



McDermid Community School

HONOR ~ RESPECT ~ RESPONSIBILITY



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APRIL 2022 NEWSLETTER

Principal & Vice-Principal Message

We have had a very exciting start to spring. Our Grade 8s have toured Thom Collegiate to prepare for Grade 9, and have continued working on ribbon skirts and shirts in partnership with Regina Public Library. We have had a few activities where classrooms have been able to join together for learning. Our very first in person assembly in over two years was absolutely heartwarming – both because we were able to see the entire school body in one place, but also due to the incredibly respectful behavior of all of our students. Well done Mavericks! While we are very excited to be able to work with some of the changes to COVID restrictions, we will also proceed with caution as far as mixing our grades and keeping our safety protocols. Student and staff health continues to be one of our priorities.

A significant change will be happening on our playground this school year. As announced earlier, McDermid received a very generous donation from our partner in education, the Co-Op Refinery Complex (CRC). With this donation we will be replacing the play structure that is closest to the parking lot. Our School Community Council has approved the design of the new structure. Our anticipated installation date is the first weekend in June. If you would like to see a drawing of the new structure, please check out our website.



Finally, it seems like we are on our way to spring and nicer weather. There is more sunlight each day and everyone seems to have a bounce in their step. We are all looking forward to our spring/Easter break from April 15–22. Students return to school on Monday, April 25th.

Staffing Update:

Thank you to our pre-interns who have just completed their three-week teaching block. Ms. Nameth and Ms. Peterman worked with Ms. Osborne in Grade 1/2, and Ms. Retterath and Mr. Grabowski worked with Ms. Jones in Grade 3/4. All four were a welcome addition to our staff, providing instruction and support for our students.

We want to officially welcome **Ms. Ruby Dhunna** to our staff, teaching our **Kindergarten** class. Ms. Dhunna has covered the class for several months while Ms. Bojarski was away. While we are sad to see Ms. Bojarski go, we are very happy to know Ms. Dhunna will remain until the end of the year. Ms. Bojarski has done an outstanding job with our kindergarten students over the past few years and we wish her all the best.

We also welcome **Ms. Janelle Boutin** as our **Kindergarten Michif** teacher until the end of June

Administration Placements for 2022/2023:

I (**Mr. Phillips**) will be retiring at the end of this school year. It has been my honour to be welcomed into the McDermid School community with such open arms. I appreciate everything students, community, and staff have offered me during my time here. I am looking forward to my next chapter.

We welcome **Ms. Laurie Ellis**, who comes to us from Wascana Plains, as **our new Principal**.

We also congratulate **Ms. Kari Anderson** on her new appointment as **Vice-Principal at Walker** for next year!

Ms. Howard will remain as **our Vice-Principal**. Ms. Howard will continue to provide her calm, thoughtful approach as the school transitions to a new admin team.

Staffing and class placements will not be finalized until much closer to the end of the year, and will be shared as best as we can at that time.

As always, please contact us if you have any questions.

Ms. April Howard
Vice-Principal

Mr. Bob Phillips
Principal

March is the month of Truth

Truth is the Grandfather Teaching represented by the turtle. To know truth is to know and understand all of the original laws as given by the Creator- and to remain faithful to them.

Truth is symbolic of law and principle. Since the beginning of time the turtle has not changed: it has been chosen to be the bearer of truth. The basic truth of the laws of nature have not changed. The turtle has been able to adapt to change without changing; thus he represents truth. He also represents time. His shell has thirteen big plates, symbolizing the thirteen moons in one year. The 28 markings on his back represent the cycle of the moon and of a woman's body. Year-round we need to remain true to ourselves and follow the Grandfather Teachings in everything we do: even as you grow and change you remember what is important and live that way.



For links providing more teaching on Truth, please see our website at mcdermid.rbe.sk.ca

Spring Weather & Sicknes

Spring is notorious for weather ups and downs: we ask that families continue to send warm and appropriate clothing for the day. We are continuing to remind students to stay out of wet and muddy puddles: sending an extra pair of socks or pants to school would be a good idea for those just in case times.



We have had many unwell students and staff in the building lately: we encourage everyone to stay home to rest and recover if they are sick. We also want to remind families that we have covid-19 testing kits available at the office.



Farewell Photos and Classroom Photos – Dress Your Best Day!

On Tuesday, April 12th our Grade 8 students will have farewell photos taken in the morning. Classroom photos will also be taken for our K-8 classes.

“Let’s Talk About Science” – STEM Broadcast

McDermid has been selected to be a national broadcast site for “Let’s Talk Science,” a STEM (Science-Technology-Engineering-Mathletics) program. Ms. Osborne, Ms. Jones, and Ms. Anderson’s classes will be participating. The three broadcasts will take place during April, May, and June. One of the experiments the classes will be doing is growing tomatoes from seeds that have been to outer space! It is exciting for our school to be chosen to participate.

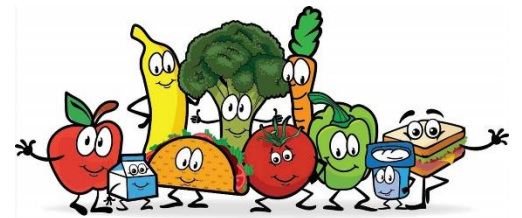


Nutrition Program Menus

A **free breakfast** is provided from 8:20-8:50. Students are welcome to enter the front doors and go straight to the nutrition room.

Bag lunches are available for \$2 every day. These include one main item as well as a juice, fruit, and snack (treat).

Lunch money can be paid daily, pre-paid at the office, or pre-paid through School Cash Online. If you do not yet have an account, please go to the school website to find instructions.



APRIL EVENTS:

Friday, April 1st: **Pajama/Comfy Clothes Day**

Tuesday, April 5th: **“Let’s Talk Science” STEM Broadcast from McDermid**

Tuesday, April 12th: **Dress Your Best Day – Grade 8 Farewell Photos & K-8 Class Photos**

Thursday, April 14th: **“Hoppy Spring Day” – Dress in Spring Colors**

Whole-School Truth Assembly

April 15th – 24th: **Spring Break – No School**

Monday, April 25th: **Return to School**

Looking Ahead – Grade 8 Farewell - Thursday, June 23rd

