



What's
up
@McKechnie

June
2024

Hello Parents and the McKechnie Community,

End of June: A Time for Reflection and Celebration

As June draws to a close, we find ourselves once again at the threshold of summer. It's a moment to pause, reflect, and express gratitude for the vibrant community-building events and gatherings that have enriched our lives throughout the school year. For educators and students alike, this juncture offers an opportunity to celebrate achievements, growth, and the cherished memories woven into the fabric of our shared experiences.

Joining the McKechnie Community

Having joined the McKechnie community in January, I've been met with warmth and open arms from staff, students, and parents. As I navigated my early days here, it became evident that I had found the right place—a school where dedication and camaraderie thrive.

Farewell to Grade 7 Students

June bids farewell to our grade 7 students, marking the end of their elementary journey. These young learners, armed with foundational skills honed over seven years, now step into the exciting realm of high school. We wish them well in their transitions, reminding them of the resilience and knowledge they carry forward.

Acknowledging Our Staff's Commitment

Our dedicated staff members deserve immense gratitude. This year has been a rollercoaster of challenges, surprises, and growth. Through it all, they've navigated with unwavering commitment, leaving behind a trail of evidence—proof of their tireless efforts and the learning that has taken place within these walls.

A Shout-Out to McKechnie PAC and Families

To our incredible McKechnie Parent Advisory Council (PAC), parents, and families: your support is the bedrock of our community. Without you, our endeavours would lack the strength and vitality needed to flourish. Thank you for being our partners in education.

Summer Wishes

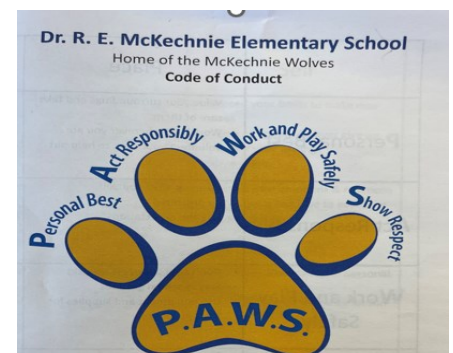
As we transition into summer vacation mode, may July and August be filled with adventure, safety, and joy. We eagerly anticipate welcoming everyone back on September 3rd, ready to embark on another chapter of shared growth and learning. Until then, enjoy the sun-kissed days and the freedom of summer!

Regards,

Lindsay Thompson, McKechnie 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.



Track and Field



The Track and Field season concluded on Wednesday, May 29th with the Zone Finals Meet for intermediate students at Churchill Secondary. Throughout the day, students took part in high jump, long jump, and shot put as well as running races, including maybe types of relays. McKechnie had a great turnout and our students had fun, showed good sportsmanship, cheered hard, and placed well in their events.

Thank you to all staff volunteers for helping make this season a success!



Mike the Critter Guy

Divisions 1 and 3 had a visit from Mike the Critter Guy to learn more about the animals in the Amazon Rainforest. He brought in a wide variety of creatures, including a Goliath tarantula, a tortoise, a green basilisk lizard, and a conure. They learned about how these amazing creatures have adapted to avoid predators, find food, and survive in their environment. The students loved seeing these amazing creatures up close, and they even got the chance to hold some of them!



Garden Club Update

Mrs Chang and Ms Koke have a limited number of tomato plants available for sale. Please look for these at Wednesday popsicles sales on nice days or come to our classroom before or after school. We look forward to harvesting some of the potatoes (weather permitting) the last week of June. Thank you to all garden helpers for your efforts.



Library Update

It's that time of year when Ms. Koke is trying to get all books returned in order to do



inventory and the many other year end tasks in the library. All books are required to be returned by June 12. Ms Nancy may be invoicing some students for books that have been missing for the year. Your prompt attention to paying for these materials is appreciated.

If you have any questions about missing materials or feel that the material has been returned, please come to the library and help Ms Koke look for the items. If any of the materials subsequently resurface after you

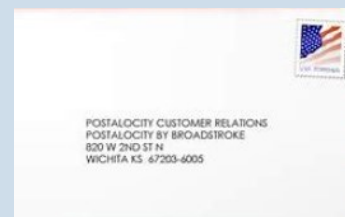
have paid for them, you will receive a reimbursement.

Ms Koke will also be enlisting the assistance of classroom teachers over the next 2 weeks to collect book bags from primary students for safekeeping over the summer. Thank you for helping us preserve our library books.

Are you leaving for summer break before Thursday June 27th?

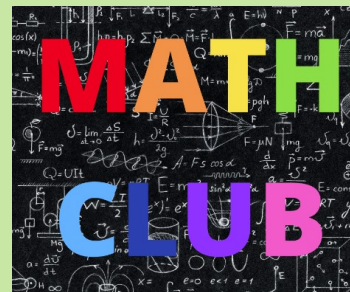
The last day of school is on Thursday June 27th. Please complete this [form](#) (if you haven't done so) by Friday June 7th **ONLY if your child(ren) will be leaving early.**

You may pick up your child's report card in September. Option to provide a self addressed stamped envelope with proper postage and leave with your child's teacher to mail out on June 27th.



