



# MATTHEW MCNAIR SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

HOME OF THE MARLINS - ESTABLISHED IN 1974

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## Principal's message:

Welcome back!

We have been back at school following a restful two-week Spring Break for just over a month and students are starting to feel the excitement of Spring as the end of another school year approaches! We have had a busy March and April, as the Basketball seasons ended and we also enjoyed an incredible Theatre production of *The Lion King*. All of the sold-out audiences were treated to outstanding performances! Special thanks to Mr. Soriano, Mrs. Watts all the performers and crew who put it together! We also hosted the **Grade 7 Basketball tournaments** for both boys and girls teams, and we are very excited about what these students will bring to our school next year! Special thanks to Mr. Dhaliwal and all the student helpers who put on a great tournament!

We also had a large group of students enjoy and educational trip to *Europe*. We have had several of our Math students compete in different Math contests over the past couple of weeks, and we expect that they have represented McNair very well! Our Mini-School students ran a very popular and well-attended **Fine Arts Night** on April 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. All the money raised was donated to Canuck Place, and the group raised almost \$1000! Our Music students are currently on tour in Portland, and by all accounts are having a great time! **Report Cards** were sent home on April 21<sup>st</sup> and **Parent-Teacher Conferences** were held on *April 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>*. So much has been going on!

Next up we start planning our year end activities and start to prepare for next year. Parents are asked to ensure the courses your child has selected are the right ones. We have our **Social Justice 12** students going to **New York May 17<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>** and our students are very excited! We also have lots going on for the *Grads of 2017*, as we prepare for Spring events (**Spring Boat Cruise on May 12<sup>th</sup>**). Please be sure to check Grad requirements (please review your child's **Transcript Verification Report** with them), and start thinking about the big finish (Final assignments, exams, Grad events and parties and so much more). It is a very exciting time to be at school and we are all very much looking forward to helping you meet all of your goals. --Mr. Jason Leslie

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**Earth Day Summit:**

On **Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>**, youth from all across Richmond were invited to attend the **REaDY Summit** at **Hugh Boyd** from **8:30-12:30**. The conference was a great way for students to connect, listen to

keynote presenters and bring ideas back to their own schools for ways to reduce our environmental impact. There were also workshops and exhibits and we know that a few McNair Marlins were there (including some of our **Eco-Marlins**)! To learn more about the event for next year, go to this website:

<http://www.readysummit.ca/index>

**Yearbook:**

The McNair Yearbook is now completed. Our committee (headed by grade 12 student **Sayyeda Mulla**) has worked very hard at creating a fantastic keepsake. We will be distributing our Yearbook on **Wednesday, June 28<sup>th</sup>** when we have a school carnival in the back field. In order to ensure you get your book, please ensure you have paid **ALL SCHOOL FEES AND FINES** as indicated on the fee statement issued with the report card, and be sure to return all textbooks. If you have not yet ordered a Yearbook, you can still do so, because the deadline has been extended to **May 12<sup>th</sup>**. The cost is **\$40**, so be sure to pay all outstanding fees and ensure textbooks are returned and a book is ordered.

**District News:**

The Secretary-Treasurer of the Richmond School District has recently announced that the School District is facing a **\$10.5 Million dollar shortfall for 2017-18**. Parents can read more about the impact of this news on the district website and are invited to provide feedback (until the end of April) on potential cost saving measures by clicking on the "Contact Us" tab and replying with your ideas and suggestions. Other important changes include the school registration processes for 2017-18. As parents may be aware, there are several new provincial rules on class limits and composition rules and this will impact how much "space" schools will have. Please be sure to read the details on the District website at: <http://www.sd38.bc.ca>

**Recent and Upcoming trips:**

McNair students are very fortunate to have so many great opportunities both in and out of the classroom. Several of our students got the opportunity to experience **Europe** during Spring Break as **Mr. Banks, Ms. Pellah and Mr. Nakatani** took a large group to the **London, Barcelona and Amsterdam**. The students all had a wonderful trip, learning so much about what life is like "across the pond". The group documented their travels on a blog at: <https://matthewmcnaireuropetrip2017.wordpress.com/about/london/>. Upcoming trips include the **Band** heading to **Portland**, and the **Social Justice** classes heading to **New York** in mid-May. These trips are "once in a lifetime" opportunities that students learn a great deal from and remember for the rest of their lives. Special thanks must go out to all the teacher sponsors who give up so much time and have organized wonderful itineraries for these trips.

