

Gordon Gazette

General Gordon Elementary School
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(When answered press 2880 without waiting for prompts)

Principal: Margaret Davidson
Associate Superintendent: Lynn Green
Trustee: Patti Bacchus

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

2009 June 5

Newsletter#18

CALENDAR REMINDERS

Wednesday	June 10
Wednesday	June 10
Monday	June 15
Tuesday	June 16
Friday	June 19
Monday	June 22
Tuesday	June 23
Wednesday	June 24
Thursday	June 25

Welcome to Kindergarten event 10:00-12:00
Staff Appreciation Lunch
Immunization for Grade 6 students
Grade 7 leaving ceremony
Deadline for parent letters regarding class placement
Welcome to new Grade 6 French Immersion students
Beach Day
Farewell Assembly
Last day of school (Report cards home) & Parent/Staff Mingle at Tatlows

2009-2010 General Gordon School Calendar

The school calendar for next year is posted on the website at <http://www.gordonelementary.ca/sites/default/files/2009-2010VSBcalendar.pdf>

NEWSLETTERS/INFORMATION BULLETINS You can receive this newsletter by email or paper or both. For email, sign up or cancel at www.gordonelementary.ca/node/59 For paper please contact Ingrid at isulston@gmail.com (604) 263 1920.

SCHOOL NEWS

Moving During the Summer? Returning Late in September?: Due to limited space and resources all student attendance must be verified by noon Wednesday, September 9, 2009; otherwise, their space will be filled by other students on the waitlist. If your child/children will not be returning to Gordon School in September 2009, please let the office know immediately (if you haven't already done so- a letter needs to be filled out in order to keep the students' space). This information assists us in planning appropriately for staffing for the 2009-2010 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 2009, September 8.

Call for Photos for 2009 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 bw@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!

Teacher appreciation lunch: Parents are preparing a thank you lunch for the teachers on Wednesday June 10th. Can you make a main course dish, salad or dessert? Bring your food to the table outside the office on the morning of June 10th. Containers will be returned to the same table - please label yours with your name.

Yoga at General Gordon: Natasha Tousaw, a teacher at General Gordon is offering to teach yoga in the mornings at 8:00am in the morning starting next week, June 8 to students, staff and parents. Please bring in a yoga mat. Thanks Natasha!

Lost and Found! Lost and Found is full! If you are missing any items, please check the Lost and Found area (basement level, by elevator). All items will be removed and **donated to charity on the morning of Thursday, June 25th**. Many thanks!

Slide News! Our beloved slide on the east stairwell may be in need of significant repairs to comply with current safety standards. We are working with our Grounds & Maintenance Division to assess the slide and determine next steps. We are communicating with PAC and parents with the latest updates and will keep you informed. You are welcome to contact the school office for more information.

Gift Cards: Earn money for Gordon School!!! The Gordon PAC buys grocery cards at a discount of 2-7.5% depending on the retailer. PAC sells the cards at face value and the money earned goes into PAC funds to be used for "extras" like activities, supplies, etc. Trade us your cash for gift cards for your favourite stores. Use these gift cards instead of cash when you shop. 100 families @ 200.00/month could earn \$9000 in 9 months. Order forms are available in School Main Entrance Hallway or from the website www.gordonelementary.ca Fill out the order form; enclose a cheque written to Gordon School and place form & cheque in the Grocery card box on the office counter. Orders are **due on Thursday, June 18. SAFEWAY CARDS available any time**. If you have any questions please contact Diana Schmidt at 604-737-4896 or email dmschmidt@shaw.ca.

Neighbourhoods of Learning: Next meeting for the Gordon representative committee is Tuesday, June 9, 2009.

Recycling: Our last bottle recycling pick up will be on **Friday, June 19th** after drop off. We have a large load to count up so volunteers would be really appreciated. We'll be shut down over the last week of school but back in operation in September. Thanks to all parents and students that have been assisting with our recycling program all year.

Track and Field: Both the Grade 4/5 and 6/7 track teams did an amazing job at the final meets at Point Grey. They showed their expertise in all events and also their good sportsmanship. Many 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, ribbons were won by all students. Also we had one grade 6/7 team participate in the BC Track and Field Championships thanks to Mr. Geoff Wright a parent volunteer. Congratulations to Ivo Wright, Nick Sereda, Scott Kerr and Devon Mitchell who participated in the 4 X 100 relay race and came in 3rd in BC for their age group. We hope to have more teams enter next year.

