

# Gordon Gazette

General Gordon Elementary School  
2896 West 6th Avenue  
Vancouver, BC V6K 1X1  
Phone 713-5403 Fax 713-5405  
Website: [www.gordonelementary.ca](http://www.gordonelementary.ca)

## Safe Arrival 713-6000

(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 January 8

Newsletter #08

## CALENDAR REMINDERS

Thursday	January 14	Gr.7 Eric Hamber parent information night 7 pm
Friday	January 15	Immunization Theme day: Twin Day sponsored by Student Council
Wednesday	January 20	Grade 7 students French Immersion to Quebec
Wednesday	January 20	Mitch Baker (the ESTEEM TEAM) 9:15am Chum Salmon eggs arrive!
Thursday	January 21	STREB dance company's at Gordon 3:30
Monday	January 25	<b>PAC Meeting</b>
Thursday	January 28	Grade 7 students return from Quebec 'Hoja' in concert at Gordon Grade 7 Parent Information Night 7 pm
Friday	January 29	SportFit Challenge
Monday	February 1	<b>PROFESSIONAL DAY</b>

## 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](http://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](mailto:isulston@gmail.com) (604) 263-1920.

## SCHOOL NEWS

**PAC meeting** on Sex Education/Body Science Meeting is on Monday January 25th, from 6:45pm-8:45pm. Most of the meeting will be a presentation and discussion with our school nurse Emily Malnis on sex education (called body science for the younger students). She will be covering what students at each age should know, how we can talk to our children about it, and how to deal with web pornography. We hope to have recommended sex education books for sale at the PAC meeting. At the beginning of the PAC meeting we will briefly discuss this year's FSAs (Provincial assessments for grades 4 and 7).

### **Lost and Found clean out**

The lost and found area in the basement will be cleaned out in two weeks (we usually clean up at the end of each semester). Clothes that were left in the lost and found over the holidays will be donated to charity if they are not picked up within two weeks. Clothes coming into the lost and found in the next two weeks will not be donated at this time.

(Please note that the lost and found is separate from the clothing exchange bin next to the stairs near the office. The clothing exchange is for parents to find clothes that their family can use, and to place clothes that they can no longer use).

### **School Directory is out**

This year's school phone directory is coming home with every student.

It is coming out later in the year because much of the students' information had to be reentered into the new VSB student database software. Thank you to office assistant, Marilyn Grant for all your hard work while converting to the new computer system. The directory only lists phone numbers as the new software does not allow a print out of other information. There is space for you to add addresses, parents names etc if you need it. Students not listed either requested this or did not indicate which information to have included.

**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](http://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, January 29, March 19, April 30, June 11.** If you have any questions please contact Diana Schmidt at 604-737-4896 or email [dmschmidt@shaw.ca](mailto: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.

**ESTEEM TEAM:** We have been able to have Mitch Baker, a former Canadian Snowboard Team Member to speak to our Grades 4-7 students on January 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:15. Please look at Mitch's bio at <http://www.esteemteam.com/en/athletes-27-mitch-baker>.

**BASKETBALL AT GORDON:** We have 4 teams participating at Gordon. We have senior girls and senior boys' team and a junior girls and boys team. The following are the practice times that will be starting in January along with their games. Thank you to all our volunteer coaches and sponsors.

**Junior Boys** – games on Mondays – practices on Wednesdays & Fridays at 7:45am

**Junior Girls**– games on Tuesdays – practices on Mondays and Thursdays after school

**Senior Boys**– games on Wednesdays – practices on Monday 8:00am and Wednesday at 2:15pm

**Senior Girls** –games on Thursdays – practices on Tuesday and Thursday 8:00am

**SportFit Challenge:** is coming to Gordon January 29<sup>th</sup>. SportFit is a sport discovery program that is fun, non- competitive and allows students to explore sport activities. 2010 Legacies Now is providing Gordon with a SportFit leader and will train 20 student leaders to deliver the challenges to their fellow students and manage the event for the day.

Go to [www.SportFitCanada.com](http://www.SportFitCanada.com) for more information.

