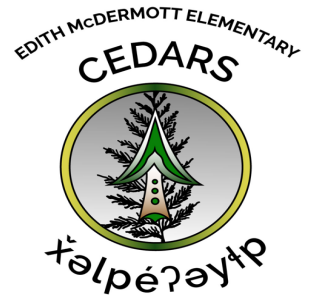


Principal: Alan Millar
 Email: alan_millar@sd42.ca
 Phone: 604-466-9993
 Cell: 604-626-2112
 Secretary: Audrey Hammer



Principal's Message: Happy New Year!!! Welcome to 2021 at Edith McDermott. The return from the Christmas break marks my third-year anniversary here as the Principal. Over this last 9 months I truly have come to understand and appreciate why so many people refer to this place as a gift, it truly is. The community is accepting, nurturing, supportive, empathetic and positive. Never has this been more apparent than it is right now as we move through the context of

a global pandemic. Parents, staff and especially our students seem, and are ready, to be responsive, understanding and flexible as things tighten up and change. A very obvious example of this is when I'm out doing my walkabouts in the morning and I have to remind parents to take a step back, without hesitation apologies are offered, understanding is expressed, and space is given without qualm. From what I hear from my colleagues this is not always the case so thank you. Nor is having a student population that is accepting and supportive of the safety measures and processes in place. If there is one thing that this context has demonstrated is the students' commitment to the school and each other. Their ability to work together to solve problems for all and recognize the diversity and growing complexities of all our students and be supportive and understanding is beyond reproach.

I normally read over the holidays and share, here, some of the antidotes and themes from the non-fiction books on the latest research regarding children and learning. This year I changed it up and read a fiction title Goodbye to the Hill. A great read as a story of the human spirit and resiliency in the face of abject poverty.

Well again, it's been a great three years - thank you to all who support the school and me as we work together to make this a great place oh learning for kids and adults alike.

I look forward too many more years here at Edith McDermott Elementary.

Alan Millar

Kindness Counts



February 24th is National Pink Shirt Day. Traditionally Edith McDermott has extended this day to be everyday as represented by our PINK Shirt's Logo. However, we also acknowledge the specific day, Feb 26th by all wearing PINK.



If you are new to the community or need to replace your student's at EME Kindness Counts Everyday shirt, please check out the parent portal. Shirts cost \$10.00 and are available in an assortment of sizes. Orders need to be in by January 31st if the shirt is to arrive by the day.

Just Around the Corner Already Planning for Next Year!!!

Kindergarten registration dates have been released by the district.

- Jan 8-Jan 12 Sibling Registration
- Jan 20-Jan 25th Choice Registration
- Feb 3-Feb 10 General Registration
- Feb 24-June 31 Late Registration
- Aug 09-June 2022 Open Registration

If you know of anyone anywhere in the district, or anyone who is thinking of moving to the district with Kindergarten aged kids, please make them aware of these dates.

SCOOTERS at SCHOOL

It's awesome to see so many kids riding scooters to school. It's far healthier than riding in a car and it is so much fun. Storage of scooters at school is a little problematic in that not all classrooms have spare space.



Please consult with your classroom teacher prior to expecting the scooter to be stored in the classroom. The other piece is that while we will continue to offer the supervision and structures in classrooms we are not responsible if a scooter is



stolen or damaged. Please reflect on this as you decide whether or not to allow your student to bring their scooters to school.

Up Coming Events

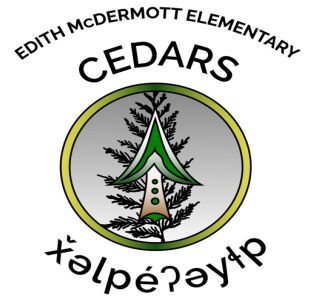
January 19 PAC
Via ZOOM

January 25 Pro-D
School Closed for students

Feb TBD
Feel the Love Day
February 15
Family Day School Closed

Feb 16th Pro-D
School Closed for students

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Great Morning Opportunities for Students Students, identified by their teachers, are invited to receive one on one **literacy** support in the mornings before school. Each cycle lasts for three to four weeks and then we invite another set of students. Please ask your child's teacher or support teacher if you would like your student considered for this. This is part of our continuing, school wide, focus on **literacy**.



SAFETY SAFETY SAFETY

As I walk around just at dismissal I am grateful to see so many parents and guardians standing in the parking lot waiting for their student. Unfortunately and unknowingly I have created a bit of a safety concern in promoting the use of the parking for pick up. Please continue to use it in this manner however be mindful there may be staff or other SD42 employees who need to exit quickly and thus keep yourself to the edges and be vigilant for cars.



