Welcome back to all our returning families and a special welcome to the new families that have joined our Janet I. McDougald community this fall. Our staff is looking forward to a wonderful school year working together with you and your children. I am thrilled to be joining your team and I'm looking forward to all the adventures ahead of us. It is a time of new beginnings for all of us whether you are new to Janet I. McDougald or your child is moving into a new grade, with a new teacher, in a new room.

We would like to welcome the following new staff to our team:

- Ms. Gupta—Kindergarten
- Ms. Dietz—Kindergarten
- Mr. Simpson—Grade 2
- Ms. Araujo—Teaching Assistant
- Ms. Khan—Teaching Assistant

Our mission continues to be “Teaching and Learning Together.” Our school has many traditions that we will continue to honour including our upcoming Terry Fox walk. We will also continue to emphasize the importance of values and character education including the Peel Attributes and our work being “bucket fillers”.

Last week, we welcomed new kindergarten students into our building to see their rooms and meet their teachers. As those young students skipped into our building, or hid behind their parents, it reinforced to us the important role we all have to make our school a welcoming place for all students where they feel included, respected, safe and engaged.

Painter Vincent Van Gogh said, “Great things are done by a series of small things brought together.” We look forward to working with you to achieve great things for our students and families to build success, confidence and hope. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call the school or drop by the office.

Proud Principal,
Mrs. L. Culbert

Safe Arrival/Absences/Lates
Please call 905-278-1010 if your child is going to be absent or late!
Open House

Come and meet your child’s teachers on Thursday, October 2nd at our Open House! We are looking forward to meeting you then! Stay tuned for more information about our welcoming event.

Information about Lunchtime

Lunchtime supervision is provided for students who cannot go home for lunch. Students who eat lunch at school spend the first 20 minutes of the lunch hour eating and then go outside. To ensure that they have enough time to eat, students should bring their lunch with them when they come to school. Please do not drop off lunches. Parents can help their child to develop good habits by helping them to pack their backpack with everything they will need for the day: lunch, agenda, homework, etc. Should you ever need to drop off a lunch, you will need to use the buzzer to enter the school, leave the labelled lunch on the table in the hall and your child will pick it up independently. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

*** We need Lunchroom Supervisors at Janet McDougald P. S.! ****
If you are interested in assisting with this, please drop by the office to see Mrs. Murphy.

JANET MCDougALD COMMUNICATION: Agendas & Newsletters

Our Agenda is an excellent tool for communication between the school and you. Please check the agenda daily for current assignments or notes from the teacher and please use the agenda for your notes to the teacher too! There are several important papers at the beginning of the agenda that need to be completed and returned by Friday, September 5, 2014.

Our school monthly newsletter will be sent home the first Wednesday of every month. After the first few months we will move to paperless communication. Newsletters will be posted on our website and can be e-mailed to you once we have your permission. Please complete the form that was sent home regarding e-mail communication or visit our website to subscribe and complete your contact information.

KISS & RIDE

Please drive slowly through the Kiss and Ride lane and enter the driveway, along the fence and stop as directed by the staff on duty. Your child should come out of the car on the passenger side independently. The teacher will supervise your child’s exit from your car and entry onto the school yard. Please do not drive or park in the kiss and ride area or the bus lane and be respectful of the areas that are blocked off by pylons. Students who are walking to school should walk along the sidewalks until they reach the crosswalk and cross the driveway with the supervision of the person on duty.

At dismissal time, you can pick up your child along the fence in Kiss and Ride area. Once your child is in your vehicle, please move to the thru lane in order to exit the driveway. To ensure your child’s safety, s/he should only be picked up from the Kiss and Ride lane.

