

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.

Administrator's Message:

Welcome Back and Happy New Year!

We are excited to kick off 2025 with all our returning students and families, as well as those joining us the first time. We cannot wait to see all the incredible things our students will achieve over the next few months. Please be sure to keep a close eye on the school calendar and important dates below; we have so many exciting events coming up. Here is to a fantastic year ahead, filled with curiosity, teamwork and success.

Ms. Carmen

Mark your calendar:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Jan. 13	Jan. 14 Divs 2 & 8 Skating 9-11am	Jan. 15 Divs 7 & 9 skating 12-2:15pm <u>PAC Meeting</u> (cancelled this month)	Jan. 16 Divs 6 & 12 skating 9-11am	Jan. 17 Hot Lunch – Subway/Sushi

UPCOMING DATES TO NOTE:

- Jan 20 Div 2 to Museum
- Jan 20 Jump Rope & Literacy Assembly 11am
- Jan 22 Divs 5 & 10 Skating 12-2:15pm
- Jan 24 Pro-D Day (no school for students)
- Jan 27-31 Kindergarten Registration Week
- Jan 27 Robbie Burns Assembly 11am
- Jan 27 Kindergarten Ice Castle Day
- Jan 28 'Wali Shah' ArtStarts Performance 9am
- Feb 3-7 Scholastic Book Fair
- Feb 4&5 Student Led Conferences and Art Show

GVSD Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Calendar

Upcoming January Dates to Note:

- 15 Black Excellence Day
- 24 International Day of Education
- 27 International Day of Commemoration in Memory of
- the Victims of the Holocaust
- 29 Lunar New Year
- 29 National Day of Remembrance of Quebec Mosque
- Attach and Action Against Islamophobia

2024-25 SCHOOL GROWTH PLAN FOR MCKENZIE SCHOOL:

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING GOAL: As a staff and community, we will provide students with opportunities to improve or increase their sense of belonging at school.

LITERACY GOAL: In progress ... with a focus on writing skills.

Kindergarten registration is just around the corner for children born in 2020!

We are quickly approaching Kindergarten registration time in the Greater Victoria School District! Visit our website at <u>www.sd61.bc.ca/registration/kindergarten-registration</u> and complete the three easy steps to register your child:

- 1. Identify your school catchment by entering your home address into the school locator tool: www.sd61.bc.ca/schools/school-locator
- 2. Confirm you have the necessary documentation
- Complete the online form during registration week: <u>French</u> Immersion Kindergarten: January 13-17, 2025 Form: <u>studentregistration.sd61.bc.ca/frimm</u> <u>English</u> Kindergarten: January 27-31, 2025 <u>studentregistration.sd61.bc.ca/keng</u>

THE UPCYCLE PROJECT:

We are excited to announce an upcoming upcycling project for our Div 1 and 2 students, where they will get the chance to transform old, used clothing into something creative and new! To make this project a success, we are kindly asking for donations of 4 or 5 items per family of used clothing that you or your child no longer wears. These items will be used to teach students the importance of sustainability and creativity, while giving old clothes a new life. If you have any clothing items that you would be willing to donate, please send them to school with your child by January 30. There will be a drop off bin outside of the library. We are also looking for some donations of buttons, embroidery floss, embroidery needles, old sheets, and material scraps. Thank you for your support in making this a fun and educational experience for our students!

Please contact Ms. Mac at <u>nmcilmoyle@sd61.bc.ca</u> if you have any questions.

MCKENZIE STAMP CLUB:

We have a group of 15-25 students that attend our weekly stamp club. Students are learning to sort, soak and organize their collections. Recently, we had a 'Design a Stamp' contest where members were invited to design a stamp. We had several entries, and our judges were very impressed with the care and effort displayed in the stamps. New members are always welcome (Grade 1-5)!

Congratulations to our winners and runners-up: Intermediate: Fiona H. and Zadie Primary: Dylan M. Parneet T.



McKenzie School is having a scholastic book fair!! Come by the library February 3-7... watch for more details to come.

https://bookfairs.scholastic.ca/bf/mckenzieelemschool1





Children's Book Recycling Project Greater Victoria January 27 - Family Literacy Day Cuddling and reading to your little ones shows that you value reading, builds comfort, enjoyment and early skills that last a lifetime.

Help make that true for those still to gain those habits. **January 27 is National Literacy Day.** As well as enjoying a new story with your child, please make an extra effort to drop of gently used picture books for babies and preschoolers in the drop box. All very young children benefit from being read to – help make that a reality for more.

Thank you for being part of 350,000 books donated over the last 14 years!!

PAC NEWS:

SPECIAL FOOD DAY!

Next Friday, January 17th is our next special food day for Subway and Sushi. Order deadline is Sunday, January 12th

To order, visit www.mckenzie.hotlunches.net



Questions? mckenziehotlunch@gmail.com



PARENT AND FAMILY RESOURCES:

Looking for a resource from a previous week? Click <u>here</u> for the full list.

The White Hatter Digital Literacy and Internet Safety:

We are an internet safety and digital literacy education specialist company based in North America facilitating workshops and providing presentations on technology safety and privacy. We work with families, schools, businesses, charities, and not-for-profits helping to cultivate opportunities and address challenges in a digital world. https://thewhitehatter.ca

If you have a resource to share, email it to <u>mckenziepac@gmail.com</u>.

Parent Education Night: Finding a Balance with Digital Technology

> Thursday, January 30th 6:30-8:30pm

Meeting link: Finding a Balance with Digital Technology | Microsoft Teams | Meet-up-Join

*See poster on following page for information

Finding a Balance with Digital Technology Thursday January 30 Presented by Shannon Husk

Registered Clinical Counsellor and Gaming Disorder Clinician

Shannon will talk about ways to find a balance with digital technology and cover digital health concerns.

McKenzie Elementary School 4005 Raymond St. 6:30 p.m.

Please feel free to email Shannon questions ahead of time at shannon.husk@telus.net

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After School and Pro-D Programs at Swan Lake



Nature Buds After School Club (ages 6-12)

Jan. 21, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, and Feb. 11 - 3:00pm-4:30pm Participants will cultivate a positive relationship with nature through play, exploration, and hands-on learning led by our environmental educators.

February Pro-D Junior Stewards (ages 6-12)

Feb. 14 - 9:00am-3:00pm Theme: Junior Birders! Participants will learn basic ID skills, discover which birds visit Swan Lake, and learn about how to help protect our feathered friends.

March Break Junior Stewards Camp (ages 6-12)

Mar. 25-28 - 9:00am-3:00pm each day Participants will learn about different ecosystems, take part in nature-based activities, and engage in hands-on restoration during this week of fun.



Get Social @swanlakenature swanlake.bc.ca (250) 479-0211







COME AND JOIN US!

Saanich Wolverines are offering FREE drop-in football skills development sessions in January/February for any kids (Born 2011 to 2017) who want to try football. Join us for a fun introduction to youth football through skills and drills coached drop-in sessions. Players will be split into age groups and will work with coaches at their appropriate skill level

2025 Winter Skills & Drills

Saturday Jan 4th (10am-12pm) Saturday Jan 11th, 18th, 25th, Feb 1st, Feb 8th, Feb 15th (2pm - 4pm)

UVIC Turf Field 2B

Saturday Feb 22nd (11am - 1pm) No Gear. Just Cleats (or appropriate footwear) and Water.

Junior Bantam (2011,2012) PeeWee (2013, 2014) Atom (2017, 2016,2015)



Questions? Contact us at: Gvmfa.general@gmail.com