

# MACCORKINDALE NEWSLETTER

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*With deep gratitude and respect, we are honoured to be learning and unlearning on the ancestral and unceded lands of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) & səlilwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh Nation).*

## Principal's Message

MacCorkindale Families,

As the weather turns colder, we can feel the excitement of the holiday season in the air! This is always such a special time at our school, filled with joy, learning and community spirit.

Over the next few weeks, students will be participating in a variety of fun activities that celebrate the season and bring us together. Our Kindergarten classes are especially delighted as they welcome some mischievous elves visiting from the North Pole! We are also proud to share that a group of our Grade 6 and 7 students successfully completed a babysitting course, an important step in building responsibility and leadership skills. Additionally, we were fortunate to have Ms. Paat, a teacher candidate, working with our school over the past few months. She finished her time with us earlier this week, and we wish her all the best in her future teaching endeavors. These events are wonderful opportunities for our learners to create lasting memories while continuing to grow and thrive.



As we approach the winter break, I want to take a moment to thank you for your ongoing support and partnership. Wishing you and your loved ones a restful, joyful holiday and a prosperous New Year. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in January, ready for another exciting chapter of learning!

## Winter Weather



## Be in the know, winter is coming!

Follow VSB on social media to stay updated about school closures due to severe weather.

During extreme weather conditions (heavy snowfall, extreme cold, freezing rain, extreme heat, etc.) VSB schools will remain open if possible.

If a District-wide closure is necessary, it will be announced by 6:30 a.m.

Stay updated:

Facebook: Vancouver School Board

Instagram: @vsb39

X: @vsb39


VSB website: [vsb.bc.ca](http://vsb.bc.ca)

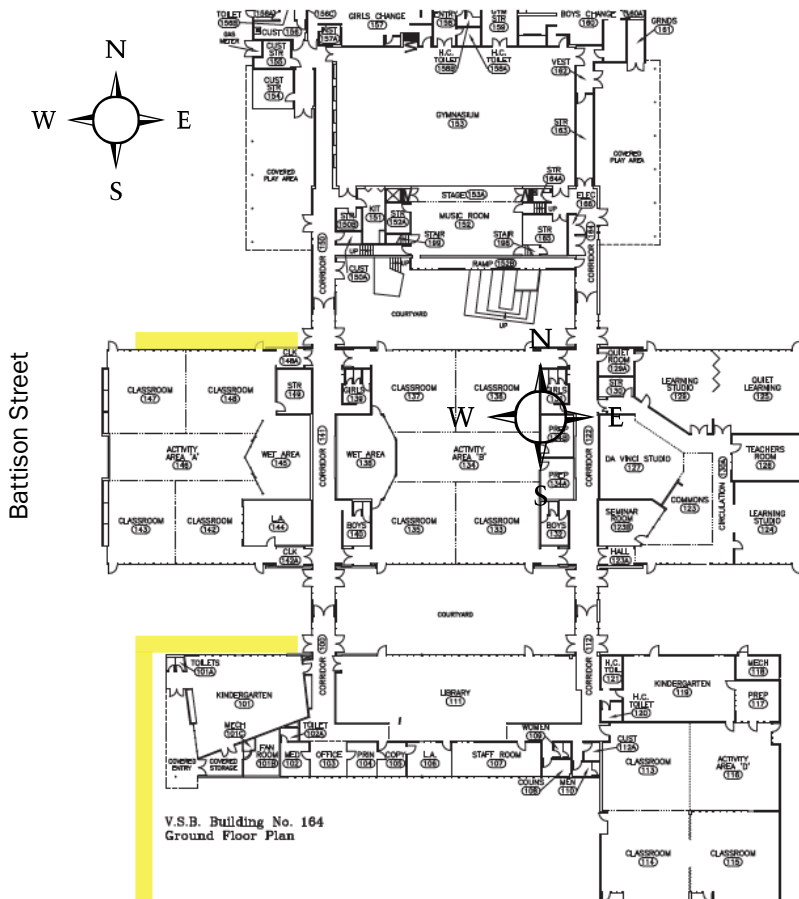
## Snow Safety and Access During Winter Weather

# SNOW PRIORITY ACCESS

## MACCORKINDALE

### Key

 Priority Access Routes  
Cleared & Salted by Operations



As winter weather arrives, please note that only the highlighted areas on the attached map will be cleared of snow as a priority. These include the **two main entrances to the school** and the **path leading toward the parking lot (for staff) on the south side**. Other areas, such as playgrounds, blacktop surfaces, and rear classroom doors, will not be cleared by Operations.

