



McKenzie Weekly



Friday, September 23, 2022

McKenzie Elementary School wishes to recognize and acknowledge the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories, we live, we learn, we play and we do our work.


Principal’s Message:

It’s hard to believe three weeks have passed already in the new school year. Drop off and pick up seems to be working well and I thank our parents for respecting our crossing guards and the neighbour’s properties. Our parking lots get full quite quickly. The staff parking lot is not to be used for Kids Klub drop off or pick up as we have staff coming and going at various times. Please park on Margaret Street or in the spots in the lower parking lot parallel to McKenzie Avenue. Please also remember not to walk through the parking lot with your children – this poses a safety risk.

With the start of the new school year there always seems to be a surge in colds and viruses. Thank you for being diligent in keeping your children home when they are sick.

Carmen

Mark your calendar!

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Sept. 26	Sept. 27	Sept. 28	Sept. 29 Orange Shirt Day 	Sept. 30 Statutory Holiday (school closed)

DATES TO NOTE:

- Oct. 4 – World Teacher’s Day
- Oct. 10 – Thanksgiving Day (**Statutory Holiday**)
- Oct. 12 – PAC Meeting
- Oct. 14 – Photo Retakes
- Oct. 20 – Great Canadian Shake Out (earthquake drill)
- Oct. 21 – Professional Development Day (no school for students)
- Oct. 26 & 27 – Parent Teacher Interviews (12:00pm dismissal both days)

STUDENT FORMS:

Thank you to those of you who have returned the school startup forms. If you haven’t yet done so, please return them ASAP.

PARENT CONNECT:

Parent Connect is the Greater Victoria School District online service used for signing digital forms and providing consent for use of digital tools in the classroom. Please log in (or sign up if you haven’t done so already) to Parent Connect and review the consent items where action is required. Additionally, you are encouraged to review items that you have previously consented to by selecting ‘Forms’ in the menu. Consent for all forms and digital tools rolls over from year-to-year.

For additional information please visit the tech for learning site: <https://techforlearning.sd61.bc.ca/parent-student-connect/>

TOONIES FOR TERRY:

Our students did an incredible job of running laps of the school on Thursday, Sept. 22nd. We will continue to collect toonies until the end of the month. Please consider sending your child with a toonie to support this fundraiser.



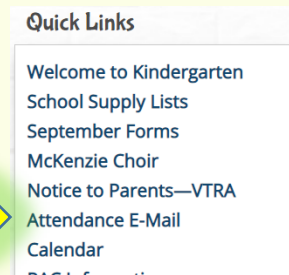
STUDENT AGENDAS:

McKenzie students should have each been given an agenda and should now be using them for daily communications and organization. We are asking families to offset the cost of these agendas by paying \$5 per child. All payments should be made by the cash online program – the link can be found on our school website.

MCKENZIE SCHOOL WEBSITE:

On the website you will find a few quick links that are very helpful! Find out more below.

Online payments. Use the link on the McKenzie Website for paying for your child's agenda book or field trips.



The office is buzzing first thing in the morning. We do the best we can to get to all the phone calls, and questions effectively. If your child will be late or absent please use the attendance link on the McKenzie Website or this email: attendance27@sd61.bc.ca. Thank you.

RESOURCES AVAILABLE:

We have a variety of funding resources available at school for families and students that may need some help with extra items for meals at school (extra breakfast food and lunches), additional groceries, covering costs of school planners, school supplies and more. We know that the rising costs of living in Victoria continues to present challenges for many in our community and we have been provided additional resources to help. If your family could use some additional support in these areas, please do not hesitate to reach out to your classroom teacher or one of us in the office

REMEMBER ... to send your child with a water bottle each day!

A change of clothes is not a bad idea either.

As the weather is starting to change, please be sure to dress your child suitably for outdoor time. Children go outside for recess and lunch play every day - regardless of what the weather is doing.



Country Grocer “Save a Tape” Program-

The PAC receives a % of all Royal Oak or Esquimalt Country Grocer receipts submitted to the Jug in front of the office in Gift Cards to use to support school events, celebrations and hampers. So save your receipts and send them to school with your Kenzie Kid. Or level up and ask friends, family, co-workers, and neighbours to save their receipts for you as well, this is a great way to support while just doing your normal shopping.



Thank you to our amazing PAC & volunteers for hosting the Family BBQ last evening!

All the food was devoured and the bouncy castle was a hit! So much fun!!!

On Saturday, October 15, 2022, voters in the capital region will vote to elect nine school trustees for a four-year term to serve on the Greater Victoria School Board.

For the first time, to help voters access information about the candidates in the upcoming General Location Election, an online School Trustee Candidate Profile Guide is being provided. Consistent with many local governments, the guide makes information more accessible to the public and informs the community about who is seeking a seat on the Board of Education.

Given the high number of candidates, the guide aims to provide candidate information in one document that is only a few clicks away for families to review. There are 30 candidates for School Trustee in this election.

Also new this year, students helped create a video to increase voter engagement and awareness about the role of a School Trustee. They lend their voices to inform voters on how and where to vote, and what documentation is required.

The School Trustee Candidate Profile Guide and student video are available on the District’s website.

Candidate Profile Guide: <https://www.sd61.bc.ca/board-of-education/trustee-elections/>

Student-led Election Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pfkbqgB2tBA&feature=youtu.be>

For advanced voting hours and locations, visit your local municipality’s website.



NATIONAL DAY OF TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION:

Orange Shirt Day is an Indigenous-led grassroots commemorative day intended to raise awareness of the individual, family and community inter-generational impacts of residential schools, and to promote the concept of “Every Child Matters”. The orange shirt is a symbol of the stripping away of culture, freedom and self-esteem experienced by Indigenous children over generations. Both the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day take place on September 30. On September 30, we encourage all Canadians to wear orange to honour the thousands of Survivors of residential schools.

For additional information and a listing of local events, please refer to the letter from our Indigenous Educational Department that is included with this newsletter.