

Principal: Alan Millar
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Secretary: Audrey Hammer



May 2018
News Letter



Lots of Great Stuff and Opportunities coming up this month.

Principal's Message:

With May upon us we will soon enter into the early stages of preparing for next year including the building of our classes. One of the most important things for all to recognize as we move into this process is that the professionals teach kids not grades. Everyone needs to understand that we meet the needs of all students and those needs, within any classroom, are as diverse as snowflakes and develop at individual paces. The public education system is in the business of "building human beings" to participate in, and contribute to, our society. Translated this means taking all kids as they are and moving them forward toward their full, individual potential regardless of grade or class placement. Learning is ongoing and starts where each individual is and moves forward from there. In any classroom students needs are being met.



Recently a reminder of the historic "Dress Code" for our school was sent out on the portal. A number of parents have come to see me since and we have had wonderful discussions regarding the antiquated language and references that, arguably, target specific groups in our community and are no longer appropriate. These are powerful points and clearly indicate our Dress Code needs updating. Please watch, in September, for an opportunity to participate in the revisiting of the Dress Code and a few other "historical" sets of expectations here at EME to ensure they reflect the growing understandings and sensitivities of our society.

And finally, remember, if you are around the school please stick your head into the office and say hi. My door is always open and visitors are welcome.

Alan Millar

Class Placements The teachers will use their understanding/knowledge of each child to make the best placement decision for each student. It is also very



important that parents understand that in this environment, the social milieu of a school, students often navigate it in ways that a parent may not be aware of but that a teacher would be and that would be a major consideration in future

class placements.

Class placement is an extremely complex process, some of the factors, in no particular order, that are considered in the process are:

1. Each child's learning style
2. Each child's social needs
3. Emotional consideration for each child
4. The number of students per class
5. The balance of male to female students
6. Each child's academic needs
7. Fair distribution of students with extraordinary needs

Recognizing all these factors if you still feel there is further information, not considered here, that we need please look to the parent portal, later this month, where you will find a form entitled "**Other Information for Consideration**". Please fill out this form and return it to the EME office at your earliest convenience. **It is inappropriate to mention teachers by name, and forms that do so will not be considered.**

Some Up Coming Events

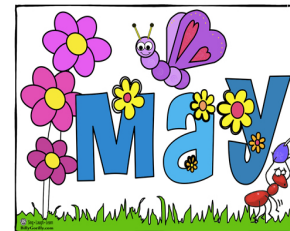
- May 2nd Monthly Assembly 9:00 am
 - District Elementary Public Speaking
May 2 Gr. 4/5
May 3 Gr. 6/7
 - May 4th Fredericton Band Concert
8:30-1:00 in the Gym
 - May 8th Class Photo Day
 - May 15th Dragon Festival of the Arts
EME Gym
 - May 16th Grade 6 shots
 - May 18th Talent Show
 - May 21st Victoria Day
 - May 22nd Pro-D Day
 - May 25th Welcome to Kindergarten
May 28th 6:00 PM PAC
 - May 30th Gr7 to High School for the
Day
 - May 30th Volunteer Tea 1PM
- And, of course, a multitude of amazing things in classes on a daily basis including great fieldtrips.

NEXT PAC MEETING Monday May 28th 6:00 pm Edith McDermott Elementary Please come out and become part of this amazing group. New members are always welcome.

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Social Media Safety EME is very excited about this PAC sponsored event. As we all know we live in a digital age which continues to grow and change how we and our children communicate and learn. It is an exciting yet very anxious time as new vulnerabilities and information are exposed and available. On May 29th an organization called **Safer Schools Together** will be at EME to present to three different audiences: Grade 4/5 as they are beginning to enter, in greater number, the digital world; Grade 6/7 as they are, in many cases, fully emerged and soon off to high school and will need the knowledge to continue to navigate this landscape safely and finally, in the evening, to the parents here at EME to offer knowledge, support and truths that will empower parents to support their children. More information will be forthcoming but mark this date, **May 29th** on your calendars. (See full page notice at end of newsletter)



"Dragon Festival of the Arts & More" The Staff and Students of EME are having a "Dragon Festival of the Arts & More" on Tuesday, May 15th. Students have been invited to write paragraphs, stories, poetry, songs, make art & crafts, design STEM projects, and more to showcase in an afternoon exhibit on the created these projects in class or than one piece. PARENT'S DISPLAY AFTER SCHOOL



15th of May. Students may have at home and they can submit more MAY VIEW THE GYM on May 15th if they wish.

