



# 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

Dear Parents,

I am delighted to extend a warm and heartfelt welcome to each and every one of you as we embark on an exciting new school year at MacCorkindale Elementary. It is with great enthusiasm and anticipation that I begin my journey as the new principal of this wonderful elementary school, and I am truly honoured to be a part of this community.



I understand that change can bring both excitement and uncertainty, and I want to assure you that my primary focus is on creating a positive and supportive environment for our students. With that said, I am thrilled to announce that today marks the beginning of a new chapter as we have moved into new classes. Our teachers have put in their utmost effort to create welcoming and stimulating learning spaces for your child(ren), and I am confident that they will thrive in these new environments.

I encourage you to engage actively in your child's education journey. Communication between school and home is essential, and we value your input, questions, and concerns. Please feel free to reach out to me or our dedicated staff whenever needed, as we are here to collaborate with you to ensure your child's success.

Together, as a united school community, we will create a nurturing and stimulating environment where your child can flourish and reach their full potential. I am excited to embark on this journey with all of you, and I look forward to getting to know each of you better in the coming weeks and months.

Wishing everyone a fantastic start to the new school year!

## 2023-2024 General School Fee & Other Fees



The Vancouver School Board will continue its 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 will remain at \$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. Teachers may ask for specific items for their division/class.

## Student Agenda/Planner

Students at MacCorkindale will be using an agenda/planner in most grades K-7. 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. The cost of the planner will be. When this payment is ready to be collected an email will be sent to you from the School Cash Online system.



## School CashOnline Payment information

All payments collected by the school are done online on the School Cash Online platform. Information regarding paying fees and how to get set up on School Cash Online can be found here:

<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/dr-hn-maccorkindale/page/1387/newsletters-and-forms>

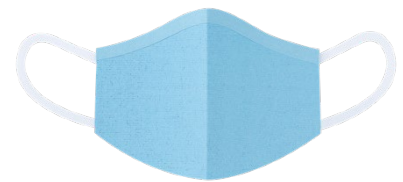
To pay all fees including school fees, fieldtrip costs required by the classroom teacher, please wait for an email from the School Cash Online system indicating that collection of fees has started.

## Student Forms

The school board is transitioning to online forms. Students will be bringing home a smaller package of forms in the next couple of weeks. Please ensure that all information on the Student Verification Form is current and correct. Also, remember that if there are changes to telephone numbers and emergency contact numbers, please inform the office immediately for your child's safety. Information such as school fees, internet use and other important information will also be provided. Please take a close look at each document and return the ones that require signatures to the school as soon as possible.

## Health Protocols

Wearing masks remains a personal choice at this point in the school year. We will be following handwashing protocols throughout the day. Please ensure you keep your child home if they are ill. We will be sending any students who are ill home without exception.



## Lunches



Lunches will continue to be eaten in classrooms at a designated time scheduled by the classroom teacher. Students across all grades will be outside for a 47-minute leisure/play time. Please remember to send utensils as needed, and a water bottle to school, so your child can fill it up at our fill station. If a student forgets their lunch and you need to drop it off, please bring it to the school, labelled with your child's name, to be placed on the lunch drop-off table in the hall by the office. We will either call your child to the office or deliver it close to lunch time.

## Visitors

We will be happy to meet with you at any time, however, appointments are appreciated and encouraged. Staff comfort levels vary, as do family comfort levels. Knowing you are coming will help us create a safe, welcoming space for all. Students will continue to be dismissed from outside school doors.

## Class Placements

At MacCorkindale, our staff takes great care in organizing students into classes for the new school year. In designing our new classes, the staff works together to build classroom communities that reflect all that we have learned about your child. The guiding principle in the placement of students and the organization of classes is to enhance the learning of each child within the larger context of the needs of all children. This is not an easy task. MacCorkindale staff invests a great deal of time and thought into this process.



Placement in a combined class does not reflect in any way your child's academic ability. Placement in a combination class at the lower grade does not mean that your child will cover the curriculum of the upper grade or receive an advanced program. The same holds true for a student who is in the upper end of a split class- your child does not receive a non-advanced program because students from a lower grade are in the same classroom; nor will your child be academically penalized by being placed into the combination class, rather than a straight class. Our teachers do an excellent job of placing all students.

## Cellphones and Technology Use

We understand that parents need to stay in communication with their child(ren). However, cell phone use is not permitted during the school day, unless it is under direct supervision of a staff member. Students should not be taking pictures, making phone calls, or gaming during recess and lunch. If there is a need to make an important phone call, students can make the call using our office phone during the school day. We want to protect the educational environment of our students. We ask that parents support the school on this matter as we ensure that our students stay safe and are enjoying a healthy lifestyle by playing and socializing face to face during our recess and lunch breaks.



