

# James McKinney Newsletter

### News From the Eagle's Nest!

Ms. Susan Roy, Principal

Mr. Harley Rollins, Vice-Principal

Mrs. Debbie Tablotney, School Assigned Trustee

Mrs. B. Khoo and Mrs. D. Groumoutis, PAC Co-Chairs

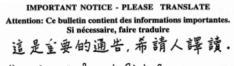
Ms. Kathyrn D'Angelo, Area Assistant Superintendent

Date: November 16th, 2016

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# SOAR Safe Ownership Accepting Respect

## Important Dates to Remember - Mark Your Calendars!

Nov.11	Remembrance Day (school not in session)
Nov.16	PAC Food Day (Boston Pizza)
Nov.17	Kindergarten Hearing/Vision Screening
Nov.17	R.A.M. Meeting 7:00 pm at Steves School
Nov.18	Curriculum Implementation Day (school
	not in session)
Nov.24	Purdys Orders Pick Up
Nov.24	PAC Meeting 7:00 pm in staffroom
Nov.25	Cookie/Pie Orders Due
Nov.25	Bollywood Dance Performance 12:00 pm
Nov.28	Gr.6 Immunizations
Nov.30	PAC Food Day (Sushi)
Dec.2	SOAR Activity
Dec.5	Pro D Day (school not in session)
Dec. 7-9	Outdoor Education Gr.6 & 7
Dec.14	Report Cards go home
Dec.14	Cookie/Pie Order Pick Up

#### November 18th-Curriculum Day

A district Curriculum Implementation Day is scheduled for **Friday**, **November 18**<sup>th</sup>. There will be **no school in session**. Staff will be at various sites in the district learning about the Redesigned Curriculum.

#### Principal's Message

November has arrived and the days at McKinney continue to be busy and productive! Volleyball Season is underway for our Grade 7 students, "We Day" has come and gone, and classes continue to be actively involved in a variety of learning opportunities.

We are looking forward to taking part in a school-wide week of Bollywood Dance Workshops that will be offered during the third week of November. Students will attend workshops each day with one or two other classes and we will end the week with a performance on Friday, November 25<sup>th</sup> at noon. We hope you can attend! A big thank you to our PAC for sponsoring this wonderful learning opportunity.

There are a number of important dates coming up this month. Please mark your calendar and check our website for updates!

S. Roy

#### Parent Sessions on the New Curriculum

This month, the Richmond School District is offering a second session for parents to explore aspects of the Redesigned Curriculum.

#### November 15<sup>th</sup> (6:30-8:30 pm)

This session will focus on looking at new and enhanced ways of communicating student learning.

The session will take place at MacNeill Secondary School. Please RSVP to <a href="mailto:lurata@sd38.bc.ca">lurata@sd38.bc.ca</a> with number of participants. Chinese interpretation will be available.

# Traffic Safety: Please Continue to Exercise Caution

As the cooler, wetter weather approaches we remind everyone to SLOW down and drive with caution. Please keep an eye out for children walking or riding their bikes to and from school. Please note that the parking lot is not to be used for student drop off and pick up. Thank you for either walking to school or parking on a side street and walking from there.

Please do not use the driveways of neighboring houses to drop off your children and do not stop to do a drop off in the marked area near the crosswalk. We thank you for respecting these safety guidelines.

#### **Arriving Early**

A reminder to our parents that school begins at 8:45 a.m. daily and that there is <u>no supervision</u> for students prior to 8:30 a.m. Students who arrive before 8:30 must wait at the blue circle in the main foyer of the school.

#### Rainy Weather Clothing

As you are aware, we've had a lot of rainy weather this fall. We endeavor to have to have "outside play days" whenever we can at recess and lunchtime. Please ensure your child comes prepared for rainy weather each day. This includes a proper water resistant or waterproof jacket with a hood, and appropriate footwear. Some students like to bring an umbrella as well. It is always a good idea to keep some extra clothes at school or in the backpack in the event that your child gets wet and/or muddy.

#### Change in Report Card Dates

Report cards for first term will be sent home on **Wednesday, Dec. 14**<sup>th</sup>. This is a little later than our originally planned date of Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>. This year the school district is using a new web-based format and there have been some delays in student information being inputted at the district level. Things are now up and running and teachers have been learning how to use this new format. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

#### Incentive Outdoor Academy

This is an academically driven outdoor leadership program at MacNeill Secondary School

The Incentive Program at MacNeill attracts high achieving, academically motivated students. Through the enriched curriculum and outdoor leadership opportunities, students are able to expand their horizons and challenge themselves mentally and physically.