Europe:

**MCNAIR SECONDARY SCHOOL DATES:**

(Please check the calendar on the school website regularly)

May 1	Pro-D Day	May 3	Collaboration Day-late start (9:45 AM)
May 4	Music in Schools (Gateway)	May 9	AP Calculus Exam
May 9	PAC Meeting 7 PM	May 14	Mother's Day
May 17-23	Social Justice 12 to New York	May 19	Pro-D Day (School Closed)
May 22	Victoria Day (School Closed)	May 26	Grade 7 Orientation
June 6	Spring Music Concert	June 7	Collaboration Day (9:45 Start)
June 8	UBC/SFU Calculus Challenge Exam	June 18	Father's Day
June 21	National Aboriginal Day	June 23	English 12 Exam
June 27	Grad Dinner/Dance and Dry Grad	June 28	Yearbook distribution and Carnival
June 29	Report Card and Yearbook distribution	June 30	Administrative Day (School Closed)

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**Student Teachers:**

Congratulations to all seven of the student teachers who have just completed their practicum experience at McNair. The teachers fared very well and provided our students with high-quality learning experiences. We also feel that they learned quite a bit while at our school and we know they enjoyed engaging with our students. We want to wish them the best as they now pursue careers in the teaching profession. Keep your eyes open. With any luck we may see them as Substitute Teachers at McNair one day soon!

**Program Planning:**

Counselors have been into classes to present information about course offerings for next year. Hopefully, you have taken the time to review your selections with your parents and have entered your choices into the computer system. Remember that changing courses is much harder to do after the timetable is built, so please ensure that the courses you have selected are the ones you want to take next year. For information about McNair courses, see our program Planning Guide at:

[http://mcnair.sd38.bc.ca/sites/mcnair.sd38.bc.ca/files/attachment/2017/04/2017-18\\_Planning\\_Guide.pdf](http://mcnair.sd38.bc.ca/sites/mcnair.sd38.bc.ca/files/attachment/2017/04/2017-18_Planning_Guide.pdf)

[http://www.eventbrite.com/e/richmond-school-district-38-](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/richmond-school-district-38-2017-18-grad)

**Most Likely to Succeed:**

On **Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM** the Richmond School District will be hosting a screening of the new film "***Most Likely to Succeed***". The world is changing and this movie explores some of the best ways for children to be educated in order to succeed in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The film is **free** and is being hosted in the **Theatre at Richmond Secondary School at 7171 Minoru Boulevard**. If you would like to attend, please be sure to register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/richmond-school-district-38->

**PAC Meetings**

The McNair PAC Executive invites you to attend PAC meetings held on the second Tuesday of the month in the office conference room. These meetings provide an overview of what is happening at school and an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback. The next meeting is scheduled for **May 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM** and we will have our Elections for the 2017-18 school year. We are looking to add some new people to the PAC Executive and staying involved this way is a great way to stay connected to your child's education. We hope to see several of you at our next meeting! Grade 7 parents are also encouraged to attend!

**Satisfaction Surveys:**

Each year the B.C. Ministry of Education asks parents of students in Grades 4, 7, 10 and 12 to complete a "**Satisfaction Survey**" to determine parents levels of satisfaction with their child's education. We invite all parents of children in



Grades 10 and 12 to go online and complete the survey. It is available in 19 different languages and should take less than 10 minutes to complete. Please go to the link below, and under District, select **38 Richmond** and under school, select **McNair Secondary**. Thank you in advance for taking the time to provide your feedback.

[http://www.bccd.gov.bc.ca/sat\\_survey/access.htm](http://www.bccd.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm)

**McNair Dry Grad 2017**

What is a Dry Grad? A Dry Grad is a lively, informal event which follows the Grad Dinner/Dance on June 27. This is an alcohol-free and drug-free event where the grads enjoy a safe place to celebrate. The participating students are bussed directly from their formal Dinner/Dance downtown to the McNair Gym. The event runs late into the night (ending by 5 am). It's a fun-filled atmosphere where the grads enjoy good food, refreshments, music and many forms of entertainment and activities.

