



MACCORKINDALE NEWSLETTER

Principal: Lena Ling
Administrative Assistant: Reena Sampat
PAC Chair: Sam Kailley

Phone: (604) 713-4775 | Email: maccorkindale@vsb.bc.ca
School Website: maccorkindale.vsb.bc.ca
PAC website: maccorkindalepac.square.site

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



It has been a busy start to the school year! Our enrolment declined significantly over the summer, which resulted in a school reorganization and the loss of one division. While these changes created a very busy beginning to September, I would like to thank our students, families, and staff for their patience and flexibility as we worked through the transition. Despite the adjustments and the return to school routines, it has been wonderful to see students settling in, reconnecting with friends, and embracing learning with enthusiasm.

As we begin this new school year together, I encourage you to stay actively engaged in your child's learning journey. Strong communication between home and school makes a world of difference, and together we can build a caring, supportive, and inspiring environment for every student. One of the best ways to stay informed is by reading our school newsletter. We work hard to minimize the number of emails sent home and instead share important updates, dates, and opportunities through the newsletter. This edition is a big one, packed with important information, so please take some time to read through it carefully. Thank you for your ongoing support, we look forward to a wonderful year ahead!

Staffing Update

We have a few changes in our MacCorkindale community to share with you:



- We'd like to extend a warm welcome (back) to Ms. Ayumi, our new supervision aide; Franklin, our new Indigenous Education Worker and Ms. Hillick, our new Speech Language Pathologist!
- Sadly, Ms. Tsai was surplussed to the district through our school's reorganization. We wish her all the best and hope to see her again in the future.



Newsletter Update

This year, we are moving from monthly newsletters to five newsletters per year: September, November, February, April, and June. This change will allow us to focus on sharing the most important school information, celebrations, and upcoming events in a clear and meaningful way. We will endeavour to send newsletters on the first Friday of each publication month. Our goal is to streamline communication, reduce email volume, and make it easier for families to stay informed and connected to our school community.

2026-27 General School Fees & Other Fees

The School Supply Fee for 2026-2027 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.



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://media.vsb.bc.ca/media/Default/medialib/schoolcashionline.38cf0a28294.pdf>

To pay all fees including school fees, agendas and fieldtrip costs required by the classroom teacher. An email from the School Cash Online system indicating that collection of fees has started will be sent.

Financial Hardship



The Vancouver School District 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(ren)'s teacher and/or the school Principal.

School Planner/Agendas

Student agendas are an important tool that helps elementary students develop organization, responsibility, and strong school-home communication habits. Agendas provide a place for students to record homework, upcoming events, and important reminders, while also giving families a way to stay connected to their child's learning. This year, the cost of an agenda is \$7 per student. While our PAC has generously supported agenda purchases in previous years, funding has been redirected this year. We appreciate families' support in helping us continue to provide this valuable organizational tool for our students.



School Forms

The school district uses online forms. Students will be bringing home a small package of forms in the next week. Parents/Guardians are asked to complete the following forms within the first 2 weeks of receiving the package.

1. Reunification Form (Distributed to students)
2. Personal Information Verification Form (Distributed to students)
3. Log on to <https://myforms.vsb.bc.ca/> to complete the following forms:
 - a. VSB Internal Media Consent
 - b. Student AUP- Acceptable Use Policy (Also distributed to students)
 - c. External Use Media Consent
 - d. CASL- Canada Anti-Spam Legislation
 - e. Neighbourhood Class Walk Consent



Please ensure that all information on the Student Verification Form and reunification 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. Please take a close look at each document and return the ones that require signatures to the school as soon as possible.

Safe Arrival

Reporting Student Absences:

Student safety is a top priority, and we all share in that responsibility. If your child will be late or absent, please call the school office at 604-713-4775 as early as possible—messages can be left anytime, and are checked each morning. Consistent reporting helps us ensure a smooth and safe morning routine. Students arriving late must check in at 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 and we will provide an absentee form to be completed. All extended absences in excess of 20 school days should be discussed with the Principal. 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. Office staff will let the teacher know to send your child to the office once you have arrived.

Arriving to School On Time!



