

# NEWSLETTER

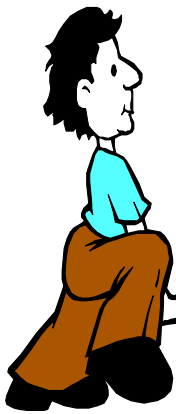
**Sir Matthew Begbie School**

**1430 Lillooet Street**

**Vancouver, B.C., V5K 4H6**

**Tel. 604-713-4686 Fax. 604-713-4688**

**School Website: <http://begbie.vsb.bc.ca>**



**Newsletter No. 9 – 2015 May 27<sup>th</sup>**

**Liaison School Trustee:** Stacy Robertson 604-831-3278

**Director of Instruction:** Rob Schindel 604-713-4448

**District Parent Representatives:**

**Chair:** Peggy Hoffman

**Secretary:** Lisa Ono

**Treasurer:** Elisa Gutierrez

**Begbie School Principal:** Dorothy Watkins

**Begbie School Secretary:** Pam Ferguson

School Plan - At Begbie school our goals as set by the SPC and staff are to improve writing skills in non fiction genres with an extension to oral literacy and to increase knowledge, acceptance, empathy, awareness and appreciation of Aboriginal histories, traditions, cultures and contributions among all students.

## IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday, June 2nd	Strings Dress Rehearsal 11:00 am
Tuesday, June 2nd	Sunrise Area Strings Concert 6:30 pm at Van Tech
Wednesday, June 3rd	Welcome To Kindergarten 1:30 - 3:00 pm
Tuesday, June 9th	PAC (Parent Advisory Meeting) at 7pm in Begbie Staffroom (AGM) <i>All Parents Welcome to the PAC Meetings - Babysitting in Library</i>
Tuesday, June 16th	Immunization Clinic 9:30 am Gr K-6
Tuesday, June 16th	Final day of Strings
Wednesday, June 17th	VIBRANCE Spring Concert Dress Rehearsal 1:15 pm
Wednesday, June 17th	VIBRANCE Year-End Evening Concert 6:00 - 7:15 pm
Friday, June 19th	Volunteer Breakfast 8:15 am in Library
Monday, June 22nd	Grade 7 Leaving Assembly 11:00 am
Tuesday, June 23rd	Grade 7 Boat Cruise
Thursday, June 25th	Last Day for Students

*Note: Parents are invited and welcome to all assemblies and performances*

**Dear Begbie Families:**

Sports Day was a huge success with the children enjoying outdoor activities followed by a BBQ lunch. Many thanks to all the staff, parents, Van Tech and Templeton student-volunteers who made the day so enjoyable. Begbie is an amazing community!

Last week we hosted a Ready, Set, Learn! event that provides 3 and 4 year old children the chance to visit their future school. This was run by 2 preschool teachers in our library and it was great fun! On June 3<sup>rd</sup> we will have our Kindergarten orientation in the afternoon. At this point in time we have 39 kindergarten students registered for next year. We are very excited to welcome our newest families to Begbie.

We are currently enjoying Tennis BC instruction and the students are learning great skills. I hope to see many of you at our numerous year end events. It has gone by so quickly!

**Dorothy Watkins - Principal**

## **2015-2016 SCHOOL CALENDAR**

As you probably know by now the Vancouver School Board has voted to approve the attached calendar. Professional Days, early dismissals, and holidays are noted. Our school calendar is also on our website and extra copies will be available in the office.

## **2015/2016 SCHOOL ORGANIZATION – NOTICE OF LATE RETURN**

A *NOTICE OF LATE RETURN FORM* is to be completed for any student expecting to return to school LATER THAN noon on Tuesday, September 8, 2015 but prior to September 30, 2015. You can pick up the *NOTICE OF LATE RETURN FORM 2015-2016* from Begbie's school office. This form is crucial to the organization of the 2015-2016 school year which we are working on now. Please return the form to Mrs. Ferguson by June 12, 2015, at the very latest.

***Please Note:* If the school cannot verify your child's attendance at school by Wednesday, September 9th, 2015, your child's space will be given to another student on the school's waitlist.**

## **STUDENT ABSENCES**

If your child is going to be absent from school, please call the school office to let us know or speak to teachers directly. If we are not notified a note will be required upon the student's return. Students who leave during the school day must be signed out by a parent or guardian. Thank you for helping us keep all of our children safe.

## **STRINGS PROGRAM**



Changes to Strings Program Option September 2015

The district has been providing additional staffing to Sir Matthew Begbie for a strings program option to students in grades 4-7. As part of the budget planning process for 2015-16 the Board of Education approved the following changes in order to reduce the additional operating costs, while maintaining this valued program option for students.

As of September 2015 students in grades **5-7** at Sir Matthew Begbie will have the option of participating in the strings program. We are pleased to be able to maintain this program option for students.