Help is needed by parents for: donations, fundraising and organizing the dry grad event.

Next Dry Grad meeting is on **May 18<sup>th</sup> at 7pm** at the school. Join us and bring your ideas for making a great dry grad event for our kids.

Please visit the school website to access the donation letter <http://mcnair.sd38.bc.ca/parents/mcnair-dry-grad>

As we are nearing the DAG event, we will need lots of volunteers for the event.

- Security
- Check in
- Set up
- Take down and clean up

Please email [mcnair.dry.grad@gmail.com](mailto:mcnair.dry.grad@gmail.com) to advise if you can help.



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**Report Cards and PT Conferences**

**Report Cards** were sent home on **April 21<sup>st</sup>** and **Parent-Teacher Conferences** were held on **April 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>**. We hope you have reviewed your child's progress at school with them, and encourage you to stay connected with the school and the teachers. If you have any questions, but were unable to come to the school for the Conferences, please call and set up an appointment.

**Video Surveillance Cameras:**

In the interest of student safety, McNair has been equipped with surveillance cameras. Located in front of the school (viewing the bike racks), in high-traffic hallways, and the South parking lot, these cameras are designed to deter outsiders from entering our building, vandalizing our property or making things unsafe. If you have questions or concerns about these cameras, please contact Mr. Leslie

**Athletics:**

The Spring Season is soon coming to a close, and we need to thank all of our athletes, coaches and sponsors for all they have done while representing McNair. Our **Senior Girls Soccer** team, coached by **Ms. Zanikos** has had another successful season and is currently preparing for the playoffs. The **Rugby team**, coached by **Mr. Banks and Mr. Tuerlings**, has fared quite well and is still competing. The **Badminton team**, coached by **Jackson Yang** came up just one-win shy of the playoffs, and was extremely competitive (for the first team the school has had in over 10 years!). The **Grade 8 and 9 Boys Volleyball teams**, coached by **Ikaria John** and **Victor Lee** respectively, are still playing and entering the playoffs next week. Good luck to both of those teams! And finally, our **Track and Field team**, coached by **Mrs. Moynahan**, is 24 people strong and entering the district meet. Good luck to all teams and thank you to all our sponsors and coaches. Please be reminded that the **Marlins Athletic Banquet** will be hosted on **Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup>**, and all teams will be recognized and celebrated. Please be sure to buy your ticket for dinner from **Athletic Council members or Mr. Sangra or Mr. Dhaliwal**.

**Grade 12 News:**

Grade 12's are now entering a very exciting and busy time of their high school lives. Please be sure to check over their **TVR's** (a record of student marks from Grades 10-12), and remind them to complete their **PSI** forms (Post Secondary Information). Students also need to start thinking about upcoming graduation events, and need to go to the school website to enter their **Gown size** and write their **Valedictory comment** for when they cross the stage at Commencement at: <https://survey.sd38.bc.ca/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=960J8om>. All students are also reminded to complete their Scholarship Applications, located on-line at: <https://survey.sd38.bc.ca/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=m80L856>. We also want to remind Grads of the upcoming **Boat Cruise** through the **Vancouver Harbour** on **Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup>**. Tickets are on sale now for **\$65**, and the night promises to be a good time. Our **Commencement ceremony** will take place on **Friday, June 9<sup>th</sup>** at the **South Delta Baptist Church** in Tsawassen. We will rehearse on June 8<sup>th</sup> in blocks C and D. Please remember that the last semester will go by very quickly, so it is important to stay on top of all the tasks you need to complete!

**Grade 7 Orientation:**

We are very much looking forward to welcoming our newest Marlins to the school on **Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup>** for an Orientation and Fun Day with hot dogs and tours. A group of our Mini school students will be planning a great day full of fun and interactive games where the class of 2022 get to meet each other and feel welcomed by the school. Next year's Grade 8 class will meet their Mentors, plus some of the staff they will get to know next year and be introduced to some of the exciting events planned for next year (like the Grade 8 Retreat). We look forward to seeing all of our future Marlins and want to **Welcome the Grad class of 2022!**

**Music:**

Having just completed competitions in **Penticton** and **Kiwanis** festivals (**Choir, Band & Strings**), students have enjoyed a very busy April and are heading into a very exciting May and June. Year-end tours, performances and concerts take place over the coming weeks. Presently in Portland, the groups return on May 1<sup>st</sup> and perform at **Music in our Schools** at **Gateway theatre** on **May 6<sup>th</sup>** and finishes up with our **Year-End concert** on **June 6<sup>th</sup>**. Be sure to come out and watch these talented musicians strut their stuff!

