

Gordon Gazette

General Gordon Elementary School

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Website: <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/general-gordon/Pages/default.aspx>

Safe Arrival (604) 713-5403 # 1

Principal: Marion Broadbent

Field Services Director: Magdalena Kassis

Superintendent: Suzanne Hoffman

Vice Principal : Deb Routledge

Administrative Assistant: Heidi Leung

PAC Co-Chairs: Victoria Bonn

Suzan Saykam

November 6, 2019

Newsletter #2

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

Recess-10:30-10:45am

Lunch-12:00-12:47pm

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

Thur. Nov. 7

Fri. Nov. 8

Mon. Nov. 11

Thur. Nov. 28

Thur. Dec. 5

Fri. Dec. 13

Mon. Dec 23 – Fri. Jan 3, 2020

Remembrance Day Assembly at 11am

Professional Day – No School

Remembrance Day

Kindergarten Audiology Testing

Parent/Teacher Conferences Early Dismissal @ 2pm

Loonie/Toonie Sale 9-3pm

Craft Sale 3-4pm

Winter Break

SCHOOL NEWS

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:

Dear Gordon Parents and Guardians,

Halloween

It was quite amazing to see so many parents at our Halloween parades in the gym. There were so many interesting costumes and all the students and adults were really having fun.

Our gravel field was again used for a fireworks display. Last year I mentioned that I hoped that there would be less debris left. There was less debris this year but it did take our engineer, VP, a couple of very helpful parents and myself a couple of hours to collect the debris left over from the fireworks. We worked hard to make sure that our students were able to safely use our school playground during recess and lunch.

Gordon Gathering

I have had some questions about our Gordon Gatherings. We are using the terminology of the Gathering as opposed to an assembly. Our idea is that we will be integrating some of the First Peoples Principles of Learning. "Learning is holistic, reflexive, reflective, experiential, and relational (focused on connectedness, on reciprocal relationships, and a sense of place)

We continue to meet in the mornings on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, right when the bell rings. These Gatherings promote our school goal of building community and well-being. We are working on strategies to promote self-regulation, self-awareness and respect. We are pleased to say that our student council members will be taking on a leadership role in the gatherings on Wednesdays. This Wednesday morning one of our Senior Student Council members talked to the students about respecting our school grounds, putting wrappers in the garbage and recyclables in the recycling bin. The movie about the garbage patch in the ocean was also shown.

Sports activities at Gordon

I would like to thank our teachers who volunteer their time to support our students in the numerous sports activities. I would like to start by thanking Mr. Carter, who coached our boys' and girls' soccer teams. Congratulations go out to our Senior girls who won a Bronze medal in the City finals.

Mr. Patrick and Ms. Sinclair shared their expertise and coached our Cross Country team. Volleyball is currently in progress. Ms. Kassam, Ms. Hargrave and Mr. Carter are coaching the Sr. Girls. It is so wonderful that these educators are taking time out of their busy schedules to work with the students. It is obvious that they want to share their passions and expertise with our students.

Remembrance Day Assembly

Gordon's annual Remembrance Day Assembly will take place this Thursday at 11:00 AM. Students will be participating and sharing what they have learned by the reasons why we observe Remembrance Day.

NEW STUDENT REGISTRATION

Preferential Registration for the 2020/2021 school year began on November 1st and ends on January 31, 2020.

****NEW For ALL registrations**** Please go to the VSB website www.vsb.bc.ca and fill in the registration form and print it out and bring all the forms to the school office in a package for processing. The school office will be open to accept new Kindergarten and Late French Immersion students starting in September 2020 from 8:30 – 3pm daily. If we find we have more applicants than spots, we will hold a draw. (Please advise any neighbours/friends who are moving into catchment of this limited preferred registration period.)

As we anticipate we will be full next year, we will not be accepting Cross Boundary students at this time. Any registrants for Grade 1 to 7 need to follow the above directions and will be placed on a numbered waitlist and we will place for September 2020 in spring if space allows.

Applications will NOT be processed on a first come - first served basis.

Please note if your child already attends Gordon you DO NOT have to re-register. Only Grade 5's applying for the Grade 6 Late French Immersion program need to do so.

LATE FRENCH IMMERSION REGISTRATION FOR GR. 5'S

Is your child in Gr. 5 this year and wanting to register for the Gr. 6 Late French immersion program at Gordon? Now is the time to send in your application. Please bring the following to the school office to register: 1) A district VSB form 2) A letter written by the child indicating why they want to take the program. Length does not matter, but content does. 3) Your latest report card. We prefer to have the 1st term report cards of the current school year.

Just a reminder that our Late French Immersion catchment covers all schools West of Main Street. Unfortunately there is no preferential placement for Gordon students. Registration is open now until January 31, 2020. The French Immersion Info Night takes place on Thursday, Jan. 9 from 7-8pm.

