

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 March 5

Newsletter #12

CALENDAR REMINDERS

Monday	March 8	Start of Spring Break
Friday	March 12	Paralympics Open
Monday	March 15	School opens
Tuesday	March 16	Paralympics' Curling Event for Div. 1-14, 16
Thursday	March 25	Gordon Talent Show 7:00-8:00pm
Friday	March 26	Report Cards Home (change in date)
Monday	March 29	PAC Meeting-speaker on internet safety
Tuesday	May 11	Professional Day (change from Tuesday, May 4)

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.

PARALYMPIC CURLING EVENT: General Gordon has been able to get tickets for all the Grade 1-7 students to watch the Paralympics Curling where Canada will be competing on **March 16th**. Students will be able to see the curling and participate in some activities at the new facility by Hillcrest Park. We have been able to order buses for our whole school but will have to charge some money to the students. Due to lack of school bus space, parent volunteers will be given their ticket and can take public transit for free and meet the students at the site. Unfortunately we only have so many tickets for parent volunteers so we are sorry we can't accommodate everyone.

- ❖ *Students who have hot lunch program will have their lunch from 11:00-11:30 on this day. Students who are not on the program will bring their lunches and also eat at this time.*
- ❖ *We will be returning to school at around 4:00pm on this day.*

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

PAC MEETING: There will be a speaker on internet use and safety by children and teens on March 29th from 6:45-8:45pm in the library. Free babysitting by 7th grade students. Guest speaker **Dr. Danielle Law** will discuss what children and teens are doing on the Internet, what Cyberbullying is and what to do about it, the issues of Internet Safety from your child's perspective, and how to promote responsible Internet use. Danielle is a research associate in the department of Educational and Counselling Psychology and Special Education at the University of British Columbia. Her research focuses on how children and teenagers are developing (cognitively and socio-emotionally) in a technologically advancing world. We will be joined by Bayview parents for this talk. At the beginning of the PAC meeting we will vote on proposed items to purchase with the Direct Donation Funds.

DIRECT DONATION TAX RECEIPTS: Direct Donation tax receipts and fund allocations Direct Donation tax receipts have been mailed out. They were sent to the address written on your donation cheque. Any questions, contact Megan Abele at abele@telus.net The Direct Donation funds are being allocated with consultation from staff, teachers and parents. Parents will vote to approve these items at the March 29th PAC meeting.

SEX EDUCATION/BODY SCIENCE LESSONS: After Spring break, our school nurse, Emily Malnis, will be teaching sex education/body science to the students. Parents of students in primary grades are invited to sit in on her lessons. Here is the schedule: Div 10 (Pavony) to be posted, Div 11 (Brown) Thurs March 25th 10:45am-noon, Div 12 (Johnson) Wed 17th March 8:45-10:15am, 13 (Barabulea) Wed March 31st 8:45-10:15am, 14 (Fenton) Thurs March 25th 1:45-2:15pm, 15 (Smith) Tues March 23rd 10:45-11:15am, 15 (Smith) Thurs March 25th 12:55-1:30pm. Check the schedule for last minute changes on the sex education page of the website at <http://www.gordonelementary.ca/node/182>. Emily's notes from her talk to PAC, as well as recommendations for sex education books for students and parents, are also posted there too.

GORDON TALENT SHOW: We have many students who have signed up to perform in our talent show. Auditions will begin the first week after Spring Break with the Talent Show happening at night 7:00-8:00pm on Thursday, March 25th. We will also have a dress rehearsal for the students during the day. More information to follow.

BADMINTON AT GORDON: We have many students in Grades 6 & 7 participating in Badminton this year. The team is playing against other schools and the Grade 7's will be participating in a tournament in April.

LEADERSHIP PROGRAM FOR GRADES 4/5: Janice has been hired from the Community Team to facilitate a leadership program for the Grade 4/5. Janice will teach some games to the students on Fridays at lunch and they will then teach the primary students.

FLAG FOOTBALL: Flag Football will be starting after Spring Break for Grades 5-7 boys and girls. Registration forms will be handed out after Spring Break.

GORDON'S OLYMPIC ATHLETE: Bracelets will be on sale for \$3.00 again after Spring Break to help raise money for our Canadian athlete Tracy Cameron. We will be following Tracy's training schedule as she sends us information about her experiences.

OLYMPIC MITTENS: Gordon staff and parents would like to thank Mary Ann Clark who donated the Olympic red mittens to Kindergarten, Grade one and Grade two students.

STREET HOCKEY WEDNESDAY NIGHTS: After spring break, Gordon students and neighbours meet to play street hockey. Everyone who plays hockey welcome - we can split to two pitches if needed. Meet every Wed at the west undercover hockey rink Wed evenings at 7pm for about an hour. Bring a hockey stick and pads if you have them.

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 maximise 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

PARENTS/CAREGIVERS: 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.

VANCOUVER ANGELS GIRLS ICE HOCKEY TEAM: Hey girls, if you are between the ages of 5 and 10 and you'd like to try ice hockey, come to the Kitsilano Community Centre Arena, 2690 Larch St., on March 21st, from 12:30pm to 2pm. Vancouver's only all-girl's hockey league, the Vancouver Angels, needs new members. This event is free and all equipment, including skates, is supplied. Just wear a long-sleeved shirt and leggings; we'll take care of the rest. Certified coaches will conduct on and off-ice clinics, and there will be crafts and snacks. No experience or skating ability is required, just bring your parent or guardian, join the fun and discover why girls your age love Canada's sport. If you would like to attend, email your name and age to info@vancouvergirlshockey.com. Information will also be available at the rink for girls aged 11 and up.

WORKSHOP SERIES FOR NEWCOMER PARENTS: Join us to meet other parents, learn Canadian living and ask questions about school/community programs. (All sessions will be provided in English). **When:** March 22-June 30 (every Monday and Wednesday) **Time:** 9:00-11:30am **Cost:** FREE **Where:** Staff Lunchroom inside cafeteria at Kitsilano Secondary School (2550 West 10th Ave. Vancouver) **Registration:** Jenny Choi (779-229-4270 or hchoi@vsb.bc.ca) or Jin Engen (778-229-5746 or jengen@vsb.bc.ca)

Have an enjoyable spring break

