

Gordon Gazette

General Gordon Elementary School

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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, March 14th

Newsletter #13

CALENDAR REMINDERS

Friday	March 14	Report Cards go home Last full day of school before Spring Vacation
Monday	March 17	Spring Vacation (Mar 17-25 th)
Wednesday	March 26	School reopens after Spring Vacation
Friday	March 28	PAC/Staff Mingle at Tatlows
Monday	March 31	PAC Meeting

Online Newsletters: To become more environmentally friendly and save trees we will be posting newsletters electronically. Some paper copies will be available through the office and at JKC. We are excited at the prospect that we will be able to post photos as well as text in future electronic editions.

PAC/STAFF MINGLE: *Please notice the change of venue. Tatlows is on 4th between MacDonald and on the north side of the street. The change in venue is because this place has more area around to socialize.*

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.

Grocery Card Fundraiser: Orders due by April 4th at 3:00 pm in the box labeled Grocery Orders. Order forms in the school office, main entry hallway, and also on the PAC website www.gordonelementary.ca Safeway and Capers not available. Contact Diana Schmidt: 604-737-4896, [dmschmidt\[at\]shaw\[dot\]ca](mailto:dmschmidt[at]shaw[dot]ca)

PAC meeting: March 31st from 6:45-8:45pm in the library. Childcare available. Items on the agenda so far: Spring Fling ideas and energy need to start coming in now, if this is to be a successful event-bring yours. Playground grant discussion and planning. Update from our Gordon Building Renewal committee (renamed from Seismic Committee).

Read-A-Thon: Thank you for all your pledges. We have just over \$1000.00 so far-*can we raise this even more?* Please bring remaining pledge money to the office. The money will be used to buy books for the classrooms and library. Congratulations to **Tina Marr** (Grade 7) and **Clancy Hodgins** (Kindergarten) who won Kidsbooks gift certificates in the draw.

Hot Lunch Program: We are in jeopardy of losing our Hot Lunch Program. This program began with the understanding that it is a full payment lunch program. These programs in other schools do not offer the option of eating lunch on certain days and no daily sales. We need to start eliminating daily sales starting the month of April. If participation does not increase to a breakeven point, the program cannot continue in September.

If there are any parents willing to look at how we can improve the hot lunch program so that it is more healthy and with more vegetarian options please let Ingrid or Ms. Davidson know.

- *There will be no dailies for the Hot Lunch Program starting in April.*
- *All lunch registrations must be in by the due date because Emily needs to put the order into the schoolboard*

Gordon School Store: We would love to open the Gordon school store again at recess and lunch. With the new Ministry mandates for healthy eating there are some restrictions to what we can sell at the school. If there are any parents that are interested in helping out with the store please see Ms. Davidson.

Grade 7 Articulation News to Kits High School:

Wednesday May 7th English 8 Enrichment Placement Exam, 3:30 Kits Cafeteria

Wednesday May 14th Mathematics Enrichment Placement Exam- 3:30 Kits Cafeteria

Lost and Found Clean-Out: The week after Spring Break all lost and found items (in the basement) will be donated to a local thrift store. Please check now for anything you are missing. Items found on the school ground on the weekend also end up there (e.g. Baby seat), so ask neighbours if they are missing anything. Be so kind as to hang up a couple of items as you pass by-then lost and found can look after itself (extra hangers in the boxes behind.) Thank you to those helping already.
Ingrid (604-263-1920)

SUPPORTING LEARNING

General Gordon Talent Show: Fine Arts is part of our school curriculum and a talent show is a wonderful venue for children to show their talents in drama, art and music. Student council will be sponsoring a talent show. Auditions will be from April 14-25. Students will be chosen based on set criteria: *performance no longer than 3 minutes (skits can go 5 minutes), knowledge of talent (practiced pieces whether musical instruments or singing), dance choreography practiced, magic shows, gymnastics and karate routines and other talents.* Practices will take place during the week of April 28-May 10th. Talent show will be on Thursday, May 22nd. Information will be coming home for students to sign up for auditions.

Social Responsibility: For the month of March, Divisions 16, 17, & 4 are working on “*Showing Respect.*”

Here are some examples:

We are respecting each others opinions by listening to what our friends say. On parle de qu'est-ce qu'on va faire pendant la Nous respectons les opinions et choix de jeux des autres amis. by Fraser, Liam, Josh, Quinn and Alex.

Morgan is respecting Mary's culture by asking questions to learn more about her culture. (Hawaiian). Morgan respecte la culture parce qu'elle pose des questions pour apprendre plus sur sa culture. (Hawaiienne). Morgan, Mary, Kathleen, Christine and Shana.

We are helping the environment by picking up litter from the ground and placing it in the garbage. Nous respectons l'environnement parce que nous mettons les déchets dans la poubelle. Robert, Christina, Julien, Tova and McKenna.

French For Parents Workshops: Please see posted at the office. There are many levels and dates. Cost is \$100.00 per person and \$15.00 for the workbook. For information and registration phone 1-800-747-4825 or 604-708-5100 or visit the website at <http://www.weducacentre.com/>

Parent/Child Book Club: As one of our literacy initiatives at the Vancouver Public Library, we are offering a Parent-Child Book Club for children in Grades 4-7 and their parent(s). The first meeting of the book club will be on **Thursday, March 27**; the subsequent meetings will fall on the last Thursday of every month, April, May and June.

Call or visit the **Kitsilano Branch Library (604-665-3976)** to register for the book club. Spaces will fill up fast, as there is space for only 10 children in the program. The first book we will be reading and discussing is *Everything on a Waffle* by Polly Horvath.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Growth Concerns presents Dr. Gordon Neufeld: Dr Neufeld, Vancouver's own world-renowned psychologist and best-selling author, presents, "*Relationship Matters: The Challenges of Parenting and Teaching Today's Children*". He will address the issues of parenting in today's changing society. How do we provide the conditions children need to truly grow up? How do we shield our children against the rising tide of aggression and bullying? Wednesday April 23, 2008 Chan Centre for the Performing Arts. Tickets \$25 through ticketmaster.ca 604-280-4444

Mini Sun Run Training: This weekend is the last chance to sign up for a training program for the Mini Sun Run, to be organized by parent Kate Milne if she gets enough interest. The mini Sun Run is on April 19th and is a 2.5K run or walk. Training needs to start next week, so sign up this weekend. Contact Kate at (604) 710-6464 or katemilne@shaw.ca

HAVE A WONDERFUL SPRING BREAK

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HAPPY EASTER HOLIDAY