



What's
up
@McKechnie

September
2025

Hello McKechnie Families:

Welcome back! What a fantastic first week of school—it's been such a joy to see our students again, full of energy and excitement. The hallways are buzzing, and it's clear that everyone is happy to be back together.

Whether you're returning to our school community or joining us for the first time, we're so glad you're here. **McKechnie Elementary** is a special place, and I'm truly excited to get to know our new students and families and reconnect with those I already know.

Our dedicated staff have been working hard to prepare for a great year ahead, and I'm confident your children will have an enriching and joyful experience. Thank you for being part of our school community—we look forward to partnering with you in support of your child's learning and growth.

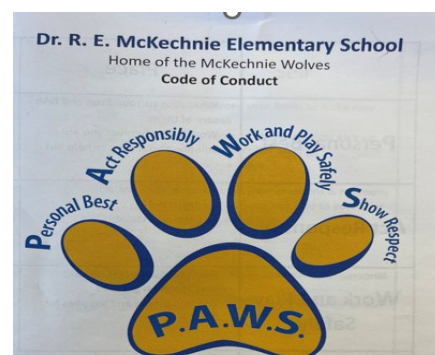
If you have any questions or need support, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Warm regards,

Lindsay Thompson
Principal



The students and staff of Dr. R. E. McKechnie Elementary School acknowledge that we work, live and learn on the traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and T'sleil Wathuth Coast Salish peoples.





MEET THE TEACHER



Thursday, September 18, 2025 • Starts at 3:15 PM in the Gymnasium



Classroom Visits

After the welcome, families are invited to visit their child's classroom to say hello to their new teacher and see the learning space.



Classrooms will close at 4.30 PM



Coffee & Snacks with PAC

After classroom visits, head to the undercover area to enjoy coffee and snacks

provided by our wonderful McKechnie PAC.



Join us for a warm and welcoming afternoon at McKechnie School!

Our **Meet the Teacher** event begins in the Gymnasium at 3:15 PM, where **Ms. Thompson** will share a few words to kick off the new school year.



Classroom Visits

After the welcome, families are invited to visit their child's classroom to say hello to their new teacher and see the learning space.



Classrooms will close at 4:30 PM

Please note: This is a casual meet-and-greet. If you wish to discuss your child's learning needs, please arrange a separate meeting with the teacher.



Coffee & Snacks with PAC

After classroom visits, head to the **undercover area** to enjoy coffee and snacks provided by our wonderful **McKechnie PAC**.

We look forward to seeing you there and starting the year together!

From the Library Corner:

Ms. Koke is back in the library Monday-Wednesday this year, and job-sharing grade 1/2 with Mrs. Chang this year. Ms. Koke will be recruiting library monitors to volunteer this year before and after school Mondays-Wednesdays. Monitor training will begin over the next 2 weeks.

Get ready—the **Scholastic Book Fair** is coming to our school! This is a great opportunity to connect with your child over the thrill of bringing home new books to dive into again and again. Studies show that kids read more when they choose books for themselves.

Dates: October 14 & 15 during conferences **Location: McKechnie Library**

Every purchase at the Fair benefits our school as we get a percentage of what is sold to buy materials for the library!

Book Bag information: For primary students who are **new to the school, you will be invoiced \$16 on [SchoolCash Online](#)** for Book Bag rental. Book bags that were returned to Ms. Koke prior to the summer will be returned to Grade 1-3 students.

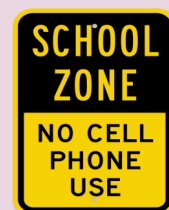
The book bags are very important for use in the library, especially by the lower primaries as they protect our books from damage that occurs from being left out on the playground in the rain or coming into contact with water bottles inside a backpack. Thank you for sending your book bags with your child on library day!

Student Use of Cell Phones, Apple Watches & other Electronic Devices at School

We understand that many students carry phones, smartwatches, and other devices for communication before and after school. However, to maintain a safe and focused learning environment, we ask families to support the following guidelines:

During School Hours (8:55 a.m. – 3:03 p.m.):

- **No device use** in classrooms, hallways, or on the playground.
- **Devices must be turned off** and stored in a zipped backpack or a staff-approved location.



