



What's
up
@McKechnie
December
2024

Season's Greetings to all our McKechnie families!

December is always an exciting time for our students! We are so grateful to live and work in such a remarkably supportive community, and we are thankful that our students and staff remain healthy and happy. As the winter holidays approach, it is the perfect time to teach our children about being helpful, grateful, generous, and kind.

There are many exciting field trips and activities happening in December, so please be sure to check the newsletter calendar for upcoming events. We are very excited and look forward to seeing our students perform at our Holiday Concert!

As a reminder to parents, our weather has changed, and the days have become wetter, darker, and colder as we head into December. As you know, students are outside getting fresh air and exercise, rain or shine. With the colder and wetter days, students need to be dressed warmly and appropriately. This year, rain jackets and warmer clothing are "must haves." Please send your child to school with the appropriate outdoor clothing daily (cold days - warm jacket or coat, toque, mitts, boots; wet/rainy days - waterproof raincoat and rainboots).

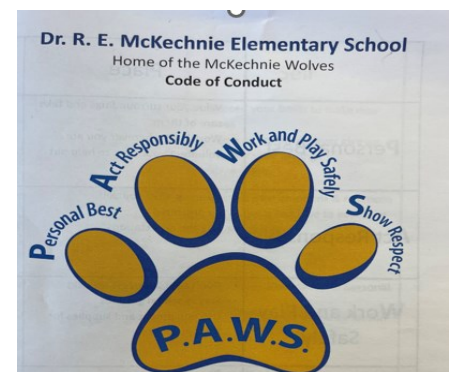
Additionally, please send a set of clothes, including underwear, socks, and an extra pair of shoes (labelled in a bag) for your child to keep in their cubby if they require a change of clothes.

Thank you for your continued support!

Warm Regards,
Lindsay



The students and staff of Dr. R. E. McKechnie Elementary School acknowledge that we work, live and learn on the traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and T'sleil Wathuth Coast Salish peoples.



“COLD SNAP” Winter Concert

Wednesday December 18th @ 1:30 & 6:30

Please reserve tickets with this [link](#) or scan QR Code. **Last day to reserve is Friday December 13th or when we reach capacity.** See Page 3 on instructions on how to donate to the McKechnie Music Program.



Winter Concert Clothing Suggestions

This year, McKechnie students will present a semi-staged musical called Cold Snap for our annual winter concert. In general, students are asked to “dress up” a little bit, and not wear their usual casual school wear. Nothing fancy, but clothing with large logos, pictures and hoodies are discouraged. Dark bottoms and solid coloured tops often work well. (Nothing wrong with the standard black bottoms and white tops). Try and find clothing already in your child’s wardrobe. Nothing needs to be purchased for this one event. Here are some suggestions to fit in with your child’s musical number:

Div. 11/12 – Soft, muted, earthy tones (Browns, grey, light blue/green)

Div 9/10 – Hanukkah colours such as blue and white

Div. 7/8 – White, Silver (or gray) and gold, or anything that looks Mexican

Div. 5/6 – Black, red, green colours

Div. 3/4 – Winter clothing – jackets, toques, scarves

Div 1/2 – 1940’s/50’s vintage party/celebration look

Members of the school choir can wear what their division classmates are wearing.

Mr. D will speak to those members if there are exceptions.

How to donate to the McKechnie Music Program

1- Sign in to [SchoolCash Online](#)

2- Click “**Make a Donation**”

Items

Vancouver School Board

3- Choose “**Dr R E McKechnie Elementary**” from **Fund Destination** drop down menu

Gift Information

I would like to make

Fund Destination: **Dr R E McKechnie Elementary**

\$1000 Other Amount:

4- Write “**Music Program**” in Message Box

5- Click “**Add To Cart**”

Message to School Board

Message: (Optional) MUSIC PROGRAM

Tax Receipt

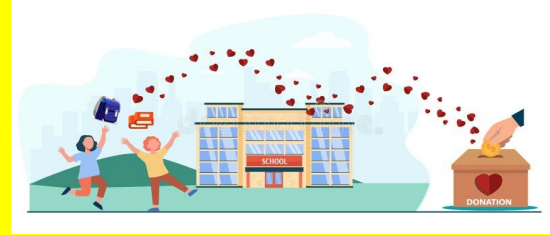
A donation receipt will be emailed to you upon completion of your cart checkout.

6- Continue prompts to checkout.

THANK YOU!!!

Direct Drive News

Direct Drive is on for another week! We are raising money for new sports equipment, library and school ready subscriptions. Your generous donations enhances our children's learning experience at McKechnie. If you haven't done so, it's not too late, you can still [donate here](#). Thank you!



Grade 7 Bake Sale

On Tuesday, December 10th, the Grade 7's are having another festive Bake Sale! Lots of scrumptious nut free items will be sold. Bring your loonies and toonies and help support the Grade 7's. All proceeds go towards Strathcona Camp class field trip in June. Thank you for your continued support of our wonderful Grade 7's.



Centrepiece Activity

The holiday tradition of Holiday Centrepieces continues! For over 30 years on the last day of school before the Winter Break, McKechnie students have made beautiful winter-themed centrepieces. On Friday, December 20th students will once again be creating their own centrepieces full of holiday greenery and made with their Buddy classes. Stay tuned for more information!

CANDY GRAMS

Heads up everyone! Holiday candy gram sales are just around the corner. Stay tuned for further details to come from the Humanitarian Club. Help to support others less fortunate by purchasing beautifully handmade candy gram cards to give to friends at school and family members at home. 🍬 🎅 🌲



IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

Please ensure your child brings their lunch with them in the morning.

