

# Chief Maquinna Elementary Newsletter

<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/chief-maquinna/Pages/default.aspx>

*We acknowledge that we live, work and learn on the traditional lands of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.*

*We wish to acknowledge the history of our neighborhood and community as we have all benefited from the richness of their teachings.*

*Sometimes it takes only one act of kindness and caring to change a person's life.*

*Jackie Chan*

## December 2023

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

December is here and we are preparing and enjoying the many activities that happen during this busy month. We are having our first evening winter concert performance after an absence since Covid-19. Please be sure to check your emails (spam folder too!), inside student back packs and this newsletter for information. CSL updates went home on the first of the month and is a "snapshot" of where your child is at this time of the year. There will be another CSL update in March and a CSL summary at the end of the year in June. Please let us know if you have questions regarding your child's CSL report.

We are coming up to an extended break and we wish you all a wonderful, fun, and relaxing winter break with family and friends and wishing you all the best of the season.

Best regards,

Ms. Joyce Chong

### TRAFFIC SAFETY and NEAR MISSES:

Please review with your child good "Road Sense" and model safe pedestrian practices for them. Our student Safety Patrollers are working at the corner of 3<sup>rd</sup> and Slocan. Please follow their directions; **cross at the crosswalk, don't stop in coned-off areas; and don't enter or back into the staff parking lot.** Please abide by the traffic signs (No PARKING) around the school. Thank you.

### CHRISTMAS HAMPERS, TOYS AND GIFT CARDS

We have worked with CityReach, The Firefighters Toys for Kids program as well as using the remainder of the Student and Family Affordability Fund to provide Hampers, toys and gift cards for Maquinna Families. Families will be contacted shortly. Thank you for your patience.

### RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS AT MAQUINNA – DEC 4-22<sup>ND</sup>:

Students and staff are encouraged to do a daily kindness task for others during the month of December. I have attached a copy with this December newsletter if you would like to participate.

### ONLINE FORMS:

Neighbourhood Walk consent, CASL consent, External Media consent, and AUP consent forms need to be completed online this year. We still have many outstanding consent forms. Please go to <https://myforms.vsb.bc.ca/> and complete the forms as soon as possible. If you need your child's 9 digit PEN number, please call the office or respond to this email. Thank you.

VSBC

## **RESPECT YOURSELF, RESPECT OTHERS, RESPECT THIS PLACE:**

We have been working on student expectations during assembly and in the classrooms, especially in the area of developing a Growth Mindset! Please help us reinforce these messages at home:

Keep trying your best, even if it is hard.            Make good choices.    Hands to self.

Ask an adult for help when a problem is hard to solve, especially with others.

Respect the boundaries of others.    Respectful listening to adults in the school.    No play fighting.

Thank you!

## **WINTER CONCERT RETURNS!**

The Maquinna Winter Concert is returning! The dress-rehearsal will be held in the gym on December 20<sup>th</sup> from 1:15 – 2:15 pm and we ask that those family members who are able to attend during the day, to come to this performance. Gym doors will open at 1:00 pm for general seating.

An evening performance will be on December 21<sup>st</sup> from 6:00 - 7:00 pm. Families who are interested in attending can reserve 2 tickets as we have seating limits in the gym. A notice will be sent out soon for those who are interested. to reserve tickets. Classroom doors will open at 5:45 for students to be dropped off. Please do not drop them off earlier than 5:45. The audience can enter the gym from East 2nd Avenue at the back of the gym. Audience doors will open at 5:45 p.m.

We are asking families to bring a non-perishable food donation as entry to the concert which will be shared with Maquinna families in need. Please ensure the Best Before date doesn't expire in the next six months. We also ask that families stay for the entire concert. Please do not share your photos or videos on social media as many families have not consented. More information to come.

