

Montecito News

April 2025



Dear Montecito Families,

Happy April! Spring is in full bloom, and with it comes a season of growth, learning, and exciting school happenings. Our students have been working hard, and we're so proud of their accomplishments as we head into the final stretch of the school year!

What's Coming Up in April:

- **Earth Day Activities:** Our Grade 6/7 Leadership Team has created some wonderful activities for Earth Day. We will be celebrating April 22-25. Stay tuned for more details!
- **Student Led Conferences April 23 and 24:** These conferences are a great way for families to see what their children do in school each day! If you haven't yet signed up for a time, you can do it here: [click here](#)
- **Ultimate Frisbee:** Students are so excited to learn all about Ultimate Frisbee! Thanks to the PAC for helping to fund this great experience for our kids!
- **Student Learning Survey:** The Student Learning Survey (SLS) is an annual online survey conducted by the Ministry of Education in British Columbia. It collects data on the school experiences of students in grades 4, 7, 10, 11, and 12, their parents/guardians, and school staff. The survey aims to gather information about students' learning environment, wellness, engagement, and career preparation. To complete the survey, [click here](#).

With thanks:

Thank you for your continued partnership and support. It's truly a joy to watch your children grow, learn, and shine each day. Let's keep the momentum going as we head toward an exciting finish to the school year!

Wishing you a wonderful April full of sunshine and smiles!

With care,
Tanis Anderson
Montecito Elementary School



Follow us on Instagram!
[@montecitoelementary](#)

Highlights:



Thank you PAC for our wonderful hoodies!



From the Safe and Caring Schools Department

- **NEW OFFERING – April 23 – Establishing Family Practices for Safeguarding against Cyberbullying and Sextortion (virtual)**
- **May 7 – Establishing Safe, Caring and Respectful Digital Communities (virtual)**
- **May 21 – Establishing Family Practices for Safeguarding against Cyberbullying and Sextortion (virtual)**
- **June 3 – Establishing Family Practices for Safeguarding against Cyberbullying and Sextortion (virtual)**

A huge congratulations to all our incredible finalists who delivered their speeches at the Public Speaking Challenge! 🎉👏

Special shoutout to our top three winners:

- 🥉 *Sienna – Third Place*
- 🥈 *Margaret – Second Place*
- 🥇 *Rian – First Place*

Thank you to our amazing judges, Geena Jackson and Brandon Curr, for lending your time and expertise!



Recognizing and Responding to Peer Conflict, Mean Behavior, and Bullying: A Guide for Parents Understanding Your Child's Social Struggles

When your child is struggling with peers, it can be difficult to know what's really going on — is it bullying, or something else? Knowing the difference helps you take the right steps to support your child.

Peer Conflict

Conflict between children is normal. They may argue or say hurtful things when upset, but:

- They usually play or spend time together by choice.
- They have equal power.
- Both are upset and want to resolve the issue.
- They can work it out with help from an adult.

How you can help: Guide your child to calm down, talk through the issue, and understand the other person's perspective.

Mean Behavior

Sometimes kids act mean to test limits or express frustration. This may include name-calling, exclusion, or taking things. Usually:

- It happens spontaneously.
- It isn't targeted.
- The child may feel bad when they understand the impact.

What to do: Let your child know the behavior is unacceptable. Set clear boundaries and guide them toward more respectful actions.

Bullying

Defined as repeated aggressive behavior with negative intent and a power imbalance.

Key signs of bullying:

- Power Imbalance – The child doing the bullying may be older, more popular, or physically bigger.
- Repetitive – It's not a one-time thing.
- Intentional – The goal is to harm or intimidate.

If your child is being bullied:

- Reassure them it's not their fault.
- Contact the school immediately.
- Support their confidence and emotional safety.
- Ask how the school is addressing the situation and helping all children involved.

How Parents Can Help

- Learn to recognize the behaviors.
- Be familiar with your school's Code of Conduct.
- Encourage open conversations with your child.
- Teach empathy, kindness, and respect.
- Model healthy conflict resolution.
- Work with teachers and staff.

Recommended Resources

Books:

- Mom, They're Teasing Me – Michael Thompson, PhD
- Queen Bees and Wannabes – Rosalind Wiseman
- The Bully, the Bullied, and the Bystander – Barbara Coloroso
- Raising an Emotionally Intelligent Child – Dr. John Gottman
- The Whole Brain Child – Dr. Daniel Siegel & Tina Payne Bryson

Websites:

- www.erasebullying.ca
- www.prevnet.ca
- www.parentfurther.com
- www.casel.org

Together, we can create safe and supportive environments for every child.



BURNABY SCHOOL DISTRICT CODE OF CONDUCT

Burnaby School District's Code of Conduct has been established to maintain a safe, caring and healthy learning environment.

It is the shared responsibility of students, staff, parents/guardians and the broader community, to demonstrate positive conduct while attending any school or district related activity, at any location.

All members of the school community have an obligation to:

- Support learning
- Promote safety
- Respect property, environment, personal space and privacy
- Model courtesy, compassion and respect

All members of the school community must refrain from engaging in any in-person or digital communication or behaviour that is considered to be:

- Interfering with the learning and working of others
- Bullying, harassing, intimidating, retaliating, discriminating or violent
- Unsafe or illegal including the possession, use or distribution of illegal or restricted substances or the possession of weapons or replicas

All members of the school community are expected to comply with the purpose and spirit of the BC Human Rights Code, including not engaging in discriminatory conduct on the basis of gender, race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, physical or mental disability or sexual orientation.

Whenever possible, incidents will be resolved by discussion, mediation and restitution. Every effort to support individuals and to determine the root causes of behaviour will be made. If the safety or educational program of others is compromised, or if there is an ongoing failure to meet the expectations of the Code of Conduct, a range of consequences will follow.

All members of the Burnaby School District community have the right to be treated fairly and consistently, and should know and understand this Code of Conduct.



GIRLsmarts4tech

SAP

ALL-DAY TECH WORKSHOP

for Grade 7 girls and non-binary youth

WHEN



SAT, MAY 10, 2025, 9AM - 4PM

WHERE



910 MAINLAND ST, VANCOUVER

COST



\$35*



If you're a Grade 7 girl who is passionate or curious about STEM, and interested in visiting one of the most innovative workspaces in the world, register today for UBC GIRLsmarts4tech and SAP Canada's all-day tech workshop on Saturday, May 10th, from 9:00am-4:00pm! **No experience needed.**

This unique event is taking place at SAP's downtown office, where attendees will receive an office tour, robotics and programming tutorials, and more!

Register here:

cs.ubc.ca/girlsmarts4tech/registration



*Bursary available; see website for details

Understanding Substance Use in Tweens and Teens

An Evening for Parents

This session is focused on substance use prevention:



- Current substance use trends.
- The importance of decreasing stigma when discussing substance use and addiction.
- Increasing your confidence, competence, and comfort level in discussing drugs and alcohol with your child.

Optional (in-person) naloxone training will be offered from 7:45-8:00pm for those interested.

Thur, May 15th 2025
6:30-8:00pm

Hosted in-person at Canada Way Learning Centre
5310 Woodsworth St., Rm 8

Virtual option will be made available via Zoom

To register please email:
shiara.dhillon@burnabyschools.ca



Boys & Girls Clubs
of South Coast BC