## **DIV 15's TRIP TO THE VANCOUVER ART GALLERY**

*Poetics of Space*

On May 5<sup>th</sup>, Division 15 went on a field trip to the Vancouver Art Gallery. We went to see the exhibit, *Poetics of Space*. In the exhibit, we saw many different artists' works such as Rebecca Belmore, Ron Tran, Alex Morrison, Rolland Brener, and B.C. Binning. We saw contemporary, abstract, installations, and sculptures. It was interesting because we walked in thinking that we were going to see intergalactic and starry paintings, but it turned out to be homes, architecture and living space, not outer space. At the end, we went to this room where we did a workshop. What we did was we made sculptures out of pipes, strings, marking tape, bamboo and tinfoil.



Our base that we worked on was an upside-down table. After we finished making our sculptures, we drew pictures of them out of highlighters, tape and sharpies. Sadly this was Div. 15's final trip to the art gallery, but it sure was great!

By: Sebastian and Gabby

## **DIV 13, 14 & 15's TRIP TO PLAYLAND**

On May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015, Divisions 13, 14, and 15 went on a field trip to Playland at the PNE for their annual 'Science of Fun' day. There were hundreds of people in attendance ranging from grade fours to adults. All of the students from division 13, 14 and 15 were split into groups of four. Each group was assigned questions to their given rides. There were three mandatory rides which were the Scooters, Carousel, and the Wave Swinger for each group. We also got two other rides of our choice.



As part of the research we had to take our pulse rate and breathing rate (bpm) before and after the rides to see how the rides affected us, as well as how fun/extreme each ride was. After we rode all of our rides, we ate lunch. Some people brought their own lunch while others bought lunch there. In the afternoon we were able to go to any rides we wanted, with any, and all, of our friends. It was really fun! At 2:30 pm Playland closed down the rides; so we packed up and walked happily back to school. The next day we compared our findings with other groups, completed our research packages and handed them in to our teachers. Another successful learning experience completed!!

By: Vinh and Brendan

## DIV 14 & 15's VISIT TO WASTE-TO-ENERGY FACILITY

Division 14 and 15 went to the Waste-to-Energy facility on May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015. First, we went into the administration office of the facility to check in, then we enjoyed the presentation that two retired engineers gave us about how the facility worked. Shortly after the presentation, we were each given a radio and headphones, so our tour guides could use a microphone to talk to us, as inside the facility it was quite loud. They also gave us hard hats, safety glasses and a safety vest - so we were very safe.



As we continued the tour we learned many interesting things. Inside, it smelled of garbage, but surprisingly not as badly as we thought it would. We saw a big claw, which grabbed the garbage that the trucks had dumped in a huge pile, and put it into a hopper that directed the garbage into the burn room. The garbage moved towards the fire by gravity - cool! The heat from the burning garbage heated water, that turned to steam, that turned a turbine and created electricity - also cool!! The leftover ash from burning the garbage was divided up into safe and unsafe, and disposed of appropriately - safe is turned into cement for future use. After the tour, we went on a walk on a trail next to the facility. We went to a park, and we played on the playground. Some of us played soccer or ultimate on the field next to the playground. After an hour or so, we walked back to the school bus, and we went back to the school. In the end, we had fun and learned a ton at the Waste-to-Energy facility.

By: Alex and James

## PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Over several years, the Begbie PAC has supported the school in so many ways. Not only do they give guidance and feedback to the school, they spend lots of time, money, and general effort in order to increase the opportunities for all students. I want to highlight the numerous activities, field trips, supplies, and equipment that PAC has organized and/or purchased for Sir Matthew Begbie in the last few years.

Here are some highlights:

Big Text	Library Club Refreshments
Electronic Keyboard	Pancake Breakfast with Santa
Equipment for Games Club	PE Equipment such as Volleyballs, Basketballs, Hula Hoops, Etc.
Field Trip Assistance	Playground Equipment
Grade 7 Leaving Medals and Ceremony	Primary Book Bags
Guitar Maintenance and Restringing	Rollerblading
Gymnastics	Sensory Room Equipment
iPads	Sports Day
Library Books	Tennis BC Lessons



On behalf of all of our students and staff, a heartfelt thank you to our PAC members.

It is a small but dedicated group who accomplish so much and make a huge difference to our children.

## GENERAL GORDON ELEMENTARY

### **Brick Selling Ceremony, Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup>!**

WHERE? At the Gordon Site

WHEN? **Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, 3:30-5:30 pm.**

WHY? Raise funds for the new playground, and have some fun

Get your own Gordon Brick from the 1912 school building!

\$20.00 = a brick, a certificate authenticating the 1912 brick, your name on a plaque that will be placed in the new school as recognition of your contribution to the new playground, outdoor classroom, fields and gardens.

## PARKING



As you know there is no parking lot at Begbie. As such staff and parents park in front of our neighbours' homes. Sometimes this creates a hardship. One of our neighbours has requested that we not park in front of his home. Please do not park in front of 3106 Grant Street.

## P.A.C. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

All parents are invited to attend the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, June 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm in the Begbie school library. This is your opportunity to participate in the future of our school. You may participate in the PAC election by running yourself or voting on the next committee, or you are welcome to just come out and meet other parents. Look forward to seeing you!

## COMMUNITY EYES



We need all of our community eyes watching Begbie School, especially during school holiday times or long weekends. If you see any suspicious behaviour, or behaviour that you are not sure about, please call 911 – Police, to report.