

# 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 - 604-713-6000**

(when answered press 2880 without waiting for a prompt)

Principal: Margaret Davidson  
Deputy Superintendent: Jordan Tinney  
Director of Instruction: Robert Schindel  
Trustee: Patti Bacchus

Vice-Principal: Natalie Morissette  
Administrative Assistant: Marilyn Grant  
Extra-clerical: Kelly Loconte  
PAC Chair: Miriam Grob

2012 January 20

Newsletter #10

NEW SCHOOL HOURS: Monday-Friday 9:00am-3:01pm

Lunch-12:15-1:00pm

Supervision for students at recess and lunch

Supervision in the mornings on the playground for students 8:40-9:00am

Supervision after school on the playground 3:01-3:20pm

## SCHOOL CLOSURE:

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). **Please do not call media outlets to determine whether schools are closed.**



## CALENDAR REMINDERS

Wednesday	January 26	Immunization
Monday	January 30	PAC Meeting
Friday	February 3	District Closure Day
Monday	February 6	District Closure Day
Monday	February 13	Class Group Photographs will be taken
Wednesday	February 15	Jump Rope For Heart Assembly
Friday	February 17	Professional Day-school is not in session
Tuesday	February 28	PAC Meeting
Wednesday	February 29	Leap Day-Jump Rope For Heart Event
Wednesday	February 29	Pink Shirt Day (Antibullying)



**SCHOOL NEWSLETTER:** The school newsletter comes out every two weeks and is available by email and as a paper copy. To sign up for the newsletter by email, please go to [www.gordonelementary.ca/node/59](http://www.gordonelementary.ca/node/59), and it will automatically be emailed to you. If you need a paper newsletter please e-mail Ingrid at [isulston@gmail.com](mailto:isulston@gmail.com).

**FSA –THE FOUNDATION SKILLS ASSESSMENT:** (FSA) will be administered from January 18<sup>th</sup>-February 26<sup>th</sup> to Grades 4 and 7 students in British Columbia. FSA information is available at <http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/assessment/fsa> Parents may send letters to the principal if they would like their child to opt out of the assessment.



A notice was sent home the first week in January to parents of all grade 7 and grade 4 students at Gordon from chairperson, Patti Bacchus, on behalf of the Board of School Trustees. This letter outlines details of the assessment including 'Facts about the FSA', and 'participation guidelines'. Parents are asked to read this letter from the trustees and, if needed, can direct further questions or concerns to the Principal or Vice Principal. Individual student reports will be ready to send home by the end of March. FSA sample questions are available anytime at: [http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/assessment/fsa/sample\\_tests.htm](http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/assessment/fsa/sample_tests.htm)

**SPORTS NEWS:** *Basketball Games* will be starting this week. Junior Boys on Mondays, Junior Girls on Tuesdays, Senior Boys on Wednesdays and Senior Girls on Thursdays. Former Gordon student Guido Suez has offered to do 4 sessions on *Rugby* for Grades 6 & 7. Students can pick up the notice from the office.

**CLASS GROUP PHOTOS:** will be taken on **Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup>**. Envelopes will be coming home if you would like to purchase a class picture.

**JUMP ROPE FOR HEART:** Students in the skipping club will be presenting a demonstration to jumpstart our "Jump Rope For Heart" event on Wednesday, February 29<sup>th</sup>. Students will learn about being physically active and eating healthy. They will learn a little about heart attacks and strokes and they have the option to help fundraise for the Heart and Stroke research. ***Skipping practice is Friday mornings at 8:15am in the gym.***

#### **PAC MEETING, and GOODBYE MIRIAM**

The next PAC meeting is January 30 at 7:30pm in the library.

We will discuss a potential hot lunch program, new fundraising ideas, including the 2012 fundraising schedule.

One important change has also come up: Miriam, our PAC chair, will be leaving General Gordon this February. Miriam will stay active as the PAC chair until her position is fully covered by your parents to make her move to Cypress Park Elementary a smooth transition for Gordon.

#### **PERFORMANCES/PRESENTATIONS:**

Former Fifa soccer player, **Carrie Serwetnyk**, a former Canadian National Soccer Player, spoke to our students about the upcoming Women's soccer tournament for entry to the Olympics. They have **given us 400 tickets** for our students to go to the game on Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>. **Go Canada Go!!!!**

On Tuesday, Jan. 17 we had "**Monster Theatre**" perform for all the children.