YARD SUPERVISION

Please be aware that our morning yard supervision begins at 8:45 a.m. To ensure your child’s safety, please do not allow your child to come to school before 8:45 a.m. We sincerely appreciate your cooperation in ensuring that all of our students are always safe!
Volunteers

Volunteers are always welcome at Janet McDougald P. S. If you can give your time to help our students and teachers, please consider volunteering. Please check with the Office to get the required Criminal Reference Check form, so that you can be ready for this opportunity. There is no charge for a Criminal Reference Check. **Please be prepared—Criminal Reference Checks are needed to participate on class trips!**

School Council

We encourage all of you to become a School Council Parent Representative so that you can assist us in the important task of representing the values and priorities of the parent community through an inclusive partnership between home and school. Our first School Council meeting will take place on **Thursday, September 30 at 6:30 p.m.** All parents are welcome at every school council meeting and babysitting is provided.

Please come in to the office to complete a nomination form if you are interested in a position, and return it by September 12, 2014.

NOTES FROM THE LIBRARY

**Book Borrowing:**

Students are encouraged to borrow books from the Janet McDougald P.S. library on a regular basis. Kindergarten students will have a weekly library exchange period, while students in Gr. 1-5 will have the opportunity to exchange books EVERY school day!

- **K – Gr. 2:** One book at a time
- **Gr. 3 – 5:** Two books at a time

Books may be borrowed for a maximum of two weeks.

**Volunteer's Needed:**

We are, once again, looking for volunteers for our classroom reading program. If you are interested in helping students practice reading and are able to volunteer one half-day a week on a regular basis, we would love to hear from you. Training will be provided before the program begins.

We also need your help in our Library Resource Centre! Areas where you could assist include: circulation, shelving, displays, preparing new resources and locating theme books.

If you are interested in either of these volunteer opportunities, please pick up a volunteer form from the office.

**Keeping our Students Safe!**

We have students at Janet McDougald P. S. who have peanut allergies. **Please do not send peanut or nut products to school.** Remind your children that they should not share snacks or food products as there may be a possibility of a nut product or by product. To ensure the safety of our students, please do not bring in food items to celebrate birthdays. Some alternate suggestions include pencils for the class, a book donation for the room, etc. Thank you for your cooperation in this very important matter.

**Medication**

In order for your child to take any type of medication at school, a Medical Form must be completed by your child's doctor and returned to the office. Forms are available on-line and in the office. All medication must be stored in the office with the exception of epi-pens that students wear in a pouch on their person.
Celebrating Faith and Culture September 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>CELEBRATION</th>
<th>FAITH AND CULTURE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>Genuuqwilkw</td>
<td>Aboriginal Spirituality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 1</td>
<td>Installation of Guru Granth Sahib</td>
<td>Sikhism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 1</td>
<td>Labour Day</td>
<td>Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 5</td>
<td>Farvardegan</td>
<td>Zoroastrianism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 8 to 26</td>
<td>the month of `Izzat</td>
<td>Bahá’í</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 7 or 8</td>
<td>Anant Chaturdashi</td>
<td>Hinduism and Jainism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 9</td>
<td>Kshamavani</td>
<td>Jainism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 11</td>
<td>Nayrouz</td>
<td>Christianity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 12 to 16</td>
<td>Ghambar Paitishahem</td>
<td>Zoroastrianism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 19</td>
<td>Powley Day</td>
<td>Aboriginal Spirituality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 22</td>
<td>Shuki-Sorei-Sai</td>
<td>Shinto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 23</td>
<td>Mabon /Harvestide</td>
<td>Wicca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunset September 24 to 26</td>
<td>Rosh Hashanah</td>
<td>Judaism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 24</td>
<td>Sharad Navratri</td>
<td>Hinduism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 27 to October 14</td>
<td>the month of Mashi'yyat</td>
<td>Bahá’í</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

September Reorganization

During the first few weeks of September, Peel schools analyze their actual enrolments to meet Ministry guidelines for class sizes and ensure fairness of staffing. If your child will be affected by the reorganization of classes, you will be notified by letter before this date and your child will begin his/her new class on September 24th. Reorganization of classes ensures that your child will have the best possible opportunities to do their best learning. The board's reorganization date (P.A. Day) for this year is Tuesday, September 23rd.

