



McKay's Week-At-A-Glance (WAAG): Jan. 5th - Jan. 9th

Hello McKay Families!

As we wrap up Term 1, I want to take a moment to recognize the significant effort, growth, and learning that has taken place across our school community. Our students have worked hard, challenged themselves, and shown meaningful progress in so many ways, and our staff have supported them every step of the way.

We ended the term on a joyful note with our Non-Winter Winter Musical, followed by a special McKay Theatre movie day and cozy pyjama day—wonderful opportunities to come together, relax, and celebrate our learning. A sincere thank you to our PAC for generously providing popcorn for the movie showings, adding an extra touch of fun to the experience.

As the holiday season begins, we wish everyone a restful and happy break. Happy Hanukkah and Merry Christmas to those celebrating. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in 2026, refreshed and ready for the year ahead.

Highlights For Next Week Include:

Monday Jan. 5 th	School reopens after the Winter Break!
Tuesday Jan. 6 th	PAC meeting 7:15pm online... link will be emailed
Wednesday Jan. 7 th	
Thursday Jan. 8 th	
Friday Jan. 9 th	Order deadline 11:59pm on www.munchalunch.com for next Friday's PAC hot lunch- Bala Foods Asian Menu

VERY IMPORTANT REMINDER FROM THE OFFICE.....

**If your child will be absent or late for school please inform
the office directly by calling the early
warning line as soon as possible at 604.668.6572.**

Upcoming Important Dates and Special Events:

Wed Jan 21 Band Concert (evening- more information to come)

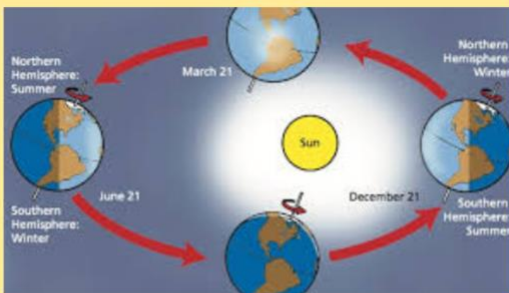
Fri Jan 23 Professional Development Day **No School in Session**

M-F Mar 2-6 Jess Dance Pow Wow Dance workshops

Significant Dates in our Community



Winter Solstice: Dec. 21
Quviasukik Begins: Dec. 24
Christmas Eve: Dec. 24
Christmas Day: Dec. 25
Kwanzaa Begins: Dec. 26



The winter solstice in the Northern Hemisphere December 21. This celestial event marks the official beginning of astronomical winter and is often referred to as the shortest day and longest night of the year.



Quviasukvik is a traditional celebration in Inuit culture, marking the midwinter festival. It is a time of feasting, socializing, and giving thanks, often involving games, music, and rituals to honor the community and the renewal of the sun. It is a joyful occasion, symbolizing hope and the return of light after the long winter.



Christmas is a Christian holiday celebrated on December 25th, marking the birth of Jesus Christ. It is a time for family gatherings, gift-giving, festive meals, and decorations. Many people also observe the holiday with traditions like singing carols, attending church services, and spreading goodwill.

Celebrating
KWANZAA



Kwanzaa is a week-long celebration held from December 26 to January 1, honoring African culture and heritage. It was created in 1966 by Dr. Maulana Karenga and is based on seven principles known as the "Nguzo Saba." These principles focus on values like unity, self-determination, collective work, and faith. Each day of Kwanzaa emphasizes one of these principles, and families celebrate with rituals, including lighting candles on a special candle holder called a kinara, sharing meals, and exchanging gifts. Kwanzaa is a time for reflection, community building, and cultural pride.

Significant Dates in our Community



Ochetookeskaw – Kissing Day – Hand Shaking Day (Métis) - Jan. 1

Mahayana New Year: Jan. 3

World Braille Day: Jan. 4

Guru Gobindh Singh Birthday/Prakash: Jan. 5





Ochetookeskaw is the Métis name for New Year's Day, which is sometimes translated as "Kissing Day" or "Shaking Hands Day". The name comes from the custom of visiting homes, exchanging handshakes and kisses, and wishing each other well for the new year.

MAHAYANA NEW YEAR



Mahayana New Year in 2025 is on Tuesday, January 14. It is a Buddhist holiday that celebrates the Buddhist New Year in the Mahayana tradition. The Buddhist New Year is celebrated on different days by different Buddhist communities, depending on the country or ethnic background.



World Braille Day is an international observance held annually on January 4th to raise awareness of the importance of braille as a means of communication and a critical component in the full realization of human rights for blind and partially sighted people. The date commemorates the birthday of Louis Braille, the French educator and inventor of the braille system.

Guru Gobind Singh ji
Parkash Parv ~ Jan 05



Guru Gobind Singh's birthday, also known as Prakash Purab, marks the birth anniversary of the tenth Sikh Guru, Guru Gobind Singh Ji. Born on 22 December 1666 (as per the Julian calendar) in Patna, Bihar, India, he was a spiritual leader, warrior, poet, and philosopher who played a pivotal role in shaping Sikhism.



Dress for the weather!

Students will go outside for recess and lunchtime play in all weather.
Rain gear, layers, and extra clothing are helpful to stay comfortable!



warm gear



rain gear



Extra clothes



McKay Hot Lunch Days Jan - Mar 2026

Order Deadline	Food Vendor	Food Date
Fri Jan 9 at 11:59pm	Asian Menu by Bala Foods	Fri Jan 16
Fri Jan 30 at 11:59pm	Triple O	Fri Feb 6
Fri Feb 13 at 11:59pm	Sushi Lovers	Fri Feb 20



Scan to Order

Or go to this website to order --> <https://munchalunch.com/schools/mckay/>



*Interested in helping with hot lunch days? Sign-up by clicking the "Volunteer" tab in MunchaLunch.
Have questions? Please send an email to mckayelementarypac@gmail.com*



Children's Hospital Mental Health Resource Centre Newsletter (Click the image)



[Family Smart Newsletter \(click the picture\)](#)