

Gordon Gazette

General Gordon Elementary School
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GORDON PAC WEBSITE <http://www.gordonelementary.ca>
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Principal: Margaret Davidson
Associate Superintendent: Lynn Green
Trustee: Shirley M. Wong

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

2008, May 2

Newsletter #16

CALENDAR REMINDERS

Monday	May 5	Professional Day (school is not in session)
Thursday	May 8	District Earthquake Drill at 2:00pm
Saturday	May 10	SPRING FLING (3:00-8:00pm)
Monday	May 12	Band Performance
Wednesday	May 14	School is in session all day (<i>students need to bring their lunch on this day</i>)
Wednesday	May 14	Math Fair (Div. 9, 10, 11, 12)
Friday	May 16	Sport's Day (8:40-12:05)

Online Newsletters: To become more environmentally friendly and save trees we post newsletters on the website. Paper copies are available through the office, and by request to Ingrid 604-263-1920.

SCHOOL NEWS

Spring Fling: The Spring Fling is coming up fast: *May 10th, 3:00-8:00pm.*

- Students are coming home with two posters. Please post them in your neighborhood or in your car.
- **Sign up on the board in the main hallway** to help out with activities already planned.
Or contact Ingrid: isulston@gmail.com 604-263-1920 or Jennifer: [jennifersears\[at\]telus\[dot\]net](mailto:jennifersears[at]telus[dot]net) 604-736-2932.
- We are still looking for students and families to organize activities, especially sports and games. Could you organize an obstacle course, bowling or a skipping competition? If not a craft table?
Let us know if you need helpers. Run it for as long as you want. PAC can reimburse up to \$25.00 for materials (if you need more, ask first).

We are gearing up for a great Spring Fling with these events planned so far: Merry Go Swing and Bouncy Castle, dunk tank, BBQ, flea market (bring in your items now), plant sale, cake walk, guess the stuffy's name, playdough table, dog show, hair wraps, face painting, silent auctions (thank you for all the great ideas and items), guess the number of jellybeans in the jar, karate demonstration, multicultural fashion show, (rehearsals Fridays after school, contact Elke 604-828-8788), the walking school bus project, heads or tails game, balloon artist...plus your activity!

Grocery Card Fundraiser: Orders due by *May 9* 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: *Monday, May 26* from 6:45-8:45pm in the library. Childcare available. Items on the agenda so far: AGM

Flag Football: Grade 6 & 7 students are participating on a Flag Football team coached by Tim Eves. Practices are Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 7:15-8:15 am. They won their first game against Bayview 19-16. Congratulations!

Walking School Bus: A Walking School Bus is a school bus powered not by an engine but by legs. Children don't sit inside this bus—they walk in a group to school, with an adult "driver" in the front and an adult "conductor" at the rear. The walkers are the bus. The bus travels along a set route to or from school, picking up or dropping off children along the way at designated "bus stops". Bus stops can be meeting points along the route or each child's front gate. The service is free. Every child is welcome to join the bus, even if their parents aren't able to be drivers. Safety on the bus is of high importance. If you're interested in volunteering to "drive" the bus or if you would like to add your child to the list, email Kate Milne (Olivia's mom—grade 1) with your location. [katemilne\[at\]shaw\[dot\]ca](mailto:katemilne[at]shaw[dot]ca) Also visit the Walking School Bus Table at the Spring Fling.

Sports Day: Sport's Day is coming up on *Friday, May 16 from 8:40am – 12:05pm.* This year's theme is **SUPER SPORTS SPECTACULAR.** We are encouraging children to wear their favourite team jersey or they can wear a team uniform from an extracurricular sport. We will start with the colour parade and cheers. The PAC is looking for volunteers to help with various Sports Day jobs. The sign up sheet will be placed in the front hallway next week. Please help us out and take part in the celebration of sports and fun at General Gordon. Please contact Tim Eves or Ingrid Sulston if you can volunteer.

General Gordon's Playground: Thank you to Aaron Dudley who has helped organize a plan to purchase new playground equipment. He researched a number of different companies and shared the information with the PAC. Each class had a

chance to look at the different ideas and vote on their top three. The result will be on display at the Spring Fling. We still need some donations towards our playground equipment as the cost was a bit more than we anticipated. The PAC applied for a grant and received \$19000.00. The actual equipment will cost \$23000.00 so the amount we need to collect is \$4000.00. There will be a chance at Spring Fling to make donations towards this equipment.

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

Babysitting Course: For students who would like to babysit for our PAC meetings or privately, there is a course at Kits Community Centre: “What Every Babysitter Should Know.” This St. John’s Ambulance course is for 11-17 year olds. It will emphasize safety, coping with emergencies and babysitting responsibilities. Each student will receive a certificate upon successful completion. Please bring a pen, notebook and lunch.

- Sunday, May 25th Session runs from 9:30am to 4:00pm
- Cost is \$42.00 per session and you can register online at <http://vancouver.ca/parks/cc/kitsilano/index.htm> or by phone 604-257-6926.

SUPPORTING LEARNING

General Gordon Talent Show: *Change in date of the talent show* due to the city wide Track and Field Meet on May 22. The Talent Show will now be on *Tuesday, May 27th*. The afternoon show will be from 1:30-2:30pm and the evening show will be from 6:30-7:30pm. Stay tuned for more news.

Artist in Residence: We have an artist in residence who will be coming in to meet the students and work on a photography project. Student council representatives from each division will meet with their class and discuss what is special to them about General Gordon. (*The Cottage, Butterfly Garden, Spring Fling, Sports teams, Rainy Day games etc.*). Each class will be able to enter their idea of what General Gordon means to them. The artist will work with the student council reps to take pictures of each division’s ideas. We will be framing these pictures and hanging them throughout the school. We would also like parents to bring in their ideas from perhaps their time growing up at General Gordon or their time now. We want to be able to capture the essence of General Gordon and our vibrant learning community.

Social Responsibility: For the month of April Divisions 3 & 11 are working on “*Having Integrity*”.

Summer School of Visual Art: Outdoor studio adventures for young artists with teams of experienced art teachers and Canada’s finest artists.

- July 6-11 Drawing, painting, printmaking and raku for ages 8-12 with Roz Marshall
- July 13-18 Drawing, painting and sculpture for ages 13-18 with J. Carl Heywood and Tiki Mulvihill
- For more information please contact Artists for Kids at 604-903-3798

Summer Experience 2008: Information on Vancouver School Board Continuing Education summer classes is available on the table in the main hall outside the office or online at www.continuinged.ca.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Kitsilano Neighbourhood House Youth Week Gala: Come out to Kits House Hall, 2325 West 7th Avenue, Friday, May 9, 6:30 to 9:00 pm to the launch of the Westside Youth Mapping Project. For more information and to get involved youthprograms@kitshouse.org. 604-736-3588

More Sports Soccer at Gordon: Registration forms for More Sports soccer at General Gordon on Wednesday afternoons from May 7 through June 18 were sent home recently. More registration forms are available at the office. **NB Wednesday May 14 is a full day of school at Gordon – soccer will be from 3:10 to 4:10 instead of 12:10 to 1:10 on that day only.**