

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: Lynn Green
Trustee: Shirley M. Wong

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

2008, June 13

Newsletter #19

CALENDAR REMINDERS

Monday	June 16	12 th Night Play at Gordon in the gym at 7:00-8:00pm 12 th Night Play at Gordon for primary students at 11:00am and for intermediate students at 1:30pm
Tuesday	June 17	Grade 7 Graduation Ceremony
Wednesday	June 18	Professional Day (school is not in session)
Monday	June 23	Late Immersion Orientation 7:00-8:00pm in the gym
Tuesday	June 24	Beach Day for whole school Last day for recycling
Thursday	June 26	End of the Year Assembly/Last day of school for students

Principal's Message

It is hard to believe that it is already June and another school year is passing us by. What a wonderful year with community events like the Winter Concert and Craft Fair, the Spring Fling, the Talent show, and the Read-a-thon. This school community offers so many wonderful opportunities for children and their families. The staff are dedicated to their profession and work hard at offering a variety of learning experiences for children. Our students have the chance to become leaders in a variety of areas: **athletics, academics, fine arts and service**. Our students continually show us that they are becoming wonderful citizens and are proud of their accomplishments. I am extremely proud to be a part of this school community, and I know that General Gordon Elementary School will continue to be a vibrant, exciting place of learning for all children. I look forward to working with all the students and their families next year.

I would like to say a special thank you to our **PAC executive** Ingrid Sulston, Anna Guner-Johnson, Heather Young, Paul Pavlidis and the **School Planning Council**, Jennifer Sears, Jan Hare, and Lisa Chambers for their tireless work ethic, positive energy and commitment to our school. There are many more parents who have helped with the many projects and events that happen at our school like the **Spring Fling**, the **Scholastic Book Fair**, the **Read-a-thon**, the **Recycling** program, the **Kindergarten Tea**, the **Teacher Appreciation Lunch**, **Movie Night**, the **Winter Craft Fair**, **Camps**, **Field Trips**, **Seismic Committee**, the **Greening Committee**, the **Quebec Trip**, the **Grade 7 Grad and fundraising**. I would like to personally thank all of you for giving up your time to become involved in your child's learning community. I would like to urge more parents to come out to PAC meeting and bring their ideas and energy to help keep this school community a vibrant place of learning for all children.

Ms. Davidson

New Beginnings

Some of our staff will be moving on to new schools and new beginnings. For **Ms. Karen Pegg**, **Ms. Tuctic Phongmany**, **Ms. Sarah Irving** and **Mr. James Copley** there will be new schools and new learning experiences; for **Ms. Lana Hill** there will be new adventures and hobbies in her retirement; and for **Ms. Amanda Wardrop** there will be time with her new baby boy Bryn.

We would also like to wish our Grade 7 students a fond farewell and look forward to hearing about their new adventures and accomplishments in High School. Don't forget to come and visit us!!

The staff would like to wish all the families at General Gordon a wonderful, relaxing, and safe summer.

SCHOOL NEWS

School Organization: The school organization for the fall has not been finalized. Our numbers fluctuate every year with movement in and out of students over the summer. It is difficult now to predict what the grades and divisions will be. If you are making requests for your son and/or daughter please write down the type of classroom environment your child excels in, rather than a particular teacher. We appreciate your patience and will accommodate your requests as best we can.

Call for Photos for 2008 School Slide Show

Have any great digital photos of school events or trips? We would love to include them in our end of the year slide show. Any school related photos from September 2007 to the present are welcome (i.e. class activities, Winter Concert, Poetry Café, school teams, Spring Fling, the Talent Show, Sports Day, etc.) If you have 5 photos or less, feel free to e-mail the full resolution photos to Bernard (Grade 6 teacher) at bwana@vsb.bc.ca. Ideally, it would be great if you could leave a cd, a memory card or a memory stick with Bernard and he will get it back to you the same day or the day after. Please label your storage device carefully or put it in an envelope. Thanks!

Please Return Gordon Library Books: All General Gordon library books are due back. Mary Locke, Gordon's amazing Teacher-Librarian will be working on an inventory of all library books. There are a number of books missing from the library and, as you can well imagine, replacing lost, unreturned and/or damaged books is very costly. Please help your child take a look around your home for Gordon library books. The return of any books found will be very much appreciated.

Moving During the Summer? Returning Late in September?: If your child/children will not be returning to Gordon School in September 2008, please let the office know immediately (if you haven't already done so). This information assists us in planning appropriately for staffing for the 2008-2009 school year. If you are returning to school after the first week of September, please come to the office now to fill in a "Return Late to School" form. We need this information to save a place if your child is not counted on attendance lists 2008, September 2.

Lost and Found

Clothes that are not claimed by the last day of school will be donated to charity. Please check for your items now. If you lose something in the last couple of days of school, and you do not see it in the lost and found, call Ingrid (604) 263 1920. I will store the clothes at my house before they are picked up, so you can do a final check there.

