

Chief Maquinna Elementary Newsletter

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

May 2025

Land Acknowledgement

"With deep gratitude and respect, (we/I) (are/am) honoured to be learning and unlearning on the ancestral and unceded lands of the x̱məθḵw̱əy̱əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) & səliłwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh Nation)."

In a world where you can be anything, be kind.

~Clare Pooley

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Hello Maquinna Families,

We are deeply saddened by the tragic events that occurred at the Lapu-Lapu event this past weekend. Our hearts go out to the families and loved ones of those affected by this devastating incident.

In times of such sorrow, it is important for us to come together as a community to support one another. We encourage you to reach out if you need assistance or someone to talk to. School counselors are available to provide support to students and families during this difficult time.

We stand in solidarity with the Filipino community and all those impacted by this tragedy. Let us honor the memories of those lost by fostering a compassionate and caring environment within our school.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need any support or have any concerns.

Regards,

Maquinna Staff

The last two months of school are busy with many activities. Please check the calendar on the school website or in this newsletter to see what is coming up. Thank you for checking your email (and junk/spam folder) daily for updates and notices from the school or district. I will try my best to be outside at drop off and pick-up if you have questions or concerns or please give me a call or drop by my office.

Joyce Chong (Principal)

BIG ONE AT TWO – EARTHQUAKE DRILL ON MAY 8TH 2:00 PM

All VSB schools will be conducting an Earthquake Drill as part of the Big One at Two event on May 8th at 2:00 p.m. We will be asking families to help with the reunification drill which entails picking up your child at approx. 2:15 pm. You are welcome to take your child home after you "reunify" with your child(ren) or have your child stay until 3:03 pm. Please email Maquinna@vsb.bc.ca if you have time to help with the reunification drill at 2:15 pm on May 2nd. You will need to bring 1 piece of Identification with you for the drill. Thank you.

WALK-A-THON SCHOOL FUNDRAISER:

We had a wonderful time outside on Thursday morning, completing our laps at the school's Walk-A-Thon fundraiser this year. Primary students circled the soccer field while Intermediate students walk/ran the block around the school. It's not too late to collect pledges or donations from family and friends. Please help them collect the pledges and return them to the school by Friday, May 9th. Funds collected will go towards programming and resources for students. Thank you for supporting the school.

SPORTS DAY – MAY 16TH

This year's Sport's Day is on May 16th. The theme for this year is "Minecraft". Please come dressed up in your team colours and practice your Team Cheers (included here in the email). The classroom teachers will let your child know which colour team they are on. Please join us in the gym for cheers at 9:05 a.m. and for games outside for the remainder of the day. We will be finished at approximately 2:00 pm. You can pick up your children at that time or they can remain at the school until 2:58, our regular dismissal time.

TRACK AND FIELD AT MAQUINNA:

A big thank you to Mrs. Loughheed, Mr. Sabbagha, Ms. Plant and Ms. Aimee for sponsoring Track and Field again this year. The team has started training at 3:00 pm on Mondays and 8:00 a.m. on Fridays. Please refer to the notice sent home for accurate dates of practices and meets. The Maquinna track team are enjoying learning new skills, being active and part of a team.

INDIGENOUS FOCUS DAY – APRIL 28, 2025

Staff spent the day at Gladstone Secondary learning further about Indigenous Education and reconciliation. The theme for the day was 'Transformation'. The keynote by Gabriel George, grandson of Chief Dan George, was a highlight as well as many hands-on workshops and a staff circle to determine an action plan for our school.

AIRS EXHIBITION AT THE VSB EDUCATION CENTRE, 1580 WEST BROADWAY:

The Annual Year-End AIRS (Artist in Residence) Exhibition will run from Tuesday May 20th to May 30th, 2025 at the VSB Education Centre. The opening is on Tuesday, May 20th from 4:00 to 6:00 pm, with speeches after 5:00 pm. Our two artists, Fanny Kearse and Mishel Arrieta, as well as Maquinna students, will be on hand to answer questions and will share Maquinna students' work. The Exhibition is to celebrate and honor the creative and courageous work of students and the depth of learning that has taken place over the year with artists in the "studio". You are welcome to visit the Exhibition which includes artwork from 15 schools. Some of Maquinna students' art have gone home, are displayed in the Art room (Rm 111) at the school, and some will be sent home in June. A tremendous thank you to Fanny and Mishel for their amazing work with Maquinna students and staff this year.

NEXT SCHOOL YEAR 2025-26

Please let the school know if you will not be returning to Maquinna next school year. Please email: maquinna@vsb.bc.ca with the information. This will help with planning the organization for next year. Thank you.

VAN TECH FAMILY NIGHT – GROWING UP IN THE DIGITAL AGE – FOR AGES 9+

Here is an important invitation from the Van Tech Admin and Counselling Team around Social Media use and Children:

As your child transitions through secondary grades, it's crucial to support them in navigating the digital age. Do you want to help your child understand the complexities of social media? Are you looking for ways to support their mental health in this digital age?

Van Tech is excited to invite you to our upcoming Family Night event on Thursday, May 15th. This special evening will provide a hopeful and practical perspective on social media and youth mental health, featuring the final installment in our Screenagers Trilogy series, Screenagers: Growing up in the Digital Age. Here's the film

trailer https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ivzV5EI7_HQ

- Date: Thursday, May 15th (7-9 pm)—Doors Open at 6:30 pm
- Location: Van Tech Auditorium, 2600 East Broadway
- Cost: Free of Charge (light refreshments will be available, and free parking is available onsite)
- Suggested Age for Viewing: 9 years and up

To Reserve Your Spot: Please RSVP at <https://forms.office.com/r/HLEkjLc9Lj>

Film Description: *Screenagers: Growing Up in the Digital Age* is an award-winning documentary that explores the impact of screen time on children and families. Through personal stories and expert insights, the film delves into the challenges of social media, video games, and internet addiction, offering practical solutions to help kids find balance in the digital world.

Feel free to bring your children and friends along to share in this informative and engaging experience. After the film, there will be a panel Q&A discussion to address your questions and concerns. Our previous parent nights have been highly engaging, informative, and well-attended, offering valuable opportunities for families to connect with the school community and families from across the district.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Van Tech Admin and Counselling Team

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 1st - Walk-a-thon Fundraiser – Please collect pledges and return to the school by Friday May 9th.

May 5th – Whole School Panorama pictures – 1:00 pm

May 16th - Sports Day (Friday) - PAC fundraiser lunch or bring your own lunch – All welcome

May 19th – Victoria Day – School Closed for Statuary Holiday

May 21st – On Our Way to K Event (2025-26 Kindergarten students)

May 29th and 30th – Last book exchanges of the year.

June 1st – Spring BBQ hosted by Maquinna PAC 4:00 – 7:00 pm

Coming up:

June 12th – Volunteer Appreciation Tea at 2:00 pm (Save the date).

June 23rd – Whole school BEACH DAY – ALL welcome to join (more info to come).

June 24th – CSL Summary of Learning to go home.

June 26th – Good-Bye Assembly

A message from PAC

Hello Maquinna Community,

Please join us at our PAC meeting on Monday, May 5th at 6:00 pm, in person in the library or online via Zoom Link to follow. Any guardian can attend the meetings, and it is okay to just listen in without your video camera on. 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. Childcare is provided.

Zoom Link to be sent closer to date. Please check your emails.



Food, Games, Raffle, Prizes and more! Come meet the Maquinna Community!

