



SIR ALEXANDER MACKENZIE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Mackenzie Buzz



At Mackenzie School our goals as set by the SPC and staff are to improve the expressive language development of students through oral and written skills, to improve reading comprehension and to increase knowledge, acceptance, empathy, awareness and appreciation of Aboriginal histories, traditions, cultures and contributions among all students.

Newsletter #4

Date: December 13th, 2016

Dear Mackenzie Parents:

Welcome back to Mr. Bodden and a warm welcome to new Vice Principal, Ms. Nancy Paget.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Mackenzie community for welcoming me. The past 4 months have been a wonderful experience for me. Staff has been working hard to provide quality education for students, parents have worked hard to support the school's efforts, and students have worked so hard to improve themselves! I am very proud to have been here and am sad to leave. I wish everyone a great winter break!

Stephen Leung

Acting Principal

Dear Mackenzie Parents:

My short time here at Mackenzie Elementary has been extremely rewarding for me; what a wonderful school community! I am very fortunate to have been part of such a diverse and caring school. A huge thank you to the staff who support the needs of the children, and also to you, the parents who support us here at the school and your children at home. Your energy and commitment to the school is so very much appreciated. I would also like to thank principal, Mr. Stephen Leung, it's been such a pleasure working together and I wish him all the best in his future principalship at Grandview Elementary School. Welcome back to Principal, Mr. Bob Bodden and a special welcome to Mackenzie's new vice-principal, Ms. Nancy Paget who I know will love working here at Mackenzie.

As I head off again into retirement, I will definitely think very fondly of the children I was so lucky to work with and of course, all of you. Thank you so much. Have a wonderful, safe and happy holiday enjoying all the festivities and spending time with your family and friends.

Donna Emeno

Acting Vice-Principal

WHO TO CONTACT

Stephen Leung Acting Principal 604-713-4799	Donna Emeno Acting Vice Principal 604-713-4799	Julie Manning Administrative Assistant 604-713-4799
Rob Schindel Director of Instruction 604-713-4594	Dianne Turner Official Trustee official.trustee@vsb.bc.ca	Tracy Noel & David Smythe PAC Co-Chairs mackenziepac@gmail.com

Report Cards: Please note that report cards will be going home on December 14th. This is a change from the originally published date of December 9th. If you have any questions please contact the office.

Vancouver is in the process of looking at a variety of reporting options. As there continues to be ongoing updates from the Ministry regarding reporting, and as the Ministry is seeking parent and educator feedback this year, you will notice there are a variety of reports this year. In some schools, all or some classes are piloting new reports. In other schools, the reports will look much the same as last year. As we move through the year we will continue to explore reporting options as we implement the new curriculum and ways of sharing student learning with parents.

Do you have a child born in 2012?

K Registration started November 1st, 2016

All Kindergarten applicants are required to submit an application to their English catchment elementary school. This includes families who wish to apply for choice programs and/or a cross boundary placement. The priority registration period for Kindergarten opened on **Tuesday, November 1st and closes at 4 pm on Wednesday, February 1st**. Students who submit an application within this priority period will be accommodated prior to late applicants. In a few Vancouver schools there may be more in-catchment applicants than the school can accommodate. In this event, applicants who applied within the priority registration period (Nov 1 to Feb 1) will be included in a draw for available spaces. Students with siblings already in attendance at the school (and who will be attending next year) will be placed prior to the draw.

When registering your child please bring:

1. Proof of residence in Vancouver
2. Child's birth certificate
3. Immunization records

For more information on Kindergarten registration please visit:

<http://www.vsb.bc.ca/kindergarten>

Mackenzie Me to We Club: Mackenzie's Me to We club meets at lunch on Tuesdays in the library. We follow the We Schools program by participating in a local action and a global action during the school year. This will be our sixth year participating in WE Schools,

<https://www.we.org/we-at-school/we-schools/>



On November 3rd fourteen students along with Ms. Bakken and Mrs. Boardman attended We Day at Roger's Arena. We Day celebrates students as change makers and inspires them to continue making a difference in their community.

This year the Mackenzie Me to We club was chosen to be a host school for students from Parkland Elementary School in Quesnel. The Parkland students visited Mackenzie and met the Mackenzie students going to We Day. Two We School coordinators facilitated icebreaker games and goal setting activities. The two schools sat together the following day at Roger's Arena. Being a host for another school made We Day extra special.

This year the students have organized a successful food drive with donations going to the Greater Vancouver Food Bank. Thank you very much Mackenzie families!