Walking School Bus

We have a lot of interest, but need your information to get these buses running - we'd like to get them going before the summer. To be a driver, or to have your child walked to school, sign up in the front hallway, and/or contact Kate Milne at (604) 682 0463 or katemilne@shaw.ca

Here's how it works: parents walk a group of students to school, following the same route every day, picking up students as the bus passes their house. Walking to school is a healthy option for the kids, the streets around the school are less congested with cars, and you save time in the morning when your child is picked up.

Teacher Appreciation Lunch Thank You

Thank you so much to the parents who brought in the delicious food for the teacher's lunch. And thank you especially to Lisa Chambers, who organized it all, and Dolly, Joanna and Heather who helped set up and clean up the lunch.

Garden Work Party Thank You

Thank you to Jill Stewart who organized the work party and lunch. Thank you to these folks who cleaned up and trimmed in the butterfly garden: Colleen Kern with Michael Burnyeat, Marlene Jones, Hisako Misaki with Azumi Konaka and Yuko Masaki, David Evans with Sofie Evans, Ingrid Sulston with Kira and Micah Pavlidis.

Recycling: We'd like to thank everyone for participating in the recycling program. Our last recycling pick up on *Tuesday, June 24th*. We really need some volunteers to help sort and count for the pick-up on Tuesday. *We'll start at 8:30am*.

SUPPORTING LEARNING

12 Night Performance: Division Two with the direction of Ms. Sam Barta performed "12th Night" for our students and for the performers' families.

A Midsummer's Night Dream: The Dream Team put on a magnificent performance for some classes and then for their families on Monday, June 16th. The Dream Team performers are: Alex and Max Schmidt, Bryn Evans, Jeremy Shirley, Max Johnson, Jessica Zhang, Chloe Wells, Jerry Yin, Diego Corry, Greer Ross-MacLennan, Francesca Ciocca, and Jacob Ross.

Thank you to Ms. Sam Barta for working with this wonderful group, organizing their drama lessons, and putting it all together in a performance. Also thank you to Andrew Adair-Comminos who organized the slide show students' artwork.

Radio Plays & Performances: Ms. Catherine MacIntyre and Ms. Amanda Wardrop worked with a number of Grade 7 students on musical theatre selections, drama scenes and radio dramas. The following students performed on Thursday, June 12 for their family members: Anna Gardiner, Jules Bagshaw, Shana Shiopu, Christine Logan, Jeremy White, Octavia Ireta Gordon, Camille Legg, Dyamelia Mohamed, Kathryn Baker, Olivia Chow, Victoria Jeffery, Rachel Lee, Jeffery Chen, Michelle Avina-Galindo, Morgan Ruskowsky, Jessi Simmons, Megan Wong and Jeffery Chen with help on AV from Nelson Dagg. The following students' voices were pre-recorded and also part of our performance: Gregory Hook, Tristen Birch, Bryden Mitchell, Alex Jones, Fraser McIntosh., Samantha Curran, Tina Marr, McKenna Bain, Julian Hughes, Julius Booth, Karen Lin, Tova Pinsky, Chloe Wong, Kathleen Lopez, Walter Wasserman.

Science Fairs: Divisions 3 & 4 displayed their Science Fair projects and invited a Grade 1/2 class from Tennyson to observe and ask questions. Division 7 have also worked on their Science Fair projects and displayed them for all the classes to see on Monday, June 16th.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Band in the Summer Band director Dylan Cramer is offering summer lessons for anyone interested in joining band next September. Mr. Cramer is offering instruction for saxophone, flute or clarinet. Lessons take place in Kerrisdale or can be in-home. For more information please call Mr. Cramer directly at 604-318-1157. Let's have a big turn out for band next year!

Reach For The Goal Sport's Camp: Soccer and Basketball Camp from July 21-25 for boys and girls ages 7-14 (Fraser Academy/Connaught Park (2294 W. 10th Ave) To register call 604-327-4330 or e-mail www.bridgechurch.ca.

Flag Football Edge: Join former BC Lions Football Star and Grey Cup Champion *Ty Crews* for a week of Flag Football fun and fitness. **Ages 6-9 years** Monday through Friday July 7-11, 14-18, 21-25 from 9:00-12:00 at Kitsilano Community Centre. **Ages 10-14 years** Monday through Friday July 7-11, 14-18, 21-25 from 12:30-3:30pm. Register online at www.vancouverparks.ca or call 604-257-6976.

VanDusen Botanical Garden Summer Nature Camps: For e-mail inquiries summercamps@vandusen.org or go to the website at www.vandusengarden.org and to download a registration form, click on Children and Families.

Environmental Leadership Programs for Youth ages 11-15: Go to www.funcamps.

Two Alumni General Gordon Students, Solaye Snider and Sophia Kopelow, designed a bag to raise awareness about reducing plastic bag use for their ecology group. These bags can be purchased for \$2.00. They are bilingual and if you are interested in looking at the bag there is a sample in the office. To order please email Deborah Kopelow at kopeow_home@shaw.ca.