

## **RIBMS Paw Power Pride Initiative**

R. I. Baker's 'Paw Power Pride' Initiative is the school wide character education program at our school. It has evolved from a 'star' program to the 'Paw' program as the paw is a more fitting representation of our school, and our mascot, the Bear. It includes three underlying concepts, posted in each learning area of the school:

1. Respect for self
2. Respect for others
3. Respect for the building.

The initiative is meant as a venue to discuss the character trait of the week. This trait is then printed on a large 'bear' paw which are posted on the drama doors in the foyer. When students exhibit any random act of kindness or the actual character trait of the week, then a staff member writes the student's name on a smaller paw. Administrators then choose at least 4 paws a week, one from each grade, and make a happy-gram telephone call home to inform parents that their child was 'caught' doing a good deed.

Also included in this program is a sense of respect for the building. Each month, students have the opportunity to earn a certain amount of money, if the building experiences no more than normal wear and tear. At the end of the year, students have a voice in how they want to spend the money earned. Previous events have included a school-wide swimming day in Lethbridge.