

Principal: Nancy Arniotis

School Secretary: Michelle Forgues

October 2008 Newsletter # 3

October 22, 2008

### SHORT NOTES

"When you solve the little problems then you don't have big problems".

-Robert, Grade 2

### RIDDLES.....

What do frogs drink?



A croak a cola

Which bird likes to eat sawdust?



A woodpecker!

#### 1. Marilyn McKee Robichaud

The staff at McDowell School extends deepest sympathy to the McKee/Robicheau families in the sudden passing of Marilyn last month. She was a dedicated teacher who worked here as an aide during the past few years. No doubt, the staff and students with whom she worked will miss her caring ways.

#### 2. NEW STAFF MEMBER

Welcome to Lisa Broadway, our new cycle II, year 2 teacher. It won't take long for her to realize that she's working with great children, a great staff in a great community.

#### 3. FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Ipods, MP3s, and technological games are not allowed on the playground. While the students might use these on the bus, they must be kept in their schoolbags while at school.

#### 4. POP TAB COLLECTION

We are joining the many Pontiac establishments collecting tabs from aluminum cans for the Clifford Bowie School. The money raised is spent to buy special equipment for handicapped students. Send them in with your child to be deposited in the plastic bottles placed around the school.

#### 5. PHOTOS

Once you received your proofs, the deadline date for return to the school along with your payment is October 31, 2008.

#### RETAKES - November 18, 2008

K  
Class group photos in Cycle II and III as well as Pre-K will be taken on this day. We wanted to wait until after the school re-organization.

#### 6. PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

These will take place on Tuesday evening, November 18<sup>th</sup> and all day Wednesday November 19<sup>th</sup>.

More information to follow.

#### 7. SOCCER

Two teams will represent McDowell at the Western Quebec Soccer Tournament at Onslow School on October 30<sup>th</sup>.

**BE SAFE ON HALLOWEEN NIGHT**

**Share Halloween with younger children.**

An adult should always walk with younger children while they go through your neighborhoods trick-or-treating.

**Send Kids in groups on Halloween night.**

Groups of children are always better than one or two going by themselves. This allows for better security and creates a lot more fun for the kids.

**Stay outside of houses on Halloween.**

Talk to your kids before they leave your house. Tell them, under no circumstance, should they enter anyone's house. If the resident will not give the children treats while they are outside then leave immediately. There are more treats next door.

**Reflective Halloween costumes.**

Costumes need to be bright colors or have some sort of reflective material incorporated into them. This is for their safety. Flashlights are great but the tendency is to not have them on at all times. Reflective materials will always be on.

**Halloween Masks.**

Masks are not the best part of the costume. If the mask can stay home that is best. If it needs to be worn ensure that the eye holes are properly fitted so everything can be seen.



**8. GEORDIE PRODUCTIONS**

Just a reminder that "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" will be presented November 4<sup>th</sup>. Please send \$3.00 to offset the cost, if you haven't done so already.

**9. SCHOOL FEES**

A gentle reminder to please make arrangements with Michelle, our school secretary, regarding the payment of school fees. Please take into consideration the fact that the majority of school fees goes towards paying the noon hour supervisors' salaries.

**10. CLOTHING**

To keep your child safe and comfortable when outside, please ensure that he/she comes to school dressed for the weather.

**11. NATIONAL GALLERY PRESENTATION**

Over the past couple of weeks, Marian McGahern, a National Gallery volunteer, has visited all classes to share reproductions of Canadian, American and European paintings. Great discussions were generated about these pieces of art and the students showed a genuine interest. The National Gallery does offer wonderful family workshops. For more information, please visit [www.nationalgalleryofcanada](http://www.nationalgalleryofcanada).

**12. CELEBRATION**

On Thursday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, McDowell Staff is presenting a Halloween play entitled "There's a Werewolf in Shawville" for the student population. Our goal, other than "having a blast" is to raise money for the UNICEF Campaign. Perhaps, parents, you could give your child permission to dip into their piggy banks, as we will be accepting good will offerings as an entrance fee.

**13. HALLOWEEN CANDY ALERT**

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency has issued this warning "Sherwood Brands Pirate's Gold Milk Chocolate Coins may be Contaminated with Melamine" for more information, please visit the Government of Canada's Website at

<http://news.gc.ca/web/view/en/index.jsp?articleid=421359>

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

October 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2008	P.D. Day
November 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2008	The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe
November 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2008	Individual Photo Retakes/Class photos
November 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2008	Parent Teacher Interviews
November 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2008	P.D. Day/Parent Teacher Interviews
November 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2008	P.D. Day/Teachers' Convention
November 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2008	P.D. Day/Teachers' Convention

**DR. S.E. McDowell Elementary Vision Statement**

*"Through teamwork, collaboration, and cooperation the school community strives to create a safe and caring learning environment. Our goal is to ensure that each individual develops as a life-long learner."*