



# MACCORKINDALE NEWSLETTER

**Principal: Lena Ling**

**Administrative Assistant: Reena Sampat**

**PAC Chair: Leah Kloeble**

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**PAC website: [maccorkindalepac.square.site](http://maccorkindalepac.square.site)**

*We acknowledge that we live, work, play, and learn on the traditional and unceded territories of the Musqueam, Tseih-Waututh, and Squamish Nations. We thank them for their caretaking of the land from generations unknown.*

## Principal's Message

It's hard to believe that October is already upon us! The school year has gotten off to a good start and it has been very busy at MacCorkindale. A big thank you to the staff, students and parents/guardians who have been so flexible and understanding during this past month. Our first PAC meeting; Kindergarten Gradual Entry; Opening Assembly; BYB Assembly; Orange Shirt Day; Cross-Country Practices and Terry Fox Run are just some of the events that have occurred this September.

Thank you to all our families for completing and returning the relevant notices, which are extremely important. We are still waiting for some to be returned. If your child has a severe life-threatening allergy or medical condition, please ensure you have contacted the office as soon as possible.

Wishing everyone a Thanksgiving weekend full of gratitude and delicious food.

Ms. Ling



## Concern at School?

Please remember that your child's teacher is your first point of contact. If parents have any concerns or questions regarding practices or activities occurring in their child's classroom, please discuss these concerns directly with the classroom teacher. Please contact the school via telephone, email or by putting a note in your child's agenda requesting an appointment. Most concerns are resolved at this point of contact.

After having spoken to the classroom teacher, if the issue is unresolved, an appointment with the Principal is the second step. Again, please contact the office to book an appointment in order to speak about matters privately.

If you have a concern about a child other than your own, please reach out to school staff. Only VSB STAFF are allowed to speak to that child. You may only speak to your own child.

Our school offers various programs to teach children diverse strategies for conflict resolution. We request that you allow our staff to guide and support your child in these matters.

## School Fees and Student Forms



Please remember to pay your school fees as soon as you possibly can. The Vancouver School Board will not deny a child access to the school supplies required for his or her educational program because of financial hardship. Nor will any child be excluded from activities where a fee is charged. If at any time there is a financial challenge, please contact the school principal. All requests will be treated confidentially. Information regarding School Fees and how to get set up on School Cash Online can be found here:

<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/dr-hn-maccorkindale/About-Us/newsletterandforms/Pages/default.aspx>

Forms have been sent home with each student to be reviewed by a parent/guardian, signed and returned to the classroom teacher. Please ensure that the information on the forms are accurate, especially phone numbers.

## Rainy Day Clothing

The weather is becoming increasingly cold and wet. It is important that students are dressed appropriately for outside play. If their clothes become wet and cold, it is very difficult for them to focus on learning throughout the day. Please ensure that your child is dressed for outside play. Consider sending extra clothes for your child as a change.



## Parent Sign-out

### Student Sign Out Procedure

- Students leaving school grounds during the school day **MUST** be picked up by an adult. When you pick up your child during the school day, please ensure that you sign them out at the school office. If you do not sign out your child or notify the classroom teacher, they/she/he will be unaccounted for, and the school will identify your child as a 'missing' student and will commence a search of school grounds. If the school staff do not locate the child, and are unable to reach a parent promptly, the school will call the Vancouver Police Department. Clear communication is essential for ensuring the safety of your child and to prevent unnecessary searches. Thank you for helping us keep your child(ren) safe!



### Early Pick Up

- Please let your child(ren)'s classroom teacher know when your child will be picked up early. Please inform the office and sign out your child.

## BC School Fruit and Vegetable Nutritional Program



We are pleased to announce our school will be continuing the BC School Fruit and Vegetable Nutritional Program which is sponsored by B.C. Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation and ActNowBC. Students will receive fresh picked fruit and ready to enjoy produce 13 times over the school year at no charge. If you do not want your child to participate in the program or need to inform us of any allergy concerns, please see the Opt Out Consent Form attached at the end of this newsletter.

## District Choice Programs for Grade 7 Parents

Grade 7 parents who are interested in learning more about our district's choice program; please check the links below:

[District Choice Program Brochure](#)

[District Choice Program Website](#)

## Cross Country

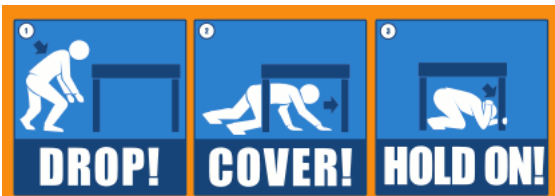


The Grade 3-7 cross country participants have begun their practices on Wednesday and Monday mornings. Mini Meets are held at Champlain Heights on Wednesdays afterschool. The final meet will be at Trout Lake on Thursday, October 19 in the afternoon.

## Label Your Child(ren)'s Items

Please label items like water bottles, jackets, lunch boxes, containers, etc to help keep track of your child(ren)'s belongings.