If a student is caught using a phone, it will be confiscated and a parent/guardian will be contacted.

Photos & Privacy:

- Students **may not take photos** at school.

Photography is only allowed for school purposes **with staff permission** and **parental consent**, in accordance with privacy laws.

Responsibility for Devices:

- The school is **not responsible** for lost, stolen, or damaged personal electronic devices.

CASH ONLINE



The Vancouver School Board now has School Cash Online at **McKechnie Elementary** as its preferred method of payment for all school fees, including field trips and yearbooks. This secure system helps parents/guardians and community members pay school-related fees safely, quickly, and easily online.

The system puts all the school fees available to your student online for purchase, keeping you informed of your child's activities and needs. We will post items through the system and assign the relevant fees to your child. You can then choose to purchase these fees online with one of three different methods, including credit cards. You can also stay informed and keep track of which school fees require your attention. The system strictly adheres to Canada's privacy and anti-spam legislation and meets the latest industry standards for payment security.

If you have not already done so, please take time to register now – a simple process that takes only a few minutes – by visiting <https://vsb.schoolcashonline.com> and following directions to the School Cash Online page. You will need your child's usual first name, last name, and birth date to register.

To receive email notifications of upcoming fees, please select "YES" and check the box indicating "I want to receive email notifications for new fees assigned to my student and updates on school-related activities." Should you encounter any difficulties, you can use the parent help desk at 1(866) 961-1803 or by visiting <https://helpdesk.supportschoolcashonline.com/en/support/home?>

McKechnie Spirit Day Alert!

Mark your calendars—the **first Monday of every month** is McKechnie Spirit Day! We encourage all students to show their school pride by rocking their McKechnie gear. Whether it's a hoodie, T-shirt, or anything in between, wearing your Spirit Wear is a great way to celebrate our amazing school community. Adult sizing is also available.

Orders can be placed on **SchoolCash Online**. Deadline is this Friday September 12th in order to have shirts ready for X-Country season.

Heads up! Spirit Wear will be required for upcoming **X-Country** and **Track & Field** events—so make sure you're ready to represent!



Terry Fox Run on Friday September 26th

On **Friday September 26th**, McKechnie Elementary will be taking part in the 45th Anniversary of Terry Fox Marathon of Hope Run. Classes will be running around the school and field with their buddy classes at a designated time, throughout the day. Your child's teacher will tell you your child's run time. Please prepare your child in appropriate clothing for the weather and physical activity. We will run rain or shine!

Please note you must consent on the online [Neighbourhood Class Walk Consent Form](#) BY SEPTEMBER 24th in order for your child to participate in the Terry Fox Run.

This year, we will be collecting donations online, through this link, <https://schools.terryfox.ca/DrREMcKechnieElementary> or use the QR code below. All donations will be individually submitted to the Terry Fox Foundation. Donations over \$20 will receive a tax receipt. All McKechnie donations will be totalled in the school hallway on our Terry Fox poster.

In addition, we are excited to also provide the opportunity for students to purchase a **Terry Fox Foundation T-Shirt**. The detailed information on sizing will be posted on [SchoolCashOnline](#). Each **Youth T-Shirt will cost \$26** and **Adult T-Shirts are \$31**. Due date for T Shirt orders will be on **Monday September 15th**.

To read more about Terry Fox and his Marathon of Hope, click this link. <https://terryfox.org/terrys-story/>

There will be no cash donations at school.

Thank you for your support.



JOIN THE PAC!

McKechnie Parent Advisory Committee

www.mckechniepac.ca - yourmckechniepac@gmail.com

Stay informed about what is happening at McKechnie!

Upcoming school events, PAC activities, and important announcements such as hot lunches, after-school programs, and opportunities to get involved.

More information and programs will be announced on the WhatsApp and WeChat group.

Looking forward to building a strong community together!

***First PAC Meeting coming up beginning of October details to come!**



WHATSAPP



WECHAT

Exciting News! We're thrilled to welcome **Yummy Slice Pizza** as our new vendor for **Pizza Friday Lunches!**

Starting **Friday, September 26**, students can look forward to delicious pizza and pasta options, complete with juice boxes. Full details will be available soon on **Munch-A-Lunch**.

