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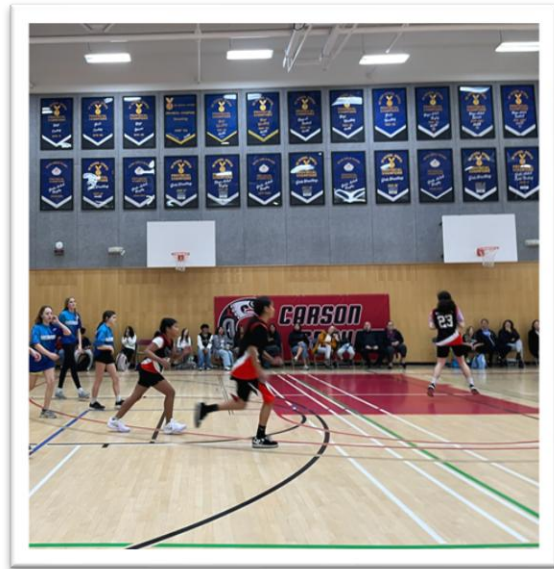
QM Monthly News

October 31st, 2025

This Month's Highlights:

Basketball

The students showed impressive growth in their basketball skills, teamwork, and sportsmanship. Their dribbling, passing, and shooting improved through consistent effort and practice, while they learned to communicate effectively, support one another, and make collective decisions on the court. Most importantly, their respect for teammates, opponents, and the game reflected strong collaboration and positive sportsmanship. Both the boys' and girls' teams will showcase their progress next week as they compete for first place in the NVSD tournament on November 3rd and 4th.



Wenjack Walk

Leading up to October 22—the day Chanie Wenjack joined the Spirit World—teachers shared the story of Chanie Wenjack, an Anishinaabe First Nations boy who courageously tried to walk home after escaping from a residential school. His story opened meaningful conversations in classrooms about truth, reconciliation, and the importance of kindness and understanding. On this day, Queen Mary students honoured Chanie's memory by walking together around the school.

As they walked, students reflected on Chanie's journey, the strength it represented, and the lasting impact of residential schools on Indigenous communities. Many shared thoughtful reflections about empathy, respect, and the importance of learning from our shared history.

From the voice of a primary student
"I remember that he really missed his family and was trying to get home to them and had to walk along a train track but never got to see them."

Grade 6 Stay Safe Course

On October 28 and 29, grade 6 students participated in the Stay Safe course and learned a variety of important safety and first aid skills. They practiced how to stop bleeding, respond to anaphylaxis situations, and follow the correct steps to support someone in need. Students also learned how to assess emergencies and when it's necessary to call 911. These valuable lessons help build confidence and prepare students to respond calmly and responsibly in real-life situations.



Grade 3's Outdoor Learning



Our Grade 3 students have been exploring inquiry-based questions about how local plants survive and thrive. They have been investigating the amazing adaptations plants use to protect their seeds and ensure their survival. Students also looked closely at the role of colour in nature, discovering why some plants display deeper, more vibrant colours and how size can influence these shades. Through hands-on observations and discussions, the students are developing a deeper understanding of the brilliance and diversity of plant life in our local environment.

Diwali

Diwali is about spreading light, joy, and good vibes for everyone, no matter your cultural background. Our QM members brought that spirit to life with their upbeat Bollywood performance at the West Vancouver Community Centre, sharing smiles and positive energy all around!



Student's Voices

Shared from a new student to Queen Mary that is in a lower intermediate grade.

"As a new student at Queen Mary I have enjoyed having recess and I've made two great friends to always hang out with. Plus, both of them are in the same grade as I am. I have also made a good friend that is in another grade. I also enjoy doing math and art projects. I really like the choir that we do. I really like that I have many teachers that teach me. I also like how our school is decorated; it is unique and nice."

Hallowe'en

THANK you to our QM PAC for hosting families for the annual Fall Festival! It was a beautiful evening and fun was had by all – thank you also to the many parent and student volunteers who helped make this event possible!

On the early evening of October 29th, Queen Mary was transformed into a lively celebration filled with laughter, dancing, and games. Adults and students alike joined in the fun, showcasing their creativity through an array of imaginative and colorful costumes.

A big shout-out to our **QM PAC** for all their planning, organization, and countless volunteer hours that made this wonderful event possible. Your hard work and dedication ensured that everyone had an unforgettable evening of fun and community spirit!



IB Sharing

We talk a lot at Queen Mary about “taking action,” but what does that actually mean? In the PYP, *taking action* means students use what they have learned to make a positive difference in their lives or in the world around them. It’s about helping students see that their learning matters and can lead to meaningful change.

Action can be big or small — from choosing to be more caring or responsible, to starting a project that helps others. Sometimes it’s about changing personal habits, raising awareness, or working with others to solve a problem.

When students take action, it shows they understand their learning deeply and feel empowered to make thoughtful, responsible choices that contribute to their community.



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