



## George Bonner Elementary School November Newsletter



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### PARKING LOT SAFETY

Both staff and parents have expressed concern regarding student drop-off and pick-up times at the start and end of the day. In order to ensure student safety please obey the following general rules:

- When children are exiting your vehicle please have them exit on the non-traffic side of the vehicle, so they are **not** stepping out into traffic.
- If dropping off in the parking lot area, please have students exit towards the school as quickly as possible so that cars behind you are not tempted to pass while students are exiting.
- Please remind your children to **never** walk behind vehicles as it is difficult for people reversing from a parking spot to see them.
- The parking area closest to the atrium is for **STAFF USE ONLY**. This helps reduce vehicle traffic in the area where most students exit the building.
- When picking your child up after school, please have them wait in front of the school and **not on the lamp post concrete island** next to the crosswalk.
- **DO NOT use the bus lanes** for pick up or drop off
- Please do not block neighbour's driveways when dropping off or picking up

Thank you for helping us ensure the safety of your children.

### SNOW AND ICE

During the winter months, when it snows overnight or when conditions are very cold and icy, the school district maintenance department dispatches staff to help clear ice and snow. However, please note that staff are often not able to clear all sites before school starts in the morning. A reminder to please be careful during morning drop-off and watch out for icy and slippery areas. Areas that receive little or no sun during the day are especially slippery. If you notice an area that is especially slippery, please contact the office so it can be dealt with as soon as possible.

### PAC notices

In an effort to reduce the number of e-mails being sent to you each month we have developed a schedule for all PAC related notices. These notices will be collected and combined into one e-mail every 2 weeks. This schedule began on Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### SNOW PASS PROGRAM

The snow has begun to fall all across the country and with all this snow comes all sorts of fun! Don't let your kids spend the winter indoors, get them outside and active, and get them to try skiing and

snowboarding with the Grade 4 & 5 SnowPass.

Your kids have never skied or snowboarded before? No problem! With all the fresh snow on the ground it's the perfect time to get them started. The Canadian Ski Council has everything you need to make it easy and affordable for them to learn. Just pick up a Grade 4 & 5 SnowPass for your child and receive three free lift tickets at each participating ski area. With over 125 locations across Canada to choose from, there are hundreds of opportunities for your kids to ski and snowboard this winter!

Registering your child for a SnowPass is easy and any child in Grade 4 or 5 is eligible (or those born in 2009 or 2010). Just visit [skicanada.org](http://skicanada.org), upload your child's picture and proof of age, enter your method of payment, and presto - your child's personalized SnowPass will be mailed directly to your home within days.

Do you or your family also want to learn how to ski or snowboard? The Canadian Ski Council has you covered. Sign up for a Discover Learn to Ski or Snowboard lesson package, which includes a lesson, lift ticket and equipment rental, all for a very low price. Check out [www.skicanada.org](http://www.skicanada.org) for a full list of ski areas that offer Discover lesson packages and their package prices.

The Grade 4 & 5 SnowPass is a national program and is valid at over 125 ski areas across Canada, including 31 ski areas in British Columbia, 19 in Alberta, 1 in Saskatchewan, 2 in Manitoba, 32 in Ontario, 57 in Quebec, 8 in Atlantic Canada, and 1 in the Yukon. No matter where you live, everyone can take advantage of this fantastic offer. To see a full list of participating ski areas, please visit: [www.snowpass.ca](http://www.snowpass.ca).

Sign up today so you have the SnowPass in time for Christmas.

For more information on the Grade 4 and 5 SnowPass program, contact the Canadian Ski Council, telephone: 905-856-4754 or email [info@skicanada.org](mailto:info@skicanada.org).

## **REMEMBRANCE DAY ASSEMBLY**

This year's Remembrance Day Assembly will be held on Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 am until 11:00 am in the Multipurpose Room. There will be performances by individuals and student groups. A reminder that there will be no school on Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup> due to the Remembrance Day Holiday.

## **PIZZA DAYS (THURSDAYS)**

### **PRIMARY (K-3)**

Notices and order forms will go out Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> for the next round of pizza days which will run from Dec. 5 to Feb 27. Pizza is \$2.00/slice.

