

# McLeod Elementary

## October 2023

### Character Theme for the Month of October:

#### Expressing Gratitude (Thankfulness)

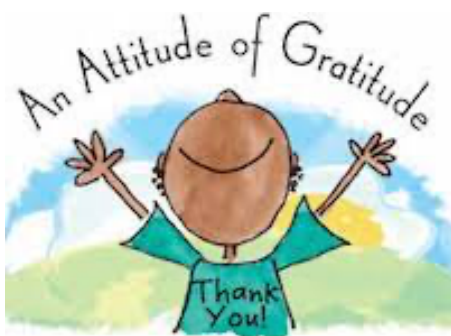
“Just say, ‘Thank you.’” How many times do children hear – and parents and caregivers say – that phrase? With the holiday season fresh in our memories, it might be time to make a resolution to teach your young children an “attitude of gratitude” rather than to just respond to your prompts and reminders to say “thank you”.

Gratitude is one piece of the character trait of being *caring* and is more than the cursory “thank you.” Real thankfulness requires thought, energy and more than just doing the right thing. Thankfulness impacts the giver as well as the receiver. Forcing a child to say “thank you” doesn’t teach the child to think about what they are thankful for and why. Teaching and learning real gratitude takes time and repeated modeling by adults.

Thankfulness begins when we are able to recognize and point out small things that make us thankful. Adults can model the behavior through daily words and actions:

- “I’m so thankful for the sunshine that warms me inside and out.”
- “Isn’t it nice when grandma watches the baby so you and I have extra time to cuddle together?”
- “Dad works so hard. Why don’t we make a special meal to show him how much we appreciate him?”

We teach children how to be grateful when we express our own gratitude openly and model thankfulness through our actions.



McLeod will host a book fair again this year. It will be set up in the library **November 14–November 17**.

Parents/Guardians and family members are welcome to come look at our book fair as well. The book fair will be available to students during their library time, recess, lunch and after school.

### Important Dates

**Friday, October 13** – Wear Fall Colours (yellow, orange, red, green, brown)

**Monday, October 16** – Fall coloring contest starts

**Friday, October 20** – NID (no school for students)

**Monday October 23** – Fall coloring contest is due

**Friday, October 27** – Fall Olympics (afternoon details to follow)

**Tuesday, October 31** – Hallowe’en (afternoon parade and class activities)

**Tuesday, November 7** – 2:45 PAC Meeting at the school

**Tuesday, November 7** – Crazy hat day

**Friday, November 10** – 10:45 McLeod Elementary Remembrance Day Assembly

**Monday, November 13** – STAT public holiday following Remembrance Day

**Tuesday, November 14– November 17**- Book fair in the library

**Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, and Thursday**

**November 16<sup>th</sup>** - Parent/Teacher interviews. Early dismissal (1:38pm)

**Tuesday, November 21<sup>st</sup>** - Dress Fancy Day

**Monday, November 27**– NID (no school for students)

Picture day was October 10<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to Lissaloo Photography for coming out. If you require retakes or your child missed photo day, please contact Allyssa at Lissaloo Photography, 250-219-3051 or [lissaloo photography@gmail.com](mailto:lissaloo photography@gmail.com).

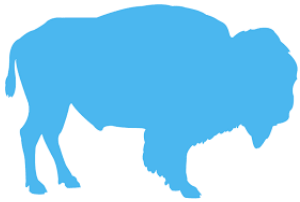
Picture order forms and payment are due October 17<sup>th</sup>. If forms are late you will have to pay shipping for pictures you want to order.

### Nightly Reading Incentive

Please, continue reading and recording each night. Our contest will wrap at the end of the month. Prizes include a pizza reward for our winning house team. Please, check with Mrs. Mooring for reward details.

Our school leadership team has been working hard coming up with fun, school spirit days for our school. Each time students participate they will receive points towards their house teams. We encourage everyone to participate and have fun with it!

Our first whole school event will be the Fall Olympics. Leadership is hard at work planning this fun afternoon for Friday October 27<sup>th</sup>.



### House Teams

The leadership students have created four new house teams, they are: **Red Roosters, Blue Bisons, Black Angus and the Purple Mustangs**. Check with your child(ren) and see which team they are on. When we have special theme dress days or contests like our current reading incentive, students will be earning points for their house teams.

### **Hallowe'en**

Tuesday, October 31 is Hallowe'en this year. We will be having a low-key celebration. We ask that costumes come to school with students, and we will put them on for the afternoon. Mrs. Dueck can assist with any extra help students who might need. Please let her know if your child requires extra help. Teachers will be letting you know about classroom plans for the day and how each class will be handling snacks at school. Look forward to announcements from the classrooms soon. Please save intricate face painting make up to the evening activities.