In collaboration with the Edith the Arts, EME will be hosting a school Talent Show, on May 18th, showcasing some of our students many talents. Information on the Auditions and Guidelines for performances will be provided shortly. We look forward to this exciting event. Stay Posted!

McDermott Dragon Festival of

Once again we have had a wonderfully successful book fair love of reading as well as raising funds for our library. our PAC for sponsoring and coordinating this event for our total **1698.00** dollars was raised for our library...



spreading the Thank you to community. In



Our **School Based Public Speaking competition** was held on Thursday April 26th. We had many outstanding speeches but alas we can only send one from each grade on to the District Competition on May 2 for grades 4/5 and May 3rd for grades 6/7 at Riverside Centre. Moving on to represent themselves and the Edith McDermott Community at the district meet are:

- Grade 4 Owen Byers History of Lacrosse
- Grade 5 Ben Phaneuf Is There Life in the Universe
- Grade 6. Presley Shaw Jaworek Texting
- Grade 7 Tiara Cross The Lottery

The annual Jump Rope for Heart event was held at EME on Friday April 27. Students enjoyed their opportunity to skip to tunes and interact with their friends all the while raising awareness and a little money for the Canadian Heart and Stroke Foundation. This year we surpassed our goal and raised 4003.00.



WAY TO GO Edith McDermott Community!!!

Volunteer Tea May 30th 1 pm

One of our ways of saying thank you to our community. It takes a village



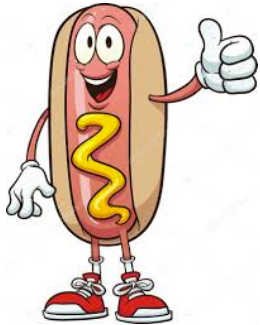
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Track and Field We are starting to get ready for the district track meet here at EME. Already you can see the students challenging each other outside to races. Officially our track events get going on May 17th-25th consult with your student or drop by the office if you would like a more detailed schedule. The district track meet is on June 7&8



RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS from our

PAC On Wednesday April 25 Divisions 15 and 10 were the recipients of a random act of kindness from our PAC. All the divisions numbers were placed in a hat and a lucky two were drawn out. The winners received a free hotdog lunch. Thank you to our Parent Group.

Parking.... It is great to see so many people continuing to follow the basic common courtesy expectations that allow our parking to be as safe and orderly as possible. It would be great if we can all remember to remain in our vehicles and be prepared to move forward as space comes open.



With the return of the good weather it is my hope that more folks consider either walking to school all together or at the very least parking a ways away from the school and walking in. If you think about it walking beats sitting in line waiting and it is better for you, your student, and our planet as you won't be sitting there idling. Something to consider that's for sure.



Moving?? If you're family is considering a move out of our area over the summer or at anytime please let us at the school know as soon as possible. This information is really important to ensure we get the appropriate resources to support all our learners.

Elementary Summer Learning 2018 (K-6)

Our Elementary Summer Learning 2018 Program will follow elements of the provincial curriculum. Emphasis in each of the two programs (grades K-3 and grades 4-6) will be on providing additional experiences in each of the grade areas. Textbooks and worksheets will be set aside as children engage in experiential learning and hands-on activities. Students will arrive just before 9:00 am, and attendance will be taken in the usual fashion before children begin to rotate through a series of learning experiences. There will be a short nutrition break, supervised by the teacher. The day will end at noon. o register your child, visit the Parent Portal at <https://parents.sd42.ca> and look for Summer Learning in

For Girls Ages 8 to 12! Presented by THRIVE

Release your inner AWESOME at
 Sole Girls 9-week programs empower girls ages 8 - 12 with tools to develop healthy ideas about body image, media, healthy living, peers and self-esteem.

