



January 26 – January 30, 2026

Monday Jan 26	Tuesday Jan 27	Wednesday Jan 28	Thursday Jan 29	Friday Jan 30
Learning Completion Day (No Scheduled Classes) Students are welcome and school is open Semester 2 Student Schedules Emailed home	Day 2 Block A 8:30 9:42 Flex Time 9:47 10:19 Block B 10:24 11:36 Break 11:36 11:46 Block C 11:51 1:03 Lunch 1:03 1:43 Block D 1:48 3:00	Day 1 Block A 8:30 9:42 Flex Time 9:47 10:19 Block B 10:24 11:36 Break 11:36 11:46 Block C 11:51 1:03 Lunch 1:03 1:43 Block D 1:48 3:00	Day 2 Block A 8:30 9:42 Flex Time 9:47 10:19 Block B 10:24 11:36 Break 11:36 11:46 Block C 11:51 1:03 Lunch 1:03 1:43 Block D 1:48 3:00	Day 1 Block A 8:30 9:50 Block B 9:55 11:15 Break 11:15 11:25 Block C 11:30 12:50 Lunch 12:50 1:35 Block D 1:40 3:00
	First Day of Semester 2	Tech Tune-up for staff 8am to 9:30am (staff room)	Literacy 12 Graduation Assessment (Library or Room 139)	Semester 1 Summary of Learning Due 8:00am

Marlin Strong: Every student, every day, whatever it takes!

Success changes the brain—literally. This idea is well-established in neuroscience. Research consistently shows that the human brain rewires itself in response to experience. This process, called neuroplasticity, is especially activated by success and positive feedback. Neurons in key areas of the brain—particularly the prefrontal cortex and the striatum—track recent successes and use this information to guide learning the next time a similar situation arises.

For educators and parents, understanding the connection between success, brain activity, and new learning is essential. The size of the success does not matter. Any accomplishment triggers the release of dopamine, a neurotransmitter that boosts mood, motivation, and attention. Dopamine also signals the brain to repeat successful behaviors. After experiencing success, neural processing becomes more efficient, and the brain becomes hungry for more learning.

Success also makes the brain's gray matter more "plastic," allowing it to change and grow—an essential part of acquiring new skills and knowledge. Surprisingly, the opposite experience—failure—does not activate this same process. Failure does not rewire the brain, nor does it trigger increased neural engagement. After a failure, the brain does not automatically seek more learning.

This does not mean that failure should be avoided or ignored. While failure doesn't stimulate the brain in the same way success does, it does help us understand why we were not successful. Reflecting on failure allows us to identify the behaviors, decisions, or strategies that held us back. These reflections challenge us to refine our approaches so we can improve and eventually succeed. However, it remains true that learning from success is more neurologically powerful than learning from failure. Providing students with frequent opportunities to succeed creates the strongest foundation for meaningful, lasting learning. **At McNair, we "Champion students and their learning."**

Summary of Learning Timeline – Semester 1 Final

Jan 26	Learning Completion Day
Jan 27 - Jan 30	Prepare all final marks & comments in MyEdBC
Jan 30	Sem 1 final marks, comments & attachments due
Jan 30 - Feb 3	Admin/counselling review of all learning updates
February 4	Semester 1 Summary Learning published MyEdBC

Literacy 12 Graduation Assessment

Grade 12 students will be writing their Provincial Literacy Assessment on Thursday, Jan. 29th. There are two sittings of this assessment, one from 8:30am to 11:30am and the second from 12:00pm to 3:00pm. Please see schedule in the main office for time and room assignments.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Feb 2	Collaboration Day (Classes begin at 9:55 am) Staff Meeting (after school)
Feb 3	Health & Safety Meeting
Feb 4	Semester 1 Summary of Learning Published on MyEdBC
Feb 5	School Based Team Meeting
Feb 11	SD38 Student Voice Forum Ed Fac Meeting
Feb 12	McNair Open House
Feb 13	Pro-D Day
Feb 16	BC Family Day - School Closed
Feb 18	Mini School Meeting
Feb 19	School Based Team Meeting
Feb 23	SCC Meeting
Feb 25	Pink Shirt Day
Feb 27	Informal Learning Updates Due 8:00am
Mar 2	Collaboration Day (Classes begin at 9:55 am) Staff Meeting (after school)
Mar 2-6	Spring Drama Production
Mar 3	Informal Learning Updates Emailed Home
Mar 9-10	Elementary Basketball Tournament
Mar 13	Last Day of Classes before Spring Break
Mar 16-27	Spring Break
Mar 30	First Day of Classes after Spring Break SCC Meeting
Apr 2	School Based Team Meeting
Apr 3	Good Friday - School Closed
Apr 6	Easter Monday - School Closed
Apr 7	Grade 12 Mini Food Bank Experience Health & Safety Meeting
Apr 8	Ed Fac Meeting
Apr 10	Suggested Marks Cutoff

Communicating Student Learning

Final evaluations of student learning for Semester 1 courses will be published in MyEd BC on February 4th. Please ensure you have access to [MyEd BC](#).

Also, before we turn our attention to Semester 2 classes, please take a moment to reflect on learning and teaching that has occurred in Semester 1. For teachers and students, this is an opportunity to celebrate their successes, learning, hard work, and determination.

Learning Completion Day January 26th

Regular classes will not be in session, the school is open for students to come in and complete work. This day is an opportunity for students to finish their coursework or academic learning goals for semester one.

Students should discuss with their teachers about any completion work that is required. Teachers may also request students who have work to be completed to come in. Students who will be coming in to the school to complete course work are asked to coordinate with their teacher(s).