

# Gordon Gazette

General Gordon Elementary School  
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Vancouver, BC V6K 1X1  
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**Safe Arrival ☎ 713-5403**

Principal: Margaret Davidson  
Associate Superintendent: Tom Grant  
Trustee: Shirley M. Wong

Vice-Principal: Bruce Inglis  
Administrative Assistant: Marilyn Grant  
PAC Chair: Penny Dagg

**2007 September 4**

**Newsletter #01**

## CALENDAR REMINDERS

Monday	September 24	PAC Meeting (Library 6:45-8:45pm)
Friday	September 28	Staff/Parent Mingle TBA at 3:30pm

## SCHOOL NEWS

### CROSS- COUNTRY RUNNING

### MULTIAGE CLASSES

I would like to thank the parents and the staff for being patient as we worked on putting a school organization together that was able to meet the needs of most everyone. There are a number of factors that become important when looking at the make-up of the different classes. Some of the factors we are bound by a collective agreement, others are ministry guidelines that we need to follow, and others involve individual children and looking at their learning styles, their friendships, their strengths and weaknesses. Teachers spend hours and hours of their time making the best educational decisions for the students. They do not by any means take it lightly, but on the contrary

**LUNCHTIME SCHEDULE** In the past the lunchroom has been quite noisy and hectic. To ensure that children are finishing their lunch and have a table to eat at we are trying out a new system. The teachers walk their students down to the lunchroom before the 12:00 bell and sit with them, teaching them manners and making sure the cost for the month of September is \$45.00 and a menu and information sheet will be sent home with your child on Tuesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>. The actual hot lunch program will start on Thursday, September 6<sup>th</sup>.

**NEWSLETTERS/INFORMATION BULLETINS** Regular communication is one important way that parents can be well-informed about what goes on at school. Please expect two newsletters a month to be sent home with the oldest child in the family. We will be setting up so that you can receive an e-mail copy of the newsletter. We would like to thank Debbie Foss who has been organizing these communications for several years. Now that her children are moving on to High School, ***we are looking for a parent to volunteer their time to take this over*** so that parents will be able to receive newsletters by e-mail. Another copy of the full school calendar, with all Professional Development Days (Pro. D. Days / Non-instructional Days) is attached here for your convenience.

### GORDON SCHOOL AGENDA PROGRAM and PERFORMANCES

#### Agendas

Student agendas are another very useful communication and teaching tool. We have decided at the Grade 4-7 level to use Premier's new Agenda program called "Get Set." The Premier Get Set is a combination student planner, goal setting and calendar 3-hole booklet. This powerful interactive approach helps students develop social responsibility skills necessary for character and positive behaviour. We are excited about using this new tool for personal planning in all grade 4-7 classes.

***The program includes*** a DVD series and is based on *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens* by Sean Covey. The goal setting focus and thematic lessons will directly support and enhance our social responsibility and Code of Conduct initiatives (Kind, Safe and Fair.)

***The actual cost of these materials has two parts;*** the student planner/calendar is \$10.00 and the personal planning resource support is \$6.00 per student. The school will be paying the \$6.00 per child and the students will be charged \$10.00. If your child is in Grades 4-7 and wishes to receive the student agenda/planner, **the cost will be \$10.00.**

#### Performances

Catherine MacIntyre, our music specialist has taken the time to research and book some exciting performances to show our children and school community this year. These performances are costly and in order to maintain the variety of experiences and number of performances we are asking for **\$10.00 from each student.** The school and the PAC will also be providing funds for some performances. The following are the performances that have been booked so far. We welcome families to come and join us for these performances and times will be

The Chucky Danger Band	Tuesday, October 16	2:00pm
Trent Arterberry	Tuesday, January 8	9:00am
School of Cool with JazzAffair	Friday, February 1	10:40am
Jambanja Marimba	Monday, April 7	11:00am
Vancouver Opera Touring Ensemble	Friday, April 25	11:00am

Intermediate students	Agenda/planner & performances	\$20.00
Primary students	Performances	\$10.00

*Please send cash or write a cheque made payable to General Gordon School by Friday, September 14*

**CROSS-COUNTRY RUNNING CLUB** Grades 4-7 students who are interested in running please come out to our first practice on *Monday, September 10<sup>th</sup>*. Please wear proper tie-up running shoes and shorts and be ready to run at 8:00am sharp, meeting in the gym.

## **PAC UPDATE**

**PAC CALL FOR EXECUTIVE MEMBERS** We still have PAC Executive positions that need to be filled. Outgoing executive members are most willing to mentor those taking over any position.

- PAC Chair: Penny Dagg is willing to continue if no one else comes forward. She encourages others to support PAC by taking this position, perhaps even two friends sharing the job as Co-chairs.
- Secretary: vacant
- French Immersion Member-at-Large: vacant

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

**KIDS FUN RUN** This FREE family friendly fun run will kick-start the weekend for the Subaru Vancouver International Half Iron on September 15. The run will take place at the JERICO SAILING CENTRE (1300 Discovery Street) at 3:30pm. For kids ages 4-13 there will be easy 250m, 500m and 1km courses.

