



January 25, 2018

Graham Bruce School News

Traffic—Safety and Requests



During school time it is requested that parents/caregivers respect the signs at the front of the school that state "No Parking, 8:00–5:00, Monday to Friday" and "No Stopping, 8:00–5:00, Monday to Friday". We have multiple students attending our school that are in wheelchairs and their bus must have safe access to the school.

As a reminder to all parents and caregivers, the following regulations are in forced during school times (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday).

1. When school is in session, a 30-km/h school zone speed limit is in effect from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. every school day, unless otherwise posted. Also, remember that vehicles approaching from both directions must stop for school buses when their lights are flashing.
2. Do not stop or park on the wrong side of the street to drop off your children. This is becoming an increasing problem and poses significant risk to our children.
3. Always yield to pedestrians (it's the law). Pedestrians should cross at corners. J-Walking or crossing in the middle of the block is very dangerous. **U-TURNS ARE ILLEGAL.**
4. When dropping off children in a school zone, stop and allow them to exit onto the sidewalk side of the car. **Never double park and allow a child to cross mid-block.**
5. If a vehicle is stopped in front of you or in the lane next to you, they may be yielding for a pedestrian, so be prepared to stop.

Please note that our school has partnered with the VPD who will be randomly monitoring and ticketing drivers along Tanner Street and in the surrounding area for road infractions. Thank you to those parents who comply with the rules of the road.

IMPORTANT SCHOOL DATES:

- Jan. 26—Multi-Cultural Pot Luck Dinner, 6–8:30 p.m. in the Gym
- Jan. 29—PRO-D Day—No School for Students. No Windermere After School Programs today.
- Feb. 7—International Day of Play
- Feb. 12—Family Day—School Closed
- Feb. 19—PRO-D Day—No School for Students
- Feb. 21—Fire Drill
- Feb. 22—Gr. 7's vs VPD Volleyball Game at Lunch
- LOOKING AHEAD:
- Mar. 12–15—Scholastic Book Fair
- Mar. 14 & 15—Parent/Teacher Conferences. **Students dismissed both days at 2:00 p.m.**
- Mar. 16—Last day of School
- Mar. 19–Apr. 2—Spring Break/District Closure & Easter Holidays
- Apr. 3—School Re-Opens
- Apr. 23—PRO-D Day—No School for Students.
- Apr. 25—Ready, Set, Learn! Will Stoet is coming again! For children 2–5 years of age.
- May 3—Big One at 2:00 p.m.—Earthquake Drill
- May 16—Welcome to Kindergarten!
- May 18—District Closure Day—School Closed
- May 21—Victoria Day—School Closed
- May 25—PAC Carnival
- May 29—Immunization Clinic
- June 28—Grade 7 Leaving Ceremony, **LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS, Report Cards Home Today.**
- June 29—Administrative Day

February 7, 2018

RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT THE NECESSITY OF UNSTRUCTURED PLAY

Graham Bruce is excited to participate in Global School Play Day 2018! There is a great deal of research that demonstrates the importance of unstructured, imaginative play as being essential to developing life skills.

Last year, over 283,000 students from 6 continents participated in Global School Play Day!



It is therefore with pleasure we invite students on Wednesday, February 7th to bring toys from home that will allow them to share their play with one another. The only restrictions: they must bring toys and these toys may NOT require batteries or electricity. No devices. Board games, dolls, Lego, blocks, trucks, cars, racetracks, playing cards, empty boxes, markers, jigsaw puzzles, blankets (for forts), social games (Charades, Pictionary, etc.) The only exception to the electronics rule would be a board game that has an electronic timer.

For information about Global School Play Day and links to research, go to globalschoolplayday.com

Home Contact:

Most of our safety procedures rely on our ability to contact you. Have you changed your home, cell or emergency phone numbers? Have you initialized your voice mail on a new cell phone? Have you recently changed your email account from "Yahoo" to "Gmail" or vice versa or an internet provider such as "Rogers" or "Telus" and now have a new email account. If so please call Denise at 604-713-4778 or by email, dmeyer@vsb.bc.ca to have your information updated.



