



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) & səllilwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh Nation).

Principal's Message



Happy New Year to all our students and families! As we kick off 2025, we're looking forward to another exciting term filled with new learning opportunities and fun activities. This month, students will have the chance to lace up their skates as classes head to the Killarney rink for skating sessions, a great way to stay active and enjoy the winter season. We're also thrilled to announce that Jess Dance will be offering a special dance workshop for all classes during the last week of January, giving our students a chance to explore movement and creativity. With these fun events and plenty of learning ahead, we're excited to see what the rest of the term holds. Here's to a wonderful start to the new year!

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



Lost and Found



Please write your child's name on all clothing and lunch items. This helps us return lost items directly to your child instead of placing them on the Lost and Found rack near the gym. With the colder weather, there are more items all the time. Please check each week for lost items and collect any items belonging to your family, as they will be donated to charity by the end of the month.

Food Bank



A heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed during our Winter Concert! Your generous donations helped us raise an incredible \$730 for the Vancouver Food Bank. Together, we're making a meaningful impact in our community!

Student Learning Surveys

The Vancouver School Board is participating in the 2025 Ministry of Education Electronic Anonymous Student Learning Survey Project in cooperation with all other school districts throughout the Province.

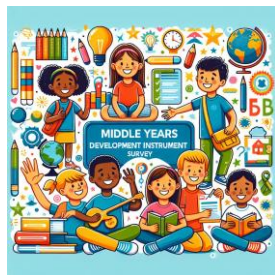
Parents/Guardians/Caregivers can complete the online Anonymous Student Learning Surveys any time **before May 2, 2025**, providing immediate results to the school and the district.

To complete the survey:

1. Use any computer that has an up-to-date internet browser access
2. Go to www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm
3. Click on "Parents"
 - District: *39-Vancouver*
 - School: *Dr. HN MacCorkindale*
 - Language: *the language of your choice*
4. Click on the blue "Logon" button



Middle Years Development Instrument- MDI



The MDI is a self-report questionnaire for students in BC. The questionnaire asks about how students think and feel about their experiences both inside and outside of school. The questionnaire is completed online through the e-MDI and takes 45 to 60 minutes to administer. The MDI questions align with the BC Ministry of Education's K-12 curriculum which includes a focus on promoting children's personal and social competencies. You can learn more about the MDI here: <http://www.discovermdi.ca/what-is-the-mdi/>. The MDI will be administered between January 14-March 14, 2025, to all Grade 6 students.

January Be Your Best Assembly

Please note that the January Be Your Best Assembly will be on Monday, February 3. We had to move the date from our usual end-of-month Friday assembly due to the Jess Dance Workshop schedule.



Choice Program Registration

Applications for District Choice Programs in Grades 1 to 7 will be accepted online between January 7 and February 4, 2025. The Elementary District Choice Programs Application site will be open at 9am on January 7, 2025. Before applying for District Choice programs, students must first register at their neighbourhood school.

District Choice Program (Gr 1 – 7) online application website: <https://elemchoice.vsb.bc.ca/>

Jess Dance

At the end of January, all classes will participate in dance lessons provided by Jess Dance. Each class will have a daily lesson, leading up to a performance at the end of the week. Please check your child's backpack for the permission form. The performance will be held in the gym on January 31st, starting at 2pm.

Parents/guardians are welcome to attend.

We apologize for the mistake in the School Cash Online system regarding the workshop fees. To clarify, the correct cost of the workshop is \$16.



MacCorkindale Traffic Guidelines

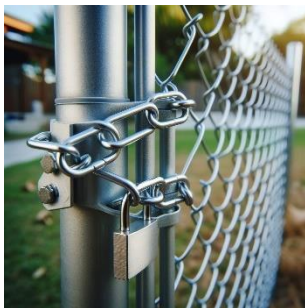
Please be reminded that the safety of children is our primary concern. We ask that you please:

- Follow all the parking and stopping rules posted
 - o No parking allowed in front of the school as signs state, just drop-off
 - o Quick drop off and pick-up on the school side of the street ONLY
 - o Do not make illegal turns near the school
 - o Refrain from parking or stopping anywhere that is prohibited
- **Use walkways; avoid walking through the parking lot for safety reasons.**
- Please note the school parking lot is for STAFF USE ONLY



We appreciate the efforts of drivers who follow these instructions for Battison Street and therefore working with the school to ensure a safe arrival and departure for each student every day. Thank you!

School Grounds Safety



Entrance gates to access the school grounds contain S-chains to help keep the door secure. Families using these gates are asked to kindly make use of the S-chain to keep the door closed. This precaution is essential for student safety, especially considering the proximity of the alley to the fence and the presence of cars that use the alley. Your attention to this detail is appreciated by all staff and students.

Important Dates

Monday, January 6	School Re-opens
Monday, January 20	Pro-D- NO School for Students
Thursday, January 23	Killarney Leadership Student Visit for Grade 7 students
January 27-24	Jess Dance Workshops
Friday, January 31	Jess Dance Performance



Planning Ahead



Monday, February 3	BYB Assembly
Thursday, February 6	Gr 4/5 Safer Space Presentation
Friday, February 14	Pro-D Day- NO SCHOOL for students
Monday, February 17	Family Day- NO SCHOOL
Thursday, February 27	Professor Wow Presentation
Friday, February 28	BYB Assembly

Kindergarten Registration for 2025-26

Kindergarten registration for children born in 2020 began 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 **2025-26**

Step 2: Verification of documentation

- Contact your English catchment school office to set up an appointment to bring your supporting documentation
- Bring supporting documentation to your English catchment school office during your scheduled appointment

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)

For more information on kindergarten registration visit the VSB website: 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).



PAC News

Happy New Year!

PAC is excited to announce we're planning a family portrait day to coincide with parent conference dates in April. More details will be available in the coming month. We are always looking for more volunteers to help hand out weekly hot lunches. As it currently stands, we don't have enough volunteers to keep this program running. If you're interested in helping out, please send us an email at pac.maccorkindale@gmail.com or follow the link pinned to the top of our Facebook page.

MacCorkindale PAC