

Gordon Gazette

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

Please let us know if your child is Absence or Late ~ 604-713-5403 Option #2

Principal: Hope Sterling
Field Services Director: Magdalena Kassis
Superintendent: Scott Robinson
Trustee: Dianne Turner

Administrative Assistant: Heidi Leung
PAC Co-Chairs: Promita Abraham
& Vickie Stephens

2017 June 1

Newsletter #13

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

Tues. June 6 – Volunteer Breakfast 8:45 – 9:30am

Wed. June 7 – PIE Meeting 7pm

Wed. June 7 – Welcome to Kindergarten 9:30 – 10:30am

Thur. June 8 – Teacher Appreciation Lunch

Thur. June 15 – Gordon Gallery 3-4pm

Mon. June 19 – PAC Meeting 7pm

Tues. June 20 – Grade 7 Graduation @ 1:30pm

Thur. June 22 – Canadian's Baseball Field Trip

Fri. June 23 – Beach Day Field Trip

Tue. June 27 – Year End Assembly

Thur. June 29 – Last Day of school dismissal at 2pm

SCHOOL NEWS

Principal's Message

Newsletter June 2017

Dear Gordon Community;

From what I witnessed, our **Spring Fling** is the most powerful mechanism to bring our community together. I would like to thank all of our community members for coming together to make this happen. From bouncy castles to books, popcorn to plants and souvlaki to snow cones - we almost had it all. Thank you to the student volunteers, parents and staff who were able to come, lend a hand and make it even more special. I would like to say a special thank you to the four key organizers: Birte, Jessica, Julie and Suzan. They spent many hours planning, organizing and hunting down all the pieces to make the spring fling the fantastic event that it was. Well done!

June is bringing a whirlwind of activity: **Volunteer Breakfast** on the 6th, **Welcome to Kindergarten** on the 7th, **Teacher Appreciation Lunch** on the 8th (Thank you!), **Gordon Gallery** on the 15th, **Gr 7 Farewell Celebration** on the 20th. (Watch for your invitation for 4 guests.) **Nat Bailey** on the 22nd, **Beach Day** on the 23rd and the **Yearend Assembly** on the 27th. I will touch on two of these below.

The Gordon community is enriched by its **volunteers**. Volunteers make sacrifices, often with their time, energy and sometimes monetarily. Whether you're a PAC member, sharing your talents, or accompanying a field trip, you are greatly appreciated. We would like to offer a small thank you. If you are able, please join us in our library on **Tuesday, June 6th** from **8:45 to 9:45 AM** for a continental breakfast.

The **Gordon Gallery** will be held in the gym on Thursday, June 15th from 3 to 4 PM. Please come if you can to view all the creative art that our students will have on display.

Our **School Website is now live**. By searching for Gordon through the VSB website you will now be directed to our Share Point new Gordon school website, <http://go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/gordon>. This will now be a source for school announcements, information and documents. The website we have been using, www.gordonelementary.ca will be known as our PAC website. I have added a link to the PAC website on our new school website on the

parent tab. There will also be a link on our PAC website to our school website. Our new website will be an excellent “Gordon event tracker”, as the calendar has been updated with all the June events.

Congratulations to Amanda Wardrop’s class for winning the **Young Writers Award**. Young Writers of Canada holds annual poetry/writing contests to encourage the art of poetry and writing for all ages. Congratulations Division 3!

I also wanted to mention three safety reminders. First, our **student washrooms are just for students**. If any adult would like to use a washroom they are welcome to use the washroom located just off the East hallway on the main floor near the stairwell. Second, we have a **no wheels on the playground rule 20 minutes before and 20 minutes after school**. This is to help avoid collisions during high traffic times. Finally, I have noticed a number of parents taking pictures at some of our school events. Just a reminder that many of our students and some staff members have indicated that photos not be placed on social media. Please ensure your photos are not shared and privacy is respected. Thank you for helping to keep Gordon safe.

LIBRARY NEWS - The library has had a very busy and fulfilling third term. All three kindergartens have participated in an inquiry unit in literature. Students were read books on different themes. They were asked to vote on how much they liked the books and also on which type of book they preferred.

Students from both Grade 6 French classes have been doing a library unit on countries of the world. They have been learning how to search and find books in the library and how to use some of the school board's databases. The school library will **cease lending on June 7**. Could all students please have books back by that date? Thank you very much. *Mary*

Mari's Giving Project – which we started in November 2015 to assist recently arrived refugees after Mari, then 5-years-old, first learned about Syrian refugees and asked what she could do to help – is currently looking for gently used bicycles.

