



Friday, January 28, 2022

Principal's Message:

Literacy week at McKenzie was a success! Although our format has changed in the last two years, we have been able to have a fun focus on building reading and writing skills to

enhance literacy learning. This week, we played word games, had guest readers, participated in a whole school ZOOM assembly with Mrs. Snow reading a book to the students, did read alouds, shared oral language stories, explored poetry, and many more literacy based learning activities. On Wednesday, we saw many students and staff dress as book characters which is always a highlight of the week. We have a



goal of students collectively reading 24,000 minutes while in school this week and because it was a short week for students, we will have Monday to collect the last few minutes of reading. When we reach the goal, the administration will engage in some funny quirky activity. Some suggestions so far have been: sing everything for a whole day, have a real snake on our shoulders, dress up like the Teletubbies, give students an extra recess, hold a tarantula and let it crawl on us, etc. Some great and nerve wracking suggestions! Stay tuned to find out what we will do!

We continue to monitor the COVID-19 and illness situation at McKenzie. We appreciate when families keep students home due to any kind of illness. This variant can look very much like a flu or cold, with students showing symptoms such as vomiting, diarrhea, runny nose, sore throat and headache. The BCCDC lists the following as symptoms to watch for:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Runny nose
- Sneezing
- Extreme fatigue / tiredness
- headache
- Body aches
- Nausea / vomiting
- Loss of appetite
- Loss of sense of smell or taste
- Difficulty breathing

At this time we are definitely seeing an increase in absenteeism due to illness in both students and staff. We will do our best to ensure we have enough staff to safely run the school. Please continue to check your email regularly and check our website for updates.

Mark your calendar!

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
31 Div.1 to Chinatown	Feb 1	2	3	4

Dates to Note:

- Feb. 7-11 Grade 1-12 Registration and Transfer Week
- Feb. 9 PAC Meeting
 - Feb. 9 Div.1 field trip to HCP
 - Feb. 11 Deadline to submit transfer requests (no later than 3:30 p.m.)
 - Feb. 11 Strong Start closed
 - Feb. 14 Pink/Red/White Day
 - Feb. 18 Pro-D Day
 - Feb. 21 Family Day Stat
 - Feb. 23 Pink Shirt Day

McKenzie Spirit and Grad Wear

Effective this coming Monday you can order McKenzie Spirit Wear!! All purchases must be made online on the Passions Sports website. Visit the following links to view your options!

Spirit Wear: https://store.passionsports.ca/McKenzie Grad Wear: https://store.passionsports.ca/McKenzie2022/shop/home

Transfer Forms

For students wishing to apply to transfer to another school within our District, application forms should be collected from the office or online starting February 7th. They must be returned to the office before 3:30 pm on Friday, February 11th. The forms are given to the District and are reviewed based on the Student Enrolment Priorities and the availability of space at the desired school. Questions? Please refer to the school district website: <u>https://www.sd61.bc.ca/registration/student-transfer-process/</u>



McKenzie School Parents Advisory



Our next PAC Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 9th at 6:30pm via ZOOM.

Please mark your calendars and use the following link to join.

https://gvsd61.zoom.us/j/64740550783?pwd=d2RSaUsva3NOZjNrZ3VGd3VBcUxyUT09



COVID-19 UPDATES:

DAILY HEALTH CHECK INFORMATION

Please visit the following link for information detailing daily health check expectations. http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/bulletin/20220121/daily-health-check---jan-2022.pdf

INFORMATION FROM BCCDC SITE

The BCCDC recently revised their self-isolation information, the following information was taken directly from the BCCDC website:

If you have mild symptoms of COVID -19 and testing is not recommended (anyone):

- 1. Stay home until you feel well enough to return to your regular activities.
- 2. Avoid non-essential high-risk settings such as long-term care facilities and individuals at higher risk for severe illness for 10 days after the start of your symptoms.

Mild symptoms are symptoms that can be managed at home.

If you are <u>fully vaccinated OR under 18 years old</u> (our students) and test positive for COVID -19:

If you tested positive and are managing your illness at home you can **end isolation when** all three of these conditions are met:

- 1. At least **5 days** have passed since your symptoms started, or from test date if you did not have symptoms.
- 2. Fever has resolved <u>without the use of fever-reducing medication</u>, such as acetaminophen or ibuprofen.
- 3. Symptoms have improved.

You should avoid non-essential visits to higher risk settings such as long term care facilities and gatherings, for another 5 days after ending isolation. Employees should follow their workplace guidance.

If you are NOT fully vaccinated and over 18 years of age (parents / staff) and test positive for COVID - 19:

If you are an adult who tested positive and you are not fully vaccinated and are managing your illness at home, **you can end isolation when all three of these conditions are met:**

- 1. At least **10 days** have passed since your symptoms started, or from the day you tested positive if you did not have symptoms.
- 2. Fever has resolved <u>without the use of fever-reducing medication</u>, such as acetaminophen or ibuprofen.
- 3. Symptoms have improved.

Fully vaccinated means you received both doses of a 2-dose series (e.g. AstraZeneca, Pfizer, or Moderna vaccine) or it has been more than 14 days since you received a single dose of a 1-dose series (e.g. Janssen/ Johnson and Johnson).

Close Contacts:

When a person tests positive for COVID-19, they become a "case". The people they have spent time with during their infectious period may be considered "close contacts." At this stage in the pandemic, <u>close contacts are not required to self-isolate or take any special measures</u>.