



McKenzie Weekly



Friday, September 29, 2023

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:

We have had another busy week and find ourselves at the end of September already! Classes participated in a variety of activities in recognition of Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day throughout the week. Students and staff are working hard to learn more Indigenous culture and understand the impacts of residential schools. There are a variety of local activities that your family can take part in this weekend; the Songhees South Island Pow Wow at Royal Athletic Park being one of them.

We ended our week honouring and remembering Canadian hero Terry Fox with our annual Terry Fox Run around our school grounds. We have collected over \$220 already and we will continue to accept cash donations all next week until the Tour de Rock cyclists visit our school next Friday morning. All cash donations will be split between the Terry Fox Foundation and the Tour de Rock Foundation in support of cancer research.

We have had a few additional staffing changes over the last few weeks. We are pleased to welcome Lancy Fynn as a job share partner with Mrs. McGregor and Sydney Mattu, our new school counsellor. Unfortunately we have not had any applicants for our Strings position; therefore, we will not be able to offer strings to our grade 5 students this year.

A friendly reminder to our school community that we have two parking lots available for families off of Raymond street and parking along Margaret Street. Please remember that vehicles should not be left unattended in the drop-off / pick-up lane along the front of the school and that the upper lot is for staff parking only.

Monday is a statutory holiday for students in lieu of Truth and Reconciliation Day taking place on Saturday this year. We will see everyone back in the building on Tuesday Oct. 3. Have a wonderful weekend.

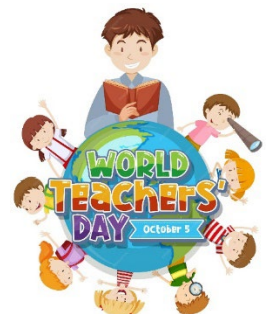
Carmen

Mark your calendar:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Oct. 2 Statutory Holiday School Closed	Oct. 3 Cross Country @ Lansdowne	Oct. 4 Strong Start Closed	Oct. 5 Popsicle Sale \$2 World Teachers Day	Oct. 6 Tour de Rock Riders visiting McKenzie

UPCOMING DATES TO NOTE:

- Oct. 9 – Statutory Holiday (Thanksgiving Day)
- Oct. 16 – Photo Retakes
- Oct. 17 – Parent Teacher Interviews (regular dismissal)
- Oct. 18 – Parent Teacher Interviews (early dismissal @ 11:50am)
- Oct. 20 – Pro-D Day (no school for students)



MCKENZIE FUNDRAISERS:

Please remember to support our fundraising efforts by sending your child with a toonie. We will be fundraising for two charitable organizations this fall – **The Terry Fox Foundation** and **Cops for Cancer**. On Friday, September 29th we ran our annual Terry Fox run around the school, on Friday, October 6 we will have the Cops for Cancer Tour de Rock team of riders coming to our school!

In past years we've collected 'Toonies For Terry' and all funds raised have gone to the Terry Fox Foundation. This year we will again be collecting, however we will split the cash donations equally between the two events. Please assist us and consider sending a toonie (or more if you wish!) to support these charities. In addition, we've placed a donation box just outside the office for cash donations.

If you would prefer to donate online, please see the following two links:

https://support.cancer.ca/site/TR/CopsforCancer/COPS_NW_even?team_id=502798&pg=team&fr_id=29021

<https://schools.terryfox.ca/McKenzieElementary>



DID YOU KNOW??

October is:

- Canadian Islamic History Month
- German Heritage Month
- Latin American Heritage Month
- LGBTQ2+ History Month
- Women's History Month



McKenzie Elementary

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School Website: <http://www.sd61.bc.ca/school/mckenzie/>

September 28, 2023

Hello McKenzie Families,

You may have heard of the **Feeding the Futures Fund** that the Ministry of Education and Child Care has allocated to 60 School Districts in British Columbia. Greater Victoria School District 61 is amongst the districts that have been allocated funds.

What is the purpose of Feeding the Futures fund?

The purpose of this fund is to invest in building and expanding local school food programs over time (months, years) to make sure ALL students are fed and ready to learn. Schools are to support food security, by providing stigma and barrier free access to nutritious food that is both sustainable and consistent in the long term.

Some schools already have food initiatives up and running while others are working towards creating programs that best fit their school and student population and profile.

The Feeding the Futures fund targets 20% of the school population considered to be affected by food insecurity. If a school is able to offer food initiatives to more than 20%, that is wonderful.

What is happening at the district level?

Every school will be receiving 2-6 boxes of fruit every week starting September 12, 2023. The number of boxes is based on 20% of the school population. This fruit will be distributed differently within each school, for instance: baskets in designated areas, added to a snack fridge or to supplement their lunch program.

Some schools that do not yet have the infrastructure to receive, distribute and store food will be fitted with a basic kitchenette (sink, cupboard and fridge).

What is happening at the school level?

As each school develops a customized food initiative that best suits their school profile some things you may notice are:

- Community inclusion- non-profit organizations, corporate donors, PAC involvement,
- Breakfast programs
- Snacks
- Lunch programs
- Models such as opt-in or pay-what-you-can for lunch or PAC lunches will be an option
- Communication where/how to access food
- Community partnership- Family Surveys- grocery stores, local food security programs
- Volunteer opportunities
- Having staff to manage, prepare, store and distribute food
- Depending on the school allocation and needs, gift cards might also be offered

Items to look forward to:

- Snack and lunch ideas
- Survey to families and students to identify what is working, where are the gaps (gather feedback)
- Lessons around food, nutrition, healthy habits

When you have a moment could ONE family member please complete the following 2 minute [Family Survey](#) for each school your children attend.

If you have questions, concerns or would like to help in some way please reach out.

Best Regards,
Ms. Carmen

Carmen Gauvreau Principal

1000X5 Books Part of October Fun Wee Ones Need Your Books



As you prepare for the end of the month celebrations with fun costumes and food, can you find a minute to locate 3 gently used books for babies and toddlers and drop them off in the pink bin in the front hallway of the school? These books will entertain and enrich wee ones long after the October fun has ended. **311,000 books in 12 years!!** Thank you.

Orange Shirt Day Assembly