**DECEMBER 20TH FROM 1:30 – 2:30 PM – DRESS REHEARSAL FOR WINTER CONCERT - ALL WELCOME!**

**DECEMBER 21ST FROM 6:00 - 7:00 PM - 2 TICKETS AVAILABLE/FAMILY**

## **CHANGE IN WEATHER – IT'S COLD OUTSIDE!**

Please ensure your child has a coat, boot, mitts, a scarf and a hat so they can stay warm at recess and lunch. Students are expected to be outside for recess and lunch (20 – 35 minutes) so please dress them warmly. On Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, there will be some donated, gently used clothing available in the undercover area afterschool. Please help yourself. Thank you.

## **KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR HAS BEGUN!**

From November 1<sup>st</sup> to January 31<sup>st</sup>, priority Kindergarten registration is open online for students entering Kindergarten in September 2024. Please check out the VSB website for registration information. [VSB Kindergarten Registration 2024-25](#).

## GRADE 7 VOLLEYBALL:

A BIG thank you to Mr. Sabbagha and Mrs. Yu who sponsored the Grade 7 Volleyball team this year. They had a good season developing their skills. GO MAQUINNA!

## SCHOOL SUPPLIES AND OTHER FEES/FORMS REMINDER:

A reminder to families to pay school fees that were sent home. We encourage you to use the SchoolCashOnline ([Pay a Fee on SchoolCashOnline](#)) to pay fees. If you are unable to use the online system, please talk to the classroom teacher to make other arrangements such as cash or cheque to the school.

## PODCASTS:

VSB Podcasts available: After the Bell Podcast: [This month](#) we talked to community partners from Adopt-A-School and South Vancouver Neighbourhood House. We spoke about their impact to school communities and how students and teachers can access their resources. For matter of the month, we delve into an important and sometimes controversial subject: BC's Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA). Helen McGregor shared the significance of the test for students, parents, and educators.

Podcast episodes are released at the end of every month. Subscribe to **VSB: After the Bell** on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Spotify](#) or wherever you listen to podcasts to catch the latest episode!

After the Bell (ep. 12): Learning about VSB community partners and the Foundation Skills Assessment

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 19 – Ugly Sweater Day – please wear yours!

December 20 – Winter Concert dress rehearsal 1:30 - 2:30 pm

December 22 - Pajama Day for Everyone!

December 23, 2023 to January 7, 2024- Winter Break – School is closed

January 8 – Welcome back to School!

January 17 – Professional Day for Maquinna – No school for students.

Please join us for Friday Assemblies usually held every Friday at approximately 9:05 a.m. You are welcome to enter through the Green GO door in the undercover area or the front door on East 2<sup>nd</sup>. Parent/Family seating is at the back of the gym on the right.

## A VERY HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO MAQUINNA PAC!

The staff at Maquinna are very thankful for the amazing Maquinna PAC! The PAC and the community are caring, hard-working and very generous to provide so many amazing experiences for Maquinna

students. Thank you for providing funds for buses, equipment for the classrooms, technology purchases, and funds for each classroom teacher as well as Resource and the Library. Thank you!

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*A message from PAC*

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### **RETURN-IT PAC ACCOUNT:**

Did you know that the Maquinna PAC has a RETURN-IT account? Bring your recyclables to any RETURN-IT location in a clear or blue plastic bag and ask for a label using the Schools Phone number (604-713-4705). You can drop and go, no sorting required; super easy! This way you can donate the money from your recycling to Maquinna school. Thank you!

### **Hot Dog Days and Pizza Days Notices sent home Friday, Dec 8th.**

These lunches are fund-raising events for the PAC. The profits will benefit all students at Maquinna School. Order forms for Wednesday Hot Dog days (every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday) and Friday Pizza days (every Friday) for January to March will be coming home shortly. Please check your child's backpack for the forms. **Please respect the deadlines** on the forms as well as the payments **as no late forms will be accepted.** Thank you.

### **PAC Meeting:**

The next PAC meeting will on Monday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> in-person at the Maquinna Library at 6:00 pm. Babysitting is provided. All are welcome.

Any guardian can attend the meetings, and it is okay to just listen in. We always have an update from the principal about how things are going at school, we decide on how to spend fundraised dollars to support the student's educational needs, and we sometimes talk about policies to bring forward to other parent advisory councils to improve the student experience.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Maquinna School PAC

VSB