



FAMILY WAAG SEPTEMBER 25 – 29, 2023

Monday Sept. 25	Tuesday Sept. 26	Wednesday Sept. 27	Thursday Sept. 28	Friday Sept. 29
ABCD Fanny Pack Day	PLT – ABCD Summer/Fall Day	CT-ABCD Collaboration Day School Starts at 9:30am McMath's Birthday – Wear Blue!	PLT – ABCD Twin Day	ABCD Orange Shirt Day



I acknowledge and thank the First Peoples of the Hul'quim'num (hull-kuh-mee-num) treaty group, including the Coast Salish Nations of the Musqueam, Snuneymuxw (snoo-NAI-muk), Tsawwassen, Sto:lo, Kwantlen, Stz'uminus (sha-main-us), Semiahmoo, Cayuse, Umatilla and Walla Walla on whose traditional and unceded territories we teach, learn and live.

PERSONAL LEARNING TIME

We encourage students to review the PLT schedule posted on the McMath website on Monday to plan their PLT on Tuesday and Thursday. PLT is designed to provide extra learning support for all students in all subject areas. All students are expected to use this gift of time wisely and make choices that will benefit their learning.

HEALTH AWARENESS

A friendly reminder that as we enter the flu season, that if you are not feeling well, please stay home. Take the time to rest and let your body heal while helping us control the spread of illnesses.

Preventative measures such as handwashing, hand sanitizer will reduce the spread of illness. Use of a mask is a personal choice.

Respiratory etiquette practices that we encourage are...

- cough or sneeze into your elbow or a tissue
- throw away used tissues and immediately perform hand hygiene
- refrain from touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands
- refrain from sharing any food, drinks, unwashed utensil, etc.

ORANGE SHIRT DAY: September 29

Reconciliation and the lasting impacts of residential schools have sparked conversations between parents and children, educators and students around Indigenous issues, histories, and perspective. As National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day take place on Sept. 30, 2023, we encourage staff and students to wear orange on Sept. 29 and to focus on Reconciliation in the days ahead of Sept. 30.

The story of the orange shirt comes from Phyllis Webstad, who at six years old, had her brand new orange shirt taken from her on her first day at residential school. The movement has created allies all across Canada, and the act of wearing an orange shirt shows support for Indigenous people on this day.

For more information, go to: <https://orangeshirtday.org/>

NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION: September 30

In June 2021, the Government of Canada passed Bill C-5 to name September 30th as a federal statutory day. Each year, September 30th marks the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. The day is mostly about two things - honouring the children who never returned home and survivors of residential schools, as well as their families and communities and generational trauma that Indigenous peoples continue to face to this day. Public commemoration of the tragic and painful history and ongoing impacts of residential schools is a vital component of the reconciliation process.

RAISING DIGITALLY RESPONSIBLE YOUTH

Safer Schools Together has published a Parent Guide for Raising Digitally Responsible Youth. The guide was designed to help introduce parents and caregivers to leading social media platforms, video games, and relevant trends that are either being used already or have the potential to be used by their children, and includes tips, how-to's, and definitions. Please see the attached guide for information.

STUDENT ALPHA UPDATE FOR COUNSELLORS

Mr. Arena is on a leave. In his absence, the following counsellor will be available for students with last names starting with...

- Ms. Bagnall: A-F and Sp-Ts
- Mr. Luistro: G-L and Wu-Z
- Ms. Arvanitis: M-So and Tu-Wo

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

We take regular attendance very seriously here at McMath. If your child will be late or needs to be absent from school for any reason, a parent/guardian must do one of the following:

- **Phone the school's Early Warning line at 604-718-4004 and leave a message. Remember to leave your name and phone number and give your child's full name, grade, student number, and details about the absence or tardiness.**
- **E-mail the school at mcmath@sd38.bc.ca**
- **Send your child to the office with a note written and signed by a parent/guardian.**

Please make sure you indicate if your child will be absent the whole day, will arrive late, or needs to leave early. Our phone lines and email are accessible 24-hours per day. Kindly advise the school as soon as possible.

If a student needs to be dismissed before the end of the school day (leave early for an appointment or illness) and we have not received prior notice from the parent/guardian, the school office must contact a parent/guardian before early dismissal is approved and the student is allowed to leave. Students returning to school from early dismissals must sign back in at the office before returning to class.

Students are **not** allowed to excuse themselves for any of the above.

TRAFFIC SAFETY IN SCHOOL ZONES

Pedestrians cross only at **marked or controlled** crosswalks.

- Do not jaywalk or cross when it is not your turn.
- Look BOTH ways before crossing the street/parking lot.
- Make eye contact with drivers approaching the crosswalk and before crossing.

Cyclists remember to wear your helmet and keep in mind safety when sharing the road with vehicles.

Drivers' kindly slowdown in areas close to schools and pedestrian cross walks.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Sept. 29: Orange Shirt Day
- Sept. 30: National Day of Truth and Reconciliation
- Oct. 2: In Recognition of National Day of Truth & Reconciliation (school closed)



**ORANGE SHIRT DAY ON
SEPTEMBER 29**

Don't forget to wear your orange shirts for Friday
September 29th



**National Day
for Truth and
Reconciliation
ON SEPTEMBER 30**

Did you know that the largest class-action case in Canada revolved around residential schools? Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement is the largest class-action settlement in Canadian history and began in 2007. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) travelled for 6 years hearing stories of over 6,500 victims, survivors, and witnesses before submitting their final report.

École Secondaire R.A. McMath Secondary School

4251 Garry St., Richmond, BC V7E 2T9 | Ph: 604.718.4050 | Early warning: 604-718-4004 | E: mcmath@sd38.bc.ca | W: mcmath.sd38.bc.ca |

Follow Us on Twitter & Instagram!

THE WILDCAT WAAG