Arriving to school on time sets the tone for a successful day of learning. When students are late, they miss valuable instructional time, disrupt the flow of the classroom, and often feel rushed or unsettled. These missed moments—whether it's morning routines, announcements, or the introduction of new concepts—can add up and impact a child’s academic progress and confidence. Being punctual helps students start the day with a sense of calm and readiness, reinforcing responsibility and respect for learning. Let’s work together to ensure every child begins their day on the right foot!

Before and After School Supervision

We kindly remind you that morning supervision **begins at 8:40 AM**. For your child's safety, please ensure they are not left unattended on school grounds before this time. Additionally, students who walk home independently should go directly home after dismissal. After-school supervision is in place to ensure students are safely picked up. If your child wishes to stay and play after school, they must be supervised by a parent or guardian. Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our school community safe!



Concern at School?

Your child's teacher is your first point of contact. If parents have any questions or concerns regarding activities occurring in their child(ren)'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(ren)'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.

Device Use at School

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 the 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 phone 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.



Student Safety



Student safety is always our top priority. To help us maintain a secure environment, we ask that parents and guardians come directly to the school office if they need to drop off items for their child or if they need to speak with their child during the school day. For safety reasons, adults should not approach or attempt to communicate with students through the schoolyard fence or on the playground. Unknown adults doing so may lead us to contact the police. Thank you for supporting a safe and caring environment for all students.

We would like to remind families that our school is a nut-aware environment. For the safety of students with severe allergies, please do not send any food items containing nuts in your child's lunch or snacks. Thank you for helping us keep our school safe for everyone.



Visitors



We will be happy to meet with you at any time, however, appointments are appreciated and encouraged. The office is a busy place, knowing you are coming will help us create a safe, welcoming space for all. For the safety of our students, all visitors must sign in at the office.

Class Placements



At MacCorkindale, our staff takes great care in organizing classes each year, working together to create balanced learning communities that support every child. This process is thoughtful and thorough, with the goal of enhancing learning for all students.

Placement in a combined class is not a reflection of academic ability.

Students in the lower grade will not receive an advanced program, and students in the upper grade will not receive a reduced program. All students cover the curriculum for their grade level, and no child is academically disadvantaged by being in a combined class. Our teachers are committed to ensuring every placement supports student success. For more information about combined classes, please refer to the following resource: <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/combined-split-classes>

Recess and Lunch Time

Students across all grades will be outside for 2 x 20 minute leisure/play time each day. Every day is an outside day, with the exception if there is an extreme weather situation. 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.



Pets on School Grounds

We love seeing our school grounds enjoyed by families outside of school hours, and we welcome you to continue using the space for play, gathering, and exercise. If you are bringing your pets in the evenings, please remember that dogs **must remain on a leash at all times** while on school property. It is also very important to clean up after your pets, as children are constantly playing on our fields and playgrounds. This helps ensure that all members of our community feel safe and comfortable while sharing the space. For information about designated off-leash areas nearby, please visit the City of Vancouver website.



Grade 8 District Programs

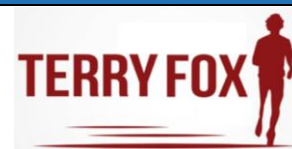
Families of Grade 7 students are invited to attend upcoming information sessions about Grade 8 district programs, continuing throughout October and November. These sessions provide valuable insights into available options and help guide your child's transition to secondary school. For full details, please refer to the program brochure [here](#).

VSB Vancouver School Board



Terry Fox Run

This year marks the 46th 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 on Friday, September 25, 2026. Please use the following link to donate to the school's fundraising efforts or cash donations are collected at the school <https://schools.terryfox.ca/138352/donate>.



Individual Picture Day

Individual student photos will be taken on **Wednesday, October 21, 2026**. Please ensure your child arrives on time and ready for their photo.



Parent Teacher Conferences



Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on Tuesday, October 20 and Wednesday, October 21, 2026. These meetings provide a valuable opportunity for families and teachers to discuss student progress, celebrate successes, and set goals for the year. Information about conference scheduling and sign-up instructions will be sent home at the beginning of October. We look forward to partnering with you to support your child's learning and growth.

Halloween

As Halloween approaches, many students are excited about choosing costumes. While dressing up is meant to be fun, it's important to remember that some costumes can be hurtful or offensive, especially those that imitate or stereotype cultures. We encourage families to talk with children about making thoughtful costume choices.

On Friday, October 30th, we look forward to celebrating Halloween together! Parents are invited to watch our Halloween parade in the gym, beginning at 9:15 a.m.



