



McDermid Community School

HONOR ~ RESPECT ~ RESPONSIBILITY

139 Toronto St.

306-791-8502

mcdermid@rbe.sk.ca



NOVEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER



Principal & Vice-Principal Message

We have now finished two months of school. Classroom routines have been set, we are developing classroom community, and while this was not the way we had hoped our 2021/2022 school year would begin, we nonetheless have many things to celebrate. We see students learning, we see students laughing, we see exciting projects taking place in classrooms. Some classes have been able to go on field trips, students can sing this year, and our school has the extra benefit of a number of interns in the building. We know there continues to be gaps in learning, and we balance our goal of academic growth with the need to keep mental health a priority. It is important to us to remember that it is difficult to learn when our basic needs are not being met. Feeling safe and secure is a basic need, as is getting enough rest. We encourage our families to focus on ensuring students are getting rest, healthy food, and proper clothing for our cold weather. Please contact the school if we can support you in any of those areas.

This month's Grandfather Teaching is Honesty. This includes being able to recognize when our tanks are getting empty and seek support, or letting go of some of some of the pressures that we put on ourselves. Honestly also means that while we stop to recognize when we are struggling, we also recognize all the ways in which we are succeeding. We know that the past couple of years have been challenging, and truly believe all of our families deserve credit for the work they are putting in to taking care of their children. Thank you: we are here to work as a team!

Support numbers that are available for anyone include: The Kids Help Phone 1-800-668-6868 and the National Residential School Crisis Line 1-866-925-4419. We have attached a list of additional mental health and wellness supports and programs to this newsletter.

Ms. April Howard
Vice-Principal

Mr. Bob Phillips
Principal

November is the month of Honesty

HONESTY means telling the truth. Honesty is symbolized by the Sabe/giant. People who are honest are as big and strong as giants. Being honest is having the courage to do and say the right thing. We let truth be our guide. We learn to be honest with ourselves, and are truthful and trustworthy.



The Ojibwa expression "Kitchi-Sabe" means to walk tall, or to have integrity.

Please check out our website or Facebook page for links to additional resources to help you learn about Respect.

The COVID Virus – School Protocols

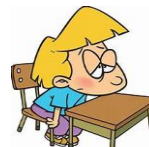
Families now have access to **COVID rapid testing kits** for children 11 years old and under. To access your rapid testing kit, simply contact the school and we will send your kit home. We have limited numbers, so these are given out on a first come, first serve basis.

Mandatory Vaccination Administrative Procedure

By the end of the month, all staff, volunteers, and other service providers will be required to show proof of vaccination and/or proof of a negative covid test. This will include parents and caregivers who regularly access the building, and those coming in for consultations, etc. This does not include parents and caregivers who drop off a lunch, need to fill out a form or pay for a lunch, etc. We will provide more details on how this directly impacts our parents and caregivers closer to the end of the month.

As always, we encourage you to please check daily for these symptoms:

Dry Cough, Fever, Diarrhea, Fatigue, Shortness of Breath, Loss of Smell/Taste



By working together, we will continue to minimize the effects of the COVID virus at McDermid.



Parents/Guardians are invited to get involved with the McDermid School Community Council (SCC). New members are always welcome!

Our next meeting will take place on Wednesday, November 17th at 7:00 p.m. at the school.



Picture Retakes will happen the morning of Friday, November 5th.

Remembrance Day



A special video assembly will take place for our students on Wednesday, November 10th. Poppies will be provided for all of our students at this time. We encourage everyone who is able to contribute to send a donation to the Legion for the poppies, and for their continued support of veterans.

REMEMBRANCE DAY
Left We Forget

A highlight video of our assembly will be sent to families through Edsby. If you have not yet connected on Edsby, please contact the school office.

2-Way Conferences, Friday November 19th

Our November conferences between teachers and parents/guardians will be virtual. This will be done either through a phone call or a zoom meeting. Please watch for a note to come home the second week of November to confirm your preferred method of contact and meeting time. Please note that students will not attend school that day.

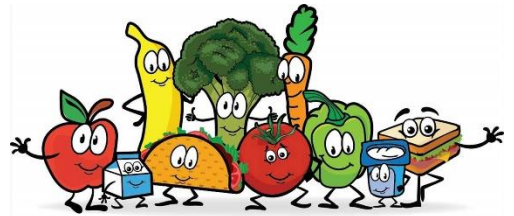


Nutrition Program Menus

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.



The November Breakfast and Lunch Calendar is attached.

HOT LUNCH SPECIALS:

Our two lunch specials this month are Hot Dogs (all beef) on Nov. 16th and Hamburgers on Nov. 25th.

ALL students are welcome to stay for lunch on these two days. If your child does not normally stay for lunch (if you have not filled out a lunch room form), please fill out the attached permission form and send \$2 payment per lunch. Payment can also be made through School Cash Online.

NOVEMBER EVENTS

Monday, November 1st: **Pajama Day**

Friday, November 5th: **Picture Retake Day**

Monday, November 8th: **Indigenous Veteran's Day**

Wednesday, November 10th: **Remembrance Day Assembly for Students**

Thursday, November 11th: **No School: Remembrance Day**

Friday, November 12th: **No School: Teacher Professional Development Day**

Wednesday, November 17th: **SCC Meeting** at the school at 7:00 p.m.

Friday, November 19th: **2-Way Conferences (Virtual or Phone) – No School for Students**

Friday, November 26th: **Hat and Toque Day**

Monday, November 29th: **Student Honesty Assembly**

