

McLeod Elementary

October 2025



Thank you for all your support in fundraising for The Terry Fox Foundation and thank you for coming out and joining our school in the Terry Fox run.
We raised \$453.25!

Apple Orders

Thank you for supporting our school's recent fundraiser through Davison Orchards. We sold 525 cases and raised \$ 7586 for our school and playground! Good job everyone!

Pick up times are:

McLeod School - Friday October 17th 3:00pm-6:30pm

Dawson Creek DC Cattle Barn - Monday October 20th 4:00pm - 6:00pm

There are a few extra boxes. If you would like more, please contact Mrs. Doornbos.

If you submitted an order form for school pictures, you will receive an email from Lissaloo photography. The email will display a proof of your child's pictures. We haven't heard of a delivery date for the pictures ordered, but hopefully they will arrive soon.

Important Dates

October 8th - October 10th - Grade 4-7 Gwillim Trip

October 9th - Earth Rangers Presentation (K-3)

October 13th - Thanksgiving STAT No school

October 14th - 17th - Wayne Lariviere Art

October 14th - Fall Coloring Contest Starts

October 14th - PAC Meeting 2:45pm

October 21st - Wear your Favorite Color Day

October 27th - NID No School

October 28th - NID No School

October 29th - Pajama Day

October 31st - Halloween

If you haven't already, please send back your child's 'start of the year forms'. This is important for us to have updated and/ or correct contact information at the school. Also, a friendly reminder if you haven't already submitted, school fees are \$40 per student. Thank you!

School Volunteers

A great big thank you to our McLeod volunteers! Without your leadership and volunteer spirit, many things would not be the same. Some activities might not happen for our students. We have had some questions regarding our process for volunteering: School staff invite volunteers to join us.

School District #59 has requirements and a process for all parent volunteers, especially given that it is an overnight trip.

We require that volunteers for Gwillim, for example:

- have a current PIC (RCMP check) on file with SD#59
- attend our information sessions
- sign a volunteer agreement form

All volunteers for any field trip to school activity or multi-school activity (ie. Agricultural Safety Day, Gwillim Lake camping) must follow these agreements and requirements.

Our school volunteers support us as the best role models for all our students. These adult volunteers are ultimately chosen and asked by principal and teachers to help.

It is not acceptable for parents to announce to us they are coming as volunteers without these requirements, especially under short notice.



Thank you to all our volunteers who assisted with our Gwillim trip. It was a great success, and we are looking forward to the next one.

Seesaw Invitations Coming Soon

Seesaw is a digital portfolio app that allows parents to view and interact with their child's schoolwork. Parents can see student posts, send private messages to teachers, and receive class announcements. The Family App connects parents to their child's learning, with features like real-time updates, two-way communication, and language translation for messages. To get started, families must receive an invitation from their child's teacher, which can be sent via email, text, or QR code.

How to get started

- **Accept the invitation:**
Your child's teacher will send an invitation to join the Seesaw Family App. This can come via paper, email, text, or QR code.
- **Download the app:**
Download the free [Seesaw Family app](#) on your mobile device.
- **Log in:**
Use the code or link from the invitation to connect to your child's account.
- **For students:**
Students log in using a different code to create their own posts and complete activities.

How parents can use the app

- **View student work:**
Your home feed will show recent, teacher-approved posts from your child's journal. You can also see all their work in the journal tab, organized by class.
- **Interact with posts:**
If the teacher allows, you can add comments and "likes" to your child's posts to encourage them.
- **Communicate with teachers:**
Use the messaging feature to send private messages to your child's teacher or respond to class-wide announcements.
- **Attach files:**
You can add attachments to your messages, like photos of your child's work at home.
- **Translate messages:**
The app has a built-in translation tool to help with communication if your device is not in English.

Key features for families

- Real-time updates:** See what your child is learning and doing in school as it happens.
- Two-way communication:** Easily communicate with your child's teacher in a secure environment.
- Progress tracking:** View a child's progress over time by looking at their journal entries across different classes.
- Multi-family member support:** Up to 10 family members can connect to a child's journal.

