

McGowan Park Elementary MAGIC MONTHLY



June 2026

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

As we arrive at the end of another wonderful school year, June brings with it a mix of celebration, reflection, gratitude, and change. This year feels especially unique for our McGowan school community as we prepare for an exciting transition in September with some of our students moving to the new school Snine in Pineview.

While it is always difficult to say goodbye to friends who have been such an important part of our school community, we are also excited for the opportunities that await them in their new school. We also must acknowledge that we look forward to welcoming new students and families to McGowan as catchment changes bring new friends into our community. Change can bring mixed emotions, but it also brings new beginnings, new relationships, and new opportunities to grow.

As we reflect on the year, I want to thank our students for their enthusiasm, kindness, perseverance, and the joy they bring to our school each day. This has been another wonderful year of learning, growth, friendship, and memorable experiences. A heartfelt thank you goes to our McGowan PAC for being such a vital bridge between families and the school. Your support, time, and partnership are deeply appreciated and make a meaningful difference in the life of our school. In September, we look forward to welcoming returning and new parents into this important work as we continue to strengthen our school community together.

To all our families—thank you for your ongoing support, encouragement, and trust. It has been an honour to work alongside you this year and to share in your children's learning journeys. As summer begins, I hope our students and families find time to rest, recharge, make special memories, and enjoy all that the season has to offer. On behalf of all of us at McGowan, thank you for a wonderful year, and we wish you a safe, happy, and relaxing summer.

Warmly,

Mrs. J. Latta

Mrs. Latta (Proud Principal of 420 wonderful McGowan students!)



STUDENT TRANSFERS FOR 2026/2027

We have begun planning for September. If you are moving over the summer months and it is your intention to enroll your child/ren in a new school, please call or email Mrs. Murphy (emurphy@sd73.bc.ca) in the office. It makes for a much smoother start up for students and staff if we have a clear picture of how many students will be attending our school prior to the summer break.





LOST & FOUND



Despite efforts to reunite lost items with students, we have a number of items in our lost and found. If your student is missing anything, please have them look in the lost and found as soon as possible. Some smaller items are located in the office. Last day to collect lost items is June 25. After that date, any remaining items will be donated to charity.

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

The last day of school for students is Thursday, June 25th and dismissal that day is 12:34pm.

Tradition is always that students gather in our school gym for an assembly at 10:45am. It is during this assembly that we say our goodbyes and reflect upon student achievements over the year. We know many parents love attending this assembly, however, due to the limited space in our gym with over 400 students, we would respectfully ask that only families of our grade 7 students and students receiving specific awards be the ones to attend this gathering. Grade 7's always have a special recognition part of this assembly and receive completion certificates. With over 60 grade 7 students, families want to be a part of their child's final elementary assembly and take photos. Thank you for your understanding and support.

There may be some families who choose to start their summer vacation a few days early and will not be at school on June 25th. If you are planning on leaving early for Summer Holidays, please call the office to let us know or enter the absence into the Safe Arrival Reporting App/Website so that we can plan accordingly. The office will be open until July 3rd for you to pick up any missing items. Teachers will NOT be handing out report cards on the last day; however, like in March, they will be posted to the parent portal in MyEd.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PICK-UP & STUDENT SAFETY

******The school parking lot is limited to STAFF PARKING ONLY and the roundabout for BUSES ONLY******

To help ensure the safety of our students, parents should not be driving through the staff parking lot or the bus loop at any time to drop off or pick up students. Please also do not block the entrance of the staff parking lot. We are still seeing parents/guardians in the staff parking lot and bus loop.



YEAR END FUN Day

The morning of **Tuesday, June 23rd**, we will be holding a year-end FUN DAY, where our older students will be planning and running some fun stations for the rest of our student population. This morning is going to be fun and action-packed.

The PAC is supporting with the traditional McGowan Watermelon treat!

Thank you to our Noon Hour Supervisors!!