Attendance Matters

All of our students need to be at school before 8:55 am each school day and in classes ready to learn by 9:00 am. The first few minutes of the school day set the tone for the whole school day for a child. *Please help us help your child learn and grow by making sure that they are at school before 8:55 am.* If your child is late or absent, please be sure to call our school either the morning of the absence by 8:45 am or the night before. Parents/caregivers can leave a message on the answering machine (604-713-4778) or with Denise (dmeyer@vsb.bc.ca) that can be relayed to the classroom teacher.

Mission Statement

To provide a safe and respectful learning environment
For all students to achieve their full potential as lifelong learners and
to become responsible, contributing citizens in our ever-changing society.

School Code of Conduct

At Graham Bruce School we care for and respect:

- Ourselves
- Others
- Our Community

Extended Vacation Requests from Families during the School Year

Just a reminder to families that if you choose to go on an extended vacation during the school year, teachers are **NOT** expected to provide assignments either before or after, or give any make-up tests or examinations. It is the student's responsibility for learning any content material missed and students will be marked absent during the duration of the time away from school. Please limit your vacation so that your child is absent for a maximum of 20 school days. This year classes at Graham Bruce are full and most grades have waiting lists. If you are away for more than 20 school days your child will likely lose his or her space at Graham Bruce.



Allergies & Medicines:

Please let the school know if your child has a very serious life-threatening allergy or if they regularly take medication so that we can discuss safety procedures with you. Medication may only be administered at school once a "**Request for Administration of Medication at School**" form has been completed by your child's attending Physician. Once this form has been completed by your Physician the medication will be kept at the school office and the child will see Denise to have the proper doses administered. Please do not allow your child/children to bring any type of medication to school for if it gets into the wrong hands a serious injury could occur.

Cold and Flu Season

Regular hand washing is our first line of defense! We are in the midst of the cold and flu season as the poor weather keeps us inside making it easier for the "bugs" to spread among people. The health authorities stress that regular and proper hand washing is an effective prevention process. **Parents are asked to keep a child home from school if she/he is sick (i.e. fever and headaches, vomiting or upset stomach, diarrhea, etc.), to prevent the spread of the illness and to provide proper rest and care.** **Please note that if your child has vomiting or diarrhea they need to stay home for 48 hours AFTER the last occurrence of either the vomit or diarrhea.**

Rollerblading at Graham Bruce



Once again our school was able to jump start the new year with Rollerblading gym classes! What a treat it was to watch all the students enjoy a heart happy activity. We at Graham Bruce, the staff and students, would like to thank our wonderful PAC for substantially subsidizing our Rollerblading program. The original cost was approximately \$15.00 per student! So thanks to the PAC the cost to parents again this year was only \$5.00 per student. We would also like to thank Tracy from West Coast Wheel Kids for running this program for us!

Windermere After School Programs

Term 2 of the Windermere After School Programs started this week! Our students are partaking in Junior Chefs, Piano, Creative Kids, Mini Chefs and Fastbreak Multisport. Please note that the calendar on the last page of this newsletter has the start and end times for each program. Once again thanks to Windermere staff and student leaders!



Superintendent:	Ms. Suzanne Hoffman
Director of Instruction:	Mr. Aaron Davis
Liaison Trustee:	Mr. Allan Wong
Principal:	Mr. Sean Marlyn (604-713-4778)
Secretary:	Ms. Denise Meyer (604-713-4778)

February 2018

Thank you for helping us help your child/children have a great day at school by making sure they arrive by 8:55 a.m. each school day!

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			1 3:15—4:30—Creative Kids & Mini Chefs	2 Hot Lunch—Sushi 3:15—4:30—Fastbreak Multisport
5 3:15—4:30—Jr. Chefs 3:15—4:45—Piano	6	7 International Day of Play!	8 3:15—4:30—Creative Kids & Mini Chefs	9 Hot Lunch—Subway 3:15—4:30—Fastbreak Multisport
12 FAMILY DAY No School Today No Windermere Programs Today	13	14	15 Lockdown Drill at 11:55 a.m. 3:15—4:30—Creative Kids & Mini Chefs	16 Chinese New Year Hot Lunch—Teriyaki 3:15—4:30—Fastbreak Multisport
19 PROVINCIAL PRO-D DAY No School Today No Windermere Programs Today	20	21 Fire Drill at 10:20 a.m.	22 3:15—4:30—Creative Kids & Mini Chefs	23 Hot Lunch—Pizza 3:15—4:30—Fastbreak Multisport
26 3:15—4:30—Jr. Chefs 3:15—4:45—Piano	27	28		