If snow conditions make it unsafe to use classroom doors for entry or dismissal, students will **enter the school through the main entrance when the bell rings** and walk to their classrooms. At the end of the day, students will be **dismissed from the front of the school**.

The Grounds Department will clear perimeter sidewalks and the parking lot as staffing allows, but please be aware that snow clearing beyond these priority areas may be limited.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in keeping everyone safe during winter conditions!

## New Lunch (Again)

Our teachers have shared strong support for adjusting lunch routines so that students eat before they play. Starting in January, we will return to the “Eat First, Play Later”. We are gathering feedback and reviewing data to ensure we choose the lunch routine that best supports student learning. Please share your thoughts by completing this form: [Lunch Logistics – Fill out form](#)



## Lost and Found



Items in the Lost and Found are located in the main hallway. Kindly collect any items belonging to your family before the winter break as items not collected will be donated to charity.

## Division 6 – Seven Sacred Teachings

Div. 6 learned about the 7 sacred teachings and reflected on how these stories can help us grow and become better people.



## Respiratory Illness Season

The following information is provided for parents by Vancouver Coastal Health regarding things to consider if their child feels unwell.

Things to consider if your child feels unwell:

1. The wellbeing of your child. Without proper rest, a child may have a hard time fighting an illness or be at risk for other illnesses.
2. The ability of your child to actively take part and learn at school.
3. The school staff cannot care for a sick child and give them the support that they may need.
4. The protection of other children.



Please keep your child home if they:

- Have a fever.
- Are too sick to take part in all normal school activities.
- Have a suspected or known communicable disease (i.e. strep throat, chicken pox, measles).
- Is vomiting or has diarrhea. It is recommended that students be symptom free at least 24 hours before returning to school.

Keep your child home until they are able to participate fully in normal school activities or as told by a health care provider.

Please let the school know your child's symptoms, as per the school's call back procedures.

If the school finds it necessary to send your child home because of illness, please make sure you have arranged an emergency contact if you are not available. Inform your school of these arrangements.

***If your child is too sick to go outside during break times, they/she/he is too sick to come to school.***



## Report Cards



Written Learning Updates will be sent home with students on Tuesday, December 16, 2025. Want to learn more about Learning Updates? The November 19<sup>th</sup> episode of *After the Bell: Live!* podcast dives into what they are and why they matter. Listen here: [After the Bell: LIVE!](#)

## Skating Field Trips

In the new year, all classes will enjoy at least two skating field trips between January and March. Notices with details and payment information will be sent home soon. Please remember to check your child's backpack or agenda regularly, as this is a particularly busy time of year.



## Staff Parking Lot

For everyone's safety, **students and families must not walk through the staff parking lot at any time.** With winter weather and poor visibility, it is extremely dangerous for pedestrians in this area. We want to prevent accidents and keep everyone safe. Please use the designated walkways and entrances—your cooperation is essential. Thank you for helping us protect our school community!



## Poppy Fund



Thank you to those families who contributed to this year's Poppy Fund. We were able to collect \$41.25 to support veterans and their families.

## VSB Voices- Call for Volunteers!

Parents and caregivers, are you interested in sharing your voice and shaping important decisions for our schools? We are looking for volunteer participants to join VSB Voices, a trusted group of students' families and caregivers who provide feedback about different topics through surveys, focus groups and panels. Your voice matters and it is vital in shaping important decisions for our schools. To join VSB Voices for the 2025/2026 school year, please take five minutes to complete the [following questionnaire](#) by December 15, 2025.

More information on VSB Voices can be found [here](#).  
Web survey powered by Research.net. Your feedback is appreciated!



## Important Dates

Friday, December 5	Killarney Choir Field Trip
Monday, December 16	Learning Updates Sent Home
Friday, December 19	BYB Assembly
December 22-January 2	Winter Break – School is Closed



## Kindergarten Registration for 2026-27



### Kindergarten registration for children born in 2021 begins on November 1

All kindergarten applicants are required to complete an online application for their English catchment elementary school. This includes families who wish to apply for District Choice programs (Early French Immersion, Montessori, Indigenous Focus School, Early Mandarin Bilingual, Nootka Fine Arts) and/or make a cross-boundary application to attend a non-catchment school.

The priority registration period for kindergarten opens on **November 1** and closes on **January 31**. Students who submit an online application within this priority period will be accommodated before late applicants.

