



McKenzie Weekly

Friday, April 17, 2026



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:


Spring is in the air and as the seasons change, so do some things at McKenzie! We were VERY PELASED to be able to open our sandbox and upper fields again this week. Students and staff were able to use these spaces to play, run, dig, train for the upcoming track season, and learn how to play rugby!

We want to let our greater McKenzie Community know that there will be a change to the Admin team here at McKenzie next year; Mrs. Beattie, our Vice Principal, will be moving over the Macaulay Elementary for the 2026/27 school year. This is very bittersweet for McKenzie; while we are very happy for Mrs. Beattie to have a new experience and new opportunities; we have LOVED having her here with us and will miss her terribly.

We are excited to welcome Mrs. Amy Polson as Vice Principal in the fall. Mrs. Polson is currently the Vice Principal at Oaklands Elementary. Mrs. Polson hopes to visit the school soon to meet our amazing school community members.

Mrs. Carmen & Mrs. Beattie

Mark your calendar:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Apr. 20 Saanich Fire Program (Gr. 4's)	Apr. 21	Apr. 22	Apr. 23 Class and whole school photo day 	Apr. 24 Run Club 8:10am Indigenous Student Lunch Spring Dance 6:00-7:30

UPCOMING DATES TO NOTE:

- Apr. 26th – Registered runners @ TC10K & Thrifty Foods Fun Run
- Apr. 28th – **Strong Start closed**
- Apr. 29th- School Spirit – Decades Day
- Apr. 30th – Autism Awareness Assembly
- May 1st – Div 4 field trip to Island View Beach
- May 5th- Kindergarten immunizations
- May 5th - Young Entrepreneur Fair 9:00am-2:00pm
- May 8th – Rugby Jamboree 10:00am – 1:00pm
- May 8th – Kindergarten Muffins for Mum 8:45am-9:15am
- May 8th – Mountain West Photo Fundraiser 4:00pm – 8:00pm



April 2026 - Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Calendar

Autism Acceptance Month
Sikh Heritage Month

- 22 – Earth Day
- 22 – Administrative Professionals' Day
- 28 – Day of Mourning for Lost Workers

2025-26 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: To improve writing through more explicit, tactile, and oral language pre-writing strategies.

MCKENZIE THIS WEEK:

The sandbox and fields are open!





Divisions 1, 2, and 3 are selling

Popsicles



\$2 each!

We are raising money to pay for Mathletics and year-end activities.

For sale by the garden, after school, on:

~~Monday, April 13~~

Monday, April 20

Monday, April 27

Thank you,

Mrs. Schneider, Ms. Bushell, and Mr. Scott

PAC INFORMATION:



MCKENZIE ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL



SPRING FLING DANCE

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM
24 APRIL

LIVE DJ | PIZZA
SWEETS TREATS
ENTRANCE BY DONATION

HELP US SWEETEN THE NIGHT!
TREAT DONATIONS NEEDED!
HOMEMADE OR STORE-BOUGHT
GOODIES WILL BE SOLD AT THE DANCE.
PLEASE BRING THEM TO THE OFFICE IN
THE AM OR TO THE DANCE

ALL STUDENTS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED
BY ADULTS.

Proceeds benefit the PAC and help make
future events possible.



GET INVOLVED
Make A Difference

Rolling with ADHD
A FREE eight-module series that covers practical tools and strategies for caregivers of children with ADHD and includes what research shows really works for kids and families living with ADHD.

<https://healthymindslearning.ca/rollingwith-adhd/>

SPRING FLING DANCE:

This event depends on the help of volunteers.

If you're able to lend a hand, we'd love your support.

→[Spring Fling Volunteer Sign Up Link](#) ←

Family Photo Night is coming soon!

EACH FAMILY RECEIVES 1 **FREE** 8X10 PHOTO OF THEIR CHOICE!

- An affordable and convenient option for family portraits.
- Great for Mother's Day, Father's Day and holiday gift-giving!
- Sitting fee is \$30. 100% of the fee is donated back to your school!
- Convenient weekend and evening portrait sessions
- 10 minute sitting includes 10-15 online proofs with the option to order additional photos.

Have questions? Email us at help@mountainwest.ca

Sign up today!



PHOTO SESSION FUNDRAISER

Mountain West Studios is excited to be providing family photo sessions as a fundraiser! The sessions will take place on **Friday, May 8** in the small gym. This environment allows us to provide quality portrait sessions within a comfortable location. Our goal is to provide portraits that **CELEBRATE YOU** and your Family.



6869 Merritt Avenue,
Burnaby BC, V5J 4R5

Phone: 604.433.0551
Toll Free 1.888.644.4494

help@mountainwest.ca
mountainwest.ca

This is a fundraiser! 100% of the \$30 sitting fee goes directly back to the school, and each family will receive a complimentary 8x10 print.

To book your Family portrait sitting, please visit this link:
[McKenzie Elementary School Family Sittings](#)

Your Chance to Host an International Student!



