



# McDermid Community School

HONOR ~ RESPECT ~ RESPONSIBILITY

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## MAY NEWSLETTER



### Welcome back everyone!

We want to extend a **HUGE THANK-YOU** to families for supporting your child's learning during our extended break. Education truly is a team effort.

All staff at McDermid School are excited to have students return to in-school learning. Our priority is to keep students safe at all times. We will continue to follow our COVID protocols of washing and sanitizing hands, keeping physically distanced, wearing masks, and staying in our classroom cohorts. We hope, with spring arriving, we will soon be able to spend more time outside learning.



With only two months left in the school year, time will fly by. We will be focusing our instruction on literacy and numeracy and encourage you to read with your kids at home as much as possible. We are looking forward to the next few weeks of school.

### Introduction to Edsby

All Regina Public Schools will be moving parents, students and staff to the EDSBY platform for next school year but our transition is starting now. Edsby will be replacing the current PowerSchool Parent Portal and will be the platform to help parents see academic information, view school and classroom events, communicate with school staff, and see student attendance. The first step for parents is to verify student contact information by June 1, 2021. The confirmation form will be sent home the first week of May and is to be returned ASAP.



### Mental Health Awareness Week

The first week of May is Mental Health Awareness Week. Mental health is always an issue, but more in particular over the past year.

Many Saskatchewan and Regina community based resources are available by calling or texting '211' or live chat to sk.211.ca. Additional supports are available through the professional mental health support line at '811' and other support lines such as the Kids Help Phone at 1-800-667-4442.



### Kids Help Phone

Support for youth  
Call 1-800-668-6868  
Text TALK to 686868  
Support for adults  
Text WELLNESS to 741741



Feel free to contact us or call the school office if we can provide more information.

Sincerely,

*Mr. Bob Phillips*  
Principal

*Ms. April Howard*  
Vice-Principal

## MAY EVENTS

Wednesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>: Wacky Hat and Hair Day

Monday, May 17<sup>th</sup>: Grade 8 Farewell Photos

Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>: Backwards Day

Friday, May 21<sup>st</sup>: PD Day – No School for Students

Monday, May 24<sup>th</sup>: Victoria Day Holiday – No School

Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>: Class Color Wars

Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>: Courage Assembly for Students



**DID YOU KNOW?** Kookum Val is our school's Elder. She visits us about twice each month, spending time sharing her knowledge in classrooms, and smudging with those students who are interested and have filled out the permission form.

If your child would like to participate in smudging, and you have not filled out a form, please contact the office.



## MAY IS THE MONTH OF COURAGE

A focus of learning at McDermid is both the Circle of Courage and the 7 Grandfather Teachings. Each month we will celebrate one of those virtues at our school.



**Courage** is one of the Grandfather Teachings, represented by the BEAR. A mother bear is gentle by nature, but if one of her cubs is in danger, she will overcome her fears to confront threats. Some of our biggest threats can come from peer pressure. We need to be brave to stand up for what is right, even when it is hard. We also need to be brave and ask for help when we need it to deal with anger, pain, and other problems we are facing. This can be a good reminder for all of us to reach out to get the mental health support, and other supports, we may need.

The bear also reminds us to be playful and to rest when needed. It is in the balance of these teachings that we are taught when to be courageous. Share courage, not aggression.

Please check out our website or Facebook page for links to additional resources to help you learn about the teaching of Courage.



## **2021/2022 School Year Pre-K and Kindergarten Registrations!**

Children between at least 3 years of age and 4 years as of December 31, 2021 may apply for Pre-K for the 2021/2022 school year.

Children 5 years of age as of December 31, 2021 may apply for Kindergarten.

McDermid Community School has also been very pleased to offer a pilot project with the Michif language, which is in addition to the regular Pre-K and Kindergarten programs. (You must be registered in a regular program first, and be at least 4 years old).

Further information on our programs is on our website at <https://mcdermid.rbe.sk.ca/> OR you can contact the school at [mcdermid@rbe.sk.ca](mailto:mcdermid@rbe.sk.ca) for more information and to get registration forms.