

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: Suzanne Hoffman
Trustee: Judy Zaichkowsky

Vice Principal : Sarah McAlister
Administrative Assistant: Heidi Leung

PAC Co-Chairs: Julie Verhoeven
Suzan Saykam

2018 March 9

Newsletter #9

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

Wed. March 14, 2018	Heritage Fair 9 -10am
Thur. March 15, 2018	Report Cards Go Home
Fri. March 16, 2018	Last day of classes before Spring Break
Mon, March 19 – April 2	Spring Break
Tues. April 3, 2018	First day of classes after Spring Break
Wed. April 11, 2018	Talent Show Dress Rehearsal
Thur. April 12, 2018	Talent Show
Wed. April 18, 2018	Ready Set Learn 10am -11:30 am (Pre-K's)
Fri. April 27, 2018	Professional Day

SCHOOL NEWS

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Guardians of the General Gordon School Community,

Many thanks for your warm welcome to this wonderful school community as I help out during Ms. Sterling's leave of absence.

We were delighted to meet so many families during our recent celebration of student learning at our parent/student/teacher conferences. I am also very much looking forward to General Gordon's Heritage Fair on March 14. I have been fortunate to have had a preview peek at some of the amazing Inquiry Projects being prepared in classrooms for the Fair.

Thank you to the Student Council for organizing Pink Day and making little pink shirts for students to wear to show their support for anti-bullying awareness. We had an impressive amount of pink worn by students in all grades. Great job General Gordon students!

As many of you are aware we had an unplanned fire drill before school last week. Although the fire bell rang before the start of the school day, students and many parents successfully congregated in the appropriate area on the gravel field. Congratulations to our students for a wonderful demonstration of the skills they have learned during our practice fire drills.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish our families a happy, healthy and fun filled Spring Break.

Acting Principal

General Gordon Elementary School

Tel: 604 713 5403

ARE YOU RETURNING LATE AFTER SPRING BREAK? – To help with our Safe Arrival program, please fill out the attached form [..\Forms\2017 Notice of Late Return Form - Spring Break.doc](#) and return it to the office prior to your departure. Please make sure you call the safe arrival line 604-713-5403 Ext 1 or email haleung@vsb.bc.ca if you are leaving early too.

HERITAGE FAIR – Wed. March 14, 2018 – Most of our classes are participating in this year's Heritage Fair. If your child's class is participating, we welcome you to this event from 9-10am on March 14. This will be an opportunity to see your child's work on display in the gym. Mr. Wong's class (Div. 12) will be presenting in the Library during this same time. After 10 am selected students will be judged with a chance to move onto the Provincial Heritage Fair.

TALENT SHOW – Ms. Mac and many of the teachers are hard at work auditioning those wanting to be in this year's talent show. Due to the number of students who want to participate there will be two shows. Ms. Mac will provide a list of who will be in which shows at the beginning of April.

READY, SET, LEARN – This event, set for Wed. April 18, 2018 allows preschoolers and new Kindergarteners a chance to come to our school and enjoy a fun literacy event. Watch for the posters and the emails to be sent at the beginning of April with more details. This event is open to all in our community so feel free to invite those that might be in this age group (ages 3-5) even if they are not planning on coming to General Gordon in September.

PAC UPDATE March 2018

Dear parents and guardians,

Please find below our update for March 2018. If you have any questions or concerns, please email us at gordonpac@ymail.com (ymail, NOT gmail).

Kind regards,
Julie and Suzan
PAC co-chairs

1. HOT LUNCH

We have been hearing from parents about our hot lunch program recently. The comments suggest that we need healthier options and better quality food. We have brought this to *C'est mon Café's* attention and are currently waiting for their ideas. If we don't see a change, we will explore other options for the following school year. We would like to hear from you if you are aware of any hot lunch programs that you feel would be worth suggesting. If any families in our community own a catering company or restaurant and would be interested in providing a hot lunch program for Gordon, please speak with us or contact us at the email address above.

2. TAX RECEIPTS

We would like to inform you that the tax receipts for donations made in 2017 are in the process of being written and sent to us by the VSB. Please accept our apology for the delay. If you're filing your tax return before you've received your receipt and need to confirm the amount, please feel free to contact us.

3. BOLLYWOOD AT GORDON

We are excited to share that PAC will bring **Shiamak's Bollywood dance workshop** to Gordon. *'Shiamak Davar is India's foremost modern dance choreographer and director. He has won the National Award for Choreography and has performed all across the world and represented India at various international events'*.

They will be at Gordon June 4-8. All divisions will be instructed Monday to Thursday and there will be a presentation for parents on Friday. This is possible because of your generous donations during our Direct Drive in the fall. There will be no extra cost.

4. SEXUAL HEALTH EDUCATION FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS

We are thrilled to announce that Cath Blythe with Saleema Noon Sexual Health Educators will come to Gordon for parent and student information sessions. Thanks to our very successful Direct Drive in October there will be no extra cost! The student sessions will be held on Thursday, May 31st and Friday, June 1st during school hours. Cath will teach each grade level, one at a time. **Save the date: The parent session will be on Monday, May 28th 6:30-8pm at the school.** For more information please visit <http://www.saleemanoon.com/>

5. CULTURAL CELEBRATIONS AT GORDON

We would like to see the cultural diversity at our school celebrated through activities throughout the year. This could mean decorations in the main hall, a presentation at one of the monthly assemblies or a potluck just to name a few. Please help us by sharing your special traditions with our school community.

Some examples of upcoming celebrations are Passover, Nowruz, Easter, Vaisakhi and Earth Day. If you like to share decorations for any of these or any others, please contact Alana (alanahirsh@gmail.com).

Please also consider making a book donation to the school library to share information about cultural celebrations. Make sure to get in touch with the librarian first.

6. NEXT PAC MEETING

Please come to our next PAC meeting on Monday, April 9th 6:30-8pm in the library. Child minding will be provided by grade 7 students.

7. PIZZA WEDNESDAYS

Pizza continues to be sold each Wednesday at lunch as a fundraiser for the French Immersion Quebec exchange trip. Cheese and pepperoni slices are available and are priced at \$3 for one slice or \$5 for two. Primary students purchase from inside the multi-purpose room and intermediates purchase from the kitchen window in the main hall.

8. POPCORN FRIDAYS

Popcorn continues to be sold each Friday at lunch as a PAC fundraiser. Each child may buy a single bag for \$1 outside of the school entrance to the library after they have eaten their lunch and have been dismissed for play.

9. JOIN US ON FACEBOOK

For quick reminders and updates you can join the "Gordon School PAC" group on Facebook.

Piece of the PIE tip: In honor of International Women's Day take a moment to reflect with your kids about the inclusion of women in different areas of life -from voting, to education, to professional and personal choices; reflect about what has been necessary for these changes, the struggles, and what still needs to be done. How does it look like for them at school? What can we do on the day to day basis? We hope this sparks an interesting conversation in your home.

Remember we are all a piece of the PIE, we are all important to continue promoting inclusion in our school.

Erika and Denise

partnersforinclusiveeducation@gmail.com