



What's
up
@McKechnie

December
2025

Dear Families,

As we enter this festive season, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible learning and growth we've seen so far this year. December is always a special time in our school community, a time to celebrate achievements, share joy, and come together in the spirit of kindness and giving.

Our Winter Concert is just around the corner, and we are so excited to showcase our students' talents. Thank you in advance for your support in purchasing tickets and helping us make this event memorable for everyone.

This month, we encourage students to continue showing care and respect for one another, both in the classroom and beyond. Small acts of kindness can make a big difference, and December is the perfect time to practice gratitude and generosity.

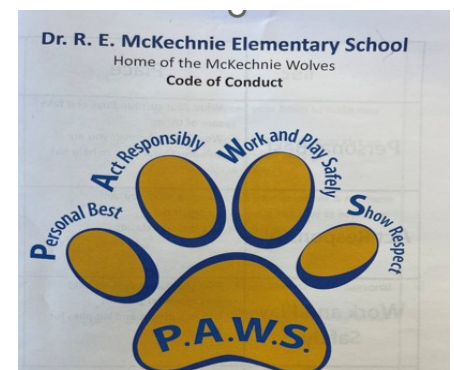
I want to thank our PAC and Leah Collings for their diligent work on the Direct Drive this year, and a heartfelt thank you to those who donated. Thank you as well for the wonderful PAC movie night on November 20. A good time was had by all, and we look forward to our next one!

On behalf of our entire staff, I wish you and your family a joyful holiday season filled with peace, laughter, and time together. Thank you for being such an important part of our school community. We couldn't do this without you!

Warm regards,
Lindsay Thompson
Principal



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.



Holiday Songs

from Around the World
presented by McKechnie Elementary



Performance Date: Wednesday, December 17th
Show Times: 1:30 PM & 7:00 PM

Tickets for our 2025/2026 Winter Concert will be available starting **Tuesday, December 2nd**, through **SchoolCash Online**.

- **Ticket Price:** \$5 per ticket
- **Limit:** 2 tickets per show per family
- **Total Tickets Available:** 220
- **Deadline:** Thursday, December 11th OR once capacity is reached

- ♦ **Multiple orders will be deleted.**
- ♦ Ticket(s) will be sent home with your eldest child on **Tuesday, December 16th**.
- ♦ No ticket is needed for children under 2 if they sit on a lap and **don't use a seat.**

Winter Concert - Holiday Songs from Around the World

Wed. Dec. 17th 1:30 & 7:00PM

Students are asked to dress in festive Christmas attire for the Winter Concert. Red, White, and Green tops, or Christmas sweaters with dark bottoms is preferred. Students may also wear accessories such as Santa hats, headbands, ties, and/or light-up jewelry if they wish. Please try to avoid wearing clothing with large logos, unless it is Christmas related. Try to "dress up" a little bit, and avoid casual day to day school wear. Nothing needs to be purchased, as students should wear something they already have in their wardrobe.

SANTA GRAM SALE



Santa Grams are here! As always, this year's Santa Grams will be created by our very own, McKechnie Humanitarian Club students. Each Santa Gram will cost \$2.00 each. You can purchase these through [SchoolCash Online](#) from now until **Wednesday, December 10th**. No cash will be collected. Proceeds will be going to a charity of the Humanitarian Club's choice.

Students will be asked to meet on Wednesday December 10, Thursday December 11 and Friday December 12 to fill out their purchased Santa Grams. Santa Grams will be given on Friday, December 19th.

Thanks!
Humanitarian Club

Grade 7 Bake Sale

On Wednesday 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.

Holiday Centrepieces

Our long standing tradition continues! On **Friday, December 19th**, students will create festive winter centrepieces with their Buddy classes.

- **Cost:** \$10 for supplies, payable through [SchoolCash Online](#) by **Thursday, December 11th**
- **Absences:** Please let the classroom teacher AND [office](#) know by December 10th if your child will be away on December 19th



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.

