

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:

WOW! Our Student-Led Conferences were very well attended! It was incredible to see the pride shown by our students as they celebrated their learning with their families. Thank you so much to all the parents and guardians that were able to attend.

I would like to remind everyone that 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 additional resources to help. If your family could use some support in these areas, please do not hesitate to reach out to your classroom teacher or one of us in the office.

In addition, I would like to remind families that we have a number of students and staff with food allergies. We currently have students and staff with anaphylactic allergies to nuts, peanuts, cherries, fish, kiwi and sesame. This does not mean that these items are banned from the school; however we are allergy aware. If these food items are brought into a class of a student that has an anaphylactic allergy, we take additional precautions to ensure the safety of that child. All food is welcome and we have protocols in place to ensure that everyone can enjoy the food they love, while keeping all of the students in the building safe.

Have a great weekend and Happy Lunar New Year!

Ms. Carmen

Mark your calendar:

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
FEB 13	FEB 14 Valentine's Day	FEB 15	FEB 16 Pro-D Day
	your red, pink or purple		No School For Students
K-12 Transfer Week and Rainbow Flag Week			
	FEB 13	FEB 13 FEB 14 Valentine's Day Wear your red, pink or purple	FEB 13 FEB 14 Valentine's Day Wear your red, pink or purple

UPCOMING DATES TO NOTE:

Feb. 19 – Statutory Holiday (no school) Feb. 22 – Grade 4 students to UVIC for Symphony Concert 10:30-12:30

- Feb. 23 Divs. 1 & 12 skating
- Feb. 28 Pink Shirt Day Assembly @ 9am
- Mar. 1 Divs. 2 & 8 Skating
- Mar. 5 VIKES Soccer Grades 2 & 3
- Mar. 6 PAC Meeting (in-person)
- Mar. 8 Hot Lunch (Pizza & Sushi)
- Mar. 15 Report Cards available
- Mar. 18 Apr. 2 Spring Break
- Apr. 3 First Day Back



FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

10 th	Lunar New Year
11 th	International Day of Women and Girls in Science
14 th	Women's Memorial March
14 th	Valentine's Day
19 th	Family Day
19-25 th	Heritage Week
28 th	Pink Shirt Day



JUMP ROPE FOR HEART ON FEBRUARY 12TH:

Our school is excited to participate in Jump Rope for Heart this year! Students will discover fun ways to get active, practice healthy habits and learn about helping others while raising money to beat heart disease and stroke. We were given prizes for the school and one student from each class will win something just for participating



If you wish to support The Heart and Stroke charity by doing some fundraising, please visit <u>https://jumpropeforheart.crowdchange.ca/43617</u>.

STORY STUDIO:



Story Studio is an award-winning Victoria-based charity that exists to inspire, educate and empower young writers through storytelling. The Story Studio team is coming to visit some of our grade 4/5 students in the coming month! If you'd like to learn more about this organization please visit <u>www.storystudio.ca</u>.

K-12 TRANSFER WEEK

The annual K-12 Student Transfer Process facilitates requests from students in Kindergarten to Grade 12 to transfer to schools outside of a designated catchment. To apply for a transfer request you must complete a transfer form during the K-12 Student Transfer Process week of February 12-16, 2024.

Transfer forms are available here for families to print at home <u>K-12 Student Transfer Application</u> or they are available at the school office. Forms are to be returned to the school office during the same period.

For more information on in-catchment school pathways and transitions, please visit <u>School Pathways &</u> <u>Transitions</u>.

Thank you for supporting our Scholastic Book Fair! It has been a great success with sales still being tallied. We look forward to providing final numbers in our next newsletter.





REMEMBER ... to please dress your child suitably for outside weather. The children go outside daily, regardless of weather. A change of clothes kept in their backpack can also be handy for when they come in for the rainy weather.