Having fun being physically active at Janet McDougald Public School!

Mrs. Joao endeavours to make the gym an active, safe and fun environment for all. Students in grades 2 to 5 are asked to come prepared for physical education classes with a change of clothes kept in a reusable gym bag that will go home regularly for laundering. Good hygiene practices will be reinforced by having students change out of their regular clothing and into a t-shirt and shorts (or sweat pants). CLEAN INDOOR running shoes with white non scuffing soles are the most important item to keep your child safe in the gym. Crocs, sandals, flip flops or any shoe that does not have a closed toe are not appropriate for the gym. Kindergarten and grade 1 students will not be changing their clothing, but are asked to come prepared with running shoes. Please have running shoes as your child’s INDOOR shoes. Don't forget to label your child’s clothing to prevent clothing mix ups. At Janet McDougald we promote good citizenship and good sportsmanship. We are looking forward to an excellent and safe school year together.

To start our year off on an exciting note for our students, we are bringing Junglesport to our gym. This is a program that is directly tied to the Physical Education curriculum and is a lot of fun! The activities promote movement skills, coordination and cooperation. Please check your child’s agenda for an information letter and parent waiver for the program. The consent form must be returned to your child’s teacher by Friday, September 5th. The cost of the program will be covered through our Pizza fundraising.
Help Prevent Lost Items & Help our School

Mabel’s Labels makes customized labels for kids’ (and adults’) stuff, including shoes, bags, containers, household stuff, allergy labels, etc. When making purchases from Mabel’s Labels, a small portion is credited back to Janet McDougald P.S. if parents, friends and family use a special link to get to the Mabel’s Labels website. Please feel free to share the link with friends and family who might be buying back to school (or any other!) labels. The link is: https://www.fundraising.com/campaigns/13196-janet-mcdougald-public-school

This campaign runs until early October. Happy labelling!

If you choose not to purchase labels for clothing/items, then please use a black permanent marker to label your child’s clothing with his/her first and last name.

Terry Fox Walk

Our annual Terry Fox walk will take place on Thursday, September 25th, 2014 in the afternoon (Sept. 26th — raindate). All students will participate in the walk around the neighbourhood to commemorate Terry Fox and to promote cancer awareness. Please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather that day and is wearing running shoes.

Transportation

Bussing Information - Bussing information and eligibility for transportation will be posted at www.stopr.ca. You will need your child’s OEN number which can be found in the top left hand corner of the Report Card. Please check your child’s bus information as there are changes from this year.

Courtesy Bussing— Information will not be available until mid October. If you would like to apply for courtesy bussing please pick up a letter in September from the office and return the completed application to the school office. Accessing this privilege will depend on grade level and seat availability at that time. There will be no information on eligibility until mid October.

Protect your kids—and your finances

Each year, many of our families spend thousands of dollars when their children are injured at school, on field trips or at home. For pennies a day, this can all be avoided.

The Peel District School Board does not provide accident insurance coverage for student injuries that occur on school property or during school activities—this includes extracurricular sports. If a student is injured, parents are responsible for any costs not covered by provincial health care or their employer's health care plan. Please check with your provider regarding your coverage.

To help protect your family, the Peel board has arranged to have student accident insurance available exclusively through Reliable Life Insurance Company. This program offers a variety of plans and benefits at affordable prices. The provincial health care system does not cover costs which are commonly related to accidents including dental work, ambulance fees, casts and crutches, and physiotherapy. All of these are covered by Reliable Life’s student accident insurance plan.

It is strongly recommended that all families consider this coverage, especially if your child participates in extracurricular activities. Annual plans, which provide 24 hours a day, 365 days a year coverage, range from $13.50 to $31.00 per year. Through the application only you can be covered for the school day only as low as $8.00 per year. Family rates for three or more children are available. The insurance agreement is between you and Reliable Life Insurance Company.

You can apply for coverage online at www.insuremykids.com. For more information call Reliable Life Insurance Company toll free at 1-800-463-KIDS (5437).