MATH CLUB NEWS

A big shout out to all the students who were part of the 2024 Gauss Math Club at McKechnie this year.



The following students wrote the national Gauss Math Contest on May 15th. Congratulations to Hugo Kao in Division 3, who scored the top mark for McKechnie this year.

	Name	Grade	Div
1	Hugo Kao	6	3
2	Bruce Yang	7	2
3	Shawn Cheung	6	3
4	Justin He	7	1
5	Nathan Ren	5	4
6	Claire Zhao	7	2
7	Daniel Liu	6	2
8	Doren Ng	5	4
9	Chloe Jong	6	3
10	Karen Chan	6	1
11	Nathaniel Lau	6	3
12	Angela Chen	5	4
13	Kobe Luo	6	2
14	Samuel Lei	6	3
15	Kasra Sasani	7	2
16	Quinton Chan	6	2
17	Madeline Kennedy	5	4
18	Brayden Nie	6	3
19	Adriana Cleugh	6	1
20	Kuda Mwashusha	5	4

CUTLERY REMINDER

Please remember to send cutlery with your child(ren). The office **DOES NOT** have any to give them and we will not be providing cutlery from the staffroom. If your child does not have any cutlery, they will have to have lunch without any. Thank you for remembering to do this.



September Late Return



School starts on September 3rd, 2024. Please complete the below [link](#) if you plan to return to school **LATER THAN 9am, Tuesday, September 3, 2024, but prior to Friday, September 27, 2024. Please note: If the school cannot verify your child's attendance at school by 9am on Tuesday, September 3, 2024, your child's space may be given to another student on the school's waitlist.**

NO NEED TO COMPLETE IF YOU ARE RETURNING ON SEPTEMBER 3rd.

As vacation plans may change or be booked last minute, this link will be open all summer for you to complete.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact the school via email at studentrecordsmckechnie@vsb.bc.ca

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=WC6KCzB7CEq6t9dVWeDjpbFPlw0pl31Am7qlkCvmvcVUNjRYSVhLNFc3MEw5R>

McKechnie T Shirts & McKechnie Socks for Sale

We have McKechnie shirts for sale in the school office in various sizes. Please come by the school office to purchase.

Youth sized shirts are \$12

McKechnie Socks are \$14 each.

Reminder that **the first Monday of every month is McKechnie Spirit Day** where we encourage all students to show their school spirit by wearing McKechnie wear. Wearing your McKechnie T shirt or socks is a wonderful way to show your school spirit!



After School Tennis Camp

Tennis XL Agency Inc is a leading provider of children's in-school and after-school programs and we are excited to return to Dr R E McKechnie from June 3-14, 2024

This year, we are offering our After-School Camp for 10 day camp. We will embark on an adventure with our tennis camps using all the skills we learn in the In School Program.

Location: Gymnasium

Time: Immediately following the last class: 3:05PM - 4:05PM

Camp Dates:

June 3 - 14 (Mon-Fri)

Price:

10 lessons for \$165.00

Drop In: \$25 per class

Can't make one class? No worries, just choose "Late Start Program for \$155.

Online payments ONLY and now through our website. Register on the link below



[Please click on this link for our registration form.](#)

We look forward to welcoming you child to the camp for a whole lot of fun.

If you have any questions, please reach out to our Program Coordinator by responding to Nash Vuletic, see below.

[Nash Vuletic](#)

Director of Tennis XL

nash@tennisxl.ca

Cell [604.783.0103](tel:604.783.0103)

Fax [604.676.2817](tel:604.676.2817)

"Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all" -Aristotle

YouTube Channel: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Y1Qg5VYGs8>

Mckechnie Photo Gallery

Division 5 - Tanooki Slime & Graybar House Warehouse Field Trip



Divisions 11 & 12 rainy but fun day at The Children's Festival

On Thursday, May 30th,

Div 4 enjoyed a lively production of The Lion King at Sexsmith Elementary



Camp Strathcona

Grade 7's at Camp Strathcona - June 3 to June 7

The McKechnie Staff Dream Team

Thank you!

Mr. Smitna, Ms. Williston,

Ms. Puil, Ms. Lum-Tong



Class Casting

Student placement is a very complex process that we take very seriously. We spend many hours reviewing student placements before assigning classes. The assignment of students to classes is decided by a team, including the current teacher(s), Resource Teacher, School Counsellor and School Principal. This professional team considers each placement carefully as they create classes. At McKechnie, there are 300 students to place into classes.

The criteria considered in the class placement process includes:

- the program needs of the child
- physical and emotional maturity
- learning styles and personalities
- balance of academic abilities
- balance of students of varying gender identities
- balance of grade levels in a combined class
- balance of students with special needs and Individual Education Plans (IEPs)
- balance of students who are English Language Learners (ELL)
- cultural diversity
- logistics of SSA support
- motivation level of each student
- independent work habits
- leadership skills
- behaviour factors regarding each student
- social needs and friendships
- compatibility of students (i.e. the need to separate some students)
- family dynamics (twins, siblings etc.)
- information provided by the teacher and specialist teachers
- class size and composition requirements

All students are placed after careful consideration, into the best learning environment possible for the student. Our class lists are structured to provide equitable classes.