To learn more, you can watch this [YouTube video](#) that explains how parents can engage with their child's learning on Seesaw. For more information, visit the [Seesaw Help Center](#) or [Seesaw's official website](#).



K/1 Murphy ‘s Pumpkin Patch Field Trip

A big thank you to the Landry Women’s Institute for your donation towards our Pumpkin Patch field trip. The kids had a lot of fun!



Hallowe'en

Friday, October 31st 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. After lunch we will have a costume parade into the gym, families are welcome to come and watch. 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.

Book Fair

We will be hosting a book fair at McLeod November 17th - November 21st! We are looking for parent volunteers to help supervise the book fair during parent teacher conferences. If you are able to help, please contact Mrs. Doornbos, Mrs. Dueck, or Mrs. Jans. Students will be able to access the book fair during library times, recess, lunch, and after school accompanied by a parent.

Parent/Teacher Conferences:

Parent/Teacher Conferences will take place on November 19th & 20th. Students will be dismissed 1 hour early (1:40pm) on both days. **Please make sure you book your parent teacher interview either online or phone the school on a Tuesday or Thursday.** A link will be on our school website as well.

<https://outlook.office.com/book/McLeodElementaryParentTeacherInterviews@sd59bccca.onmicrosoft.com/?ismsaljsauthenabed>

There is a link on our website to the booking page. If you need help, please contact Jamie at the office either by email jjans@sd59.bca.ca or 250-843-7374 or 250-784-8022.

Foundation Skills Assessment

The Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) is an annual assessment of students' literacy and numeracy skills. FSA is B.C.'s earliest provincial indicator of student performance and provides strong evidence of future student achievement. The FSA is the first time a student writes a provincial assessment.

The purpose of the FSA is to:

- Provide system level information on student performance
- Provide districts and schools with information on student performance.
- Support decision making (interventions, planning, resource allocation, curriculum, policy, research).

The assessments will be completed by the time of our Parent Interviews.

VTRA and Fair Notice Statement

VTRA stands for Violence Threat Risk Assessment, and a "Fair Notice" is a document or communication provided by a school or school district to parents and the community about their VTRA protocol. The purpose is to inform them that the school takes all threats seriously, how they are investigated by a multidisciplinary team (including school and community partners like law enforcement), and how this process is used to ensure a safe school environment for everyone.

What is a VTRA?

Purpose:

To assess and manage threats of violence to ensure a safe and caring school environment for students, staff, and parents.

Process:

It involves a multi-disciplinary team, which may include school administrators, counselors, psychologists, and law enforcement.

Goal:

To determine the risk posed by a threat, develop an intervention plan, and connect students with appropriate support services.

What is the "Fair Notice"?

Definition:

A communication to parents and the community explaining the school's VTRA protocol.

Duty to Report:

It stresses that all threats must be reported to school administration.

Examples of threats:

These can include verbal, written, or online threats to harm or kill others, possession of weapons, or bomb threats.

Safety focus:

The notice emphasizes that while the process respects individual rights to privacy, the primary goal is the safety of all.

Participation:

Parents are encouraged to participate, but the VTRA process will proceed if necessary to ensure safety, even if a parent is unreachable or unwilling to participate.

For a more comprehensive look at the VTRA process, you can refer to official documents from educational and governmental bodies. For example, you can find detailed information on the [Catholic Independent Schools of Vancouver Archdiocese website](#) and on the [Coast Mountains School District website](#). For parents who wish to report a threat, many districts provide resources like the Erase Report It tool to send anonymous, confidential messages to the school. You can also find resources from the [Peace River South website](#) on their VTRA and "Fair Notice" initiatives.

Library News

Congratulations to our bookmark winners!

| | <u>Ms. Nina's Class</u> | <u>Mrs. Dueck/Mr. Leroux</u> | <u>Mrs. Doornbos</u> |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 st place - | Lillian | Otto | Elloisa |
| 2 nd place - | Elsie/Rownynn/Elizabeth | Nash/Rhett | Kynlee |
| 3 rd place - | - | - | Zeke |



Congratulations to our honourable mentions:

Mike
Kolt
Joey
Liam
Lincoln