

# 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.*

"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream."

C.S. Lewis

## January 2025

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome back and a very Happy New Year! We hope you had a wonderful winter break filled with family and friends. We are back at school and all classes have an active and busy January. It's basketball season and Lunar New Year is approaching. Thank you to all the families who were able to come and watch the Winter Concert this year. A big thank you to families for the food donations which will be donated to a local food bank and will help some Maquinna families. Wishing you all a Happy and Healthy New Year! 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**

### Notification of School Closure Due to Severe Weather Conditions

With the colder weather, there may be a school closure due to snow. By 6:30 am, the Vancouver School Board will post information about snow closures on its website at [www.vsb.bc.ca](http://www.vsb.bc.ca) and will inform local media stations, including:

CKNW (980 AM)

CKWX (1130 AM)

CFHG (96.1 FM)

CBC (690AM, 88.1 FM)

BCTV/Global (Cable channel 11)

CJVB (1470 AM)

CITY TV (Cable channel 13)

### GRADE 6/7 BASKETBALL TEAM:

Grade 6/7 Maquinna students are practicing their basketball skills under the coaching of Mr. Sabbagha and Mr. Coblenz this term. They will be participating in games on Wednesday afterschool and hosting other schools in our gym. A big thank you to Mr. Sabbagha for coaching basketball again this year and his time spent with the Basketball Team.

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## **ARTIST IN RESIDENCE –FANNY KEARSE AND MISHEL ARRIETA**

Fanny Kearse and Mishel Arrieta are our Artists in Residence this year. Fanny Kearse began work with the Grade 6/7s in the fall. Through poetry and storytelling, Division 1 and 2 explored mask-making and poetry, culminating in amazing work. Ms. Kearse will begin her work with the Division 3 and 4 this week.

Mishel Arrieta is a mixed media artist who will be working with Divisions 5-10 this term. We welcome her to Maquinna! If you have any old furniture or items which can be taken apart, please let us know in the office. Thank you!

## **HOMEWORK CLUB CONTINUES!**

Homework club continues on Mondays, Wednesday and Thursdays from 3:00 – 4:00 pm in the library. Grades 4-7 students, who have homework such as studying, projects, or work sent by their classroom teachers, are welcome to attend. Helping our students in Homework club are Van Tech students who volunteer as tutors. Frog Hollow staff are here on Thursdays to support students. This is a great opportunity for students to receive 1:1 tutoring help to catch up on work and studying.

## **SOCCER MONDAY FOR GIRLS:**

Carrie Serwetnyk, a former player with Canadian Women's National Soccer Team, will be hosting a girl's soccer camp at Maquinna school during lunchtime on Mondays for this term in the gym. Welcome Carrie! We encourage all girls to come out to soccer every Monday at lunch.

## **KINDERGARTEN PRIORITY REGISTRATION FOR 2025-26**

From November 1<sup>st</sup> to January 31<sup>st</sup>, priority Kindergarten registration is open online for students entering Kindergarten in September 2025. Please check out the VSB website for registration information. This is the last month for priority registration.

## **SCHOOL CASH ONLINE: SOME OUTSTANDING FEES:**

Please check your School Cash online for some outstanding fees that need to be paid. This may include school supplies, field trips, book bags, programs, and other supplies. The school really relies on families to pay these fees as it does affect our school budgeting. Thank you.

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

January 13 – Maquinna PAC meeting – 6:00 pm in the library – All welcome

January 20 – Professional Day for Maquinna – No school for students.

January 27-31 – SPIRIT WEEK – organized by Grade 6/7 students.

Monday, Jan 27 – Messy Day – Come to school messy!

Tuesday, Jan 28 – Matching Day – Find a friend and be a twin, triplet, or quad.

Wednesday , Jan 29 – Sport Day – Dress in your favourite sport gear, favourite team/athlete

Thursday, Jan 30 – Dress as your favourite book character or celebrity day

Friday – Dress like a teacher for students/Dress like a student for staff

February 13 – Valentine's Dance – 1:30 – 2:30 in the gym, all welcome.

February 14 – Pro-D day – No school for students.

February 17 – Family Day – NO school – Stat holiday.

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. Parent/Family seating is at the back of the gym on the right.

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*A message from PAC*

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

We hope you were able to use the plastic bags and labels that the PAC sent out before the Winter Break for families to collect recyclables. You can bring your recyclables to any RETURN-IT location in the clear or blue plastic bag, with 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. There are a few extra bags at the office if you need additional bags. Thank you!



#### **PAC Meeting:**

The next PAC meeting will be on January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025. It will be in-person at the Maquinna Library from 6:00 – 7:00 pm. All are welcome and babysitting is provided. If you are unable to attend in person, please join via online link here at 6:00 pm:

<https://ubc.zoom.us/j/4446737273?pwd=L2pzOFhxdDVXMGN4aUlnUWEyek5QQT09>

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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