



# Queen Mary Elementary School

2000 Trimble Street, Vancouver, BC, V6R 3Z4 Tel: (604) 713-5464

October 4th, 2018 (Newsletter #2)

### Director of Instruction

Mr. R. Zerbe

604 713 4448

### Principal

Ms. M. Davies

604 713 5464

### School Trustee

Ms. J. Alexander

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### Parent Advisory Council

info@queenmarypac.com

www.queenmarypac.com



We live, work and learn on the traditional and unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Coast Salish people. Queen Mary Elementary School wishes to acknowledge the history of our community and neighbourhood.

## Gratitude and Generosity at QM

Friday marks the beginning of the Thanksgiving Long Weekend. Our wish is for everyone to have a wonderful holiday spending time with family and friends. At Queen Mary, we're incredibly thankful for the support, kindness and care we see and feel within our entire school community! We're grateful for all of our families - you support the school by volunteering your time, supporting our children, assisting teams and clubs and contributing so generously to various initiatives that not only benefit our school, but also other schools, and many outside organizations.



**Happy Thanksgiving, Queen Mary!**

## Important Upcoming Dates

- Oct. 4–18 Winter Clothing Drive for Queen Alexandra, our Sister School (Please place items in the box by our front door. Thank you!)
- Oct. 5 World Teachers' Day! Thank you, Teachers! ❤️
- Oct. 8 Thanksgiving Day – School not in session
- Oct. 9 PAC Meeting 9:00am
- Oct. 10 iParent (Parent Info Session) 6:30pm – 8:00pm
- Oct. 15 - Nov. 9 Gr. 4 & 7 students write the Foundation Skills Assess.
- Oct. 18 The Great Shake Out Earthquake Drill 10:18am
- Oct. 19 Professional Development Day – School not in session
- Oct. 24 Flying Bob Performance/School Assembly 1:30pm
- Oct. 30 Photo Retakes
- Oct. 31 Halloween

Please see the QM and QM PAC websites for additional 2018-19 Important dates.

## Walk Whatever the Weather

Last Spring, Queen Mary families very successfully took on the challenge of walking, biking or scooting to and from school – whatever the weather! Even though days may be getting colder and wetter, we are continuing to encourage students to walk, scoot or ride to school each day! For students who live far away from Queen Mary and are driven to school, please consider parking 1-3 blocks from the school grounds and walking the rest of the way! Walking, biking or scooting to school is a great way to stay active, help the environment and alleviate the traffic and parking congestion closer to the school! Thank you!



## Queen Mary's Mission Statement

Our mission is to build a respectful community of lifelong learners. We work towards becoming caring, accomplished and cooperative citizens. We aim to provide an enriched environment in which children are encouraged to think, question, create and wonder.

## Queen Mary's Parent Advisory Council

Our next PAC Meeting is on Tuesday October 9th at 9:00am. All QM parents and guardians are welcome to attend! The purpose of the PAC is to support student experiences and learning at Queen Mary. PAC groups often provide schools with ideas, input and subsidy for school initiatives, fieldtrips, classroom equipment, library books, technology, performances and more! If you are able to share your ideas and time, we are most grateful! Please consider attending Queen Mary's PAC meetings and even becoming a member of the PAC Executive in 2019!



## Terry Fox at Queen Mary

On September 14th, Queen Mary kicked off our Terry Fox Marathon of Hope initiative with a school-wide assembly and visit from Kirsten Fox, Terry's niece. Kirsten told us many stories about her uncle and shared her favourite Terry Fox quote: *"It took cancer to realize that being self-centered is not the way to live. The answer is to try and help others"*. On September 17th, QM staff and students walked to Spanish Banks for our Terry Fox run – many parents and caregivers volunteered their time to support our community. Thank you! Throughout the week, Queen Mary students, families and staff donated to the Terry Fox Foundation; Queen Mary Elementary raised \$5400! Thanks to an anonymous matching donor, QM's donation total came to \$10, 800. **Wow!**



## Walk your Wheels!

With many students and families riding bikes and scooters to school, we'd like to remind everyone to walk their wheels while on the school grounds (between 8:30am – 3:30pm or while attending evening school events). This will help to keep our school grounds safe! Here are some additional safety tips:

- Use a properly-fitted helmet every time you ride or scoot!
- Be seen and be safe! Wear bright clothes and use lights and reflectors!
- Keep an eye out for wet leaves, puddles, uneven surfaces, gravel, rocks, curbs and little kids!
- Use hand signals and follow the rules of the road!