Applying for kindergarten is a **2-step process**:

**Step 1:** Online Application (ApplyNow)

- Completion of an online application form (<https://applynow.vsb.bc.ca/>) for the school year **2026-27**

**Step 2:** Verification of documentation

- After applying, you will receive instructions on how to schedule your in-person appointment.
- Bring supporting documentation during your scheduled appointment for verification.

**Supporting documents needed:**

1. Proof of residence in Vancouver
2. Child's birth certificate
3. Immigration documentation (if applicable)
4. Immunization records
5. Court orders/documents (if applicable)

If you want to apply for a District Choice Program or cross boundary, you must **first apply to your English catchment elementary school**. District Choice Programs and cross boundary applications will be accepted in early 2026. For more information, go to: [govsb.ca/kchoice](https://govsb.ca/kchoice) and [govsb.ca/crossboundary](https://govsb.ca/crossboundary)



In the event there are more in-catchment applicants than available space\* at the school, the following process will be used to prioritize enrolment:

**Kindergarten Applications Received Between November 1 and January 31**

1. **In-catchment** kindergarten applicants with siblings in attendance at the school (and who will be attending next year) will be placed first.
2. The names of all other in-catchment registrants will be entered into a **random draw** for the remaining kindergarten spaces.
3. Students who cannot be accommodated will be placed on a waitlist in the order in which their name was drawn.
4. In the event there are more in-catchment registrants than can be accommodated at their catchment school, students will be placed at another school as close to the catchment as possible until space becomes available.

**Kindergarten Registrations Received AFTER January 31<sup>st</sup>**

In-catchment kindergarten students who apply **after** January 31 will be accommodated if there is space. If there is no space, their names will be added to the bottom of the existing waitlist.

**Note:** Sibling priority **does not** apply for registrations received after January 31.

In the event there are more in-catchment registrants than can be accommodated at their catchment school, students will be placed at another school as close to the catchment as possible until space becomes available.

For more information on kindergarten registration visit the VSB website: [govsb.ca/kindergarten](https://govsb.ca/kindergarten)

\* Available Space includes physical capacity, resources, staffing, or educational programs available or planned for a school as defined by the District (Administrative Procedure 300).

## Planning Ahead



Monday, January 5	School Re-opens
Monday, January 12	Pro-D- NO School for Students
Tuesday, January 13	Killarney Band Performance
Monday, January 26	BC Lions Energy Champions Presentation
Friday, January 30	BYB Assembly

## PAC News

Hi MacCorkindale Community,

PAC wants to let you know about things that are going on!

**Hot lunch** ordering is now open for our winter session (Jan-Mar) and will close December 17th at 11:59 PM. No late orders will be accepted. The first lunch date will be Friday, January 9th.

Please follow this link to order:

<https://munchalunch.com/>

To sign up to volunteer\* for hot lunch sorting and distribution please click the link below:

<https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/10C0F4BA5AB2DA3F8C07-60755202-winter>

\*Please note time has changed to 11:30 AM- 12:15 PM for volunteers.

**Bring out the stuffies and PJs** - December 12 is Movie Night, and we're watching the live action Lilo & Stitch! Doors open at 5:30 pm and the movie starts at 5:50pm, so make sure you come with enough time to set up your blankets or chairs in a good spot. Tickets are free, but you must pre-order on [MunchaLunch](#) by Thursday, December 11. You can also pre-order a pizza, and movie snacks, drinks and popcorn will be available for purchase at the concession stand. Hope to see you there!

PLEASE NOTE: All students MUST be accompanied by a responsible adult!

We still need volunteers for the Movie Night, so please consider signing up if you are able: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4BA5AB2DA3F8C07-60781490-family>

### Save the date:

Our next PAC meeting will be on **Tuesday, January 20th at 6:30 PM** in the school library. Put it in your calendars and we hope to see you there! Refreshments and childcare provided.

### Carnival team:

We are looking for a group of 6-10 parents to join together to plan and prepare for the MacCorkindale Carnival. If you are interested in being a part of the MacCorkindale carnival team for the 2026-2027 school year, please email the PAC. If there are not enough people to run this event it cannot take place. We'd love to have you! Sign up and be part of the fun to help make a great event for our kids!

Please follow us on Instagram and Facebook to keep up to date to know what the PAC is up to!

If you have any questions please email the PAC at [pac.maccorkindale@gmail.com](mailto:pac.maccorkindale@gmail.com)

From your PAC Executive Team