



Dec 2, 2022

Dear QM Families:

What fun to have some “real” winter weather to enjoy this week! Students have thoroughly enjoyed building and creating with the snow!

PLEASE be very careful when walking on the school grounds during these cold days. We have a snow plan that includes clearing and salting the main pathways and walkways to ensure safe school access. Please stick to these cleared routes for the safest ways to travel to and from the school. Please also supervise children closely after school. We do not allow snow to be thrown at people during school hours and we would appreciate if this can be reinforced by supervising adults before and after school, as well as watching for any other unsafe play that might put others in danger of harm (physical or emotional!). Adam and I are doing our best to circulate before and after school, although meetings and other school business makes it so we can't be out there every day.

Your help in keeping our community a safe space for all is greatly appreciated!

Student-Teacher-Family Learning Conferences

Thank you to all student and families for your participation! Conference forms summarizing the goals set, and action items discussed, will be uploaded by Friday December 9th into *Managebac*, our IB online communications tool, for parents/guardians to access.

Here is the link to the login page.

<https://queenmary.managebac.com/login>

If it is your first year at Queen Mary, you should receive your login information in a message from *Managebac* this week. For families who were with us last year, your password may have expired if you have not logged on for a while, in which case you will just need to hit the “forgot password” button to reset your password.

Happy Retirement Mr. Clark!

It is with great sadness that we are having to say farewell to Mr. Todd Clark, our beloved QM Art teacher! Mr. Clark is retiring as of December 31st after being a teacher at Queen Mary for 28 years!! As our art specialist he has inspired many budding artists over the years, and through his teachings he helped students develop appreciation for art and build their artistic skills and abilities. He also contributed to the North Vancouver School District in many ways, including leading art sessions for students and teachers at the District level, being involved in the Artists for Kids programs, preparing student artwork for displays and galleries, and being an arts advocate.

Mr. Clark has been off work this fall for personal reasons and deeply regrets not being able to be here to say goodbye to the students. He sends his thanks to the students and families of Queen Mary, for providing him lasting memories and a wonderfully fulfilling career.

Please join us in thanking Mr. Clark for all that he has contributed to our school and the District, and wishing him all the best in his retirement! If you feel so inclined to send a card/note or emailed farewell message for Mr. Clark, we will pass those messages along to him. Cards/notes can be dropped off at the office and if emailing a message, please email to: jwilson@sd44.ca

Our final day of classes before the winter vacation period is DECEMBER 16th – only two more weeks left of school for this term! Here is a reminder of what to look forward to in these final two weeks!

Thursday, December 8th:

Hot Chocolate and Festive Cookies for all! Hot chocolate and festive cookies will be served to all students throughout the afternoon, care of our loving QM PAC! If possible, please send children to school with their own re-usable mug for the hot chocolate.

The QM Beginning and Continuing Band Concert will take place in the QM gym starting at 7:00 p.m. All QM families are welcomed - even if you do not have a child in the band program - just come to enjoy some festive music!

Wednesday, December 14th:

QM Festive Family Movie Night! Come in your jammies, bring your stuffies and blankets or sleeping bags, and cozy up for a festive big screen movie experience in the QM gym! Sponsored by the QM PAC. All families welcomed! More information coming soon!!

Annual Holiday Market: All day gift "shopping" (from a "store" of donated items) for QM Primary students. We will continue to accept gift donations until December 13th! Please place donations in the boxes located in front of the main office. THANKS for the gift donations that have been coming in all week!!

If you missed the details sent out in last Friday's message, they are in the attached PDF below. THANK you to the parents who have volunteered to help with the wrapping – we look forward to having you with us at the "market" on Dec. 14th!

Holiday Hampers and The Giving Tree:

The decorations on our Giving Tree are growing! THANK you to the many families who have already donated to support the creation of “Christmas hampers” that will be delivered to families in our community who are in need of some extra support at this time of year. Cash donations will continue to be accepted until Dec 13th. We thank you for your support!

Queen Mary Food Drive:

Our annual Queen Mary Food Drive will run until December 9th. We greatly appreciate the continued support for families in our community by sending your child to school with non-perishable items to donate. Collection boxes have been placed in classrooms.

QM PAC NEWS:

PAC Meetings: The next PAC meeting will take place on Wednesday, January 25th on ZOOM. All QM parents/guardians are invited to take part. If planning to attend, email queenmarypac@gmail.com on the days just prior to each PAC meeting to get the ZOOM link information.

PAC calling Volunteers! Help make QM the amazing place that it is while working alongside and getting to know other fantastic families! To sign-up as a volunteer, email queenmarypac@gmail.com or write your name on any list on the rolling board located in the school atrium (1st floor).

Fun Lunch: Orders must be placed by Thursday (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/>

To sign up to volunteer to help with fun lunch, please go to: <https://signup.com/go/pcBHMwG>

PAC Contact, and Social Media

Email: queenmarypac@gmail.com Facebook Link: www.facebook.com/QueenMaryPA

There is also now a WhatsApp group! Please regularly check the PAC Facebook page for school and community information!

PAC Sports Swap: The PAC has a group to share sports equipment in our community. For more information, check out the Facebook page and join the WhatsApp group.

International Teacher looking for Host Family

As mentioned in last week's message, we are thrilled to have an opportunity to welcome back another volunteer Japanese teacher, or "cultural ambassador in-residence" this year: Mr. Yuki Inui. Mr. Yuki Inui is a talented elementary school teacher in Japan and he will be sharing the culture, customs, and language of Japan with our students.

Host Family Request

Right now, we are looking for one or more families who might be interested in hosting (i.e., housing) Mr. Yuki Inui during all or part of his time with us (January – June 2023). Hosting creates a rich, memorable opportunity to experience cultural exchange within your home, learn about Japanese traditions, and make a lifelong friend in Japan. Mr. Inui will contribute \$400/month to the host family.

Please email or call Mr. Stokes (astokes@sd44.ca) at your earliest convenience if you are interested in bringing this unique cultural experience to your home and family, hosting Yuki for all or part of his stay with us.

Thank You Thoughtful Neighbour

This week the school received a donation of two large buckets of LEGO. These were given to us by neighbour and retired Teacher-Librarian, Liz Shirreff. She was impressed with our vibrant learning community and was inspired to share and contribute. Thank you to Liz and to everyone who makes Queen Mary such a wonderful place.

NVSD Information:

QM Families are invited to the **Winter Concerts at Carson Graham!**

- Both concerts will be held in the Carson Graham large gym.
- Admission at door: \$10 for adults and FREE for children 12 and under.

Monday, December 5th starting at 7:00 p.m.: Beginning Band, Concert Band 8, Concert Band 9, and Concert Choir.

Tuesday, December 6th starting at 7:00 p.m.: Concert Band 10, Senior Wind Ensemble, Chamber Choir, and Equal Voice Choir.

SEE ATTACHED FLYER

AFK Winter After School Art classes - Registration open! Visit the [Artists for Kids](#) website for more information and to register.

2023/2024 Kindergarten Registration REMINDER: Register by Friday, December 9th for priority placement for 2023/2024 Kindergarten (children born in 2018). Visit the NVSD registration website page for details.

<https://www.sd44.ca/Schools/StudentRegistration/KindergartenRegistration/Pages/default.aspx#/=>

Enjoy the snow and crisp winter days ahead!!

Jennifer Wilson, Principal jwilson@sd44.ca

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