A few reminders about costumes:

- Costumes are optional, but many students (and staff!) enjoy dressing up.
- Costumes must follow our Code of Conduct: they should not promote discrimination or include culturally insensitive themes.
- No weapons (real or pretend) are allowed at school. Please keep items such as toy guns, swords, knives, or axes at home for evening festivities.
- Leave fragile or delicate costume parts at home so they're ready for Halloween night.
- Extra-scary costumes may frighten our youngest students (some are only 4 years old), so please keep this in mind.
- Students go outside for all breaks. If costumes aren't weather-appropriate, please ensure your child has rain gear or is prepared to change out of their costume before heading outdoors.

We're excited to celebrate Halloween safely, respectfully, and with lots of fun.

From the Health Nurse



Welcome back! As we return to school and return to routines, it is a good time to remember the importance of sleep and its impact on our students' abilities to learn. A good night's sleep means that your child can come to school prepared to learn, play and face the challenges of the day. School-aged children need an average of 9-11 hours of sleep per night; if your child has to wake up at 7am, that means that they need to be in bed between 8 and 9pm. For more info on sleep,

visit <https://keltymentalhealth.ca/sleeping-well>

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.



Kelty Mental Health Information

Transitions, whether starting a new school year, changing grades, or adjusting to new routines, can bring both excitement and uncertainty for children and families. The Kelty Mental Health Resource Centre offers a variety of helpful resources and practical strategies to support children's emotional well-being during times of change.

Families can access these resources here:

<https://app.cyberimpact.com/newsletter-view-online?ct=xwB1ws5PXOG5jVfP1BjfdE1zOUCrNS5rFt9v8ode-ruDgoj7xgfJdFTRq4u2XblH8e8YzGKe9VFSL3M30zkfDT-Z9ydu3uGwuUVKnt-KguR6S-80ua2cfcvbJQXXsXpr>

We encourage families to explore these resources to help make transitions smoother and more positive for their children.

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.

After School Flag Football (Grades 5-7)

The Community Schools Team will be offering a paid co-ed after-school Flag Football program for students in Grades 5-7. No experience is required and all equipment is provided. The program focuses on skill development, teamwork, inclusion, and fun, with students participating in games that maximize involvement and playing time.



The cost will be \$180 for 6 sessions, with a goal of starting in October. Financial support may be available for families interested in registering. If your child would like to participate, please let Ms. Ling know, when registration becomes available, so support options can be explored if needed.

The program runs rain or shine from 3:00-4:30 p.m., with sessions offered in both the fall and spring.

Daily Schedule

The daily school hours:

Warning Bell: 8:55 am
School start: 9:00 am
Recess: 10:30–10:50 am
Lunch: 12:10–12:55 pm
End of Day: 3:00 pm



Important Dates



Monday, September 21	Professional Day (Staff Only- No school for students)
Tuesday, September 22	PAC meeting
Friday, September 25	Terry Fox Run
Tuesday, September 29	Orange Shirt Day
Wednesday, September 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (School closed)

Planning Ahead

Monday, October 12	Thanksgiving Day Statutory Holiday
Thursday, October 15	Great Shakeout
Tuesday, October 20	PAC Meeting
Tuesday, October 20	Early Dismissal at 2:00 p.m. for Parent/Teacher Conferences
Wednesday, October 21	Early Dismissal at 2:00 p.m. for Parent/Teacher Conferences
Wednesday, October 21	Individual Photo Day
Friday, October 23	Professional Development Day (Staff Only- No school for students)
Thursday, October 29	Be Your Best Assembly
Friday, October 30	Halloween Parade
Tuesday, November 10	Remembrance Day Assembly
Wednesday, November 11	Remembrance Day
Tuesday, November 17	Photo Retake Day
Friday, November 20	Professional Development Day (Staff Only- No school for students)
Wednesday, November 26	Immunizations
Friday, November 27	Be Your Best Assembly



PAC News

Hello MacCorkindale families!

Welcome to another school year. We are so excited to start off this year with you as we are already off to a busy start.

