

Chief Maquinna Elementary Newsletter

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

*With deep gratitude and respect, we
are honoured to be learning and
unlearning on the ancestral and
unceded lands of the xʷməθkʷəy̍əm
(Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh
Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) &
səlilwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh Nation).*

*"How do we change the world?
One random act of kindness at a
time. "*

Morgan Freeman

December 2024

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

December has arrived and so has the cold! This will be a busy and fun month before Winter Break. We are hosting the Winter concert performances on December 18th (matinee) and December 19th (evening). Please be sure to check your emails, inside student backpacks and this newsletter for more information. CSL updates will be going home on December the 16th and is a "snapshot" of where your child is at this point in the school 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,

Joyce Chong

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS AT MAQUINNA – DEC 2-20th:

It's December and students, staff and the community 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. With every act of kindness, students can complete a light bulb decoration for our Kindness Tree in the hallway.

GROWTH MINDSET:

We have been working on developing a "growth mindset" for our learning and for our self-growth:

A growth mindset is believing that your brain can grow, and you can learn many new things. You are not born smart; you become smart. The brain is like a muscle, when you exercise your brain, or keep trying, it will get bigger and stronger. A growth mindset is a "can do" attitude and sees challenges as an opportunity to learn and grow. Children with a growth mindset say, "I may not be able to do it, yet" "This is hard, but I will try," and "I can learn how to do this!". Please try some of the growth mindset language at home.

ARE YOU USING YOUR WITS?

We are also helping students with a strategy to help solve problems that they may have with other students: using their W.I.T.S. When faced with a problem such as: teasing, unfair play, name-calling, or mean behaviour, you can use your WITS to:

W-walk away, I-ignore, T- talk it out, S- seek adult help

Please help us reinforce these messages and strategies at home.

Thank you!

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS, TOYS AND GIFT CARDS

We have worked with CityReach, The Firefighters Toys for Kids and the Cops for Kids program to provide small hampers, toys and gift cards for Maquinna Families. Families will be contacted shortly, or they will be sent home with students on the last week of school.

FLEXIBLE PLASTICS RECYCLING EXTENDED TO DECEMBER 20TH:

Great news! The Flexible Plastics Recycling program for the month of November has been extended to December 20th. That means you can continue to bring your CLEAN flexible plastics to school to be put in the large bin in front of the office. The school will receive some funding for this project, sponsored by Division 4 and Mrs. Tehennepe. A reminder that the bin is only for flexible plastics: soft plastic and not the more rigid plastics like seaweed containers, and fast-food containers. Please see the attached notice for allowable flexible plastics. Thank you for your support.

GRADE 7 VOLLEYBALL:

A BIG thank you to Mr. Sabbagha and Mr. Coblenz who sponsored the Grade 6/7 Volleyball team this year. They had a great season developing their skills and had fun playing other teams in the district.

SOCCER IN JANUARY AT MAQUINNA – TWO OPPORTUNITIES:

1. Girls' soccer will begin in January hosted by Carrie Serwetnyk (former Canadian National Team soccer team Forward) at lunch on Mondays in the gym. More details to come – free program.
2. Free Kick Timbits After School Soccer program (paid program) on Thursdays afterschool in the gym – Open to K to Grade 4 students (Early bird until Dec 15th). Please see attached flyer for registration information.

WINTER CONCERT RETURNS!

The Maquinna Winter Concert is back again this year. The dress-rehearsal will be held in the gym on Wednesday, December 18th from 1:30– 2:30 pm and we ask family members, who are able to attend during the day, to come to this performance. Gym doors will open at 1:15 pm for general seating, all are welcome.

The evening performance will be on Thursday, December 19th from 6:00 - 7:00 pm. Families who are interested in attending can reserve 2 tickets only as we have seating limits in the gym. A notice has

been sent out to families to request these evening tickets. School and classroom doors will open at 5:45 p.m. for students to be dropped off. 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 families in need. Please ensure the Best Before date hasn't expired. 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.

Matinee - DECEMBER 18TH FROM 1:30 – 2:30 PM – DRESS REHEARSAL FOR WINTER CONCERT - ALL WELCOME!

Evening - DECEMBER 19th FROM 6:00 - 7:00 PM - 2 TICKETS AVAILABLE/FAMILY

CHANGE IN WEATHER – IT'S COLD OUTSIDE!

Please ensure your child has a winter coat, boots, mittens, a scarf and a hat as students are expected to be outside for recess and lunch every day (20 – 35 minutes) rain or shine. Please dress them warmly. Thank you.

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

From November 1st to January 31st, 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](#).

VSB PODCAST:

In the VSB podcast, After the Bell, you'll hear directly from those responsible for our publicly funded education system. This podcast gives listeners a direct and inside look at Vancouver's public school system and the people in it. Tune in for candid, intimate and honest conversations about what's happening in schools. We'll have conversations with students, educators, decision makers and staff about vital events, topics and issues in education.

Episodes will be released monthly. Tune in the last Thursday of every month, and don't forget to subscribe to VSB: After the Bell on Apple Podcasts, Spotify or wherever you listen to podcasts.

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COMMUNICATING STUDENT LEARNING (CSL) - Report cards are coming!

Got questions? Wondering what the proficiency scale means for your child? Looking for other ways to help your child learn? Join VSB's session for parents/caregivers: Understanding Elementary Report Cards!

When: December 16, 2024, 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Where: [Online Information Session](#)

Got questions already? Submit them [here!](#)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 2-6 – Wrestling for K-7 workshops

December 12 – Divisions 5-10 to visit Burnaby Village Museum (Thank you PAC!)

December 12 – Pick up your Purdy's Chocolate orders at the school (PAC)

December 16 – CSL Update Reports to go home (Report cards)

December 17 – UGLY SWEATER DAY – please wear your ugliest sweater!

December 18 – Matinee performance of Winter concert – 1:30 pm – All welcome

December 19 – Evening performance of Winter concert – 6:00 – 7:00 pm – Tickets required

December 20 – Pajama day for everyone! Come dressed in your most comfy pajamas.

December 23, 2024, to January 3, 2025- Winter Break – School is closed

January 6, 2025 – Welcome back to School!

January 20 – Professional Day for Maquinna staff – 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 2nd. 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, AIRS program, field trip opportunities, equipment for the classrooms, and funds for each classroom teacher as well as Resource and the Library. Thank you!

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A message from PAC



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 to be sent home on Friday, Dec 6th.

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 2nd 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 December 19th deadline as no late forms will be accepted.** Thank you.

PAC Meeting:

The next PAC meeting will on Monday, January 13th in-person at the Maquinna Library at 6:00 pm. Babysitting is provided. All are welcome. A digital link to join the meeting online will also be available closer to the date.

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

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