

Friday, January 23, 2026

January 23, 2026 - Weekly Update

There is a lot of information in this week's update. We thank you in advance for reading and for your support of our school community.

A few reminders:

- NO school for students on Monday, January 26th.
- All visitors - please remember to report to the office and sign in if you are coming into the school.
- Macaulay is a pack in pack out school which means any food wrappers that come to school will go home in your child's lunch kit. Thanks for supporting us in reducing our school generated waste.

Looking Ahead
Jan 26 - Professional Development Day - No school for students
January 27 - 30 - Literacy week (poetry) - more information below
Jan 28 - Lockdown Drill

Information Items

Literacy Week

Next week, students and staff will be exploring what literacy is (hint: Literacy is like having a superpower that lets you read stories, write your own ideas, and understand the world around you!). This year, our theme for the week is Poetry! Students from kindergarten to grade 5 will have the chance to participate in daily opportunities to create and engage with poetry. Please ask your child(ren) what they are doing throughout the week as it will be a fun week of learning for all.

Pickleball Club

Macaulay staff + Volunteer instructors from our local Pickleball organization are offering a new club opportunity for Grade 4 and 5 students. It will take place on Wednesdays at lunch recess. If we get low numbers, we may open it up to grade 3s, but for now it's 4/5s. It will start next Wednesday, January 28th.

Also, as a result, we will be moving Hockey Club for grades 2-5 to Fridays starting next week.

Kindergarten Registration

French Immersion registration is now closed. Online registration for English Kindergarten opens at 8:00 am on January 26, 2026 and closes on January 30,

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2026 at 3:30pm. Parents registering for Kindergarten are asked to register using our online app: <https://www.sd61.bc.ca/registration/>

Carnaval Week - Why Plaid? Why Bonhomme?

People at the Carnaval de Québec wear plaid, particularly red and black buffalo plaid, as a nod to Canadian heritage, specifically honoring the traditional clothing of lumberjacks, traders, and the early French settlers who worked in the cold. It is a practical, warm fashion choice that also symbolizes strength, resilience, and the "joie de vivre" (love of life) during the harsh winter.

- Plaid flannel, along with the ceinture fléchée (arrowhead sash), is a tribute to French-Canadian and Métis history, evoking the fur trade era and early Québécois identity.
- Honoring "La Vie de Bois": It reflects the style of the iconic Canadian lumberjack, celebrating a time when this type of clothing was essential for working in the woods.
- Wearing plaid helps create a collective, visual, and traditional, yet casual, theme aligning with the "joie de vivre" spirit of the festival.

The mascot of the festival, Bonhomme (who appeared twice this week and popped into classes) is strongly associated with traditional attire, including the sash, which encourages participants to adopt a similar rustic, traditional look.

Below are a few pictures of our staff having a lot of fun wearing plaid and beards and today's ice castles!



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PAC fundraiser



West Coast Seeds *Seed Sale Fundraiser* in support of **École Macaulay Elementary** **PAC Initiatives**

JANUARY 10 – 26

- To order, click on this [LINK](#) 
- Scroll down and click the green banner at the bottom of the page that says "Click here to shop benefiting École Macaulay Elementary PAC" to begin shopping.
- On the checkout page, please be sure to add the name of your student and their teacher before making your purchase.
- Your order will ship to the Macaulay School PAC and seeds will be sent home with students. If you would like to make alternative arrangements, please email: macaulaypac@gmail.com

Thank you for supporting our students!



40% of the revenue from each seed packet sold will be donated to the Macaulay School Pac