OPTIONAL HOT LUNCH:

We are ready to start hot lunch ordering. We are thrilled to partner with a new vendor this year...YO BONES BBQ! Both Yo Bones and Agra Tandoori offer halal meat options. Make sure you take a look at the menus as we have some new additions to a couple of our lunch vendors. Hot Lunch is a fundraiser for the PAC to help support supplemental school programs and activities. Ordering will be open now until Friday, September 25th at 11:59 P.M. Make sure you place your orders and pay by then. **NO LATE ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.** Once the ordering has closed for the session there will be no opportunities for refunds, so ensure your order is correct before placing it. **Lunches will start on Friday, October 2, 2026.**

Please order through the munch-a-lunch website which is newly developed this year:
<https://munchalunch.com/>

The PAC Hot lunch program is made possible by the dedication of parent volunteers who help organize and distribute lunches each week. If you are available to help on Fridays, or even occasionally on a Thursday, we would greatly appreciate your support. Volunteering is a wonderful way to support our school community and help make this program a success for students.

Sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4BA5AB2DA3F8C07-65909173-hotlunch>

APPLE FUNDRAISER:

Our apple fundraiser is back for another year! Freshly picked from Sun-Oka Farms in the Okanagan, these apples are truly delicious. You can order for yourselves or share a link with your friends and family to order and help support our school community.

Ambrosia apples (10 lb box) \$23.95

Honeycrisp apples (10 lb box) \$29.50

Ordering will be open until October 6th with a delivery date of October 20th.

Order Here:

https://fundraising.sunokafruit.com/seller_1/082013021/org-campaign/dr-h-n-maccorkindale-pac-harvest-2026

PAC MEETING:

Just a reminder that the Annual General Meeting (AGM) is on Tuesday, September 22 at 6:30pm in the library. This will be a time to vote in the PAC executive team for this coming year and approve our budget. Please save the date and we hope to see you there! There will be a quick tour of the school at 6:00pm, before the meeting starts. Please meet at the front office if you are interested.

Light refreshments and babysitting provided.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out at pac.maccorkindale@gmail.com or follow us on Instagram or Facebook for updates.

https://www.instagram.com/maccorkindale_pac?igsh=MWZjMnhpZ2piY3psZQ==

<https://www.facebook.com/share/1BWFBisMmG/?mibextid=wwXlfr>

Thanks and we will see you soon!
The PAC Executive Team

Calendar 2026-27
MacCorkindale
Elementary School



SCHOOL OPERATION OVERVIEW

Number of Days in Session	186
Number of Days of Instruction	179
Number of Days of Non-Instruction	5 Professional Development Days 1 Non-Instructional Day 1 Administrative Day (June 30)

IMPORTANT DATES

First Day of School for Students	Tuesday, September 8, 2026
National Day of Truth & Reconciliation	Wednesday, September 30, 2026
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 12, 2026
Remembrance Day	Wednesday, November 11, 2026
Last Day of Instruction Before Winter Vacation	Friday, December 18, 2026
Winter Vacation Period	Monday, December 21, 2026 - Friday, January 1, 2027
School Re-opens after Winter Vacation	Monday, January 4, 2027
Family Day	Monday, February 15, 2027
Last Day of Instruction Before Spring Vacation	Friday, March 12, 2027
Spring Vacation Period	Monday, March 15, 2027 - Thursday, March 25, 2027
Good Friday	Friday, March 26, 2027
Easter Monday	Monday, March 29, 2027
School Re-opens after Spring Vacation	Tuesday, March 30, 2027
Victoria Day	Monday, May 24, 2027
Last Full Day of Pupil Attendance	Tuesday, June 29, 2027
Administrative/School Closing Day	Wednesday, June 30, 2027

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAYS
(SCHOOL NOT IN SESSION)

Monday, September 21, 2026	Professional Development Day (School - moveable)
Friday, October 23, 2026	Professional Development Day (Province wide)
Friday, November 20, 2026	Professional Development Day (District wide)
Friday, February 12, 2027	Professional Development Day (District wide)
Monday, April 19, 2027	Non-Instructional Day (District wide)
Friday, May 21, 2027	Professional Development Day (School – not moveable)

PARENT CONFERENCE DATES

EARLY DISMISSAL TIMES

Tuesday, October 20, 2026	2:00pm Dismissal
Wednesday, October 21, 2026	2:00pm Dismissal
Wednesday, April 21, 2027	2:00pm Dismissal
Thursday, April 22, 2027	2:00pm Dismissal