Please
be on time

September 2026 [Kindergarten Registration](#) for McKechnie siblings

September 2026 registration is underway. Children born in 2021 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 2026** to qualify for sibling priority. **Applications received after January 31st will be placed on the Waitlist.**



Spirit Club

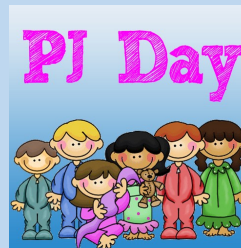


Show your McKechnie spirit and participate in our December Spirit Days!

December 1- McKechnie Monday. Wear your McKechnie t-shirts, hoodies or blue and yellow.

December 15, 16, 19- Holiday Sweater Days. Get into the holiday spirit and wear your holiday sweaters, t-shirts, hats and any other holiday themed accessories to school.

December 18- Pajama Day. Wear your pajamas to school.



Poppy Fund Donation

The McKechnie community donated \$573 this year!
Through your generosity, the Legion helps all of Canada's veterans and their families. Way to go McKechnie!



DETAILS :

- ✓ 3 DAY PROGRAM (Monday, Wednesday and Friday) - \$299.00 Per Month OR
- ✓ 5 DAY PROGRAM (Monday to Friday) - \$391.00 Per Month
- ✓ Snack included
- ✓ Weekly soccer sessions with Pedal heads soccer included

PUDDLE JUMPERS PRESCHOOL 9AM TO 11:45AM

Puddle Jumpers is a play based program. We encourage the children's curiosity and exploration by basing the activities on what they're interested in.

Our qualified, kind and creative teachers help to instill a lifelong love of learning.

As this program runs until the age of 4 it makes for a smooth transition into our Get Ready for School program.



GET READY FOR SCHOOL PRESCHOOL 12PM TO 2:45PM

Our Get Ready for School program enables 4 and 5 year olds to continue with a play based class where they are able to use their imagination, independence and creativity while being involved in more structured activities to prepare for the exciting transition to kindergarten.

DETAILS :

- ✓ 5 DAY PROGRAM (Monday to Friday) \$391.00 Per Month
- ✓ Field trips included
- ✓ Lunch and Snack included
- ✓ Weekly soccer sessions with Pedal heads soccer included
- ✓ Regular visits to Elementary school Kindergarten class

AGE
4-5



info@arbutuskidsworld.ca



604-269-6612



www.arbutuskidsworld.ca



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 22nd to Friday January 2nd 2026.

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

Volleyball Team



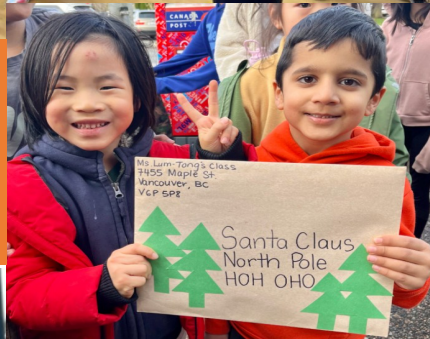
Div 5 at McDonalds



**Div 2 at
Chinatown Heritage Tour**



**Div 3 and 11
mailing letters to
Santa**



PAC MEETING WITH PRINCIPAL

★ JANUARY 22, 2026 ★

THURSDAY, 7:00-8:30 PM

School Library (in person) & Zoom (virtual)

www.mckechniepac.ca



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 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 	2 First day to purchase Winter Concert Tickets	3 Div 4,5,6 to Arts Club Field Trip	4	5	6
7	8	9 Gr 6  Immunization	10  Div 10 & 11 to Casa Mia	11 Last day to purchase Winter Concert Tickets	12	13
14	15 	16  	17 1:30 & 7:00 performances 	18 	19 	20
21	22 	23 	24 	25 	26	27
28	29 	30 	31 			January 5th Back to School

Principal

Lindsay Thompson

604-713-4952

Office Admin Support

Nancy Yuen-Chan

Director of Instruction

Christopher Wong

VSB Trustee Liaison

Suzie Mah

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:

- CKNW (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 2026

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1 Winter Break!	2 Winter Break!	3
4	5 WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 pro-d day NO CLASSES	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 Div 4,5,6 to Whistler	22 Div 1,2,3 to Whistler 7PM-PAC MTG	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31