On Thursday, March 1 we have "**Flying Bob**" coming for all divisions

On Monday, March 26 we have "**H2Woah**" for Grades 4-7

On Thursday, April 26 we have "**Cinders...A quirky tale of Cinderella**" for Grade K-5 and Div. 18 (our very own **Miharu Furuta** (Div.18) will be performing.

On Monday, May 7 we have "**Clean up your Act**" for Grades K-3

**THINK PINK** : Pink Day started in 2007 when two Nova Scotia High School students decided to create a "Sea of Pink" to support a grade nine boy who was called homophobic names when he wore a pink shirt to school. This day is now celebrated across Canada to remind students that: colours, toys and sports don't belong to any gender and homophobic name calling and teasing are not OK and that students have the power to inspire meaningful change. At General Gordon on **Wednesday, February 29<sup>th</sup> we will be wearing pink** to model awareness around bullying and how we can prevent it.

**GORDON RECYCLING CONTEST:** To be entered in the draw that takes place each Tuesday please bring at least 5 recyclable items (bottles or cans) and drop them off in the basement between 8:30 and 8:55 on Tuesdays. **The winner will receive a Prize!**

**FRENCH FOR PARENTS:** This program is especially designed for parents with children in Francophone or French immersion programs. It allows parents to improve their French language skills, helping them become more involved in their children's home and school activities..

**COURSES START ON JANUARY 25 \_ CALL TODAY!**

LOST IN TRANSLATION? **KEEP UP WITH YOUR KIDS! r600.747.4825 ext 1206**

[www.educacentre.com](http://www.educacentre.com) 1-800-747-4825 extension1206 [frenchforparents@educacentre.com](mailto:frenchforparents@educacentre.com)

**MY TWEEN AND ME:** A Free Parenting Program for Parents with Children aged 7-12

Learn to build a strong relationship with your children as pre-teens Gain the confidence and skills to guide your children into – and through – the risk-taking teen years.

Join us for **6 Sessions -Monday's** from **January 30th 2012 to March 5th 2012** Time: **9:30-11:30** Cost: \*FREE\* Location:

Tapestry at Westbrook Village UBC 3338 Westbrook Mall

Register Early, space is limited! To register or for more information please contact: Nikki at 604-736-3588 or

[nikki@kitshouse.org](mailto:nikki@kitshouse.org)

**KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR 2012-2013:** Applications for all Kindergarten programs (including regular English, French Immersion, Montessori and Fine Arts) for the 2012-2013 school year will be received between **Nov. 1, 2011 and Jan. 31, 2012.**

***Applications received after January 31 will not be considered until all in-catchment students who*** submitted an application prior to January 31 have been placed. Late applicants, including siblings of in-catchment students already enrolled in the school, will be added to the end of the school's waitlist. Late in-catchment sibling applicants will have priority consideration over other late in-catchment applicants. A family can register their child (ren) for Kindergarten if the student will reach the age of five years on or before December 31 of the calendar year. For the 2011-12 school year the child must be born in 2007. For more information, please see [www.vsb.bc.ca](http://www.vsb.bc.ca)

**JANUARY DEADLINE!! 2012 LATE FRENCH IMMERSION REGISTRATION:**

Late French Immersion is a great learning opportunity that promises intellectual challenge and fun learning a new language. You can go to the VSB website [www.vsb.bc.ca](http://www.vsb.bc.ca) to get more information. Registration started in November and will go until the end of January. It is not a first come, first serve basis but all registrations will be collected along with a written letter by the student which includes their reasons for wanting to participate in a Late Immersion program and a copy of their last report card. 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.

**EASY FUNDRAISER: CASH CARDS** The Gordon PAC buys cash cards for MANY stores at a discount of 2%-10% depending on the retailer. PAC sells the cards at face value. The difference goes into PAC funds. Use these cards instead of cash when you shop at your favourite stores. Order forms available from School Office, PAC notice board, or click *fundraisers* at [www.gordonelementary.ca](http://www.gordonelementary.ca) Order dates this term: Friday Jan 27, Feb 24, Mar 30, April 27, May 25, June 15 Safeway & blank re-loadable IGA cards available any time!! Contact Diana Schmidt at 604-737-4896 [dmschmidt@shaw.ca](mailto:dmschmidt@shaw.ca)