Special thanks to our wonderful noon hour supervisors! We could not do it without you! We are so grateful for your help this year. We are always looking for parents/guardians/grandparents who would be interested in becoming volunteers for the 2026-27 school year on a regular or on-call basis. If you are interested please visit or call the office! We really need support in order to keep our children safe both on the playground and while eating. Noon hour supervision duties are paid per hour. (Please email alatta@sd73.bc.ca or call 250-374-4545)

Thank you!

ATHLETIC UPDATE

I would like to give a huge shout-out to the close to 83 students in grades 4-7 that represented McGowan at the Zone Track meet in May and to the 38 students who made it all the way to the District Track Meet. Go McGowan Magic! We are proud to share McGowan brought home a couple of Aggregate medals in both our Zone and District Meets. These awards will be presented at the year end assembly

A **huge thank you** to Mr. Woods and all of our volunteers. We appreciate your time and dedication towards the McGowan athletic programs. We couldn't do it without you!



GAUSS MATH CONTEST

On May 12th the following McGowan students will represent our school at the Gauss Math Test!

Congratulations to Adalee, Kassie, Zoe and Kate for attending this year's event.

The Gauss Contests introduces students in Grades 7 and 8 to a broader perspective of mathematics in a fun, accessible way. Intriguing problems and a multiple-choice format make the Gauss Contests a wonderful opportunity for all students in these grades to grow their interest in and get curious about the power of math. We are so proud of our students who love mathematics.



SCHOOL JERSEYS

If your child still has a school jersey, **these need to be returned now.** We will be washing and getting them ready for the next school year. Thanks for your help with this.

PARENT DRIVERS

Please be aware that if you are driving someone else's child in your car, permission slips only give permission for a parent to drive their child to and from the location. Parents do not have legal permission to stop at fast food restaurants, corner stores, etc. for treats. Thank you for understanding this legality. We need to ensure our students are safe and know where they are at all times.



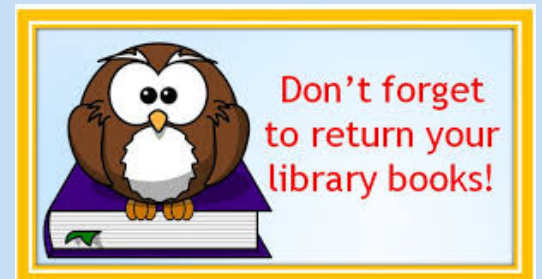
LIBRARY BOOKS

June 8-12th is the last week to sign out books from our library and all books are due back to the library by June 18th so that Ms. Stonehouse can do inventory and determine what books are missing and need to be re-ordered for September. Bills for missing books will be sent home with students. Please take a look for any books belonging to the school (this includes any classroom books belonging to teachers) and send them back to school with your child/ren.

WATER BOTTLES PLEASE!



As the weather gets hotter, it becomes even more imperative that your child/ren bring a refillable water bottle that can be filled at our water stations. Please make sure that these water bottles are labeled with your child/ren's first and last name so we can return them if they are lost.



STAFF CHANGES



This is the time of year when we see some staff changes and as expected we need to say some goodbyes to some of our staff and wish them all the best in their new positions. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the staff members who will be leaving our school community. Their dedication, care, and contributions have made a lasting impact on our students, families, and staff. While we will miss them greatly, we wish them all the very best in their new adventures and opportunities ahead.

Goodbyes go out also to Mrs. Hneeda, Ms. Reilly, Ms. Isakson, Ms. Kossey, Ms. Nguyen, Ms. Lowrenoff, Ms. Gliege, Ms. Langton, Mr. Tomalty, Ms. Iio, Ms. Martin, Mr. Webber. All of these staff are moving to different schools in our district next year. They have all contributed wonderful things to our school over the years and we are sad to see them go. Please join me in wishing them well in their new positions. New to McGowan we also welcome Diana Baglee to McGowan as our new Indigenous Education Worker.