## Terry Fox Run

This year marks the 43rd Anniversary of the Marathon of Hope and MacCorkindale Elementary is proud to be continuing the legacy of one of our greatest Canadian heroes, Terry Fox. This year's event will take place the week of September 29th. More information will be provided in the coming weeks.

## Safe Arrival

### Reporting Student Absences:

Student safety is of paramount importance at the Vancouver School District. Ensuring student safety is a shared responsibility. In order to assist schools, we ask parents to notify schools of student absences. If your child will be late or absent from school, please phone the school to report this absence as early as possible. Parents can call the office number at 604-713-4775, you may call any time, 24 hours a day. Messages are checked in the morning. School offices are busy places: consistently notifying the school in advance of your child's absence will significantly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Safe Arrival Morning Routine. If you are coming in late, please report to the office to sign-in and receive a late slip.

### Student Sign Out Procedure

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 the 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. Therefore, 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!

### Extended Absences

We encourage all students to attend school consistently, on time, every day. However, we understand that there will be times where an extended absence is unavoidable. In the case of an extended absence, please provide written notification to the school office. All extended absences in excess of 20 school days should be discussed with Ms. Ling. Enrolment cannot be guaranteed if an absence exceeds 20 consecutive school days.

### 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. The office staff will phone the classroom to let the teacher know to send your child to the office once you have arrived.

## Medical Alerts

### Students with Medical Conditions

It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to inform/update the school each year if your child has a medically diagnosed, life-threatening health condition. If your child requires medication, please bring it to the office as soon as possible and complete the necessary forms in the office. In addition, please complete and update the emergency contact/medical information forms which will be sent home later in September.

## School Hours

The daily school hours:

Warning Bell: 8:55 a.m.  
 School start: 9:00 a.m.  
 Recess: 10:40 – 11:00 a.m.  
 Lunch: 12:10 – 12:57 p.m.  
 End of Day: 3:03 p.m.



## Important Dates

Friday, September 22 Professional Day (Staff Only- No school for students)  
 Friday, September 29 Terry Fox Run

## Planning Ahead

Monday, October 2 Day in lieu of National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (School closed)  
 Thursday, October 5 Individual Photo Day  
 Friday, October 9 Thanksgiving Day Statutory Holiday  
 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

## 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.



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!

## From the PAC

Welcome back MacCorkindale families!



We hope you have had an enjoyable summer. As we start a new school year filled with excitement and possibilities, we want to warmly welcome you back to our school community!

Our school thrives on the incredible support and dedication of parents like you. Your involvement makes a significant difference in the educational experience of our students. Whether you're a seasoned volunteer or new to our school, there are countless opportunities for you to contribute and we greatly value your participation.

Please consider becoming a PAC volunteer and be a part of the positive impact we bring to our school. Together, we can achieve great things!

Stay tuned for upcoming volunteer opportunities and events. We can't wait to work alongside you in shaping a bright future for our children.

Our next meeting will be our Annual General Meeting that will take place in the school library on Wednesday, September 20 from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. This meeting we will be voting for the PAC executive for the 2023-2024 school year. We hope to see you there!

Remember to keep up to date by visiting our website at [maccorkindalepac.square.site](http://maccorkindalepac.square.site) and any questions or concerns can be directed to our email at [pac.maccorkindale@gmail.com](mailto:pac.maccorkindale@gmail.com).

See you soon,  
Your PAC executive

### Start the School Year off Right with a Box of Juicy Apples

Here's to healthier snacks for the whole family!

Buy a 10lb box of Ambrosia or Honeycrisp Apples fresh from a local family run Orchard in support of MacCorkindale Elementary School.

With this fundraiser we will earn 33% of total sales.

Share this fundraiser with your family, friends & coworkers.

Click this link to order your box of apples or paste the link into your browser:  
<https://fundraising.sunokafruit.com/s/maccorkindaleelementaryschool>

or scan this QR code:



SCAN ME

For details, take a look at the poster & letter enclosed for more information or visit our PAC website: <https://maccorkindalepac.square.site/sun-oka-apples-2023>

**Deadline to Order: Saturday, October 7, 2023**

**Pickup Your Apples: Mid October at the School (details to come closer to the date)**

**Volunteers Needed: day of delivery, to move boxes of apples & help at pickup**

Contact PAC if you have any questions, email us at [pac.maccorkindale@gmail.com](mailto:pac.maccorkindale@gmail.com)

Thanks for Supporting our Kids!

MacCorkindale PAC