# iParent – A Workshop for Parents at Queen Mary Elementary School

## Wednesday October 10th 6:30pm – 8:00pm



Queen Mary PAC is presenting **iParents** with Anna Soole from Saleema Noon Educators. This parent presentation is for any parents and guardians of Queen Mary students (K-Grade 7) and is in conjunction with full day workshops called **iGirl** and **iGuy** being facilitated with all Grades 4-7 QM students. Here is some information from Saleema Noon:

### **iParents is a Workshop for Adults with iGirls & iGuys in their Lives:**

In this crazy world of friends bullying friends, gender stereotypes dictating who we should be, and media that can be anything but social, do you ever lay in bed wondering how your children are ever going to be true to themselves, make smart decisions, and stay safe? Especially after the day you've had with them?!

Seriously though, you know what they say about it taking a village and that's where Saleema Noon and her team of fearless educators come in. In our iGirl and iGuy Empowerment Workshops, we take the role of the cool older sister or brother, giving your child the skills and information needed to rock their teenage years and beyond.

And that's not all. Our iParent workshop is here for back up. We'll not only bring you up to speed on how we empower boys and girls with a common language and easy to understand concepts, we'll show you how to reinforce these messages long after we visit your child's classroom. You'll learn how to help your child:

- Challenge society's definition of what it means to be a "girl" or a "boy"
- Deal with friendship and bullying challenges using assertiveness skills
- Unmask their true identity so they can be their authentic selves
- Get to know and honour their varied emotions
- Stay safe and make smart decisions online, and
- Build relationships they can feel proud of.

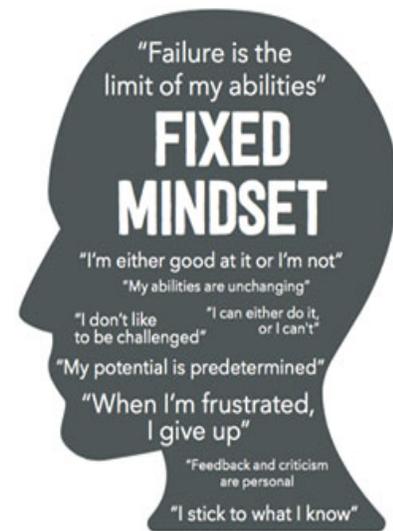
Please email Kathy Findlay ([kfindlay4@gmail.com](mailto:kfindlay4@gmail.com)) if you would like to attend the parent session (babysitting is available). More information about the Grades 4-7 sessions can be found at <https://www.queenmarypac.com> (under the events tab). Thank you to the Queen Mary PAC for supporting and funding these valuable presentations.

### **Communicating Student Learning**

This year, QM teachers will continue to pilot the VSBs reporting project. Similar to last year, there will be a minimum of 5 communications about a child's learning over the course of our school year (including the written reports in January and June).

The key elements of the CSL pilot project include:

- positive, strength-based comments
- feedback that promotes a **Growth Mindset**
- a competency scale that identifies how a student is progressing in subject areas in relation to grade level expectations (see below!)
- no letter grades
- 2 school-wide written reports and 3+ other reporting opportunities (conferences, phone calls, learning nights etc)



	<b>BEGINNING</b>	<b>DEVELOPING</b>	<b>APPLYING</b>	<b>EXTENDING</b>
<b>COMMUNICATING STUDENT LEARNING STUDENT COMPETENCY SCALE</b> (in relation to grade level expectations)	to acquire knowledge, skills, strategies and processes.  "I AM JUST GETTING STARTED AND I LEARN BEST WITH HELP"	the ability to apply knowledge, skills, strategies and processes.  "I AM GETTING THERE AND I AM BEGINNING TO DO MORE AND MORE ON MY OWN"	knowledge, skills, strategies and processes consistently.  "I GET IT AND I CAN DO IT ON MY OWN"	knowledge, skills, strategies and processes creatively and strategically.  "I GET IT AND GO BEYOND WHAT IS EXPECTED OF ME"



#### **Queen Mary's Code of Conduct**

We respect everyone's learning by respecting ourselves, others and our surroundings.