Important Note: We're currently fine-tuning our ordering system and will let you know this week when it's ready to go live on the **PAC Lunch website**. **Please hold off on placing any Pizza Friday orders until further notice.**

Thanks for your patience and enthusiasm!

— *Alvin Jordan* Pizza Friday Coordinator



AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS

Registration for the 2025 Fall (Sep - Dec) Afterschool Programs is now open! There are 3 programs available for students to choose from. Please visit the PAC website for details.

<https://www.mckechniepac.ca/afterschool>

各位亲爱的家长您好！

2025 年秋季(9-12 月)课后课程现已开放报名！本学期共有 3 门课程供孩子们选择，详情请参阅 PAC 官网。

<https://www.mckechniepac.ca/afterschool>



Upcoming PAC Activities

Hot Lunch starts Monday September 22
(more details to follow)

Pizza Lunch start date Friday September 26
(more details to follow)

Meet the Teacher Social Thursday September 15
(more info from Principal)

First PAC Meeting Everyone Welcome!
(date TBD)

Direct Drive starts October

MCKECHNIE HOT LUNCH STARTS SEPTEMBER 22 4 DAYS A WEEK

Orders will be placed through the
Fantuan system with 12 partner
restaurants, offering a variety of cuisines.

The order link will be sent out this week
through Email, WhatsApp, and WeChat
www.mckechniepac.ca/lunch



IMPORTANT REMINDERS TO PARENTS:

No Uber Eats or Personal Food Deliveries to Classrooms

We kindly remind parents that 'Uber Eats' and other personal food deliveries are **not permitted to classrooms**. If a student forgets their lunch, parents can drop it off at a table outside the office. It is the student's responsibility to pick up their lunch from there. **Please do not make this a daily/regular routine to bring food during school hours.**

Minimizing Classroom Disruptions

Unless it's an **emergency**, students and teachers should not be disturbed during class time to call home for non-urgent messages, such as who is picking them up or to arrange playdates. These interruptions are very disruptive to the learning environment, and will not be permitted. The office staff is extremely busy and is not able to pass messages on to your children.

Reminder to Parents: No Cutlery Provided

Please remember to send cutlery with your child(ren). The office **DOES NOT** have any to give them and we will not be providing cutlery from the staffroom. If your child does not have any cutlery, they will have to have lunch without any. Thank you for remembering to do this.



Nut Free Zone

A reminder that several students at McKechnie have severe allergies (especially nuts). We ask that families refrain from sending nut products with their child.



Please check with your child's teacher if you are unsure of food allergies.

If your child requires an epipen, puffer or has medical issues that we should be aware of, please contact the school office to further discuss. Thank you.

Parents To-Do List:

- ◇ Complete/Update Student Verification Sheet (will be sent home this week) - **Due Wednesday September 24th**
- ◇ Complete Reunification Sheet (Long yellow sheet) - 1 sheet per family (will be sent home this week) - **Due Wednesday September 24th**
- ◇ Complete [online forms](#) (Must complete to participate in Terry Fox Run) **Due Wednesday September 24th**
- ◇ Pay \$35 Student School Fees ([SchoolCash Online](#))—**Due Friday September 26th**
- ◇ Order Terry Fox T shirt (optional) ([SchoolCash Online](#)) -**Due Monday September 15th**
- ◇ Order McKechnie Spirit Wear T shirt(optional) ([SchoolCash Online](#)) - **Due Friday September 12th**
- ◇ Pay \$10 Agenda (Div. 1-10)/Plastic organizer pouch (Div. 11K) fee on ([SchoolCash Online](#)) - **Due Friday September 26th**
- ◇ Pay \$40 for JumpMath Work book (Div. 5,6,7,8 only) on ([SchoolCash Online](#))- **Due Friday September 26th**
- ◇ Pay \$16 for Library book bag—(K's and New Grades 1,2,3) on ([SchoolCash Online](#)) **Due Friday September 19th**

Magee Music Society

Hello Magee Community and Friends,

We hope you had a wonderful summer!

We are kicking off our school year with a fall Paper Shredding Fundraiser. Here are the details:



- When: Saturday, September 13, 2025
- Time: 10am - 2pm
- Where: Magee Parking Lot
- Suggested Donation: \$15 per bag, \$20 per box - but we will appreciate any donation given!

