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Secretary: Audrey Hammer



**Principal's Message:** Our community continues to demonstrate why it such a wonderful place for students, staff and parents. We've had author visits, a literacy campout, Young Actors, a fantastic dance put on by our extremely supportive PAC, a very spooky Halloween Parade, Primary and Intermediate Cross country, and an extremely respectful Remembrance Day observation among other things. Each event and activity in its own unique way gave demonstration to the empathy tolerance, compassion and understanding it takes to be a great community. Many of us grew up with, and apply, the model of control and compliance and it has served many of us well in our upbringing and the upbringing of our children. However, there are situations and individuals who, through no fault of their own, find this model to not only not work for them but to be a trigger and escalate their response, their need to fight or for flight. In a community as large as ours we can expect there to be some who are of this nature and it is to them we must extend our greatest efforts to be empathic and understanding. When a student or child is struggling to meet the expectations placed on them they need our support not our scorn. Let's find out the "why" of the behaviour and work to solve that. Let's not just respond to the behaviour with punishment as it will be back if the lagging skills are not addressed. A metaphor I like to use is that of a pop bottle. If we simply respond to the behaviour and not the complexity that is underlying it then, like a pop bottle that is shaken, the "explosion" is only being held back and it will erupt at some point. But, if we can figure out what's shaking the bottle and prevent that then the "explosion" will not occur. Stop by my office if you'd like to explore this more.

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

Alan Millar

### It's Remembrance Day on

Sunday .... Our Remembrance gathering was held on Nov 8<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to all the parents who came out to acknowledge this day with us



**Parent Library** A number of you have taken advantage of our sitting area under the stairs and have borrowed a number of the titles there. I encourage everyone who has not yet done so to please take seat, pick up a book and have a read. Most of the titles there have something to do parenting/teaching children based on the latest research. Take a look.

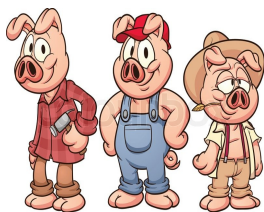
### Literacy Literacy Literacy.....



As mentioned last month we are really focusing on literacy at Edith McDermott and we are doing a bunch of school wide literacy events... in November

we have two events planned.... We will be doing our first attempt at a Magical Mystery Tour aka Drop Everything and Read for 20 minutes. When the music comes and the announcement is made everyone will have a minute to drop what they are doing and read..... Everyone means everyone... teachers, parents in the school, Educational Assistants and students will sit and read for 20 minutes...

The second event is on



**November 26<sup>th</sup>** and is our first Annual Dress Like Your Favourite Literary Character Day. You will see Little Red Riding Hoods, Three Blind Mice, Harry Potter, and other favourite characters walking through the halls of EME. A warning though, watch out for the BIG BAD WOLFE... who will be definitely around on EME that day..... Students are

invited dress up like their favourite character from a book or magazine that they have read.



### Some Up Coming Events

Nov 14<sup>th</sup> Monthly Assembly

Nov 16<sup>th</sup> 60's Day

Nov 22<sup>nd</sup> Early Dismissal  
11:30am

Nov 21 Real Talk  
(Presentation for parents)  
Drugs & Vaping  
MRSS 6:30

Nov 22<sup>nd</sup> Conferences

Nov 23<sup>rd</sup> Conferences

Nov 26<sup>th</sup> Dress Like Your  
Favourite  
Literary Character

Nov 27<sup>th</sup> PAC Meeting 6:00pm

Nov 30<sup>th</sup> BookFest Challenge

Dec 6<sup>th</sup> Parent Night Out  
PAC EVENT

Dec 18 & 19  
Afternoon

Christmas Conference

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### Parent-Teacher Conference



Collaborating for Success

**Just Around the Corner** Make sure and check the portal and/or. Contact your student's teacher to make sure and get a time to celebrate your student's growth and set new goals for the coming term. Conferences will be held starting on the afternoon of November 22 and continuing all day on November 23<sup>rd</sup>. I know some of the teachers have other times available as well..

### Bookfest is Well Underway.... What is Bookfest?

Bookfest is a program offered by the teacher-librarians in our school district. Its goal is to encourage kids to read a variety of literature and to expose them to some of the top quality authors of today in a fun and engaging manner. This year's titles are: Welcome to Nowhere, The Apothecary, Lazer Moose and Rabbit Boy, Dead City, The End of the Line, A Wrinkle in Time, Pandas on the Eastside, and Chester & Gus.

Soon our Bookfest students will be heading off to the ACT Theatre for the big Bookfest Challenge on November 30<sup>th</sup> which is a celebration and friendly book based competition. Ask your student if they're involved... Encourage them to get involved next year... Open to all Intermediate students.