Students in Me to We are also working on an awareness campaign to recycle batteries. The students are learning about the importance of zinc and the problems associated with zinc deficiency and how they can help by recycling batteries. The students will collect household batteries to recycle at a Call2Recycle collection Depot. We will tally the number of batteries

that have been kept out of the landfill and report that number to the Zinc Saves Lives Campaign. So after the winter break bring in your household batteries to the library and we will recycle them for you.

Recycle for the Planet. Recycle for Life. Zinc Saves Lives.

Extended Until August 31, 2017

Each year, 450,000 children die due to complications associated with zinc deficiency. One AA battery contains the same amount of zinc that can save the lives of six children. During the Zinc Saves Lives Battery Recycling Campaign, Teck partners with Call2Recycle to help keep batteries out of landfills and help get zinc to those who need it most. For every battery recycled, Teck will donate the equivalent value of the zinc recycled to WE in support of their zinc and health program in Kenya. Learn more by reading our Campaign Terms and Conditions and FAQs.

SNOW INFORMATION - Please make note of this information for your future reference.

A clear announcement stating that schools are closed will be provided by 6:00 am to local radio stations.

Please do not call media outlets to determine whether schools are closed. In case of snow, please listen to or check the following:

CKNW (980 AM) CKWX (NEWS 1130 AM)

CBC RADIO (690 AM; 105 FM)

BCTV / GLOBAL (cable channel 11)

FAIRCHILD Radio (CJVB AM; 1470 / CKHG FM 96.1)

CITY TV (cable channel 13)

www.vsb.bc.ca will have up-to-date information

No U-turns!!!: Recently it has been reported and noticed by staff members that there are many drivers making u-turns on the streets around the school during school hours. This is a friendly reminder that u-turns are illegal in Vancouver and cause a significant safety concern to our

students. Please do NOT make u-turns around the school.



Inside Days and Outside Days: After a recent review of supervision, some changes have been made in regards to where students are allowed to be at recess and lunch times. On dry days, students must play outside and all adult supervision will be assigned to outside areas. On rainy days, students may play outside or on the ground floor of either of our two buildings. Supervision has been assigned to those areas. After the review, it was determined that it was not possible to provide adequate supervision with students spread out all over the school and on multiple floors. Additionally, it is to the benefit of children to play and get plenty of exercise playing outside as much as possible.

Student safety is always the priority.

Now that the colder, wet weather has arrived, please dress your child in appropriate warm and waterproof clothing as students will be encouraged to play outside at recess and lunch.

Elections: With a slightly less dramatic process than the US Presidential election, we are pleased to introduce our 2016/17 Student Council: Taha M, Usman H, Marissa Y, Maxz G, Luisa B, Mia B, Gavin S and Ben S. They will be planning many Fun Days as well as other events. Thanks to Mrs. Boardman and Ms. Weatherall for sponsoring this group.

Staffing Updates: Sometimes we have to say goodbye. We would like to wish Jas Dosanjh, our building engineer, best of luck as he embarks on his retirement! We're pleased welcome Ken Chan back to Mackenzie, this time as the daytime Building Engineer. Mrs. Boyes of Division 3 will be taking a leave from January to June 2017. Rebecca Fulton will be replacing her in the classroom and her resource job.



Upcoming Events

DATE			Participants	EVENT
Wednesday,	14 th	December	All Grades Divisions 1 - 5	Report Cards go home Timberline Ranch Field Trip
Friday,	16 th	December	Whole school Everyone!	Pizza Day Last day before winter break
Monday, December 19 th - Monday, January 2 nd			Everyone!	School Closed for Winter Break
Tuesday,	3 rd	January	Whole school	School Re-opens
Friday,	6 th	January	Referrals	Hearing screening clinic
Monday,	9 th	January	Divisions 1-9	Primary Assembly in lunchroom 9:15am
Tuesday,	10 th	January	Div. 12	Field Trip to Art Gallery
Friday,	13 th	January	Whole school	Aquavan here, sponsored by our PAC. Thanks!
Friday,	20 th	January	Whole school	Pizza Day



Scan the QR code to go straight to our website
where you can make us your home page!

MORE WEB STUFF: We know you look at the Mackenzie website (for one thing - you're reading this ☺) But items other than the Buzz are also posted to the Documents section. For instance right now, parents of Grade 4 and 7 students should read the letter from Minister of Education about this year's Foundation Skills Assessment testing. Here's the link http://go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/mackenzie/Publications/Parent%20Letter_Curriculum%20Timeline.pdf

Did you that we have some very tech-savvy parents in our community? Therefore we have a brand-new PAC website at <http://mackenziepac.wixsite.com/mackenziepac>

There's lots of great information about school events and ways to get involved. If you missed the PAC meeting, you can keep up-to-date by reading the minutes which are posted on the site too.