Next year, with our school enrollment decreasing, we will have 12 divisions at McGowan. Our teaching staff will be:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Ms. Scott- Primary | Ms. McCaugherty- Intermediate |
| Ms. Bone-Primary | Mr. Woods- Intermediate |
| Ms. Carrigan-Primary | Ms. Straker- Intermediate |
| Ms. Pawliuk- Primary | Ms. Ruberg- Intermediate |
| Ms. Covaceuszach-Primary | Mr. Blower- Intermediate |
| Ms. Milburn-Primary | Ms. Baerg- Intermediate |

TNRD Summer Reading Program

Summer Reading Club runs June 29th to August 23rd, 2026

Submit your trackers to your local library by September 6th to be entered into the grand prize draw! Any amount of reading gets you into the draw, so make sure to stop by even if you didn't complete the tracker!

For children who completed their SRC tracker, they will receive a certificate and medal!



FIELD TRIPS

We have officially started "Field Trip Season," which means we typically have at least one or two classes out of the school on any given day. There are a couple of implications for you and your family:

- Communicate early if your child/ren are not going to be at school for any reason (appointments, trips, etc.).
- Criminal Records Checks are mandatory and need to be renewed every 3 years in schools. If you are going on a field trip to help supervise or drive students to the location, a volunteer driver form is also necessary.
- Please pay for the trip with SchoolCash Online as quickly as possible.
- If the field trip will put financial hardship on your family, please let whoever you feel comfortable talking to at the school know, so that we can find a solution that works for everyone and no one misses out.



Upcoming June Events

- June 1 TNRD Presentation
McGowan Market
- June 2 Gr.7 Tour @ Sahali Secondary
Lowrenoff @ Isobel Lake
- June 5 Flag Football Jamboree @ MacPark
- June 4 Reilly @ Wildlife Park
- June 8 Milburn @ Robbins Range Heritage School
Grade 7s to Eagle Bay Camp (June 8-10)
- June 9 Gliege @ McQueen Lake
Gr. 2½ Dance Artists in Residence
- June 10 McCaugherty/Woods @ McQueen Lake
- June 11 Gr.5 Powwow
- June 12 Eureka
Gliege/Lowrenoff @ TCC swimming
Woods&Straker @ TCC swimming
- June 15 Kossey, Isakson, Cova @ O'Keefe
Woods & Straker @ gymnastics
- June 16 Parent Appreciation Morning
TNRD Library Presentation
Gr.7 Celebration-6-8 Fun Factor
- June 17 Lion King- Sagebrush
Reilly @ Big Little Science
- June 18 Arts Performance- Axe Capoeira
Blower @ Rock Climbing
Library Books due to be returned
- June 19 Milburn, Cova, Kossey @ Summit Powwow
Year End Slideshow Assembly
Gliege/Lowrenoff- TCC Swimming
- June 22 McGowan Talent Show- 1pm
- June 23 McGowan Fun Day
Baerg/Blower @ TCC Pool- 1pm
- June 24 Milburn @ Isobel Lake
Eureka
Gr. 5½ @ Salmon Arm Waterslides
- June 25 Last day for students- dismissal at 12:34pm



Welcoming New Families

at the September Back to School BBQ!

Our PAC is looking for a few parents to help with planning our back to school BBQ on September 22. This year is extra special as we will have quite a few new families and students joining our community.

Are you interested in getting involved and helping out to make this a special event?

Please reach out to the PAC at mcgowanparkpac@gmail.com or call Mrs. Latta at the school 250-374-4545





**MCGOWAN PARK
ELEMENTARY**

PARENT APPRECIATION

Tuesday June 16

8-8:30AM

Staff want to acknowledge all of our families for your support this school year. On June 16 you will see our school team in the morning along Tremerton Drive with signs of appreciation for you as you drop your child off at school!

Thank-you for your teamwork this school year!