DON'T FORGET TO REGULARLY CHECK OUR WEBSITE:

Please book mark our new website <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/general-gordon/Pages/default.aspx> This is the place to reference all the holidays, professional days, district closure days and goal-setting dates. We will be keeping it up to date, so please check regularly. We won't be sending out hard copies but if you do not have access please ask for hard copies from the office.

PAC NEWS **PARENT UPDATE NOVEMBER 5**

Thank you to everyone who attended our last PAC meeting. The minutes will be available on the school website later this week. See below a few updates on the direct drive and our ongoing programs.

Kind regards, Victoria and Suzan PAC co-chairs

1. DIRECT DRIVE UPDATE

So far we have raised **\$8010!** Please help us reach and exceed our target of \$10,000! We are SO close!! The easiest way is to donate through schoolcash online:

Go to: vsb.schoolcashonline.com/Fee/Details/1869/196/false/true?fundDestination=E-General%20Gordon%20PAC and follow the instructions.

To make a cash or cheque donation, pick up a form at the school office and return it to the school office along with the donation.

Every donation (*any* dollar amount) made through schoolcashonline.com is eligible for a **tax receipt**. It will be issued and emailed to you **instantly**.

Cash or cheque donations of **\$20 or more** are eligible for a tax receipt. They will be issued later.

2. PURDY'S CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISER NOV 1-21

The Gordon PAC is excited to offer the Purdy's Chocolate fundraiser again this year. Take this opportunity to support our school and purchase some sweet holiday gifts. Prices are the same as in the shops. Check out the brochure on line at www.fundraising.purdys.com to see what is available for purchase. There are paper copies in

the office if you prefer.

Our fundraiser runs **November 1st – 21st, 2019** and the school earns a **25% return** on all items sold. It's easy. Purchase directly through the Purdy's website:

- <https://fundraising.purdys.com/1053444-70125>
- Enter your email address to register and pay by Mastercard or Visa.
- Gordon's customer number for your reference is: 37488
- Coordinator email is: rishmakassam@hotmail.com

Order deadline is November 21st!

Your order will be delivered to the school and a pick-up date will be scheduled during the first week of December.

Questions? Email rishmakassam@hotmail.com or k_kenwood@hotmail.com

3. SCHOOL-WIDE CAPOEIRA CLASS MAY 4-8, 2020

Mark your calendars. In the week of May 4-8 PAC will bring in a Capoeira company. Each division will have a 30-45 minute class every day from Monday to Thursday. On Friday, May 8 the kids will put on a performance for everyone to enjoy! (specifics to follow).

4. HOT LUNCH MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS

You can order hot lunch for a whole term through www.munchalunch.com. PAC covers the per-transaction fees, so bulk ordering is encouraged. This is a school-wide fundraiser with \$1 per meal going to PAC.

Every child needs three nutritious meals per day. If you find yourself in a situation that makes it impossible to provide that for your child, PAC will help you out! Please see Ms. Broadbent or Ms. Heidi in the office to help make arrangements. Members of the PAC and PAC executive do not have access to names of kids or families reaching out.

5. PIZZA WEDNESDAYS

You can order pizza for a whole term through munchalunch.com. Bulk ordering is encouraged because PAC covers the per-transaction fees. This is a grade 7 fundraiser.

Again, If there are financial barriers to your child participating in Pizza Day AND you wish for your child to have a slice of pizza, PAC will help you out! Please see Ms. Broadbent or Ms. Heidi in the office to help make arrangements. As with hot lunch, members of the PAC and PAC executive do not have access to names of kids or families reaching out.

6. POPCORN AND FRUIT FRIDAYS

Every Friday students who have finished their lunch can purchase a small bag of popcorn for one dollar and/or a piece of fruit for 50c. This raises around \$130 every week for PAC. As with Pizza Day and Hot Lunch, if there are financial barriers at play, AND you want your child to have a bag or popcorn or piece of fruit, please reach out to Ms. Heidi or Ms. Broadbent. All fruit that doesn't sell is available first come first serve at the end of the day on Friday.

7. LOST AND FOUND

Please make sure to check the lost and found frequently. There is a ridiculous amount of clothing—we're talking thousands of dollars worth—sitting there. There are at least a dozen lunch containers and countless food containers in there. How are you not missing this stuff?? The biggest offenders seems to be hoodie wearers between the sizes of 10-14. If you have a creative way of reuniting the belongings with their forever-home, we want to know about it! At this point, everything that is not labeled, and not claimed, will be donated in December!

8. STAY INFORMED

- Check our P.A.C. board in the main hallway
- Email us at gordonpac@ymail.com
- Join us on Facebook (Gordon School PAC)
- Make sure to visit the school website regularly (<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/general-gordon/>)