Busy Busy Busy

Our grade 4s and 7s are in for a busy few weeks between now and Spring Break. The Ministry of Education does a lot of data collection from these grades and this year it all falls kind of at the same time. The information they glean from these data collection tools (FSA, Learning Survey, MDI) is important in the reflection, review and adjustment in our educational system. The FSAs are a written assessment given at the grades 4 and 7 levels. They are not assessments of the grade 4 or grade 7 year rather they are assessments at how students (across the province) are developing their literacy, numeracy and social responsibility skills and knowledge after being in school for, grade 4, 5 years and, grade 7, 8 years. Too many have developed the sense that it is just about the two grades when actually it is a systems check which is important to guide future decisions by the Ministry. As well, it is used by some to "judge and rank" individual schools and students which is totally inappropriate as every school has its' own context. Parents and guardians can expect information about all these assessments and data collection over the coming weeks.



Our PAC continues to be very involved in our school but in a unique manner given that safety is our number one consideration. As such they no longer meet in person but rather meet via ZOOM. Our next PAC meeting is on January 19th at 7 pm.

The students were very grateful for the hot chocolate and treat they received from PAC on the last day of school before the Winter Break. As well staff were very pleased and appreciative of the mask supporters that PAC provided for them. Currently PAC is working with Mr. Millar in exploring getting our lobby/main entrance painted as a beautiful cedar forest.



Generosity Abounds

Thanks to the generosity of our community 6 families had a happier Christmas. Through your donations we put together some amazing hampers for the Holiday Season. Thank you. Speaking of generosity our contribution to the foodbank this year topped the 1000 item mark. Again this only happens as a result of the community at large.

Literacy Literacy.... This month we will be doing a number of "safe" school wide activities that promote an awareness of literacy. Some ideas bantered around are
 -decorate your door like your favourite book
 -school wide but in individual classrooms reading by the campfire
 -we may have a dress like your favourite fiction character.
 And of course we continue with our Magical Mystery Tours.

LEARNING SERVICES GRADE 7 PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT FEBRUARY 2, 2021 7:00 – 8:00 PM

For parents of grade 7 students with diverse support needs (Ministry Designations and/or IEPs).

Is your child going to high school next year? Does your child have an IEP? Wondering how their needs will be supported? Looking for ideas on how to support your child's transition to high school? Join us on ZOOM for this informative session. Registration is required to gain access to the meeting. To access the registration link: contact your current support teacher; look for parent portal notification; review upcoming events on the district website.

We look forward to seeing you there!



School District 42
 Meeting info shared on District Website and Parent Portal

Learn about: The Registration Process

Support Structures at High School

Supporting a successful transition to High School

Questions?
 Demetra Kotsalis
demetra.kotsalis@sd42.ca
 OR
 Karen Renier
karen_renier@sd42.ca

Learning Services
 604-467-1101

Principal: Alan Millar
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Phone: 604-466-9993
Cell: 604-626-2112
Secretary: Audrey Hammer



I AM Awesome!

SPRING CAMP

Designed to help young individuals with communication styles, triggers, looking at their special inner qualities, how to deal with stress and how to be a friend!

**MONDAY-THURSDAY
8 AM-12 PM**

**MARCH 15TH -18TH
FOR 6-8YRS**

**MARCH 22ND TO 25TH
FOR 9-10YRS**

PRICE: \$86

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT
THE FAMILY EDUCATION & SUPPORT CENTRE
22554 LOUGHEED HWY
604-467-6055
regfamilyed.ca



UNITED WAY SCHOOL'S OUT SPRING BREAK PROGRAM

UNITED WAY & THE FAMILY EDUCATION & SUPPORT CENTRE ARE PROUD AND EXCITED TO BE ABLE TO PROVIDE THIS PROGRAM FOR OUR COMMUNITY. THE PROGRAM WILL CONSIST OF ACTIVITIES SURROUNDING EMPATHY, OPTIMISM, RESILIENCY, GRATITUDE, CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND LEARNING ABOUT DIFFERENT CULTURES AND COUNTRIES.

MARCH 15-18TH (K-7)
12PM-4PM

OR

MARCH 22ND-25TH (K-7)
12PM-4PM

TO REGISTER PLEASE CONTACT OLIVIA OR GRACE AT
REG@FAMILYED.CA OR CALL 604-467-6055



EDITH MCDERMOTT ELEMENTARY
CEDARS



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Stand Tall Stand Proud
Stand Strong