## The Great British Columbia Shakeout



We will be conducting our annual VSB Emergency Preparedness Earthquake Drill, it will be held in conjunction with the provincial "The Great Shake Out" on Thursday, October 19. At MacCorkindale, we have a school emergency plan which all staff have familiarized themselves with and gives us and the students an opportunity to practice what to do in an

emergency. This might be a good time for you as a family to review what your home plan is as well. There are many great resources out there to support you. Here is a web-based one:

<https://www.earthquakecountry.org/sevensteps/>

## Terry Fox Run

We hosted our annual Terry Fox Run on Friday, September 29. It was a beautiful day and all classes participated in the afternoon. It was wonderful to see all the students running for Terry Fox. Thank you to all our families who donated to this important cause. We raised approximately \$628! Thank you to Ms. Carle and Mr. Low for organizing our event.



## Parent-Teacher Conferences



It's that time of year again to sign up for conferences. Conferences will be taking place Wednesday, October 25 and Thursday, October 26. Conference request forms will be sent home. Parents please note the 2:00pm dismissal time on both of these days! Thank you to those families who are able to spend time in conversation with their child's classroom teachers in reviewing progress and setting goals for learning. Children learn best when the significant adults in their lives- parents, teachers, and other family and community members- work together to encourage and support them. Schools alone cannot address all of a child's developmental needs. The meaningful involvement of parents/guardians and support from the community are essential.

## Kindergarten Registration for 2024-2025

Is your child 4 years old now and will turn 5 by December 31, 2024?  
Was your child born in 2019?

If so, it is almost time to register for kindergarten.

- Priority enrolment to register your child with the Vancouver School District will be online starting November 1, 2023 through to January 31, 2024

There is a two-step registration process to enroll your child in kindergarten.

- First, register your child(ren) [online](#),
- Second, make an appointment with your catchment school to verify your information in person.
- Visit [govsb.ca/kindergarten](https://govsb.ca/kindergarten) for more information.

## Family Accident Reimbursement Plan

- The VSB is offering parents access to two voluntary student accident plans which offer coverage for students and their families against accidental injury, unexpected medical/dental expenses and critical illness. The two companies that are offering this product are the IA Family Accident Reimbursement Plan (FARP) and Study Insured.
- Families can register online to purchase and participate in either of these plans by using the URL's provided below;
  - <https://www.solutionsinsurance.com/aonbc>
  - [www.studyinsuredstudentaccident.com](http://www.studyinsuredstudentaccident.com)

## Halloween and Pumpkin Festivities ~

This time of year brings with it decisions on costume choice. While dressing up is meant to be fun and exciting, it also runs the risk of offending others with costumes that are offensive to other cultures. Halloween offers the opportunity to discuss costume choices with your child(ren). It is important not to inadvertently mimic culture by culturally appropriating racial or ethnic groups.



On October 31, we look forward to some Halloween fun at MacCorkindale! Here are a few Halloween reminders:

- Costumes are optional. Many students enjoy and look forward to seeing other kids (and staff) in costume. Students are welcome to come to school in costume if they wish to do so on Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Costumes that promote any kind of discrimination or are culturally insensitive are of course not appropriate (following our Code of Conduct)
- Please keep in mind, **weapons are not allowed at school at any time**, even if they form part of a costume. **Please leave any items that look like guns/swords/knives/axes, etc. at home** so that they can be part of your child's costume for the evening's festivities.
- Fragile parts of costumes should also be left at home so that they are intact and ready for Halloween night's festivities.
- If your costume is very scary, please be mindful of our youngest students at MacCorkindale (some are 4 years old). Remember that all break times are outside in the fresh air- if parts of the costume are fragile or not weather resistant, please plan ahead to be ready to go outside for the breaks. Some students may choose to remove their costume and leave it in their classroom before they head outside in their rain gear.

## Important Dates

Monday, October 9	Thanksgiving Day - No school
Friday, October 20	Professional Development Day (Staff Only – No school for students)
Wednesday, October 25	Early Dismissal at 2:00 p.m. for Parent/Teacher Conferences
Thursday, October 26	Early Dismissal at 2:00 p.m. for Parent/Teacher Conferences
Tuesday, October 31	Halloween

## Planning Ahead

Saturday, November 11	Remembrance Day
Monday, November 13	Statutory Holiday in lieu of Remembrance Day
Friday, November 24	Professional Development Day – no school for students
Monday, November 27	Individual Photo Day (Retakes)



## From the PAC

Hello MacCorkindale families,

We hope that your September has gone well and that you have settled into a rhythm for the school year. We are excited to again join with you in working to build a sense of community and partnership at MacCorkindale! We are still looking for a secretary for the PAC executive. If you are good at taking notes and organization, please come join our team!!!

Some dates to know:

- Our apple sale is still going the last chance to order will be **Saturday October 7**
- The hot lunch program is now up and running. Please place your orders by **Wednesday, October 11**
- The next PAC meeting will be on **TUESDAY, Oct. 17** in the school library from 7-8:00PM.