The school organization does not make it possible to have all straight grade classes and there will inevitably be combined classes. Please understand that it is not possible for your child to always be in the lower/ or higher grade of the combined class. There is a misconception and perception that this will give students an "edge" as they are learning curriculum of the higher grade. This is not true. Each teacher must teach the curriculum learning intentions of the grade. This is reflected in lesson content, learning activities and in assessment and evaluation.

There is consideration given to peer group, a support peer/group and friendships. Understandably, students may wish to be with a large group of friends or friends of their choosing. Please note that friends are distinctly different from learning partners. Students who are good learning partners may or may not be friends with whom they interact socially. Social groupings are not high priority for class placement. It is among the many factors considered. For a variety of reasons, students may be separated or grouped together. These reasons, to maintain confidentiality, are not disclosed to parents or the students.

If you feel your child requires *special* or *additional* consideration in addition to the factors listed above, please send a brief email to [Ms. Thompson](#) indicating which factors require **exceptional** consideration. Please note, do not name preferred or non-preferred teachers. Requests containing the request (or not) of certain teachers will not be considered. If there are extenuating circumstances under which your child cannot be in a class with a certain peer, please indicate this. Please note, if there is a large list of peers your child cannot be or wish to be with, this request cannot be met in its entirety. At least one will be met where possible - please note the preferred or non-preferred friend(s) carefully. All parent input into class placement will be shared with the current classroom teacher and the school-based team of the Principal, School Counsellor and Resource Teacher.

In the end, it is the school team's responsibility to place the student in the best possible learning situation. We value parent input. We will consider all input and ensure parents are heard. Please understand that being heard does not always equate to your ideal outcome but to an outcome which best suits your child's learning needs.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION - PLEASE TRANSLATE

Informations importantes - Veuillez traduire • 这是一份重要信息 — 请找人为您翻译 • Mahalagang Impormasyon - Paki salin sa sariling wika
 Thông tin quan trọng - Xin tìm phiên dịch • ਮਹੱਤਵਪੂਰਨ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ-ਸਿਹਰਬਾਨੀ ਕਰਕੇ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਕਰੋ/ਕਰਵਾਓ • महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी - कृपया अनुवाद करें
 Información importante - Por favor traducir • 重要な情報-翻訳してください • 중요한 정보 - 번역 부탁드립니다
 معلومات مهمة - الرجاء الترجمة • لطفاً ترجمه کنید • Важная информация - переведите, пожалуйста

**Dr. R. E
McKechnie**
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

School Year 2024-25

Standardized School Fee Schedule

Financial Hardship Policy

The Board of Education is committed to ensuring that no school-age student will be denied an opportunity to participate in a course, class or program because of an inability to pay fees. Parents and guardians unable to pay some or all school fees are invited to speak to their child's teacher, school counsellor, and/or the school Principal.

\$35.00 GENERAL SCHOOL FEE

The Vancouver School Board offers the service of purchasing basic school supplies in bulk at wholesale prices and passing the cost savings on to families. The School Supply Fee for 2023-2024 is \$35.00 per student*. This fee covers basic consumable school supplies used for students' personal use such as paper, writing tools, glue sticks, erasers, exercise books and art supplies. Supplies are provided for the full year.

SUPPLEMENTAL FEES

**Student
Agenda/Planner
\$10**

Some students at Dr. R.E McKechnie Elementary will be using an Agenda/Planner. School agendas/planners are a valuable tool for teaching children how to organize and plan for school. While students are not required to have an agenda/planner it is designed to assist students with the skills of organization and time management and is a very useful communication tool often used between teachers and families.

**Performance Fee
\$15**

We are pleased to enrich your child's learning through a wide variety of performances this year. This supplementary fee supports the school in bringing in talented and professional theatrical and musical performers that align with a particular educational theme. Parent support has made these opportunities possible and we appreciate your continued contribution. Sometimes, the PAC covers the whole cost so we may not request this fee.

**Activity Fee
\$20**

This year some classes will be booking workshops. Parent support for this activity was confirmed last school year and we appreciate your contribution towards this opportunity. These fees will be charged at the time the workshops occur.

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

PAC AGM Meeting

Thursday June 6th

6:30 pm to 8:00 pm in the McKechnie School Library

PAC
MEETING

PLAYDATE NIGHT!

@ PAC AGMeeting with Principal

Have fun with your friends

AT SCHOOL

in the EVENING!!

6:30pm-8pm
Thursday June 6
@LIBRARY

Bring your favourite
boardgames or toys to play!



June 2024

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

						1
2	3 Grade 7's to Strathcona 	4 Grade 7's to Strathcona 	5 Grade 7's to Strathcona 	6 Grade 7's to Strathcona PAC Mtg— 6:30-8PM 	7 Grade 7's to Strathcona 	8
9	10 	11 	12 	13 	14 	15
16	17	18	19	20 Grade 7 Leaving Ceremony 5pm - 9pm 	21 Grade 7's to Playland 	22
23	24	25 	26	27 Last day for students	28	29
30						

1st day back, Tuesday September 3rd

Have a wonderful summer break!

