

Gordon Gazette

General Gordon Elementary School
2896 West 6th Avenue
Vancouver, BC V6K 1X1
☎713-5403 Fax 713-5405

GORDON PAC WEBSITE <http://www.gordonelementary.ca>

Safe Arrival 713-5403

Principal: Margaret Davidson
Associate Superintendent: Dan Marriott
Trustee: Shirley M. Wong

Vice-Principal: Noreen Morris
Administrative Assistant: Marilyn Grant
PAC Chair: Ingrid Sulston

2008, February 1st

CALENDAR REMINDERS

Newsletter #10

Monday	February 4	French Immersion draws for placement in program Assembly 11am. Launch of <i>Jump Rope For Heart</i> Quebec Meeting for parents 7pm in library FSA testing Feb 4-15 th Grades 4 & 7
Wednesday	February 6	Parent/Teacher Conferences (students dismissed 11:05) Scholastic Book Fair (11:00-8:20pm)
Thursday	February 7	Parent/Teacher Conferences (students dismissed 2:00) Scholastic Book Fair (2:05-5:20pm)
Friday	February 8	Professional Day (school is not in session) Literacy Day
Thursday	February 14	Grade 7 students leave for Quebec "Jump Rope For Heart" Skipping Event
Friday	February 15	PAC Movie Night

ONLINE NEWSLETTERS: To become more environmentally friendly and save trees we will no longer be printing so many paper newsletters. *This (really) will be the last paper newsletter sent home with every student.*

We are printing this last one to let you know how to get the newsletter by email. **To get newsletters by email, please go to www.gordonelementary.ca and sign up for the Gordon School announcement list.** It is a two-step process: you will be instructed by email to click another link to confirm (this avoids spam getting on to the list). The Gordon School announcement list is a separate list from the seismic list or website forums. You will not be able to write to it, but important announcements, including the newsletter, will be sent to you.

You may have received an email saying that you are already signed on to the Gordon School announcement list - we transferred the emails from a previous announcement list. *If you did not get this email, you do need to go to the website and sign up.* If you do not use email, or still need a paper letter, *please contact Ingrid at (604) 263 1920. We will still be printing a few and need to know how to get them to those who need them.*

SCHOOL CLOSURES:

Please assume that the school will be open unless you hear otherwise on the radio or television stations. The following information will help you. Information regarding school closures in the event of snow, or other emergency situations, will be provided to the following radio and television stations by 6:00am on the morning of the closure: CKNW (980 AM), CKWX (NEWS 1130 AM), AND CBC Radio (690 AM, 105.7 FM), FAIRCHILD Radio (CJVB AM 1470/CHKG FM 96.1), BCTV/Global (cable channel 11), CITY TV (cable channel 13). School closure information is also available online at www.vsb.bc.ca.

SCHOOL NEWS

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten Registrations for the 2008-2009 school year are now being accepted at the General Gordon School Office. Children born in 2003 will begin attending school in September 2008. The parent or legal guardian must personally attend when registering a student. An official Birth Certificate, applicable immigration and citizenship papers, health immunization records and proof of Residency in the General Gordon catchment area must be presented to complete registration. Original documentation is required. To ensure placement at General Gordon Elementary School for September 2008, you are advised to register early.

Satisfaction Surveys

Thank you to parents in Grades 4 & 7 for your feedback on the Satisfaction Surveys.

Social Responsibility: For the month of February, divisions 9 and 13 are working with the theme "*Showing Empathy*". Please see the bulletin board in the hallway for their ideas and examples.

Jump Rope for Heart: In support of the Heart and Stroke Foundation, Gordon students are invited to bring a loonie and wear red and white for our very first annual skipping marathon. *Jump Rope For Heart* will be held on Thursday, February 14, 2008 from 1:30-2:30 in the gym. That day one class at a time will be scheduled into the gym to skip to a song of their choosing. A special assembly will be held on Monday, February 4th at 11:00 to launch this event.

Tennis XL (Tennis BC): This program returns to Gordon for the week of February 11-18th. A separate notice detailing this program has been sent home recently. The permission form is due back February 7th.