Lunches kept in a thermos will stay hot, and our [hot lunch program](#) is available on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. We kindly ask that you do not drop off or bring lunch to your child during the day.

Additionally, **please pick up your child promptly at 3:00 p.m.** Please call the office if you anticipate being 10-15 minutes late. Late pickups can cause your child to feel anxious.



September 2025

Kindergarten Registration

for McKechnie siblings



September 2025 registration is underway. Children born in 2020 are eligible to [apply online](#). Please email

[Ms. Nancy](#) after registering so that she can look out for your child's application and make an appointment to bring supporting documents.

SIBLING PRIORITY—Early registration is encouraged so that the school can plan for the following school year and staff accordingly. Please note all registrations including siblings applications **must be received by January 31st 2025** to qualify for sibling priority. **Applications received after January 31st will be placed on the Waitlist.**

'tis the season...
**TO ROCK
UGLY
SWEATERS**



Friday December 20th is

“Ugly Sweater” Day

Let's make this a fun day before winter break. Show off your unique style and let your creativity shine through with fun and humour.

Poppy Fund Donation

The McKechnie community donated over \$760 this year! Through your generosity, the Legion helps all of Canada's veterans and their families. Way to go McKechnie!



Remembrance Day Assembly





Winter Break is just around the corner. Please let the McKechnie Office and class teacher know in writing if your child will be away on an extended winter break. Winter break is from Monday December 23rd to Friday January 3rd, 2025.

BELL SCHEDULE AND SAFE ARRIVAL PROCEDURES

Safe Arrival Phone Number
604-713-5159 Extension 54

WHAT TO DO IF LATE, PICKING UP EARLY, OR ABSENT

(Please do not have your child call the Safe ARRIVAL LINE, Guardians must leave message)

Safe Arrival Procedures for Parents and Children:

When your child will be absent, picked up early, or late, please phone the Safe Arrival Line at **604-713-5159 Extension 54** PRIOR to 9 am.

Report the following information slowly and clearly:

1. Child's name (SPELL SURNAME) and division number
2. Date your child will be absent **OR** if arriving late, time of return.
3. When students arrive late - They must **SIGN IN** at the Office **BEFORE** reporting to class.

When students are picked up early - They must **SIGN OUT** at the Office **BEFORE** pick up.

Safe Arrival Number 604-713-5159 Ext. 54

NOTE: For extended absences (ie - Vacation) please email classroom teacher AND the [office](#) dates of extended absence. No need to call Safe Arrival daily in this case.

Please contact the school office if you require further information. **Thank you**



Mckechnie Photo Gallery

Boys Volleyball Team



Girls Volleyball Team



Div 5 Big Buddies reading with their Little Buddies in Div 9



Div 5 & Div 6 @ The Vancouver Art Gallery

McKechnie Spirit Day Monday

T Shirts, Sweat Tops, & Socks For Sale

We have a limited amount of McKechnie Spirit Wear items for sale. Please come to the McKechnie office to view.



Next McKechnie Monday is Monday December 2nd

ARBUTUS KIDS WORLD

SPRING BREAK CAMPS

WEEK 1 – March 19 – 21 – Shipwrecked

WEEK 2 – March 24 – 28 – Earth, Wind, and Fire

- Cost per week is \$300.
- Includes 2 snacks and 1 lunch per day
- Camps run 8:00am to 4:00pm

Option of extended care until 5:30pm for an additional \$25 per day

To register please email info@arbutuskidsworld.ca to receive registration form





December 2024



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1	2 <i>McKechnie Monday Spirit Day</i> 	3	4	5 <i>Div 1,2,3 to Space Centre Field Trip</i> 	6	7
8	9	10 <i>BAKE SALE</i> 	11 <i>Div 7-12 to Carousel Theatre 11:30-2PM</i> 	12	13 <i>Last day to RSVP to Dec 18th Winter Concert</i>	14
15	16 <i>SCHOOL REPORT CARD</i> 	17	18 <i>1:30 PM & 6:30 PM</i> 	19	20 <i>Last day to donate to Music Program "Ugly Xmas Sweater" Day</i>	21
22	23 <i>Winter Break!</i> 	24 <i>Winter Break!</i> 	25 <i>Winter Break!</i> 	26 <i>Winter Break!</i> 	27 <i>Winter Break!</i> 	28
29	30 <i>Winter Break!</i> 	31 <i>Winter Break!</i> 				<i>See you on Monday January 6th 2025</i>

Principal	Lindsay Thompson	604-713-4952
Office Admin Support	Nancy Yuen-Chan	
Director of Instruction	Christopher Wong	
VSB Trustee Liaison	Suzie Mah	
Vancouver School Board		604-713-5000

Safe Arrival @ McKechnie

Please call before 9am 604-713-5159

Press "54#" and leave message

For extended leave—please email nyuenchan@vsb.bc.ca

In the event of snowfall, please refer these stations for NOTIFICATION OF SCHOOL CLOSURE information.

By 6:00 am, the VSB will post information about snow closure on its website at www.vsb.bc.ca and will inform local media stations, including:

- KKNW (980 AM)
- CBC (690 AM, 105.7 FM)
- CJVB (1470 AM)
- CFHG (96.1 FM)
- CKWX (1130 AM)
- BCTV/Global (Cable channel 11)
- CITY TV (Cable channel 13)



January 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 	2 	3 	4
5	6 	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22			
26	27	28	29			