Students in grade 6-7 who are interested in this amazing leadership opportunity are asked to contact Ms Morris, the vice principal. We would also appreciate 2-3 parent volunteers who can assist in help supervising the testing areas. Please contact the vice principal if you are interested in helping out! Student leaders must be able to meet for training at 8:00 am that day.

**CANFUND: Canadian Athletes Now** –is a not-for-profit organization devoted solely to raising direct funds and awareness for Canada's athletes. Gordon school is participating in their National School Campaign, 'We CAN Succeed Together'. Your donations go directly to Canadian athletes to support their training, coaching, nutrition and living expenses. Student Council members will be asking for donations of \$3.00 or more. Look for them at lunch next week. With every donation you will get a CANFUND wrist band. (limit of 3 wrist bands) . Parents, students all welcome to make a donation and wear your wrist band to show your support. More word on the name of the Canadian Athlete that we are sponsoring will be announced shortly.

To learn more please visit [www.CanadianAthletesNow.ca](http://www.CanadianAthletesNow.ca)

### **REGISTERING YOUR CHILD AT GENERAL GORDON – 2010-2011**

**Late French Immersion:** If you have a child in Grade 5 and are interested in a Late Immersion Program, you need to fill in an application before January. 31<sup>st</sup>. This is a great learning opportunity that promises intellectual challenge and fun learning a new language. Brochures will be coming to your school to give some more information or you can go to the VSB website [www.vsb.bc.ca](http://www.vsb.bc.ca) At General Gordon we have 60 spaces for Grade 6 students. **If we have more applications there will be a draw in the beginning of February.**

**Kindergarten Registration :** You need to register your child for Kindergarten before January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010.

## SUPPORTING LEARNING

**STREB:RAW to visit General Gordon:** New York based dance company STREB Extreme Action is visiting Vancouver for the Cultural Olympiad in Vancouver. STREB is performing at the Roundhouse Community Centre.

Fortunately, they have agreed to hold a **master class** at General Gordon Elementary! The class will entail pop action moves, acrobatic show stopping jumps, falls and live action dance stunts. For a cost of \$20.00 each, kids and parents can come and participate for 60 - 90 minute with 8 dancers. Its' a great opportunity to learn something new from a world class dance company. This opportunity will only be extended to the first 40 participants.

**Where:** General Gordon Gym      **When:** Thursday, 21 January 2010      **Time:** 3:30pm

For pictures and information their website is [www.streb.org](http://www.streb.org)

If interested call Jane McDougall at 604-726-5263, for more information and to book a spot.

*PS. Don't miss the show at the Roundhouse Community Centre, 22nd , 23rd, 24th January 2010, 7pm. Matinee Sat and Sun at 2pm.*

### New Superintendent

Steve Cardwell is the new Superintendent of Schools for the VSB. A message from him is posted on our website at <http://www.gordonelementary.ca/sites/default/files/NewSuperintendentmessageSteveCardwellJan42010.pdf>

### MANDARIN FOR BEGINNERS AT GORDON (6-10 yrs) Coming soon-January 2010

Introducing an exciting new language program designed for beginners and students with limited exposure to Mandarin. This 1.5 hour class will build skills and confidence through social interaction and fun activities with the goal of giving participants a working knowledge of the language and exposure to Chinese culture. The class will play games, learn Mandarin sounds and sound combinations, hear music, read and write commonly-used characters, and even munch on tasty treats! Give your brain a treat and learn a new language! Instructor: Jenna Wang on Thursdays from 3:30pm-5:00pm

Jericho Kids' Club Community Programs

@ General Gordon School

Contact Kate at [jerichokidsclub@telus.net](mailto:jerichokidsclub@telus.net) for more information.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

**Cell Phone Safety Tips** from ConnectSafely.org :

**Mobile Safety in general:** Just as in chat rooms and social sites, kids need to think about who they text and talk with. They should never text/talk with strangers. Phones should only be used to communicate with people they know in the real world.

**Bullying by phone:** Since young people's social lives increasingly unfold in cell phones as well as the Web, cyberbullying and harassment have gone mobile too. Talk with your kids about how the same manners and ethics you've always taught them apply on phones and the Web as in "real life". For more tips contact [admin@ConnectSafely.org](mailto:admin@ConnectSafely.org)