### Well the Weather Outside is Only Going to Get More Frightful so here's a couple of reminders....

#### West Coast Recess..

This is a friendly reminder to dress your student for the elements as fresh air is an important ingredient for learning and thus students will be going outside in all kinds of weather. It is a good idea to send a change of clothes in with your child as many of our students enjoy the pleasures of stomping in puddles or rolling in the snow if and when it arrives....

#### Parking....

As the weather gets cooler and wetter more of our community members drive their students to school.... The more vehicles the greater the impact on safety... As such, it is even more important to follow the guidelines we've established....

- 1) Do not leave your vehicle. Even for a quick second...
- 2) As the vehicle ahead of you pulls out, pull forward as far as you can
- 3) Make it quick. Remind your students not to "delay" in class or at the curb and don't chat with friends or Get in and get out.
- 4) Be patient and polite. No one is going anywhere fast and "hot" heads create unsafe situations
- 5) Relax and if you have a comment or concern come talk to me... I try to be out there everyday



### Three Morning Opportunities for Students Three great opportunities for kids at Edith

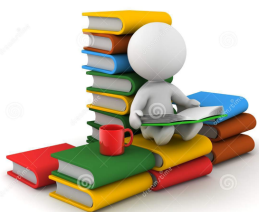
McDermott from 8:00-8:25.

**In the Library** students are welcome to enter and settle into some reading activities.

**In Room 2027** students are welcome to enter and get some extra help or finish up some homework

**In Room 1011** students by invitation only will be invited to participate in some fine motor skill exercises.

All three areas will have adult supervision and assistance for students. All are welcome as long as they utilize the space as described.



**Athletics** Volleyball is well underway for our grade 6 & 7 boys and girl's. Mr. Stublely is coaching the boy's team and Mrs. Kong & Ms. Stanley are working with the girls. Game days are usually Tuesdays for the girls and Wednesdays for the boys... Our students have done a fabulous job learning some new skills, working as a team and best of all developing the characteristics of leadership and sportsmanship. They have represented our community extraordinarily.

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## Our PAC!!!

Is Awesome.... The Next PAC meeting is at **6:00pm November 27th**.... They are currently taking their annual poinsettia orders. This is a wonderful way to support our school, our PAC and get a nice touch of Christmas. Order your's today by contacting our PAC or for further details please visit the PAC Facebook page or contact Randi or Shannon.



## Honouring the Past and Looking to the Future..

Edith McDermott has always been the home of the Magic. A legacy to be honoured and maintained ... As part of our evolution to more inclusive and modern practices and philosophies we are exploring updating our STAR logo to include imagery representative of our area. Here is a proof of an image being considered. Let Mr. Millar know your thoughts at [alan\\_millar@sd42.ca](mailto:alan_millar@sd42.ca).

LIVES in the BALANCE..... This is a non profit organization, founded by the author of the Explosive Child and creator of the Collaborative Proactive Solutions model for helping children manage, Dr. Ross Greene, providing fantastic resources to parents and educators to assist in supporting our children. Please visit their website at [www.livesinthebalance.org](http://www.livesinthebalance.org) or check out some of their resources at the following facebook pages...

The B Team for Parents of Behaviorally Challenging Kids  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/TheBTeamLITB/>

Elevate Your Parenting For Parents of All Kids  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ElevateYourParenting/>

## Sixties Day Theme Day

Get out the old tie dye shirts, peace beads and bell bottom jeans.... On Nov 16<sup>th</sup> the Sixties will be alive and well at Edith

McDermott



Our Halloween festivities at EME were fantastic. So many wonderful and creative costumes. Thanks to everyone who made this day special, and appropriate, here at the school.



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## The Redesigned Curriculum at Edith McDermott

### **CURRICULAR COMPETENCIES:** *Fostering deeper and more transferable learning*

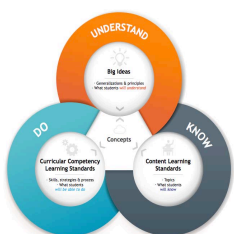
The **Curricular Competencies** are a combination of skills, strategies, processes and habits of mind that students develop over time. They reflect the “Do” in the Know-Do-Understand model of learning. Deeper learning is better achieved through “doing” than through passive listening or reading, and it immerses students in authentic tasks that connect learning to the real world.

Curricular Competencies are subject-specific, and they are linked to the curriculum-wide [Core Competencies](#). A focus on the development of competencies actively engages students in their learning, and helps them to become critical and creative thinkers

**Coming in December – Career Education.**



Problem Solving at it's best.... A Better Apple Picker.... Students tasked to design using an effective apple picker from simple everyday objects.



### **Redesigned Curriculum: Know-Do-Understand**

All areas of learning are based on a “**Know-Do-Understand**” model to support a concept-based, competency-driven approach to learning. In this model, three elements work together to support deeper learning: **Content (Know)**, **Curricular Competencies (Do)**, and **Big Ideas (Understand)**. BC’s new curriculum design enables a personalized, flexible and innovative approach at all levels of the education system. All areas of learning have been redesigned using this model.