The Greater Victoria School District's International Program, Victoria International Education, is looking for new host families for high school students arriving in September, 2026.

If you are curious about hosting, the International Program staff would love to meet you at an upcoming information session!

Information Session Details:

- **Date:** Wednesday, April 22
- **Time:** 6:30 PM
- **Location:** [Uplands Campus](#) (3461 Henderson Rd)
- **RSVP:** homestay@sd61.bc.ca

Anyone interested in providing a supportive and caring home is welcome to apply to become a host family including retirees, couples, families with children, and individuals.

Host Families Enjoy:

- **Flexible Options:** Hosting opportunities for 1 month, 3 months, 5 months, 10 months or more
- **Program Support:** Orientation and ongoing 24/7 support from the homestay office
- **Reimbursement:** \$1,350 per student, per month for hosting expenses
- **Cultural Exchange:** Learn about new cultures, share traditions, and create international friendships while helping youth succeed

More Information and How to Apply:

- **Phone:** 250-592-6871
- **Email:** homestay@sd61.bc.ca
- **Website:** [Victoria International Education Homestay Program](#)
- **Apply:** [Victoria International Education Application](#)

COMMUNITY OFFERINGS:

V C P A C Educational Townhall
Spectrum Highschool
Thursday April 23, 2026
6:30 - 8:30 PM

AI & TECH IN EDUCATION

BENEFITS, RISKS, AND STUDENT RIGHTS


What Parents Need to Know

- How AI & tech are used ✓
- Protecting student rights ✓
- How parents can engage ✓



SPEAKERS

- OLIVE TWISS, Deputy Commissioner, BC OIPC
- JOSH BARKS, A/Director of IT & Learning, SD61
- TOM AERTS, Deputy Superintendent, SD61

FREE TO REGISTER
ON-SITE CHILDMINDING AVAILABLE!
PIZZA & GAMES FOR THE KIDS.
<https://forms.gle/2EonTytjq8YmiweG9>



Sponsored by Thrifty Foods



'intheknow'
Online Events

Connect & Learn

Online Events for Parents & Caregivers

Every month, we host events for parents and caregivers of a child or youth with a mental health and/or substance use challenge.

Join us to watch a video and share experiences and strategies that help in the hard moments, focusing on strengthening our understanding and connection with our kids.

Supporting Our Kids With Substance Misuse

As parents and caring adults, the way we talk about and understand substance use can deeply influence the young people in our lives. Supporting young people who are misusing substances while taking good care of ourselves can be difficult. Learn some evidence-informed approaches from Alex Lekei (MA, CCAC), addictions counsellor, and Kim Dunlap, a mom with lived experience, that can help us with communication, boundaries and relationship.

- COST: Free
- DATES:
 - Thursday, April 16, 6:30pm
 - Thursday, April 23, 6:30pm



Register online at
familysmart.ca/events



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Emotion Regulation Part 2: Deepening Our Understanding

Our kids' big emotions don't always make sense. As parents, we might even feel like we're walking on egg shells because we're scared of another big emotional outburst. Watch our second video conversation with Nicole Allen, Registered Clinical Counsellor, to deepen your understanding about your kids' emotion regulation. Nicole helps us understand why some kids cope easier than others, how to determine what our child needs during those hard moments, and shares some strategies that can help.

Join us and other families for this video presentation and discussion that's facilitated by a FamilySmart Parent Peer Support Worker.

- COST: Free
- DATES:
 - Tuesday, April 7, 6:30pm
 - Tuesday, April 21, 12:00pm
 - Wednesday, April 29, 6:30pm

VICTORIA
Children's Choir
 EST. 2001

★ AUDITIONS May/June

SING!
 with us!

PRELUDE CHOIR
 AGES 7-9
 Non-auditioned. Fun and engaging. Registration opens April 1st.

RECITAL CHOIR
 AGES 10-12
 Sing great music and build wonderful relationships.

CONCERT CHOIR
 AGES 12-17
 Share your singing passion in rehearsals, performances, camps & tours. Build lifelong friendships.

YOUTH ENSEMBLE
 AGES 17-20
 Develop your musical and personal leadership skills.

Call Today: 250.721.0856
victoriachildrenchoir.ca



Victoria Stamp and Postcard Fair

Plus: Kids ♥ Stamps!
 School Club Exhibits

Sunday April 26, 2026



10:00AM - 3:00PM

Victoria Stamp Club
Sandman Hotel Victoria
 2852 Douglas Street



Free Admission - Free Parking - Free Stamps for Beginners

15th Annual FAMILY SPORT & RECREATION FESTIVAL

Presented by **TD**

Hosted by... **PiSE** & **GREATER VICTORIA SPORTS HALL OF FAME**




Saturday, May 2nd, 11 am - 3 pm

📍 PiSE, at Camosun College Interurban Campus
 4371 Interurban Rd.

Over 30 activities | Raffle Prizes | FREE

pise.ca