Come and find out more! Info presentations: Thurs. January 26 at 7:30 pm in Room 226 MacNeill Secondary Tues. Jan. 31 at 7:30 pm in Room 226 MacNeill Secondary

For application information and to find out more, go to our website:

http://macneill.sd38.bc.ca/incentive



#### Follow Us on Twitter

McKinney now has a Twitter Account! Please follow us at: **@MckinneyEagles**. This is a great way to stay connected with what is happening at the school. We also remind you to check our website regularly for news and updates at: <a href="http://McKinney.sd38.bc.ca.">http://McKinney.sd38.bc.ca.</a>

#### Eagle's Nest Open on Fridays

On Fridays during our extended recess students can purchase snack items at the servery (the kitchen beside the multi-purpose room). This school concession is run by our senior students with the help of parent volunteers. Profits are used to support programs for the gr.7 students.

#### 'Soar'ing at McKinney

Recently we had our first SOAR Team activity at McKinney School. SOAR is the acronym we use at McKinney to teach students about the behavioural expectations at our school. SOAR stands for:

Safe
Ownership
Accepting
Respect ©

Each year students are placed in a multi-graded SOAR Team that include students from Kindergarten to Grade 7. Approximately 4-5 times per year, students meet in their SOAR teams to participate in various activities related to social responsibility. Our SOAR team activities and assemblies give us an opportunity to increase student connectedness between students of various grades and students in both the neighborhood and Montessori programs. It also helps students feel connected to other staff members in the school. Our next planned SOAR activity will take place on December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

#### PAC News at McKinney School

Our PAC continues to actively support the school in various ways. Thank you to all the parent volunteers who make hot lunch days possible. We know this is much appreciated by the children and their parents who enjoy a break from packing lunches every once in a while!

We hope that you will attend the next **PAC meeting** on **Thursday, November 24**<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. All McKinney parents and guardians are automatically members of the PAC.

Thank you to our PAC for being active in fundraising ventures to support McKinney. Please note the following dates:

Nov. 24—Purdys Chocolates Order Pick Up

8:45-9:20 am or 3:10-3:35 pm

Please pick up order at the servery/kitchen beside the multi purpose room.

Nov. 25—Cookie/Pie Etc. Orders Due Dec. 14—Cookie/Pie Etc. Order Pick Up (between 2:00 and 3:30 p.m.)

#### Outdoor Education for Gr.6 & 7

At McKinney we plan an outdoor education trip every two years. This year on December 7<sup>th</sup> -9<sup>th</sup> students in Gr.6 and 7 have the opportunity to attend the Outdoor School in Brackendale, near Squamish with McKinney staff. Students will be learning about a variety of topics including: salmon, aquatic systems, bird study, fire building and art. We feel this is a valuable experience and encourage all our students to attend.

#### Grade 7 Volleyball

Thank you to Ms. Dehnel and Mr. Brewis who have been volunteering their time to coach the Gr. 7 students in volleyball. Practices started in October and this past month students have also been playing games once or twice each week. The students are becoming more confident in their serving, volleying, and bumping and seem to be having fun in the process!

# Kindergarten Registrations & District Options Applications for 2017/18

Registrations for Kindergarten for the 2017/18 school year (Neighborhood Program) will begin on Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>. Kindergarten children and their parents who have a Canadian Birth Certificate **or** Canadian Citizenship Card **or** a Canadian Passport, may register at their **catchment school** until Nov.30<sup>th</sup>. After this date, parents may go to the School District Office (Central Registration) to register.

Kindergarten children and parents who are not Canadian Citizens, but have a valid Permanent Resident Card or Record of Landing with Passport or Letter of Acceptance may register at Central Registration starting Nov.1st.

Registration for District Options Programs (e.g Montessori K-Gr.4, Early French Immersion,) also begins on Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>. The deadline for applying is January 11, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. Families interested in applying for Late French Immersion (Gr.6) may do so until January 18, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.

#### Interesting Links:

https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca

(B.C. Ministry of Education—Redesigned Curriculum)

www.bccpac.bc.ca

(B.C. Confederation of PACs)

www.gov.bc.ca

(Ministry of Education)

http://McKinney.sd38.bc.ca

McKinney School Website

www.sd38.bc.ca

Richmond School District #38