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### Cancer Awareness Month

April was **Cancer Awareness Month**, and it feels like everyone has had their lives touched by this disease. In May, Mr. Sangha's **Marketing 12** class is hosting a "**Balding for Dollars**" campaign to raise money and awareness for research. Our staff and students were exceptionally generous and hope to raise over **\$1000!** We have some key staff willing to shave their heads!



### Mini School

The **McNair Mini-School** students have been hard at work over the past few weeks. They hosted their **21<sup>st</sup> Annual Fine Arts Night on April 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>** in the theatre, and the admission of \$3 was used as a fundraiser for Canuck Place. The entire Grade 9 class organizes the event, everyone performs at least once over the two nights, and all parents and class members are there. The sold-out shows were standing room only and all audience members were treated to some funny, talented and very impressive performances. The amount donated to **Canuck Place will once again approach \$1000.00.** Thank you for your generosity, and congratulations on a very enjoyable show.

The Senior Class also took a fieldtrip to the **Salvation Army Harbour Light Soup Kitchen** in downtown Vancouver on **March 30<sup>th</sup> and April 3<sup>rd</sup>**. This trip is a very moving experience for our students as they help some people who are having a difficult time. The trip has been part of the Mini-school experience for over 10 years, and each time, students come back happy that they have helped make a difference in someone's life, and also much more aware of all the privileges they enjoy living in Richmond.

Upcoming, the Mini-School students from each grade level are preparing for their year-end Spring Trips. The **Grade 8's** will go to **Galiano Island from May 24<sup>th</sup> to May 26<sup>th</sup>**. **Grade 9's** went to **Timberline Ranch from April 24-26<sup>th</sup>**. The **Grade 10's** will travel to **Bamfield on May 16<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>**. The **Grade 11's** will head off to **Juan de Fuca Trail on May 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>**. The **Grade 12's** will go to **Tofino from May 31<sup>st</sup>- June 2<sup>nd</sup>**.

Be safe and be sure to have fun! These trips are part of what makes the Mini-School experience memorable and enjoyable. Remember to "**Push the Envelope!**"



## McNair Mini School

Push the Envelope

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**RISP Homestay Host**

*Interested in opening your home up for a rewarding experience?*

The **International Student Program** allows overseas students to enter Grades 8 through 12 at selected secondary schools, and under certain circumstances, Kindergarten to Grade 7 at selected elementary schools in Richmond, Greater Vancouver. The program gives overseas students the opportunity to study alongside Canadian students in the BC public education system. As a Host Family, you will have an opportunity to welcome into your home, students from around the world. Your family will have a profound influence on the students' study abroad experience. Both your family and the students you host will ideally gain a mutual understanding and respect for each other's culture and world-view. In addition to economic remuneration, your reward will be the realization that your commitment to host international students will, in some small way, contribute to global understanding and world peace.

Each member of your family and your student will come to know each other in depth. Our Homestay program is the ideal setting for this type of experience.

If you are interested in learning more about our hosting program please forward an e-mail for information.

**Karen York**

Homestay Coordinator International Student Program

Tel 604-295-4303 kyork@sd38.bc.ca

**Career****Attention grade 11's!!**

The Richmond School District Career Programs Office is introducing a new program for students entering grade 12 in September. LinK38 is a partnership with Kwantlen Polytechnic University where students may take one of a few selected university transferable courses starting this September. Tuition is paid and students pay for textbooks. Applications are now available from the Career Advisor or Counsellor and are due back to counselors no later than May 18<sup>th</sup>. Spots are limited, so applications should be submitted as early as possible.