Anyone missing a red cart? A beautiful red cart with wooden runners and a taped handle was left after the Spring Fling. Is it yours? Ingrid is taking care of it. Call (604) 263 1920 or email isulston@gmail.com to get it back.

Gordon T shirts for sale: We have a few kids T-shirts remaining from the Spring Fling sale. They are screen printed with the Gordon penguin logo. Come to the office to see and buy them. \$15 each - cash or cheques written to Gordon Elementary PAC.

Parent & Staff Mingle Change of Date: Parent & Staff Mingle will be held at Tatlows on Thursday, June 25th.

Destination Imagination Team: The GP7 kids had a terrific time in Tennessee - it was an action packed few days! What an experience for them, meeting and trading pins with kids from around the world. They were good ambassadors for BC and Canada, and really did work as a team both during the competition and during the trip as a whole. They placed 10th out of over 70 teams in their category and felt good about how they did there. Congratulations to Sarah Howard, Taylor Young, Max Johnson, Dallin Akune, Matias Suez, Emil Stuart-Khafaji, and William Zhu.

Dear Educators, Parents, Students, and Friends of DI -

Summer is nearly here - the perfect time to come to hear about the DI team "GP7" DI journey in creative problem solving. Experience some fun and exciting DI activities!

Please join us on Monday, June 15th at 3:30pm at General Gordon. (2896 W. 6th Avenue) in the Library. Refreshments will be served.

Destination ImagiNation® is the world's largest community-based, non-profit, volunteer-driven creative problem solving program for youth, from Kindergarten through College/University. DI works with 250,000 children and young adults in British Columbia, all 50 states and over 40 countries each year. The program is renowned for being about creativity, team work and problem solving and is strongly supported by education groups and individuals around the world. Teams of up to 7 members of the same age group work together to develop a solution to one of five competitive DI Team Challenges. Each Challenge has a different educational focus, ranging from engineering to improvisation/theatre. Teams also establish strong attributes in teamwork, problem solving, and critical thinking. The program year concludes in the spring with a series of Tournaments that highlight the teams' solutions and celebrate their accomplishments.

Each team of up to seven individuals works under the guidance of a Team Manager who oversees the team and provides guidance throughout the year. All ideas must be team generated and the Team Manager helps to facilitate the creative problem solving process. If you are not able to come to the information meeting here is some contact information.

Regional Director Ryan W. Woodland at woodland@gmail.com and **Affiliate Director Faith Garriock** at bcdi@shaw.ca.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Environmental Education just got more FUN! The first Camp in the Vancouver area to focus on leadership and sustainability for youth! The second exciting summer of FUN Camps is here! Friends Uniting for Nature (FUN) Camps are a non-profit, summer leadership program for 8-16 year olds, focused on providing environmental education through fun, hands-on activity. For youth aged 13-16 we are offering a Peer Leader Program! The programs will be held in the Penthouse of the UBC Graduate Student Centre, with the majority of the curriculum being delivered outdoors. Camps run weekly from July 6th to August 28th. Camps run Monday – Friday, 9am-4pm. Registration is now open at www.funcamps.ca and space is limited. A limited number of scholarships may be available on a case-by-case basis, if financial need is demonstrated. The FUN curriculum will focus on:

- activity: students will learn through activities such as bike maintenance workshops, solar oven and car construction, arts and crafts, hiking, nature exploration and sports
- personal development: students will build confidence and the ability to pass their knowledge forward through activities such as drama, daily sketching and journaling in nature and leadership training workshops

For more information, or if you are interested in registering, volunteering or just have general questions, please contact James Hutt, FUN Camps Vancouver Coordinator, at James@Funcamps.ca

Byte Camp: Byte Camp is a non-profit provider of Creative Technology Camps for Kids. If you think your child might be interested in a "Claymation Movie Production", "Flash Video Game Design" and "3D Animation" you can pick up a brochure at the community info board in the school or visit them online at www.bytecamp.ca or call 1-888-808-BYTE. Camps run in community centres all over Vancouver, M-F, 9-3, 9-14yrs, \$225. Subsidies are available for low-income families.

Summer Programs at the Lyceum 2009: For more information e-mail: lyceum@christiannehayward.com Web: www.christiannehayward.com or phone 604-733-1356.

