th 2024
Event Time: 5:30pm - 8:30pm
Ticket Price: \$40.00 (regular \$64+tax)
Pick up dates (@ Graminia School):
-December 6th 5pm-630pm
-December 11th 2pm-330pm
-December 14th 2pm-330pm
-January 11th 5pm-630pm

Any questions or concerns please contact Anna @ anna@alwaysoccasions.com.



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.](#)

SCAN this QR code!



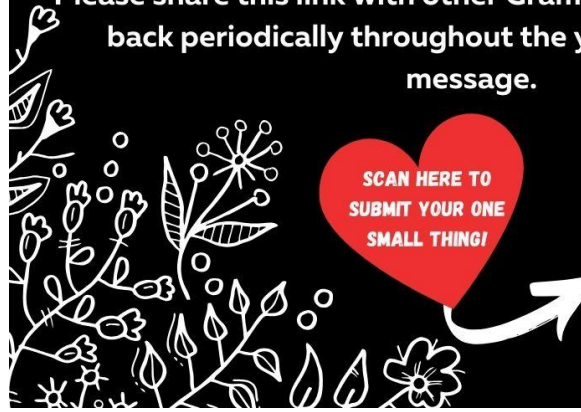
to get the most updated information on Graminia School Council & Foundation



One Small Thing

SHOWING GRAMINIA STAFF OUR APPRECIATION

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.



Purdy's Fundraiser

Thank you to everyone who purchased items for our Purdy's Fundraiser. Pickup will be in the school foyer - stay tuned to the Foundation Facebook page for specific time and date! If you have any questions or concerns please contact Kerri Golka at kerrimcwilliam@me.com.





School Council and Fundraising Foundation continued



2023/2024 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 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