Our Bands are preparing to go on tour to Montreal in the Spring. They will be performing at various locations, collaborating with local schools, interacting with local musicians and exploring historical sites. Your donation will help fund amazing experiences such as this, along with student scholarships, new instrument purchases and clinician workshops. We can't thank you enough for your continued support!

DR. R.E. MCKECHNIE STAFF LIST 2025-2026

Principal		Ms. Lindsay Thompson
Administrative Office Assistant		Nancy Yuen-Chan
Div. 1 Grade 6/7	Room #212	Ms. Taryn Puil
Div. 2 Grade 6/7	Room #209	Mr. Trevor Smitna
Div. 3 Grade 6/7	Room #105	Ms. Christina Williston
Div. 4 Grade 5	Room #207	Mrs. Vicki Wong
Div. 5 Grade 4/5	Room# 208	Mr. Scott Kemp
Div. 6 Grade 4	Room #210	Ms. Zoe McNair
Div. 7 Grade 3	Room # 101	Mrs. Maria Papageorgiou (M-W.)/ Ms Joellen Housego (Th.-Fr.)
Div. 8 Grade 2/3	Room #211	Mr. Ben Fanning
Div. 9 Grade 1/2	Room# 102	Mrs. Nidia Pawliuk
Div. 10 Grade 1/2	Room #110	Mrs. Tammy Chang – (Mon. - Wed.) Ms. Shelley Koke - (Thurs. – Fri.)
Div. 11 Grade KF	Room #104	Ms. Kristin Lum-Tong

Resource Teacher	Room #206	Ms. Cindy Tsang– Head Teacher
Resource Teacher	Room #109	Ms. Katharine Thurmeier
Resource Teacher	Room #106	Ms. Sisley Killam
Librarian	Room #103	Ms. Shelley Koke
Music	Portable	Mr. Glenn de Verteuil

Support Staff:

Mr. Gilber Cacao	Building Engineer
TBA	Afternoon Custodian
Ms. Maria Andriopoulos	Supervision Aide
Ms. Benny Ng	Supervision Aide
Ms. Alice Warren	Student Support Worker
Ms. Ashley Bismeyer	Student Support Worker – (M,T, every 2 nd Wednesday)
Ms. Erin Edwards	Student Support Worker– (every 2 nd Wednesday, Th,Fr)
Ms. Catherine Preece	Student Support Worker
Ms. Noriko Yoshida	Student Support Worker
Ms. Joanne Clarke	Student Support Work – (M,T)

District Staff:

Mr. Sasha Fonarev	Speech/Language Pathologist
Mr. Sheldon Franken	Area Counsellor –Thursday (Am/PM) and Monday AM only
Mrs. Harj Johal	School Nurse
Mr. David Ki	Psychologist
Ms. Elisabeth Chan	Settlement Worker
Ms. Lauren Moore	Deaf Hard of Hearing

Principal	Lindsay Thompson	604-713-4952
Office Admin Support	Nancy Yuen-Chan	
Director of Instruction	Christopher Wong	
VSBC Trustee Liaison	Suzie Mah	
Vancouver School Board		604-713-5000

Safe Arrival @ McKechnie

Please call before 9am 604-713-5159

Press "54#" and leave message

For extended leave—please email nyuenchan@vsb.bc.ca

September 2025

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1	2 	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 Spirit Wear <u>order due</u> 	13
14	15 Terry Fox T shirt <u>order due</u> 	16	17	18 Meet the Teacher @ 3:15 PM in the gym	19 NO SCHOOL 	20
21	22	23	24 - <u>Online</u> Forms Due - Verifications/ Reunification sheets due to class teacher	25	26 \$35 School Fee & \$10 Agenda/folders <u>Fees Due</u> 	27
28	29	30 				



October 2025

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1	2 Photo Day 	3	4
5	6 	7	8	9	10	11
12 	13 Happy Thanksgiving! 	14 2PM EARLY DISMISSAL Scholastic Book Fair	15 2PM EARLY DISMISSAL Scholastic Book Fair	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24 NO SCHOOL 	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 HAPPY HALLOWEEN 	