

May 24, 2024

Dear QM Families:

*Note: A PDF copy of this message that includes photos, and an archive of previous weekly messages, can be found on our school website. [https://www.sd44.ca/school/queenmary/About/Principal/Pages/default.aspx#/=](https://www.sd44.ca/school/queenmary/About/Principal/Pages/default.aspx#/)

We have enjoyed a cool, quiet, wet week – a bit of a welcomed reprieve before launching into the very busy next few weeks!

Retirement News!!!

It is with mixed emotions that we share this news with you all!

Karin Scott, our Elementary Administrative Assistant will be saying farewell to us all, her last day of work being Friday May 31st. We are very excited for her as she launches into her retirement with all that comes with it – unscheduled days, impromptu outings, unrestricted travel dates, and more time with family and friends – but also we are selfishly saddened by the fact we are losing an incredibly important part of our Queen Mary team. Karin has spent many years as the pillar of our school organization – “running the school” in so many ways!! She has contributed greatly to the success of Queen Mary overall, and to the day-to-day business and functioning of our school. Her dedication, professionalism, and consistently exceptional ability to manage a broad-reaching and demanding role in the school is admirable - she will be deeply missed! Please feel free to pass along any farewell messages or drop by to do so in person before she “closes the books” at the end of the day next Friday. To go out on FUN DAY... a great way to celebrate an incredible career!!

This week's Highlights: Cheakamuscentre.ca

Our Grade 3 classes enjoyed an informative over-night learning experience at the Cheakamus Centre, engaging with Indigenous educational experiences rooted in Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) culture. We give great thanks to the parents who volunteered to take part in this program and to the teachers for their leadership and teachings leading up to the trip!

Huy chexw a!



Our Tadpoles Have LEGS!

Our Kindergarten students have been inquiring into living things as part of their current IB PYP Unit of Inquiry, learning about life cycles by growing plants, and raising butterflies and frogs. Last week the butterflies were released... and this week the exciting transformation from tadpole to frog is being observed! The natural world is full of fascinating changes and a bundle of wonder for our young learners!



Grade 6 Theatre Performance!

Grade 6 students performed *Romeo and Juliet* to an enthralled parent audience today after weeks of preparation. All students were involved in the production, learning first hand about the many jobs associated with a theatre performance.



NEXT WEEK at Queen Mary!

Talent Sharing Days

Students who have signed up to perform will do so in front of a student audience during the school lunch breaks on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. This “low-stakes” event will focus on fun, inclusion, and celebrations of creativity, talent, and risk-taking! Students who want to watch will be welcomed into the gym - we will not be inviting parents this year in an effort to make this as “stress-free” as possible for the performers. We thank Mr. Fong and The Leadership Club for organizing this event!

Our next BIG EVENT is FUN DAY! Friday May 31st!!

We are very much looking forward to our FUN DAY! The format will be the same as previous years, where students will freely choose to take part in activity stations throughout the morning - these will be set up in the gym (bouncy castle/obstacle course and juggling), some classrooms (dance zone/ quiet art), and on the school grounds (active games at various stations). The afternoon will be for organized outdoor games, concluding with the intermediate classes’ tug-of war competition on the front lawn.

A BBQ hotdog lunch will be provided – FREE of charge for ALL students and staff (Thank you PAC!!)

PLEASE NOTE: You have the option of sending your child with some \$\$ for the following. If you do send money please make sure it is sent in a zip-lock bag labelled with your child’s name, that they can keep in their pocket.

Grade 7 Fundraising Events at FUN DAY

Money raised goes to the grade 7 graduation fund, to assist with the year-end field trip and Grade 7 reception expenses.

The Grade 7s will be selling snacks and doing their annual “Soak-a-grad” fundraiser during FUN DAY (where Gr 7s and teachers get COLD WATER poured over them)

-\$2 for a 2L juice jug

-\$5 for a bucket

-\$10 for a minute with the hose

-Kindergartens will get a small cup to pour over their Grade 7 buddies for free.

