

# Edith McDermott Elementary

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	September 2025	
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## Principal's Message

It is with gratitude and excitement that I introduce myself to you as the new principal of Edith McDermott Elementary. I am honoured to be joining such a phenomenal team of educators and look forward to getting to know all of you and your children as we begin this new school year together.

September marks a fresh start; a time filled with hope, excitement, and anticipation. As we open the doors to a new year of learning, I want to assure you that my focus

is to support every learner to feel safe, valued, and work towards their full potential.

Throughout my career, I have been passionate about creating an inclusive, caring community that values education and personal growth. I believe in the value of strong working relationships and partnerships with parents, and appreciate open communication, collaboration, and shared success.

I look forward to meeting many of you at school events, in the hallways, during drop-off and pick-up, or as you volunteer in

classrooms. Please don't hesitate to say hello or reach out to me - I welcome your ideas, questions, or feedback.

I am looking forward to a new year of learning, growth, connection, and community!

Welcome back to school, everyone!

Sincerely,

Christina Crump  
Principal

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# Parent/Guardian Information

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## Vice Principal's Message

Hello parents and students,

I'm thrilled to be part of the Maple Ridge community and excited to work closely with each of you. Together, we'll cultivate a learning environment where curiosity thrives, and every student feels valued. Your partnership is invaluable, and I look forward to regular communication to ensure that every learner is supported.

As we embark on this school year, we'll maintain high expectations rooted in the belief that all children can grow when given guidance and encouragement. By celebrating successes and nurturing curiosity, we'll continue to foster a genuine joy for learning. Thank you for entrusting me with your child's education—I'm honored to be part of this journey with you.

R. Aujla

## School Reminders

- School supply fee payments are set up on the Parent Portal.
- If your child's teacher is using a planner this year, you will also be able to pay for the planner through the Parent Portal.
- All student permission forms have been sent out through the Parent Portal.
- Please label your child's clothes as much as possible. The 'Lost and Found' grows throughout the school year as more items are left out and unclaimed. Please check the 'Lost and Found' periodically for missing items.
- Stay up to date with school information by visiting our website at <http://elementary.sd42.ca/edithmcdermott>



## Westcoast Recess

We have "Westcoast Recess" and outside lunchtime. Students enjoy exercise and time outside with peers, so please always send outside clothing appropriate for the weather conditions. Since weather can be unpredictable and accidents or falls can occur, **please send a spare set of clothes.**

## Attendance

Regular school attendance is a major factor contributing to student success in school. We expect that Edith McDermott students will attend school regularly unless ill and will be punctual every day.

If your child will be absent, please advise us via the Parent Portal, emailing [eme\\_reception@sd42.ca](mailto:eme_reception@sd42.ca), or by calling the school prior to 8:30am. Please advise your child's teacher ahead of time if your child will be absent for an extended period of time. Students who are late need to report to the office upon arrival.

For safety reasons, confirmation of all absences is required unless a phone call, email, or Parent Portal message has been received by the office.

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# Parent/Guardian Information

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## Terry Fox Run

We are excited to announce that Edith McDermott Elementary will be participating in the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary Terry Fox School Run, scheduled to take place on September 26<sup>th</sup>.

We hope you can continue to show the strength and resiliency of this school community with your support of one of our greatest Canadian heroes, Terry Fox.



## PAC News

Our Parent Advisory Council (PAC) is where parents get together to share ideas, hear what's going on at school, and dream up ways to make things even better for our kids. No experience required—just curiosity and maybe an interest in meeting other parents. Come check out a meeting this year—you might be surprised at how fun (and useful) it can be!

The first meeting is taking place on September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30pm at the school.

Stay up to date with PAC information by visiting the PAC tab on our school website.

## Cell Phones

While the School Code of Conduct provides important information regarding a number of areas, I want to draw your attention specifically to the section titled, Personal Digital Devices (aka cell phones):

The Ministry of Education and Child Care has amended the *Provincial Standards for Codes of Conduct Order*, effective July 1, 2024. As such, the following restrictions on personal digital devices (defined as any personal electronic device that can be used to communicate or to access the internet such as a cell phone or tablet) are now in place at Edith McDermott Elementary School.

- Students are not allowed to access or use a personal digital device during hours of instruction, at EME that is 8:30am-2:20pm Monday-Friday, unless explicitly given permission by a teacher or administrator.
- Students may use a school district provided personal digital device for instructional purposes and/or digital literacy, appropriate to their age and developmental stage, when authorized by a teacher or administrator.
- Students may be given explicit permission by a teacher or administrator to use a personal digital device for accessibility and/or accommodation needs, medical and/or health needs, and/or in order to provide equity to support learning outcomes.
- Students who possess a personal digital device at school must keep it stored out of sight at all times (not on their person) or submit it to their teacher or to the Main Office for storage during instructional hours.

At EME, we recognize the impact unsupervised access to technology can have on childhood brain development, mental health, social development, and we value the importance of focus on learning during instructional hours. We appreciate your cooperation in ensuring your child's education is not negatively impacted by the use of personal digital devices.

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# Parent/Guardian Information

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## School Parking Lot

In order to ensure the safety of everyone, the school parking lot is closed during drop-off and pick-up times. Only daycare busses and drivers with valid accessible parking decals will be permitted in the parking lot during those times. We encourage families to walk or ride bikes/scooters to school. This will help diminish traffic issues and lessen our environmental impact. Thank you for your continued support.



## Cedars Wear

If you would like to purchase school spirit wear, ordering will be open until October 1<sup>st</sup> through the following site:  
<https://edithmcdermottelementaryspiritwearfall2025.itemorder.com/>

Get your orders in and show your school pride!

## Class Placement

Class lists have been created with great care, taking into account learning needs, social-emotional growth, and peer connections. Our classes are now at or near capacity, so changes to placements will not be made.

We know the start of a new year can bring nerves and uncertainty, and it's important that we help our children by modeling patience and resilience. Please give your child time to settle into their new class. If, after September 19, your child is still struggling and you've already spoken with their teacher, you are welcome to contact the office.

## Upcoming Events

Sept. 2 - Schools Opening Day for Students  
Sept. 25 - Individual Student Photos  
Sept. 25 - Open House/PAC BBQ 5-6pm  
Sept. 26 - Terry Fox Run  
Sept. 30 - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (**NO SCHOOL**)  
Oct. 10 - Non-Instructional Day (**NO SCHOOL**)  
Oct. 13 - Thanksgiving (**NO SCHOOL**)  
Oct. 15 - Photo Retakes  
Oct. 17 - Halloween Dance (PAC Event)  
Oct. 24 - Non-Instructional Day (**NO SCHOOL**)  
Oct. 31 - Halloween Parade