



# McKenzie Weekly



Friday, September 5, 2025

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.

## Administrators' Message:


Welcome to a new school year!! Our first week has been filled with purposeful connecting activities and relationship building fun! We have really enjoyed reconnecting with past students and families, while also welcoming 17 new Grade 1-5 students and families to McKenzie this week. We are also thrilled to add 8 new staff members to our community. There are 34 new kindergarten students who started to attend in small groups this week. Please help us welcome the class of 2038 and all our new McKenzie family and team members! You can find a list of our current staff on our school website <https://mckenzie.sd61.bc.ca/staff-info/staff-directory/>. We look forward to getting to know all our newest students and supporting all students discover their potentials this school year!

We have received district approval for our class organizations for this school year. Students spent time in their new classrooms and met their new teacher and classmates today. Students will line up on Monday at their new line-up locations. Thank you for your patience this week while our team worked collaboratively to create the best learning environments for your children.

Have a wonderful weekend and we'll see you back on Monday.

Carmen & Jordana

## Mark your calendar:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Sept 8</b>	<b>Sept 9</b>	<b>Sept 10</b> Online PAC meeting @ 6:30pm (link below)	<b>Sept 11</b> Popsicle Sale after school 	<b>Sept 12</b>

## UPCOMING DATES TO NOTE:

Sept. 17 – Welcome Back Event

Sept. 22 – Pro-D Day (no school for students)

September dates still to be decided for our Terry Fox Run and Orange Shirt Day Assembly

McKenzie Bell Schedule	
<b>Morning Bell</b>	<b>8:45</b>
<b>Recess</b>	<b>10:15-10:30</b>
<b>Lunch - Eating</b>	<b>11:50-12:10</b>
<b>Lunch - Outdoor Play</b>	<b>12:10-12:35</b>
<b>Dismissal Bell</b>	<b>2:37</b>

## GRADE 5 MCKENZIE STRINGS:



The first strings class for interested Grade 5 students will be on Monday, September 8<sup>th</sup> from 2:45 - 3:30 pm in the music room. No instrument is needed for the first class. Strings classes will occur every Monday when school is in session from 2:45 - 3:30 pm and students can learn the violin, viola or cello. Please contact Jennifer Fisher for any questions or concerns at [jefisher@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:jefisher@sd61.bc.ca).

## **PAC MEETING – SEPTEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup> AT 6:30pm VIA TEAMS:**

Please use the following link to join other McKenzie families for the first PAC meeting of the year.

Use this link: [Join the meeting now](#) Meeting ID: 219 828 322 265 2 Passcode: 94Sf3jQ6

## **ATTENDANCE:**

If your child is going to be absent from school, please remember to let us know. Either via email: [attendance27@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:attendance27@sd61.bc.ca) or phone: 250 479 1691.



## **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 using the email address you provided the school) 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/>

## **ALLERGY AWARENESS:**

McKenzie Elementary has several students and staff with severe allergies. **All types of nuts (peanuts and tree nuts), fish, shellfish, sesame, flax, kiwi, cherries, wheat, rye, barley, oats, ALL egg and egg products, ALL bird meat, wasps and bees are the items of greatest concern. For some students and staff members, these foods cause an anaphylaxis reaction which could result in death.** We also have several children who are Celiac and / or gluten intolerant. ***When preparing lunches, we strongly encourage the use of alternatives to peanut or nut butters and we ask that you avoid sending peanuts, all types of tree nuts, fish/shellfish and cherries.***



Students that do happen to bring allergens in their lunch will be asked to eat at a specific table / desk so that the surfaces can be properly cleaned to reduce exposure and risk

Reducing the risk for these students and staff members is of great importance. Thank you for your support and effort to make McKenzie Elementary a healthy, safe, and caring place for everyone!

Please visit School District #61's Healthy, Safe and Caring Schools webpage

(<https://healthyschools.sd61.bc.ca/student-health/tool-kit-for-management-of-emergency-medical-conditions/> )

for information on anaphylaxis training, childhood diseases and ailments. In addition, the following is a link for FREE anaphylaxis training. <https://www.allergyaware.ca/courses/>. This is the same course that all staff members take each year. If your child has a friend or classmate with a severe, or anaphylactic allergy, this is great information for you to have for playdates and birthdays.

## **FRIENDLY REMINDERS:**

- The staff parking lot on Raymond Street is very small and is for staff parking only. There are two additional lots at the back of the school, or street parking along Margaret and Raymond Streets for family parking. In addition, please remember to respect our neighbours by not blocking their driveways or parking on their lawns when you are dropping off or picking up your children.
- Dogs are not allowed to be on school property during the school day. Please leave your four-legged friends at home if you are walking your child(ren) to and from the school.



## **SCHOOL CALENDAR:**

Our online calendar has been updated with dates of PAC meetings, Pro-D Days, School Vacations, and other important dates. Please visit <https://mckenzie.sd61.bc.ca/news-events/calendar/> to view.

January							1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24			
25	26	27	28	29	30	31			



Grade 4/5 Salish Sea Program Fundraiser:

## **Popsicle Sales** **\$2 each!**



For sale by the C doors, after school on:  
**Thursday, September 11, 18, 25 and Thursday, October 2**  
Thank you for supporting our grade 4/5 classes!

### **SAANICH FIRE OPEN HOUSE:**

The Saanich Fire Department is hosting an Open House on Saturday, September 13, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The event will be held at Station #1, 760 Vernon Avenue. Parking is available at the Municipal Hall or across the street near Save-On-Foods.

- Meet our Police Officers and Fire Fighters
- See Bike Squad, Canine Unit, Dive Unit, and Forensics Team
- Ride in the Quake Cottage
- Meet Sparky the fire dog and Ace the police dog!
- See Rescue demonstrations, Jaws of Life and live kitchen fire displays
- Tour our fire trucks and police vehicles
- Fire hose spray station
- Bouncy castle and face painting
- Food, fun, and more!



Feel free to check out the event website here: <https://www.saanich.ca/EN/main/news-events/events-list/saanich-community-events/open-house-saanich-fire-department-and-saanich-police.html>

## **UVIC PACIFIC COAST SWIMMING HAS A MCKENZIE SWIM TEAM** **Lightening F.A.S.T. "Friends Learning Skills Together"**



Please keep your eyes peeled for upcoming forms for the McKenzie Swim Team.  
Practices will be on Wednesdays, our first practice will be on Wednesday, Oct 29<sup>th</sup> from 3:15pm-4:00pm.  
Program runs Oct - Mar with 4 swim meets a year.

**PARTICIPANTS MUST BE ABLE COMPETENTLY SWIM 25 METERS AND BE COMFORTABLE IN THE WATER WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR IN THE POOL WITH THEM.**