The call for donations of bicycles comes from Immigrant Services Society of BC, the Vancouver non-profit that serves the refugee community and with whom Mari's Giving Project has been working since 2015. Immigrant Services Society will distribute the bicycles to recently arrived refugees in the community. Transportation is a huge cost in Vancouver, as bicycles provide freedom and, well, joy! Mari is currently collecting used children's and adult bicycles that will go directly to people who need them most.

We are happy to arrange a time for pick-up or invite people to drop bicycles off at our home. I can be reached sabrinafurminger@yahoo.com. Thank you so much for your consideration, and for helping me help Mari help others.

PARKING ON BAYSVIEW ST. – Please note that you cannot park on Baysview St. Even if you are dropping children off for 5 min. Some parents are parking and blocking the crosswalk making it VERY unsafe for our children. Please park away from the school and WALK your children in. We do not want to have to call the city’s parking enforcement and give you a ticket.

KITSILANO NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE - “Local services providers (Kitsilano Neighbourhood House, West Side Family Place, and Vancouver Coastal Health) will be hosting a Family Resource Fair for families with children ages 0 - 6 to learn more about the programs and services available in the community. The fair will be at Kitsilano Neighbourhood House (2305 West 7th Ave) on Friday, June 2 from 10am till noon. Come find out more about Kids’ Health, Safety, Child Care and more. Resources will be available in multiple languages. Activities will include Mother Goose Circle Time, Story Time, Mindfulness workshop for children, face painting, and crafts for tots. Coffee, tea and healthy snacks provided. Parking is limited.”

SOCCER PROGRAMS – Vancouver United

Our **Active Start program** (ages 3 – 7, or U4 - U8) is one of the best soccer development programs in Vancouver and highly acknowledged by past and present families. It is focused on fun, physical literacy (learning fundamental movement skills), and soccer skill development.

The **U9/U10 House program** (ages 8 and 9) transitions the players to a new format from Active Start, playing 6-aside games on slightly larger fields. There is one practice during the week and a game on the weekend.

The **U11/U12 program** (ages 10 and 11) has another transition to 8-aside games on half fields; and there is one practice during the week and a game on the weekend.

The **Divisional U13-U18 program** starts at age 12 and moves to full fields, weekly practices, and 11-aside games each weekend.

Visit our club website or contact us at 604-674-4109 for more information on these programs.

Register at: <https://vancouverunitedfc.com/main-site> (see top of page "Register Here").

Registration for Active Start opens Tuesday, May 23rd, with a \$25 late registration fee in effect July 1st.

Registration for U9 and older ages is open so register **NOW** before teams are full and to avoid the \$50 late registration fee in effect June 1st.

PAC NEWS

PAC Fundraising Update:

Since January we have received

\$40.39 from IGA cards (4% of sales - ask for a free reloadable gift card)

\$61.09 from Mabel's Labels (20% of sales at www.mabelslabels.com when select "General Gordon" from the list of schools when you Support a Fundraiser)

\$92.93 from SPUD (25% of sales of select bins of organic produce when you support "General Gordon" at www.spud.ca/fundraisng

plus \$1745.30 from the donation bin on Bayswater!

Gift Card Orders due Thursday, June 1st

Last order of the year. Stock up for summer! Gas cards, groceries, restaurants and more. This has raised \$600 this year, plus \$1200 for Safeway cards.

Cash or cheque payment only. Order forms in box in school office or

online <http://gordonelementary.ca/Shopping%20Card>

Questions? Contact parent-volunteer sheilakirkby@gmail.com

Come to the PAC Meeting on Monday, June 19th to help us spend it!

Next PAC Meeting - Monday, 19 June 2017 at 7pm in the school library.

A PIECE OF THE PIE TIP

Piece of the PIE Tip: The last piece of the PIE tip for this school year: Remember- Inclusion is work-in-progress, a conscious effort. Ask your children -"Did you feel part of the community during this year?" "What was good?", "Was anything missing?" And talk about ways in which we make others feel included. Remind them that we ALL want to BELONG, even when children have difficulty showing it in expected ways.

(and if your children throw out some good ideas on how to make inclusion more evident in our school, send them our way!)

Last PIE Meeting of the year next Monday June 5th, 7pm at the Library. Everyone welcome.

Happy summer!

Denise and Erika

partnersforinclusiveeducation@gmail.com

COFFEE MORNINGS

Coffee Mornings are now done for the school year. Thank you for all the parents that came out to support us and had a visit at the PAC table. We will continue the Coffee Mornings next year. We hope to see you then.