

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

2010 February 19

Newsletter #11

CALENDAR REMINDERS

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| Tuesday | February 23 | PAC Meeting 6:45-8:45pm (Emily Malnis, school nurse, to speak on sex education) |
| Thursday | February 25 | Class Photos |
| Monday | March 8 | Start of Spring Break |
| Friday | March 12 | Paralympics Open |
| Monday | March 15 | School opens |
| Tuesday | March 25 | Gordon Talent Show 7:00-8:00pm |
| Friday | March 26 | Report Cards Home (change in date) |

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.

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

SCHOOL NEWS

REPORT CARDS HOME –CHANGE IN DATE: Report Cards will be going home on Friday, March 26 in order to even out the three terms of school. This allows the teachers more time to assess the students fairly. If you have any concerns please contact Ms. Davidson.

OLYMPIAN VISITS GORDON: *Tracy Cameron*, a bronze medal winner in Beijing for rowing came to our school to speak to our students and staff. She has won many gold medals in the Worlds competitions and graced us with her enthusiasm and perseverance to become an Olympian. She has offered to include our school in her Olympic Journey to 2012 in London, England. She will send us postcards and keep us up to date with her training schedule. Tracy will also be able to feed live from the different countries she will be visiting through our Smart Boards. Thank you to one of our parents Lori McIntosh who helped arrange for Tracy to come to our school and be part of our community!

The Olympic Bracelets for sale are a way to support all Canadian athletes so come in and purchase one for \$3.00.

JUMP ROPE FOR HEART EVENT: All the students at school today took part in our Jump Rope for Heart event skipping to a song. Even the kindergarten students did the ski move, the skating move and the hopping move. Students were trying all different kinds of skipping tricks and we hope to see many more join the skipping team next year.

Please hand in your Jump Rope for Heart donations by Tuesday, February 23rd to the office.

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 the last Friday of the Month, March 19, April 30, June 11.* If you have any questions please contact Diana Schmidt at 604-737-4896 or email dmschmidt@shaw.ca. Post-dated cheques will be allowed again for set orders. Also **SAFeway** cards are available all the time. Just contact Diana Schmidt.

ALTERNATE SCHOOL CALENDAR PROPOSAL: DPAC is seeking parents' input on an alternate calendar proposal, put forward by the HR department at the VSB. The changes will save over \$1 million from the VSB budget next year, helping compensate for budget cuts. The proposed schedule starts school at 9am and still ends it at 3pm. Early dismissal on Wed (or other days for other schools) is eliminated. Schools are closed for 10 extra days, which are timed to make 4 day weekends (around Thanksgiving, Remembrance Day, in mid-Feb and around Victoria Day) and by adding 5 days to spring break. The cost savings would come from the extra 10 days of schools closed, as well as some savings in administration with all schools on the same schedule, and the Teacher On Call (TOC) costs for 10 fewer working days. Gordon PAC will discuss these changes at the February PAC meeting.

PAC MEETING ON SEX EDUCATION/BODY SCIENCE:

Tues Feb 23rd in the library. 6:45pm-8:45pm. Free babysitting by grade 7 students.

Our school nurse, Emily Malnis, will be speaking to all the students about sex education after spring break. We are very lucky to have such a skilled and devoted person to bring this important topic to our children. At this PAC meeting Emily will update parents on what she presents to the students and which sessions parents are invited to sit in on. She will discuss and answer questions on what students at each age should know and how we can talk to them about sex, as well as how to manage web pornography. Sex education/body science books for students of all grades, as well as parents, will be on sale at the PAC meeting. At the beginning of the meeting, we will discuss the proposed changes to the school calendar (see above).

COMMUNITY NEWS

KITSILANO SECONDARY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE: Kitsilano Secondary School Open House for concept plans of upgraded school. Kits Secondary feeder school PACs and parents are invited to attend a Community Open House regarding the proposed concept plan for seismically upgrading and renewing Kits. Wednesday March 3 (note date change), 3-9 PM (drop-in) in the small gym. This is an opportunity to review information, including the proposed concept plan, ask questions, and provide feedback to the Project Team. Additional information, including the latest Renewal Concept Plan can be accessed through the project website www.cityspaces.ca/kits

THE KIDS ONLY 5 KM RACE: The Kids Only 5Km Race - March 28th, 2010 Start training with your children for the Kids Only 5Km Race! The race is open to children all across Vancouver from K to grade 7. Last year 150 children participated (see attached photos). All race finishers are awarded ribbons, and medals are presented to the top three finishers in each boy/girl age category. The event is both a race and a run - with the more competitive children vying for a medal and others simply relishing the challenge and achievement of running a whole 5 kms! This year the Kids Only 5km Race has a new route - alongside the beach at Jericho and Spanish Banks! We will also have timing chips for more accurate timing at the finish line! Profits from the race go to a charitable cause. In previous years the funds have purchased sports equipment and sports camp fees for less privileged children. Please encourage children/families at all Vancouver schools to participate. We want to maximize the number of children who benefit from this unique opportunity. The Kids Only 5Km Race is organized by parents at Jules Quesnel School. If you have any questions please email kidsonly5krun@gmail.com

PARENTING WORKSHOP IN JAPANESE: The Settlement Workers in Schools (SWIS) Program in collaboration with Tonari Gumi has, for the first time, jointly organized a FREE parenting workshop in Japanese on "Heart-to-Heart Connection" for the **Japanese community**. Details are as follows: **Date:** Tuesday, March 23, 2010 **Time:** 10:00 am - 12:00 pm (Sign-in: 9:45 am) **Where:** Nikkei Place, Room #210 (6688 Southoaks Crescent, Burnaby) Please don't miss this opportunity to learn and share from the Child and Youth Mental Health Clinician at MCFD. Registration is needed either with Tonari Gumi at: 604-687-2012 or Esaine Mo (SWIS) at 778-228-8536 or emo@vsb.bc.ca.

保護者各位：冬の気配が感じられず、暖かい毎日が続いておりますが、皆様いかがお過ごしでしょうか。さて、バンクーバー教育委員会移民支援ワーカープログラム (SWIS) と日系非営利団体-隣組では、今回初めての共同企画と致しまして、日系コミュニティを対象としました日本語での育児に関する無料ワークショップ「親子のコミュニケーション：心から心へ」を行うことになりました。詳細はこちらをご覧ください。日程：2010年3月23日 (火曜日) 時間：午前10:00～午後12:00 (受付:午前 9:45) 場所：日系ブレース, 部屋番号210 (6688 Southoaks Crescent, Burnaby) 児童青少年メンタルヘルスセラピストによる講演を是非これを機にご参加ください。ご参加ご希望の方は、隣組 (604-687-2172) 又は SWISのEsaine Mo (778-228-8536、emo@vsb.bc.ca) にてご登録をお願いします。講演の詳細につきましては、添付されましたチラシをご覧ください。ありがとうございます。皆様のご参加を楽しみにしております。