

Gordon Gazette



General Gordon Elementary School
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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

2011 September 30



Newsletter #03

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



CALENDAR REMINDERS

Friday	October 7
Monday	October 10
Tuesday	October 11
Wednesday	October 12
Friday	October 28

NO SCHOOL – District Closure Day
NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving
Goal Setting conferences: Cancelled
Goal Setting conferences: Cancelled
Cash Cards \$\$\$ due



SCHOOL NEWS



GOAL SETTING CONFERENCES CANCELLED: Due to Job Action the Goal Setting conferences on October 11 & 12 will be cancelled. Students will come to school for a regular day and dismissed at 3:01 pm.

PAPER AND EMAILED NEWSLETTERS: This is the last paper newsletter sent out to every



family. If you want a paper newsletter sent home, you should have checked the box on the information sheets sent home. If you did not, please request one from isulston@gmail.com by emailing your child's name and division. If you want the newsletter by email, please add your email at www.gordonelementary.ca/node/59



GORDON PICTURE CALENDAR: Thank you Skip and Heather Young for making another wonderful picture calendar for our school. This year the calendar is posted on our website, for you to print out and assemble as many copies as you need. Go to www.gordonelementary.ca/node/267 for your 2011-2012 Gordon picture calendar. An example is posted on the bulletin board in the hallway.



SEISMIC NEWS: The committee II Planning and Facilities Meeting will be presenting the preferred option concept 4b to the trustees. The meeting is on Tuesday, October 4th in Room 120 at the VSB Education Centre.



SAFE ARRIVAL: Safe Arrival will start in October when we have our parent volunteer team organized. Look for the sheet coming home to sign up to help out and have your child in the program. Thank you to parent Katerina Vassilenko for coordinating the safe arrival this year.

POPCORN: Popcorn Fridays will start in October, once we have a parent volunteer team organized to run it. Sign up to help on your volunteer sheet coming home in the package of forms with your child.



CASH CARDS - EASY FUNDRAISER: 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 on School Office counter or click *fundraisers* at www.gordonelementary.com . Put completed order form and cheque in box on School Office counter. Order dates this term: Friday Sept 30, Oct 28, Nov 25, Dec 2. Contact Diana Schmidt at 604-737-4896. dmcschmidt@shaw.ca



THE THINKING CLUB: Let your imagination soar! Put your thinking caps on! Come to The Thinking Club!



Do you love to build structures, solve mind-bending puzzles and act out new ideas? You will work in teams to solve new challenges each week using everyday materials. Just bring your creativity and problem-solving skills and be ready to think outside of the box. For grades 4 and up. Drop in any week. Thursdays from 3:15-4:00 pm. Ongoing until Nov 24th. Meet in the woodworking room in the basement. Run by volunteer parents.

MINI SCHOOL INFORMATION FOR GRADE 7 PARENTS/STUDENTS: Parents are encouraged to attend several Information Nights to select the most appropriate program for their child. Information Nights begin on Oct. 4th and run to Nov. 28th, 2011. An information sheet has already gone home with the grade 7's. The registration for the December 12th, 2011 large group assessment, of cognitive abilities and English proficiency, will be open from November 22nd to December 4th, 2011 and is available Online ONLY at www.vsb.bc.ca . Before you register you must obtain the student PEN#. This is a 9-digit number you can get from your Elementary School office. NO LATE registrations will be accepted.

ONE TO ONE LITERACY: One to One Literacy Society will be having two training sessions in October. The first session will be held Oct. 1st at Creekside Community Centre 1 Athletes Way from 9:10 until noon. If you can't make this session there will be another one October 19th at Culloden Church from 5:30-8:30. If you are interested in tutoring children at General Gordon please contact Pamela Dawson 604-255-5559 or email her at www.one-to-one.ca. We need volunteers at Gordon Tuesday morning or Wednesday afternoon. Thank You.

KITSILANO PARENTS/STUDENTS: Fall Programs starting at Kits House! Please check their website at www.kitshouse.org . Topics include: childcare, parent and tot drop-in, free 1-to-1 computer tutorials, etc.

WASTE REDUCTION WEEK IN CANADA: October 17-23, 2011

Waste Reduction Week (WRW) in Canada is intended to raise public consciousness about waste and its environmental and social ramifications.

The WRW theme, **"Too Good To Waste"** is about conveying an appreciation for the richness and beauty of our diverse world and the importance of working toward ecological sustainability by conserving resources and curbing wasteful practices.

Our ultimate goal is to educate, engage and empower Canadians to reduce waste through provision of access to relevant information, opportunities and options.


WRW in Canada is coordinated by a coalition of 13 recycling councils and sister organizations from across Canada. Collaborating on a national level, this partnership promotes waste reduction on provincial/territorial and local levels.

Please join the hundreds of schools, homes, churches & businesses working to "go green". Please see the Recycling Council Web Page for ideas: <http://rcbc.bc.ca/events/waste-reduction-week>

Here are the 7 Habits for Greener Living: (please pick only one to start with)

1. Travel Active and Green: Take the bus, walk, cycle, carpool, or telecommute [to work](#). Walk with your kids [to school](#). Make friends with your feet. Arrive healthier and happier by choosing environmentally friendly ways of [getting around](#). It's a great way to reduce pollution, ease traffic congestion, improve personal fitness and save on vehicle costs.



 **2. Save energy and money at home:** Live comfortably while [keeping energy dollars in your own pocket](#). Simple things can do the trick — insulate, keep cool with fans, wash clothes in cool water, use a clothesline, turn off unused appliances, install a low-flow shower head. Start with low-cost and no-cost measures.

3. Buy local: [Eat fresh food from local producers](#). Buy products made in your community. Help create jobs and build our local economy by [keeping your dollars circulating in Manitoba](#).

4. Be garbage-less: [Recycle](#) and [compost](#). Re-use or donate unwanted items to thrift organizations. Have a yard sale. Avoid excess packaging. Keep re-usable bags handy. Don't send useful materials to the landfill.



5. Shop smart: Stop and think. Do you really need it? What are the impacts of making, transporting, using and discarding [the things we buy](#)? Renting a car when needed, sharing equipment with neighbours, or buying used office furniture may make a lot more sense than purchasing something new. Look for durable and repairable items made from recycled and recyclable materials. Advertisers try hard to make you buy, but don't let your stuff own you.

6. Choose healthy alternatives: Use [non-toxic cleaners](#), eat organically, [avoid synthetic chemical pesticides](#), [buy ecofriendly paints](#). There is increasing evidence that some chemicals in our homes, textiles, water, air and food are making us sick. Especially kids. Know what's in the products you buy and use. Reduce your family's chemical exposures.

7. Get together with others: Join and support organizations that are working for environmental change. Volunteer and donate. Talk with neighbours and friends [at work](#), [at school](#) and [in your community](#). Set a goal (non-toxic cleaners at school, secure bike lockup at work, recycling at the community centre) and work with others to help make it happen. If you do that and don't give up, it will.



Produced by the Green Action Centre! If you have time, please go to: <http://www.thestoryofstuff.com>

Finally: Remember! The PAC recycles your drink containers in the basement - please bring cleaned drink containers and help General Gordon raise funds! If you are interested in helping out, please contact elke at kitsilanogerman@hotmail.com