

Gordon Gazette

General Gordon Elementary School
2268 Bayswater Street
Vancouver, BC V6K 4P5
☎713-5403 Fax 713-5405
Website: www.gordonelementary.ca

Safe Arrival ☐ 713-5403 Option #1

Principal: Hope Sterling
Field Services Director: Magdalena Kassis
Superintendent: John Lewis (acting)
Trustee: Judy Zaichkowsky

Vice Principal : Sarah McAlister
Administrative Assistant: Heidi Leung

PAC Co-Chairs: Julie Verhoeven
Suzan Saykam

2017 December 1

Newsletter #7

BELL SCHEDULE :

School Hours Monday-Friday 9:00am-3:00pm

8:55 Warning Bell

9:00 School starts

Recess-10:30-10:50am

Lunch-12:10-12:57pm

Supervision for students at recess and lunch

Supervision in the mornings on the playground for students 8:40-9:00am

Supervision after school on the playground 3:00-3:20pm

CALENDAR

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|------------------------|---|
| Friday, Dec. 1, 2017 | Professional Day – No School |
| Monday, Dec. 4, 2017 | Food Bank Drive begins Drop off of Loonie Plus Items Begins |
| Tuesday, Dec. 12, 2017 | Vision Screening for Kindergarteners |
| Wed. Dec. 13, 2017 | Winter Concert Dress Rehearsal |
| Thur. Dec. 14, 2017 | Winter Concerts (see below for times) Last day to Drop off Loonie Plus Items |
| Fri. Dec. 15, 2017 | Loonie Plus Sale 9-3pm Craft Sale 3-4pm Food Bank Drive Ends |
| Wed. Dec. 20, 2017 | Report Cards go home |
| Fri. Dec. 22, 2017 | Last Day of school before Winter Holidays |
| Mon. Jan. 8, 2018 | Return to school after Winter Holidays |
| Thur. Jan. 11, 2018 | French Immersion Info Night 7-8pm |

SCHOOL NEWS

Principal's Message

Dear Gordon Community;

Thank you for Another PAC Funded Performance

On November 15th we were treated to a concert by West My Friend. They were composed of a guitar, accordion, mandolin and bass. They performed original songs and encouraged a lot of audience participation. Thank you for this entertaining musical experience.

Broadway Lunch

There has been some confusion around how far up and down Broadway students are allowed to travel for Broadway Lunch. Nat's Pizza is the furthest East and Tim Hortons is the furthest West students can travel. Sorry, there will be no more access to Dairy Queen. Parents, thank you for reviewing this with your Grade 6 and 7 children.

Lockdown Drill

On Thursday the Gordon community practiced a Lockdown Drill. A Lockdown is called if there is an intruder or dangerous situation inside the building. Students and staff lock themselves in a room, get out of sight and stay silent. Overall it went well. Students were well hidden and silent. There were a few improvements necessary and, that's why we practice our drills. Thank you to all the staff and students for participating.

Learning Improvement Fund

We have recently received a \$12,000 grant from the Ministry of Education called the Learning Improvement Fund. Staff are working together to purchase more curriculum resources. We are grateful for this financial enhancement as it seems there is never enough money in education!

Cash Donations at Winter Concerts

This year at our Winter Concert we will be collecting money for Gordon Family Hampers and our Student Emergency Fund. Gordon Family Hampers provide struggling families with food for the holiday season and our Student Emergency Fund will help provide access for all students to participate in fieldtrips and other learning experiences with a price tag. If you would like to contribute, please bring cash and watch for the collectors at the door.

Winter Concert and Loonie Plus Volunteers

I just want to put a plug in for more volunteers to help with crowd control at our Winter Concerts on Thursday, December 14th. As a thank you, you will be rewarded with a maximum of three special reserved seat for one of the Winter Concerts. We are also looking for helpers to collect items before school for the Loonie Plus sale. Please contact Paula at dpfh05@gmail.com to volunteer for the Loonie Sale. Please contact your Gordon PAC Co-chairs if you are available to help at the concert.

I look forward to seeing many of you at these special events and I wish you a happy, healthy, holiday season!
Hope Sterling, Principal

Winter Concert Times – Thursday, Dec. 14, 2017

Show A – 9:30 am Divisions *16, 7, 9, 5, 3 & 1

Show B – 11:10 am Divisions * 16, 8, 2, 6, 4

- Division 16 will be performing in both shows. Please send your **selected time slot** back to the teacher.

Show C – 1:15 pm Division 17, 15, 13 & 11

Show D – 2:00 pm Division 18, 14, 12 & 10

Please come and see your child participate in our winter concert. It is our goal to provide the opportunity for all parents to be able to see their children perform at this special event. Please be mindful of this when bringing other audience members as space and seating is limited. A *limited number of seats* are available on Wednesday, Dec. 13 for the rehearsals. If you **CANNOT** make the Thursday concerts and would like to come to the rehearsals please advise Heidi in the office, haleung@vsb.bc.ca or 604-713-5403 option #2 to check for spaces.

Loonie Plus Drop off times and locations

Donations are being accepted from 8:30 – 9:30am from **Dec. 4 to Dec. 14** at the little school house. Please clean out your homes and donate any new or gently used items that you no longer need. Suggestions for donations are books, toys, CDs, DVDs, candles, soaps and toiletry gifts, sports and fashion accessories (jewellery!), and decorative items. We will be *unable* to accept stuffed animals or clothing. Donations of gift bags, gift boxes, gift wrap, bows and tissue paper would be appreciated as well.

Also remember on Dec. 15 make sure you send money with your children (\$10 or less) for them to purchase items for their loved ones. All children will have an opportunity to go shopping with their classes.

Mari's Giving Project

Mari Furminger (Division 12) is spearheading a holiday toy drive for recently arrived refugees via Mari's Giving Project, an initiative she began when she was 5-years-old that collects needed items for refugees served by Immigrants Services Society of BC. Mari will be collecting new, unwrapped toys for children between the ages of 1 and 13 until December 15, 2017; if you would like to donate a new toy, please send Mari's mom Sabrina by email at sabrinafurminger@yahoo.com to arrange a pick-up or drop-off time. (No toy weapons, please). Thank you for your consideration and generosity.

Movember Sprit Day

On Wednesday, November 29 the Gordon Student Council will be hosting a **Movember** spirit day fundraiser. We will be providing moustaches on a stick (masquerade style) by donation as well as moustache face painting by donation starting at 8:45 am on Wednesday morning and continuing again at recess. All proceeds will go towards prostate cancer research. Get your Movember on!

Piece of the PIE tip: encourage your child to look at and recognize the special and unique abilities that each of their classmates has/brings to their class and friends. We are all different and we all have unique abilities and talents, practice with your kids how to recognize that in the people around them.

We are all partners into making our school an inclusive community.

PAC Update to follow next week! Until then...