We thank the parents and teachers who are part of the Fun Day Planning committee for all the work they have done leading up to this event. Our PAC Chair, Jen Dealey has taken a significant lead on the organization of the day - she is still looking for some volunteers to assist with events and organization.

If you are available to volunteer please use the link below to sign up!

signup.com/mobileweb/2.0/vspot.html?activitykey=120769200111#choose_event_page

[SignUp.com Mobile](#)



National AccessAbility Week

May 26th to June 1st is National AccessAbility Week. It is an opportunity to recognize and celebrate the contributions of people with disabilities, as well as to promote accessibility and inclusion.

The North Vancouver school district is committed to the ongoing work of identifying, removing, and preventing barriers for persons with visible and invisible disabilities. See the NVSD 3 -Year Accessibility Plan here: [Accessibility - North Vancouver School District \(sd44.ca\)](#)

[Accessibility - North Vancouver School District \(sd44.ca\)](#)

As part of National AccessAbility Week: **THURSDAY is the Easter Seals RED SHIRT DAY**

“Red Shirt Day of Action for AccessAbility and Inclusion is a day when people across Canada come together and wear red to create a visible display of solidarity: to show their support for disabled people and their families, celebrate the achievements of disabled Canadians, and to pledge their commitment to help create a fully accessible and inclusive society. Red Shirt Day is an Easter Seals initiative and was first celebrated in 2019. It takes place on the Wednesday of National AccessAbility Week each year.”

[Red Shirt Day & National AccessAbility Week - Easter Seals Canada](#)

We encourage all students to wear a red shirt to school on Thursday!

Planning for 2024-25 School Year

LAST CALL: Input for class placements is due to Principal Jennifer Wilson (via email) by the end of MAY! Please read the attached letter before sending in any requests. This letter can also be found under the **Principal's Messages** section of our school website.

Looking Ahead: JUNE EVENTS to NOTE! Mark your Calendars!

In addition to many classes having celebratory events and field trips here are some important school-wide event to note. Details will be shared in our Friday emails!

June 4th: **Swangard Track and Field** (NVSD Elementary finals) – only for students who qualify

June 3rd – 7th: **Go by Bike Week** – LOTS of fun events will be taking place! Students will be encouraged to ride their bikes to school (wear a helmet and lock bikes up at the bike racks at the front of the school and on the basketball courts, or to the fences).

June 6th – **QM Band Concert at QM** (6:30 p.m.)

June 13th – **Student Emergency Release Drill** (afternoon student gradual release for parents available to participate)

June 21st – **National Indigenous Peoples Day**

June 24-27 – **QM PRIDE week**

June 27 – **Last day of school** and **Grade 7 Farewell Assembly** and reception (11:00 a.m. start in the gym)

For other UPCOMING EVENTS and DATES of NOTE, please check the LIVE calendar on the main page of our school website. A paper copy of the May events calendar was sent home the first week of May.

[Home - Queen Mary Community Elementary \(sd44.ca\)](#)

QM Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

Visit the Queen Mary PAC Facebook Page to stay informed, and to learn about ways to connect with and get involved in the school community. Contact members of the PAC Executive members through Facebook or Email:

queenmarypac@gmail.com

[Queen Mary PAC | North Vancouver BC | Facebook](#)

Parents/Guardians are invited to the final **Friday, June 7th Coffee Morning** for this year. Treats and social time – meet other parents and community partners! 8:45-9:30 a.m. in the atrium (1st floor) at Queen Mary.

Fun Lunch: Orders must be placed using Munchalunch (online) by Saturday (by 11:59 p.m.), for the following week's Fun Lunch. If you have any questions about Fun Lunch food orders, please contact the PAC. Fun Lunch Order Munchalunch Login: <https://munchalunch.com/schools/QueenMary/>

THANK YOU to all who have volunteered this year to organize the lunch orders and get them into classrooms!
To sign up to help with Fun Lunch, please go to: <https://signup.com/go/UuBuXCD>

Happy weekend everyone!

Jennifer Wilson, Principal jwilson@sd44.ca

Jonross Fong, Acting Vice Principal jfong@sd44.ca

QM Office Phone: 604-903-3720