### **INTERMEDIATE (GR 4-7)**

Pizza tickets are sold every Thursday morning 8:00-8:30 inside the main entranceway. Tickets are \$2.50/slice

## **PICTURE DAY**

Lifetouch Photography from Victoria was here on October 11<sup>th</sup> to take individual school pictures.



Lifetouch will be back at Bonner on Thursday, Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon in the gym to take pictures of students who were absent on the original picture day or who want their picture retaken. Once you receive your picture proofs, please note that the process for ordering pictures has now changed. In your proof package you are given a username and password to logon to a secure website. You may then choose the pose, the background and the package you want. If you do not have a computer at home and would like to order photos, please stop by the school and we will get you set up on one of our computers. You can also fill out the order form with payment and return it to the school office.

## REPORT CARDS

Report cards for the first term will be sent home on Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. A reminder that as we continue to move forward with the new BC Curriculum, the way we communicate to parents is changing to match the principles of this revised curriculum. There is a move to more meaningful communication of student learning and a move away from letter grades. The school district continues to support an alternate method of communicating student learning by reporting through a different form of report card as well as student portfolios. Many teachers across the district and province are currently involved in this change.

The emphasis continues to be ongoing parent communication regarding student learning throughout the year.

## HALLOWEEN

On Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup> students in Kindergarten to Grade 5 took the opportunity to participate in an afternoon Halloween costume parade in the Multipurpose Room. There were all kinds of fantastic costumes and everyone had a great time!

On Wednesday, October 30<sup>th</sup> all students participated in our monthly whole school run with a black and orange theme. Thank you to Ms. Cadorette for organizing.

## PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Some children come to school with personal devices in their backpacks, whether in the form of a cell phone, tablet, DS or iPod. For safety reasons, we would prefer to have all personal devices left at home.

Please note that during the school day, devices **must** be stored in backpacks and must not be used.

Children do not have permission to take pictures of one another other than as directed by a teacher for a school project. Even for this purpose, the school must collect release forms for each student each year if these images are to be posted online in any way. Students cannot give permission to their friends to post images of themselves.

Home:

Have a chat with your child about responsible usage of social media. It is important that children understand that virtually anybody can see what is posted on the internet and there are often ways for people to get around privacy settings. Although your child's use of social media might be innocent and appropriate, they are still open to hurtful comments from anyone. This is not to say that access to these programs should be denied, but rather that there should be conversations and instruction about safe and appropriate usage.

Possible ideas for guiding conversation or practice of use of social media might include insisting that your child includes you as a follower or "friend" so that you are able to see their posts, having them share their login information with you, and going through the privacy settings with your child to ensure that only people they know are able to interact with them online.

## PERFORMANCES

As an enhancement to the regular classroom curriculum, George Bonner offers school wide performances at various times throughout the school year. On Thursday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, Vancouver Theatresports League will be here performing Instant Improv. In this performance, the audience provides entertainment in the form of hilarious improvised scenes where ideas are instantly transformed into reality.

Thank you to the PAC for helping out with the costs of having these excellent groups visit our school.

## "MO"VEMBER

Staff at Bonner are raising money and awareness to support Movember. Movember first started in Australia with a group of men growing moustaches (or "Mo's") for 30 days to raise money for prostate cancer. It is now an international movement raising funds and awareness for prostate cancer and men's mental health issues.

Mr. Burgess and his grade 7 students will be raising money for this cause by drawing moustaches on student's faces every Thursday morning for a **25 cent donation**. These moustaches will be drawn using non-toxic washable markers and are easily washed off. This year, students will also be able to purchase sticky-backed imitation moustaches for a **50 cent donation**. Participating students will have the option of having their picture displayed on Bonner's digital signage. All money raised will go directly to the Movember movement.

To visit our team online, and to make donations online, please visit [movember.com](http://movember.com) and search for "Bears with Mustaches" (Mr. Mel Burgess is the team captain).

Thank you for your support!

## WINTER CONCERT

On December 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> the Kindergarten to Grade 7 students at George Bonner will be participating in a Winter Concert based on the “symbols of the season.” There will be afternoon and evening performances. More details will be sent home later this month.

