

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.

*“Continuous effort – not strength of intelligence – is the key to unlocking our potential”
~Winston Churchill*

February 2023

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

January passed so quickly and now we're well into February. We are working on themes of kindness, diversity, equity and inclusion which are linked to February's Black History Month as well as Pink Shirt day coming up on February 22nd. CSL reports went home on January 31st to give families a "snapshot" of their child's learning in the first half of school. There's a lot happening in the next few months so please check your email boxes often for updates. Thank you!

Please reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns.

Best regards,

Ms. Joyce Chong

This newsletter has some updates as well as important school information. Please check your email (and junk/spam folder) daily for newsletters, updates and

FLU SEASON INFORMATION:

Tips to help prevent the spread of respiratory illness this season: - Get all recommended vaccines, including influenza & COVID-19 booster vaccine doses. - Stay at home if you feel unwell & try to avoid spending time with people at higher risk of serious illness. - Wear a mask in indoor public spaces if you have symptoms. - Cough/sneeze in your elbow. - Clean your hands regularly & avoid touching your face, especially your eyes, mouth and nose. For more info:

<http://www.bccdc.ca/about/news-stories/stories/2022/respiratory-illness-season>

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE: many outstanding fees – PLEASE HELP!

Please check your School Cash online account for some outstanding fees that need to be paid. This may include school supplies, High Touch, Dance, gymnastics, book bags, agendas, and other field trips. The school really relies on families to pay these fees as it does affect our school budget.

Thank you.

VS

GRADE 6/7 BASKETBALL TEAM:

The Grade 6/7 Basketball Team are enjoying their season so far and have been developing their skills. Please join us on February 15th afterschool in the gym to watch and cheer them in their final game for the year.

GYMNASTICS: (ERROR IN PAYMENT TOTAL ON PERMISSION/CONSENT FORM)

Students will have an opportunity to learn and practice their gymnastics skills in 4-5 sessions in the coming weeks. We are asking families to pay \$10.50 for this fun and unique opportunity to learn from gymnasts. We apologize to families for the error in payment information that was on the permission/consent forms. The cost of the program will be \$10.50 per child. Please check your School CashOnline Accounts. Thank you.

NUT AWARE SCHOOL:

We will be transitioning students back to using the lunch room after the long weekend in February, rather than eating in their classrooms. We are reminding families that we are a "Nut Aware School" and we ask that families do not send any nut products in students' lunches as we do have some severe allergies, especially to peanuts and peanut butter. These allergies can result in a medical emergency for these students. We are asking you to help keep everyone safe. Thank you.

SAFETY MATTERS!

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 3rd 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.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 14 – Valentine's Day Dance 1:30 in the gym – all welcome

February 17 – Professional Day for Staff – No school for students.

February 20 – Family Day – Stat holiday – No school

February 22 – Pink Shirt Day Assembly 9:05 – all welcome (NOTE: no assembly on Feb 24th). Please wear something Pink on this day to support,

February 14 – 28 Gymnastics for all 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 2nd. Parent/Family seating is at the back of the gym on the right.

JSB

A message from PAC



RETURN-IT PAC ACCOUNT:

Just a reminder to drop off your recyclables in the clear plastic bag that PAC distributed to all students before Winter Break. The money from the recyclables will be directed back to PAC and students. Thank you!

PAC Meeting:

The next PAC meeting will on February 27th from 6-7pm. It will be a hybrid meeting with those who can come in-person to the Maquinna Library and a digital meeting (on Zoom) for those who aren't able to be in the building. Babysitting is provided. All are welcome. The Zoom Link will be sent out via email closer to the time.

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. It is a great way to meet other families and to be connected with what's happening at Maquinna. Please consider joining and taking a position on the Parent Advisory Committee.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Maquinna School PAC

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