Spring 2018 Programs

Wednesdays - downtown Maple Ridge 6:30 - 8:15 pm, Apr 25 - Jun 20
 Tuesdays - west Maple Ridge 3:30 - 5:15 pm, April 24 - Jun 19

Learn more and register at: www.thrivesolutions.org
 @thrivemapleridge 604.477-7780

TRAIN TO RUN A 5KM RUN!
 MEET INSPIRING MENTORS
 LEARN TOOLS FOR FRIENDSHIPS

School Upcoming Forms. Please note that you must be registered on the Parent Portal and have your child linked to your account before you can enrol him or her in the Elementary Summer Learning program. This part of the process can be done immediately. Get more information about Parent Portal registration from your child's school.

Grade 7 Students!
 Grade 8 High School Options This Summer



Check out these exciting summer learning opportunities at Thomas Haney Secondary this summer!

- Do you enjoy a challenge, working with your hands to solve design problems?
- Do you want to let your creative minds engaged in the Fine Arts?

SD42 is excited to offer a summer Fine Arts or Technology Applied Skills classes for students who are currently in Grade 7. This program offers you the opportunity to build skills that will benefit you with your transition to high school and beyond.

You will have the choice of three options and no prior experience is necessary. All you need is a positive attitude, a willingness to learn and a creative spirit.

All programs start at Thomas Haney Secondary just before 9 am each day. On the first day, teachers will meet students at the front of the school and take them to their program. This program will run from July 4-17 from 9 am to 1 pm.

PROGRAM DATES
 July 4 to July 17
 PROGRAM TIME
 9 am to 1 pm
 LOCATION
 Thomas Haney Secondary
 23000-116 Ave, Maple Ridge

CONTINUING
 MAPLE RIDGE & PITT MEADOWS



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The Redesigned Curriculum at Edith McDermott

INQUIRY LEARNING

Inquiry Learning is a process where students investigate and explore answers to questions. Inquiry questions provide a focus for learning the curricular content, encourage students to develop important skills when answering questions and make learning more meaningful and relevant.

Inquiry questions provide a framework for teachers to more easily meet the needs of each student while allowing students to be more engaged in the content they are learning.

For more information about the new curriculum, visit <http://www.sd42.ca/new-curriculum>.

Coming in June – How Do We Assess and Celebrate Learning?



Students Inquiring about the evolution of school expectations and policies with the Principal

The Redesigned Curriculum at Edith McDermott



Grade 3 students inquiring about structure strength and form



Core Competencies: What are they and why are they in the new curriculum?

The new curriculum centres around the following three core competency areas: **communication, personal and social, thinking**. They are sets of intellectual, personal, and social and emotional proficiencies that all students need to develop in order to engage in deep learning and life-long learning. Competencies are evident in every area of learning and in every grade, and come into play when students become actively engaged in their learning. During the school year, students will have an opportunity to self-assess their proficiencies in these core competencies.

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Social Media Awareness + Parenting the Digital World



May 29th
Edith McDermott Elementary
7:00 pm

For parents of School aged children.

With society heading in a direction of being constantly connected to technology, what do we need to know as parents to protect our kids and teach them responsible and appropriate use of technology? The parameters of rules and expectations that you put in place at home will undoubtedly guide their behaviour in the years to come. Please join us for an informative presentation which will cover the following topics and more!

- **Social Media Update** – The most current apps & trends in their social media lives
- **Pick Your Battles!** – You will have to balance the yin with the yang, promote independence whilst taking a strong stance on certain subjects
- **Current Research** – Brain development & technology, violent video games
- **Digital Footprint and Reputation** – With their future approaching, recruiters and employers are taking note – What will they find? What will they leave behind?
- **Tips & Tricks to Use at Home**

PARENTS: Do not miss this free event!



SAFER SCHOOLS TOGETHER
is an organization focused on promoting a climate and culture of safety in schools through comprehensive education.

Please email
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to RSVP and reserve your seat!