**Some Upcoming Scholarship Deadlines**

Please note: These are only some scholarships that are available. Check the following websites for more scholarship opportunities:

- <http://sd38careercentre.weebly.com/other-scholarships.html>
- [https://yconic.com/?redirect\\_from=studentawards](https://yconic.com/?redirect_from=studentawards)
- <http://www.scholarshipscanada.com/> for more opportunities.

MAY 1/17 BC Sports Dave Gifford Memorial Scholarships & Zone Scholarships  
 MAY 1/17 Berta and Greta Quartermaine Badminton Scholarship  
 MAY 1/17 Young Commonwealth Essay Competition (Royal Commonwealth Society)  
 MAY 8/17 Richmond Chamber of Commerce Carol Young Scholarship  
 MAY 10/17 2017 BC Tech Scholarships  
 MAY 12/17 Richmond School Board Employees' Union Scholarship  
 MAY 15/17 BC Sports BC Dairy Association Scholarships  
 MAY 15/17 Clean Energy BC (CEBC) Student Scholarship deadline  
 MAY 19/17 Ukrainian Community Society of Ivan Franko Post-Secondary Scholarships  
 MAY 20/17 CN Diversity Scholarships  
 MAY 31/17 Betty Spalton Scholarships  
 MAY 31/17 Confratellanza Italo-Canadese Scholarship  
 JUN 1/17 Fraser Institute Student Essay Contest Deadline  
 JUN 15/17 Monsanto Fund Opportunity Scholarship deadline  
 JUN 30/17 Association Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC (APEGBC) Scholarships  
 JUN 30/17 BC Sports Hall of Fame Jack Farley Youth Sports Achievement Award  
 JUN 30/17 Elmer Helm Youth Fund Award deadline  
 JUN 30/17 SOAR Philanthropic Society Scholarships

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**Career (continued)**

**Check out the website: [SD38careercentre.weebly.com](http://SD38careercentre.weebly.com).**

All new information is posted on the Home - New Info page. The calendar is a very important tool on this website as dates from the "Home - New Info" section are recorded here. Click on the date to display details pertaining to the event. The other sections will help students in their search for career direction, how to navigate their way through the post-secondary application process in a timely fashion as well as how to find/apply for scholarships.

Visit Ms Hudson's Facebook page as well for updates: [www.facebook.com/MsHudsonCareerCentreNews](http://www.facebook.com/MsHudsonCareerCentreNews)

[Drop in to see Ms Hudson, Career Advisor, in the Career Centre Mon - Fri from 11:15 to 3:15](#)

**EducationPlannerBC**

This is a comprehensive research post-secondary website for BC high school students.

Visit: <https://www.educationplannerbc.ca/>

**Grade 11s**

If you are considering studying in the USA for your post-secondary education, now is the time to register for and to write your SAT or ACT exams, so that you are ready with your exam results to apply for American schools in the early Fall.

**Grade 12s**

Make sure you have filled in the PSI Selection Form to allow release of your marks to the institutions to which you have applied. You need your PEN number: <https://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/exams/tsw/tsw/student/welcome>

**Richmond Plumbing and Cooking Programs**

Now accepting Applicants from Current Gr. 10 - 12s

To all current Grade 10's, 11's and returning grade 12's... are you interested in starting your level one ACE IT program in Plumbing or Cooking in September? What is new is that these programs are now open to current grade 10s! You can have your post-secondary program tuition covered for these programs and earn credit for both high school and college at the same time. You will also still be able to graduate with your friends. If interested, please submit your ACE IT application today. This is available on the career programs website

<http://careerprograms.sd38.bc.ca/> and from your career advisor or counsellor. Apply as soon as possible!

**University/College Document Deadlines**

Many universities & colleges require additional information such as transcripts or supplemental applications or profiles, called a "document deadline". This is separate from the application deadline and varies depending on the institution.

**Upcoming Events**

MAY 4 2017 Langara Professional Photography Information Session

MAY 8 2017 UBC Sauder BCom Information Session

MAY 11 2017 KPU Fall Applicant Night for All Students at the Surrey Campus

MAY 11 2017 Langara Nursing Information Session

MAY 29 2017 UBC Sauder BCom Information Session

MAY 30 2017 Explore Capilano Info Night

JUN 15/17 Langara - Library & Information Technology ~ Information Sessions

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