### **Gwillim**

Mr. Leroux and Mrs. Dueck have booked a date for the Grade 4-7 students to go to Gwillim again this year! The Gwillim trip will be May 13 - 15, 2024. In order to take the students, we will require parents to help chaperon. If you are able to volunteer, please contact Mr. Leroux or Mrs. Dueck. We do require PIC and volunteer forms approved before the trip.

### **FSA - Foundation Skills Assessment**

Each year, students in grade 4, 7, and 10 in all BC schools are involved in Foundation Skills Assessments. At one time these tests came later in the school year. In recent years, these tests have been moved to October and November. They are designed to assess learning gains from the previous years leading up to the testing. Used constructively, the tests can indicate to us how curriculum is impacting our students and can give us a snapshot of how students are doing at that point in time. Our window is open for these tests right now.

### **Thank You for Your Support!**

Thank you for supporting your children in various school fundraisers. Thank you to everyone who has supported the apple fundraiser. Pick up times are still being sorted out. It is looking like Thursday October 19<sup>th</sup>, they will arrive at the school. More information on pick up times will be sent out asap. Extra apples will be available for sale at the Shell Open House.

### **Fire and Safety Drills**

On Tuesday, October 17 at 12:00 we will be having our second fire drill. Another drill that we will be participating in the near future will be the Great BC Shakeout Drill for earthquake preparedness (Thursday, October 19). On Thursday, November 2 at 1:00 we will be having our third fire drill.

**Shell Open House October 19<sup>th</sup> from 5:00pm – 9:00pm**, all members of our school and our community are invited to this event.

The Shell open house is a McLeod PAC fundraiser. If you are able to help with meal prep or dishes. Please contact Chantel 250 219 1823

Our next PAC meeting will be: Tuesday, November 7 @2:45pm

## Volleyball

GO WILDCATS!!

Our season is beginning well and when you receive this newsletter our team will already have traveled for our first 'away game'. Thanks to Jamie Jans, Jessica Smith, and Amanda Thola for coaching our team. Thank you to parents and caregivers for supporting our students through the season. The district volleyball league is starting up now and we will have our first game October 11<sup>th</sup>. The games are on Wednesdays at 3:15.

We will be looking for parents to support the after-school home and away games. We will need drivers, warm-up helpers, and spectators.

For drivers, we will be looking for a driver's abstract, winter, or all-season tires, and \$2 million liability for insurance to transport children other than your own.

How to get your driver's abstract:

All driver's abstracts are provided free of charge.

1. Visit any ICBC driver licensing office.
2. Bring your driver's licence and one other piece of required ID.
3. By phone: 1-800-663-3051.
4. Please have your driver's licence number ready when you call.
5. Get your driver's record online:
6. <https://www.icbc.com/driver-licensing/getting-licensed/Pages/Your-driving-record.aspx>

As well, if you wish to supervise and help, we will need the RCMP volunteer check forms filed beforehand.

### Parent Volunteers

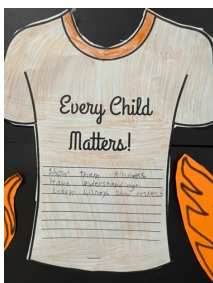
We can begin to have parent volunteers for a variety of activities. We are beginning slowly and want to properly have all our requirements in order. In order to accompany the class on field trips and work with small groups, parents must have their RCMP information check in order. We have updated forms. Please, let us know and we will send it home for you. It is the parent's responsibility to drop it off at the RCMP station and pick it up when it is completed. It then can be delivered to the School District Office or to the school. There is no charge for completing these school volunteer forms. It can take up to a couple of weeks so it is good to get them in ahead of field trips and sports activities.

### Parent/Teacher interviews are on

**November 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>**. These days will be early 1 hour dismissal for all students (1:38pm). For this term parents will meet with teachers at the school to discuss progress of their child. Please book your parent/teacher interview using the link below. If you need help booking, please contact Jamie at the office.

<https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/McLeodElementaryParentTeacherInterviews@d59bccca.onmicrosoft.com/bookings/>

Students are expected to **wear indoor shoes at all times**. Should we need to evacuate for an emergency, students would be best prepared. Movement in the gymnasium and hallways is safer with shoes on. **Non-marking soles are best.**



Show kindness, have understanding, learn history and show respect