## LIBRARY NEWS

Greetings from the Library. The Giant Floor Map of Canada's Energy Production and Transmission has left, and the library is now back to being a library. From my perspective, the map was a great success, as children from K to 7 seemed to really enjoy the experience of walking across Canada. What a timely resource to have during a federal election, as the map clearly showed the children where natural resources are extracted, and how they are transmitted across our country. The school is grateful to the Canadian Geographic Society for providing this free resource for us to use. A big thank you to all the students for respecting the floor map.

The library will be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair the week of December 9 to 13<sup>th</sup>, so if any parent would like to volunteer to assist with the fair please contact me at the school. This school year, I am grateful for the book shelving team of Tara Handley, Nicole Pollard, and Kathy Lowry. Thank you!

## WITS

At George Bonner Elementary we believe it is important to take care of yourself, each other and your community. One of our main goals is to help students to solve problems in peaceful ways. The WITS program is emphasized throughout the year. We have been using this program for a few years and it is a very helpful reference for children of all ages.



## SPORTS

Junior and Senior Boys Soccer

A huge thank you to Coach Amir for volunteering his time to help with both Senior and Junior boys soccer teams! The boys worked hard practicing twice a week to prepare for the tournaments held in Duncan at the Sherman Road Fields. The boys had a great time and were great representatives of George Bonner Elementary. Thank you to all the parents who volunteered to drive and thank you to Mr. Burgess and Ms. Cadorette for helping with the coaching.

### **Cross Country**

On October 29<sup>th</sup> thirty-seven Grade 3-7 George Bonner students competed in a District Cross Country meet at Evans Park. Students ran 2-3 km twice a week during the lunch hour break in order to prepare for this event. Thank you to Mrs. Baxendale for organizing the District Cross Country race as well as coaching, and thank you to Mrs. Carter and Ms. Cadorette for assisting.

### **Basketball**

This year Bonner will potentially run 4 different basketball teams, depending on numbers: a Junior Girls team, a Junior Boys team (grades 4-5), as well as a Senior Girls team, and a Senior Boys team (grades 6-7). Sponsor coaches include Mrs. Griffiths ([bgriffiths@sd79.bc.ca](mailto:bgriffiths@sd79.bc.ca)) , Ms. Newburg ([lnewburg@sd79.bc.ca](mailto:lnewburg@sd79.bc.ca)) , and Mr. Burgess ([mburgess@sd79.bc.ca](mailto:mburgess@sd79.bc.ca)). End of season tournaments will be held in the final weeks of November and in early December. Please check the Sports Board between the MPR and gym, and with the above teachers for more information. Go Bears!

**THANK YOU FROM GARDEN HOUSE FOUNDATION – Jim and Jackie Barker**

We would like to extend a huge thank you to Mr. Hall, Mr. Burgess and Mrs. Thomson’s classes, as well as the staff and parents who supported the book sale on October 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. As a result, the sale raised over \$14,000! With the sale proceeds, along with a few other Garden House Foundation fundraisers, the foundation fund will have exceeded \$150,000. Well done everybody!

### **NEXT PAC MEETING**

Yes, the PAC does a lot of fundraising, but we do more than that. If you would like to be involved in supporting, encouraging and improving the quality of education and the well-being and safety of the students in our school, you are invited to attend the next PAC meeting, which will be held on Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.

## **George Bonner Elementary Monthly Calendar**

**November 2019**

<b>MON</b>	<b>TUES</b>	<b>WED</b>	<b>THUR</b>	<b>FRI</b>	<b>SAT</b>	<b>SUN</b>
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				<b>1</b> Newsletter home	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> Assembly @ 9:00 in MPR	<b>5</b> Popcorn Day	<b>6</b> SBT	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Remembrance Day Assembly 10:30	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> Remembrance Day Holiday	<b>12</b> Hot Dog Day	<b>13</b> Staff Meeting	<b>14</b> Picture Retakes  Bottle Drive	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> Metis Lessons	<b>19</b> Popcorn Day Metis lessons PAC Meeting @ 6:30	<b>20</b> 2-hour early dismissal	<b>21</b> Metis lessons	<b>22</b> Div. 1-5 Skating  Metis lessons	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> Metis lessons	<b>26</b> Sausage Roll Day  Metis lessons	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Gravity Car Challenge	<b>29</b> Non-Instructional Day	<b>30</b>	