



McDermid Community School

HONOR ~ RESPECT ~ RESPONSIBILITY



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OCTOBER 2021 NEWSLETTER



Principal & Vice-Principal Message

The month of October is when students and staff feel settled into school and classroom routines. Focus becomes the ‘nuts and bolts’ of learning and we begin assessments that help teachers know student learning needs more fully. There are still opportunities to head outside for learning activities and fun events planned for the month. We appreciate how supportive our families have been during our school start-up in September and look forward to continuing to work to strengthen our school community in the months ahead.

Of course, we continue to manage COVID and all the health and safety issues involved. We will communicate with families directly, and through our website and social media, when we have COVID specific information. The challenges we all face are easier to deal with when we all work together. A huge thank you to families and students for your efforts.

A priority for us at McDermid and the Regina Public School division is mental health and well-being. Our school counsellor is available to support children of all ages. Parents can give the office a call if this is a service you would like to access for your child. Our staff are an exceptionally supportive group who create a positive atmosphere in the school and make mental health part of our professional development. As part of our health curriculum, we also help students learn strategies to deal with stress and self regulation techniques. 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.

Ms. April Howard
Vice-Principal

Mr. Bob Phillips
Principal

October is the month of Respect

“I Respect” is one of the shared values of Regina Public Schools. Respect is also one of the 7 Grandfather Teachings, represented by the Buffalo. **Respect means** thinking highly of someone else. The buffalo so valued the First Nations people that it gave every piece of itself to provide for their needs.



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

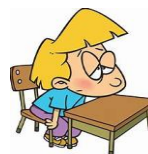
The COVID Virus – School Protocols

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

Our website continues to be updated with protocols and information. A letter was posted from our Director, Greg Enion, about the protocols we will follow when a close contact is identified. Please note that we do not create these protocols: we are simply following the direction we are being given from Sask Health Authority. We continue to remain committed to following safe protocols at the school including hand washing, sanitizing, distancing, and cohorts.

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.

Edsby – Our New Communication and Administration Tool



By now, all families should have received an email connecting them to our Edsby platform. This is where we do attendance, communicate with families, and share about our learning: assessments, photos, etc. Families who are connected should be able to see emails from their child(ren)’s teacher, and view assessments.

If you have not yet connected, or are having difficulty, please contact us at the office.



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, October 20th at 7:00 p.m. at the school.



PICTURE DAY

Wednesday, October 6th is School Picture Day for all students.

SPIRIT WEAR ORDERS

McDermid is having a Spirit Wear Sale. The order window is from Sept. 17th to Oct. 22nd. Items available are Hoodies, Sweatshirts, Long Sleeve Shirts, T-Shirts and Sweats.



Please go to <https://bit.ly/3nCQTrH> if you would like to place an order. The link to the online form is available on our website and facebook. If you require assistance making a cash order instead, please contact the office.



Nutrition Program

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. Students can bring money each day, or pre-pay for a number of lunches at a time.

THIS MONTH: SCHOOL-WIDE THANKSGIVING MEAL

We invite all of our students to stay for lunch on **Thursday, October 21st for a FREE turkey dinner**. We invite students to dress their best that day as we celebrate togetherness.



PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST!

Please watch for details around a pumpkin carving contest that will take place the week of October 25th – October 31st!

On Friday, October 29th students are welcome to dress up in costume for the day. We ask that all masks and additional toys/props for costumes (swords, etc.) be left at home. No blood or gore as well.



REMINDER: Please do not send any baking or other items (wrapped treats, etc.) to share with students.

OCTOBER EVENTS

Wednesday, October 6th: **School Picture Day**

Monday, October 11th: **No School: Thanksgiving**

Friday, October 15th: **No School: Teacher Convention**

Wednesday, October 20th: **SCC Meeting** at the school at 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 21st: **FREE Thanksgiving Lunch and Formal Dress-up Day**

Friday, October 22nd: **Last Day for Spirit Wear Orders**

October 25th – 31st: **Pumpkin Carving Competition** – watch for more information to come

Friday, October 31st: **Costume Dress-Up Day!** (Please remember no masks, blood, or gore)



