

Gordon Gazette

General Gordon Elementary School
2268 Bayswater St.
Vancouver, BC V6K 4P5
☎713-5403 Fax 713-5405
Website: go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/gordon

Safe Arrival ☐ 713-5403 # 1

Principal: Hope Sterling
Field Services Director: Magdalena Kassis
Interim Superintendent: John Lewis

Vice Principal : Sarah McAlister
Administrative Assistant: Heidi Leung

PAC Co-Chairs: Julie Verhoeven
Suzan Saykam

2017 November 1st

Newsletter #3

MAIN SCHOOL HOURS: Monday-Friday 9:00am-3:00pm

Recess-10:30-10:50am

Lunch-12:10-12:57pm

12:20-12:43pm

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 REMINDERS

Tuesday	Oct. 31	9:15 Primary Halloween Parade, 9:30ish Intermediate Parade
Wednesday	Nov. 1	Kindergarten, Late French Immersion & New students Registration Starts
Thursday	Nov. 2	Kindergarten Hearing Tests
Monday	Nov. 6	Make up Individual Photo Day
Thursday	Nov. 9	Remembrance Day Assembly 11am
Friday	Nov. 10	Curriculum Implementation Day – Pro-D No School for students
Monday	Nov. 13	Remembrance Day – No school
Thursday	Nov. 16	Immunization #1 for Grade 6's

SCHOOL NEWS

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:

November 2017 Newsletter

Dear Gordon Community;

Extreme Weather Days

Back in October Vancouver was hit with a few little storms. One day, due to the heavy rain and wind, we called for an "Extreme Weather Day" for recess and lunch. On these days only students with appropriate weather attire are allowed to play outside. We also open our Multipurpose Room for games and quiet conversation. We appreciate your support on these days by sending your children in weather appropriate gear so they have the option of going outside.

Lunch Containers that are Difficult to Open

I have noticed that at lunch time there are a large number of students who have difficulty opening their containers. It would be very helpful if you sit down with your children and test what they can and cannot open. This will alleviate frustration for your child and free up our Supervision Aides to supervise. Thank you very much.

Road Safety

We are all aware of the importance of keeping our children safe near roadways. The need for awareness increases as weather conditions and visibility worsen. If you are driving your children to school, please ensure you are dropping them off on the school side of the street, so they don't have to cross the road. It would also be helpful if you have a chat with your child to *stop, look and listen* when approaching intersections and allies. Please find School Traffic Safety Tips attached. This tip sheet provides clarification around Vancouver City street signage.

Performances

We have been very fortunate to have two wonderful school-wide performances already this year. On September 6th we were entertained by Jacky Essombe, an African dancer. Accompanied by an African drummer, he shared the culture of Africa through traditional songs and stories. Then on October 11th we watched a Green Thumb theatre performance called, *Not So Dumb*. This was a poignant play about what can happen when we put ourselves in someone else's shoes. Now, we are looking forward to *West My Friend* on November 15th. Thank you to the PAC for helping us cover the cost of these entertaining learning experiences.

New Student Registration

Registration for the 2018/2019 school year begins on November 1st and ends on January 31st. The office will be open to accept new Kindergarten, Late French Immersion and any new students to Gordon, who plan to start in September 2018. We are accepting applications from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM. If we find we have more applicants than spots, we will hold a draw. Applications will NOT be processed on a first come - first served basis. Registration forms and information are available on the VSB website. Just a reminder that our Late French Immersion catchment covers all schools West of Main Street. Unfortunately there is no preferential placement of Gordon students.

Please note if your child already attends Gordon you DO NOT have to re-register. Only Grade 5's applying for the French Immersion program need to do so. <http://www.vsb.bc.ca/sites/default/files/Gr1-7-Application2013.pdf>

Our French Immersion information night will be held on Jan. 11, 2018 @ 7pm in the Multipurpose Room.

Terry Fox Fundraiser

Our Terry Fox Run raised \$1248.45. Thank you so much for your support for cancer research. This important fundraiser has resulted in great gains against the fight of cancer.

Halloween Parade

On Tuesday, October 31st at 9:15 we will be calling all of our primary classes (K to Grade 3) down to the gym to participate in our Halloween Parade. Then, around 9:30 we will call down our Intermediate classes. Classes will sit in the middle of the gym and be called up one by one to parade around the gym. Students with or without costumes can participate. Parents are welcome to drop by to check out the array of princesses, superheroes and much more! Remember, no weapons will be allowed at school and we discourage masks, as they can hamper visibility.

Evening Access to School

On regular school days our outside doors are locked by our engineer at 4 PM. If you need to pick up your child from JKC, our before and after school care program, you can access them through the Multipurpose doors facing 6th Ave. This door is only for adults picking up students from JKC. Our gymnasium is now rented out five evenings a week to the public, so they have access to our student washrooms during this time. To be safe, if students are playing outside and need to use the washroom after 4 PM they will have to make their way home. Thank you.

Remembrance Day Assembly

Thursday, November 9th from 11 to Noon we will be holding our Gordon Remembrance Day Assembly. We encourage all students who belong to organizations such as Cadets, Scouts, Guides, Cubs, Brownies etc. to wear their official uniforms. There will be a number of staff and students taking part. We invite families to join us.

2017/2018 Individual Education Plans

As you are aware, we started the school year short two classroom teachers. To create some consistency in the classroom two of our resource teachers, Deni Mori and Miles Patrick, kindly left their workload and covered these divisions. Once we hired our two wonderful new teachers, Ms. Bailey and Mr. Desrochers, our resource teachers were able to resume their regular positions. This has, however, created a time delay. Our goal is to have all our Individual Education Plans updated and in place by the end of December. Thank you for your patience.

*"Many think of freedom, not as the right to do as we please,
but as the opportunity to do what is right." Peter Marshall*

PAC NEWS – Please see attachment.