



# McBride Annex Elementary

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**Vice Principal: Ms. Andrea Greenhalgh**

Principal: Ms. Lindsay Thompson

Trustee: Ms. Carmen Cho

**OAA: Ms. Betty Hung**

Director of Instruction: Mr. Aaron Davis

Website: [www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/mcbride-annex](http://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/mcbride-annex)

## October 2021 Newsletter

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*Dear Parents and Guardians,*

*October will see us transitioning into fall and the yearly collecting of leaves and chestnuts around our school. The maple and oak trees provide the students with endless amount of fun. Our field hockey program has started, and we again want to thank, Stephanie Nesbitt for her gift of time and expertise. The kids adore her! Congratulations and thank you to our incoming and returning PAC executive and to all those who attended the first PAC meeting of the year. We appreciate all you do for us as a school.*

*Andrea Greenhalgh*

*Vice-Principal*

### MEET THE TEACHER AND SEE INSIDE OF YOUR SCHOOL

We are unable to invite you all to see your child's classrooms and meet the staff again this year. Each teacher has prepared a small introduction to the class with photographs and / or a video. More information will be provided soon.

### ORANGE SHIRT DAY

Wednesday, September 29<sup>th</sup> we celebrated Orange Shirt Day to remember the injustices of Residential Schools in Canada. Each class read books and discussed how every child matters. September 30<sup>th</sup> was Canada's first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

### TERRY FOX RUN

Our annual Terry Fox Run was held on Thursday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Our grade 1 class made posters and spoke to all the classes about the run and asked every student to donate "A Toonie for Terry". At school we collected \$157! Families also had the option of donating directly to the Terry Fox Foundation under McBride Annex and we collected over \$100 there as well! Our students started with a dance warm-up and then ran for over 20 minutes around Grays Park! Way to Go McBride Annex!

### HOT LUNCH IS BACK – MONDAY / WEDNESDAY / FRIDAY

The PAC is again organizing optional hot lunches for our students three days a week. Families have the option of ordering on any given day and have tasty options available each day. The provider of the lunches is Bittersweet Kitchen. <https://www.bittersweetkitchen.ca/> Families are to watch for the McBride Annex PAC email that reminds families that the upcoming food ordering is available. Once the online order site is closed families cannot order for that month but will have the option to order the following month. A reminder that Bittersweet does not provide cutlery so please continue to send cutlery to school for your child each day.

### GREAT BC SHAKEOUT EARTHQUAKE DRILL

On Thursday, October 21<sup>st</sup> at 2:00 pm we will be having an earthquake drill where we will practice a reunification drill. The purpose of the reunification drill is to practice releasing students to parents / designated caregivers after an earthquake or other serious event. We use the long yellow papers, that you returned in early September, to match students to adults. We are asking for 5 families per division (a total of 20 students) to volunteer to arrive at the school around 2:15pm to pick up their child after our simulated earthquake drill. We will have a table set up, ID will be required, and we will escort you to the area where the children will be waiting. If you are interested in being a volunteer, please call the office or let Ms. Greenhalgh know in the next week or two. Thank you.

### SCHOOL WEBSITE

Our school website: [www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/mcbride-annex](http://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/mcbride-annex) is being updated on a regular basis. Did you see the story and photo of Division 3? Division 3 was asked by the VSB Communications Department to highlight mask wearing in their classroom. Here is a link to their story: <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/mcbride-annex/Pages/default.aspx>

## PROVINCIAL MASK MANDATE FOR K-3 STUDENTS

As you are all aware by now the Vancouver School Board Trustees unanimously voted to require all students in kindergarten through grade 3 to wear masks during school last week at their board meeting. Three days later the Provincial Government amended the school mask mandate to also include all Kindergarten to grade 3 students across the province. Today we have seen nothing but positivity from our students and most like how the mask keeps them warmer on this chilly day.

## REPORTING STUDENT ABSENCES

Student safety is of paramount importance at the Vancouver School District. Ensuring student safety is a shared responsibility. In order to assist schools, we ask parents to notify schools of student absences. If your child will be absent from school, please phone the school to report this absence as early as possible. Parents should leave a message on a dedicated answering service by calling 604-713-5159 ext. 50. An email can also be sent [mbraattendance@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:mbraattendance@vsb.bc.ca)

## CHANGE OF CLOTHING

As the weather changes please remember to send a full change of clothes to school with your child. There are some that love finding puddles and mud and others who haven't enjoyed the soccer game unless they are covered in mud. Even the slide provides a lot of fun as the wet slide will equal wet clothing. Please ensure that if wet / soiled clothes go home that a clean set are sent back to school the next day. Thank you.



## PAC MEETING

Our PAC meeting dates have been set for the year. The next meeting dates are **Monday October 18<sup>th</sup>**, **Wednesday November 17<sup>th</sup>** and **Wednesday January 19<sup>th</sup>**. All meetings will be at 5:30pm and for now they will be held on Zoom. The Zoom link will be shared prior to the meeting to all parents. We look forward to welcoming our new Kindergarten and new to the school families to our PAC.

**PAC QUESTIONS** Any questions regarding PAC events please email the PAC at [mcbrideannexpac@gmail.com](mailto:mcbrideannexpac@gmail.com).

## Dates to Remember

Monday, October 11<sup>th</sup> - Thanksgiving Monday – no school  
Monday, October 18<sup>th</sup> - PAC meeting at 5:30pm on Zoom  
Friday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> - Provincial Wide Professional Day – school not in session

Wednesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> and Thursday, November 4<sup>th</sup> - Parent Conferences - will be held on Teams – students dismissed at 2pm each day

Note from Stephanie Nesbitt:

Dear Parents of McBride Annex,

I am very happy to be returning to coach Field Hockey at McBride Annex this fall. For the new kindergarteners and any new students, I am excited to introduce them to the sport of Field Hockey. For those students that I had the pleasure of coaching the last few years, we will be building on the skills we have already developed and learning new movements and techniques. Field Hockey will be starting this week for all classes on Tuesday, September 28<sup>th</sup>.

Like last year, we will not be using mouth guards due to COVID-19. I will design all my practices knowing that the students are without mouthguard and shin pads. As always, my main objective for the lessons are for the children to have fun, to further develop their physical literacy, and to build confidence in their ability to learn new sport skills.

To ensure students are not sharing equipment I have arranged for each child to have their own stick throughout the program. These sticks will be labeled and kept at the school. The Vancouver Hawks and BC Field Hockey have kindly provided the sticks and equipment for the program.

If your child is interested in playing hockey outside of school the Vancouver Hawks are the local club that runs both a fall (currently running) and a spring league (April - mid-June) for children U5 - U18. Further information can be found on their website: [www.vancouverhawks.com](http://www.vancouverhawks.com)

For all the new parents, please know that I have played and coached field hockey at the community and high performance level for over 20 years. It is a true joy for me to get to share my passion for movement and sport with our Annex community. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to talk to me at the school or contact the school for my email.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Nesbitt  
Grade 1 parent





Div. 2 Presenting about Terry Fox



Boys watching the Parks Board Workers



Div. 1 Orange Shirt Day



Div. 1 Show and Tell