Hot Lunch Dailies: The Hot Lunch daily fee as of January will be \$4.00. This increase is to help cover costs of our lunch program.

PAC Meeting: The next PAC Meeting is Monday, February 25th. **Child-Minding is available.**

Grocery Card Fundraiser:

GROCERY CARDS AND MORE fundraiser continues until June.

Order forms in the school office, main entry hallway, and also on the PAC website www.gordonelementary.ca

Questions? Contact Diana Schmidt: 604-737-4896, [dmschmidt\[at\]shaw\[dot\]ca](mailto:dmschmidt@shaw.ca)

Call for donation of items for the school:

Check the website for a wish list of items the school needs. The wish list was also sent home recently. Do you have any of these items, or work somewhere that might be able to donate them? Contact Ingrid (604) 263 1920 or [isulston\[at\]gmail\[dot\]com](mailto:isulston@gmail.com)

Read-a-thon Launch and Used Book Sale:

A heads up on Gordon PAC's annual Read-A-Thon Fundraiser: it will run the last week of February and the first week of March. Funds raised will be used to buy classroom and library books. Coming home in a week or two will be instructions and pledge forms.

This year we will kick off the Read-A-Thon with a lunch time Used Book Sale, so students can find books and books and books to read and read and read...

Does your family own some books that they have grown out of and would like to donate to our Read-A-Thon? Bring your used books in now and for the next 3 weeks, and put them in the box outside the office. **Please contact** Penny Dagg at 604-733-6848 or [pdagg\[at\]telus\[dot\]net](mailto:pdagg@telus.net) or Ingrid Sulston [isulston\[at\]gmail\[dot\]com](mailto:isulston@gmail.com) if you are able to help out or have any questions

Healthy Snacks- ACT Now BC

When choosing what to eat for snacks and lunch, making healthy choices is really important. Here's why: Eating a variety of healthy foods gives you energy to do stuff, helps you grow the way you should, and can even keep you from getting sick. Think of your school lunch as the fuel you put into your tank. If you choose the wrong kind of fuel, you might run out of energy before the day is over. So what is the right kind of fuel? What does a healthy snack look like?

- Choose fruits and vegetables
Fruits and vegetables are like hitting the jackpot when it comes to nutrition. It's a good idea to eat five servings of fruits and vegetables every day, so try to fit in one or two at recess and lunch.
- Let whole grains reign
"Grains" include breads, cereals, rice and pasta. But as we learn more about good nutrition, it's clear that whole grains are better than refined grains.

For more information on healthy eating go to:

<http://www.knowledgenetwork.ca/makingithappen/>

<http://www.actnowbc.ca/>.

SUPPORTING LEARNING

Goal Setting Conferences

Parents, students and teachers are meeting next week, to discuss this second school term and to review the goals agreed upon and set last term and reported in the first term report card. It is wonderful to see how supportive our parent community continues to be of this process. Staff will continue to monitor and assess your child's progress over the next five weeks and provide support for achieving these goals in relation to the curriculum. Reports for this second term will go home March 14th. Thank you to both teachers and parents for your concerned involvement in the goal setting process.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Global Warming: Evidence, inspiration for action, solutions.

A positive and optimistic series of talks hosted by Voters Taking Action on Climate Change.

February 5th: Global Warming: More than Hot Air?

Dr. David Chapman, professor of Geophysics at the University of Utah and renowned speaker on global warming reviews the scientific evidence for climate change.

February 19th: Global Warming: Spiritual Crisis and Opportunity

Bruce Sanguin, minister at Canadian Memorial United Church and author of *Darwin, Divinity and the Dance of the Cosmos* explores where we can find inspiration for action.

March 4th: Lessons for the Future from Canada's Climate Policy Failures

Dr. Mark Jaccard, professor of Resource Environmental Management at SFU and an award winning author of numerous books on climate and energy policy critiques where past governments went wrong and highlights policies which can reduce emissions. All events 7pm. Canadian United Memorial Church (corner of W. 15th and Burrard). Free admission. For more information go to www.vtacc.org.