

Principal: Nancy Arniotis

School Secretary: Michelle Forgues

September 2008 Newsletter # 1

September 23, 2008

SHORT NOTES

Internet Safety



Helpful hints to keep your child safe from internet predators.

Place the computer in a common area rather than in the child's bedroom. In order to ensure your child's safety, monitor his on-line activities.

Teach your child to never give out his password to anyone other than his parents or guardian.

Learn to identify the people with whom your child is communicating on the internet. Monitor his activities in discussion groups and while exchanging e-mails. Make sure he uses a screen name that does not reveal his true identity.

Install parental control software in order to limit your child's access to inappropriate material. Keep in mind that using filtering software and/or hardware can help block a great deal of inappropriate materials or sites, but it is not 100% fool-proof and is no substitute for good parental involvement.

1. School fees for 2008-2009

Thanks to all parents who have paid school fees. If school fees are still outstanding, could you please make arrangements with Michelle Forgues, our school secretary.

Please note that noon hour supervision fee may change if your child is registered in daycare, minimum 3 days a week.

Math workbook will be invoiced at a later date.

2. School safety

It is very important that all parents and visitors report to the office (even if we know you). There should be no adult (other than school staff) walking the halls without a visitor/volunteer badge.

3. School Photos

LifeTouch will be taking the school photos this year on October 15th, 2008 with retakes on November 14th, 2008.

4. Asking for help

Our secretary is a very busy person and the fewer times she needs to deliver messages to the classroom, the better. The teaching and learning in the classroom will also not be interrupted by a phone call. (Taking care of all these little, but important things is very time-consuming.)

Please send what your child needs for school in the morning including notes, lunches and money.

5. Be on time!

Punctuality is a social skill we all need to have. Please show your child that this is important and have him/her be on time for school.

6. Crossing guards

Centre Street is a very busy thorough way. At the moment students are crossing unsupervised. Perhaps you could volunteer your time either in the morning before school or after school for 15 minutes.

Did you know...

If you could weigh all the water that falls on a single acre of land during one inch of rainfall, it would weigh 113 tons -- that is 226,000 pounds. The amount of water on earth has remained the same since the planet was created some 4,500 million years ago.

Without clouds and other constituents of the earth's atmosphere, the surface of our planet would reach a temperature of 176 degree centigrade at the equator by day and 220 degree centigrade by night!



Ninety-six per cent of salt water is pure water. There is 3 per cent common salt in it. The remaining one per cent is made up of more than 80 elements, including sulphate, magnesium, bromide, calcium, potassium, strontium, boron, fluoride and gold. Some seas have more salt than others.

7. Geordie Productions

The Montreal Theatre Group will present "The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe" on November 4th, 2008. We are requesting \$3 contribution from each student to offset the fee for this event.

8. McDowell Yearbook 08/09

Jee-Eun Murray has agreed to work on our yearbook again this year. She would, however, need some other parents to help. Please phone the school if you are interested and we will inform her.

9. McDowell Governing Board

Parent Representation: Vaughn Bastian and Heather Duggan will fulfill their terms with one year remaining. Doug Besharah, Gillian Barry and Kerry Reasbeck are newly elected for a two-year term.

Staff Representation: Julie Tubman and Mavis Palmer will represent the support staff; Barbara Haughton, Darren McCready and Nancy Tubman will represent the teachers.

10. Bullying's Not Kool, originated by the Canadian Half Pints, is a compelling presentation for students of all ages. It focuses on how people judge others and on how to recognize and avoid teasing.

The Canadian Half Pints will be at McDowell on September 30th and we ask that each student contribute \$2 to offset the cost of this performance.

11. Daycare

A before and after school program is available with rates starting at \$7 per day. As well P.D. day spots can be booked in advanced. For more information, please contact Mavis Palmer at 819-647-3911.

Sincerely,

Nancy Arniotis
Principal

DATES TO REMEMBER

September 30 th	Canadian Half Pints Presentation
October 2 nd and 3 rd	P.D. Days
October 8 th	Football Tournament
October 9 th and 10 th	Bus Safety Program
October 15 th	Photo Day
October 31 st	P.D. Day

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."