For more information please visit the PAC website at [MacCorkindalepac.square.site](http://MacCorkindalepac.square.site)

Or email us at [pac.maccorkindale@gmail.com](mailto:pac.maccorkindale@gmail.com)

And follow us for more PAC updates on

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/maccorkindalepac/](http://www.facebook.com/maccorkindalepac/)

Instagram: [www.instagram.com/maccorkindale\\_pac/](http://www.instagram.com/maccorkindale_pac/)

## In the Community



Champlain Heights Community Centre  
3350 Maquinna Drive, Vancouver BC, V5S 4C6  
t. 604.718.6578

### Stay Safe! (Home Alone)- Nov. 18

Do you or your parents want to feel confident knowing you are responsible on your own and have the skills to deal safely with an emergency situation? Included: First Aid. Active role-play! Interactive and fun!  
Course Content: Canadian Red Cross Principals, My Family and Me, My Time: Scheduled and Leisure Activities, Expecting The Unexpected, Healthy Choices, First Aid (Handwashing, Check, Call, Care, Complete Choking - Alone, Anaphylaxis and Use of Epipen Auto-Injector, Life- Threatening External Bleeding )

### Red Cross Babysitting Course- Oct. 14, 2023

This course offers basic first aid and caregiving skills for youth 11-15 years old. Participants learn how to provide care to children in a variety of age groups, and how to prevent and respond to emergencies. The course also offers youth the skills to promote themselves as babysitters to prospective families.

**Each participant will need to bring a nut free lunch and snack, and a doll or teddy bear for practice!**

Calendar 2023 - 24  
**Dr. H. N. MacCorkindale**  
 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

School Operation Overview

Number of Days in Session	188
Number of Days of Instruction	181
Number of Days of Non-Instruction	6 Non-Instructional Days; 1 Administrative Day (June 28)

Important Dates

First Day of School for Students	Tuesday, September 5, 2023
Day in Lieu of National Day of Truth & Reconciliation	Monday, October 2, 2023
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 9, 2023
In Lieu of Remembrance Day	Monday, November 13, 2023
Last Day of Instruction Before Winter Vacation	Friday, December 22, 2023
Winter Vacation Period	Wednesday, December 27, 2023 - Friday, January 5, 2024
School Re-opens after Winter Vacation	Monday, January 8, 2024
Family Day	Monday, February 19, 2024
Last Day of Instruction Before Spring Vacation	Friday, March 15, 2024
Spring Vacation Period	Monday, March 18 - Thursday, March 28, 2024
Good Friday	Friday, March 29, 2024
Easter Monday	Monday, April 1, 2024
School Re-opens after Spring Vacation	Tuesday, April 2, 2024
Victoria Day	Monday, May 20, 2024
Last Full Day of Pupil Attendance	Thursday, June 27, 2024
Administrative/School Closing Day	Friday, June 28, 2024

Professional Development and Curriculum Implementation Days  
 (school not in session)

Friday, September 22, 2023	Professional Development Day
Friday, October 20, 2023	Professional Development Day: <i>Province Wide</i>
Friday, November 24, 2023	Professional Development Day: <i>Indigenous Focus</i>
Monday, January 15, 2024	Professional Development Day
Friday, February 16, 2024	Professional Development Day: <i>District Wide</i>
Monday, April 22, 2024	Professional Development Day: <i>District Wide</i>

Parent Conference Dates

Dismissal Times

Wednesday, October 25, 2023	Early Dismissal at 2pm
Thursday, October 26, 2023	Early Dismissal at 2pm
Wednesday, February 7, 2024	Early Dismissal at 2pm
Thursday, February 8, 2024	Early Dismissal at 2pm



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

We are pleased to announce that our school has been accepted into the **BC School Fruit and Vegetable Nutritional Program** (Administered by the BC Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation and supported by the Province of British Columbia and the Provincial Health Services Authority)

Our school is involved in a province-wide healthy living initiative. One of the goals is to encourage healthy eating by providing fresh BC fruits and vegetables to our students *during class time*. Our students will receive these healthy treats 12 times over the school year at **no charge!**

For students in grades K-5, there is also the option to have milk delivered along with the fruit and veggies, again, at **no charge**. (A percentage of +Milk delivery will be fortified soy beverage for people with lactose sensitivities)

To ensure every student's health and safety please return this reverse consent form

**ONLY**

If you do **NOT** wish your child to participate

**AND/OR**

If you need to alert us to certain **FOOD ALLERGIES**.

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Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

**NO** I do not wish my child to participate in the BC School Fruit and Vegetable Program +Milk (as applicable)

**MEDICAL ALERT** My child has food allergies you need to be aware of and therefore he/she may not be able to participate in every offering. To assist you, below is information on my child's "allergy profile".

Please list allergy(s) and define allergy profile(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- For Example:
- It is airborne
  - It is by ingestion only
  - It can be contracted through touch – the skin.

If you need further guidance in this area, please contact me at: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_