



George Bonner Elementary School

October Newsletter



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DAILY HEALTH CHECK

Thank you to all our families for doing their due diligence with the daily health check. We have attached the current Daily Health Self-Assessment from the CDC for your reference.

THANKSGIVING

A reminder there will be no school on Monday, October 12th, due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Have a fantastic long weekend everyone!

PROFESSIONAL DAY

Please note there will be no school for students on Friday, October 23rd, as this is a province wide Teacher Professional Development Day.

EARLY DISMISSAL

A reminder, Wednesday, October 7th and 28th are district wide one-hour early dismissal days. Students will be dismissed at 1:13/1:18 p.m. and buses will be running one hour ahead of their regular schedule. Staff will be using this time to discuss school goals.

PICTURE DAY



Please note Lifetouch Photography from Victoria will be here on Friday, October 16th, in order to take individual student photos. Should your child be absent for picture day, retakes have been scheduled for Thursday, November 14th. Please note that all appropriate safety protocols will be followed and photographers will be wearing masks at all times.

After Picture Day, order pictures on mylifetouch.ca using your Portrait ID and Access Code which can be found on your Picture Day order form which will be sent home with students.

TERRY FOX



On Friday, September 25th, we held our annual George Bonner Elementary Terry Fox Run. This year looked a little different and students participated in a variety of activities with their class or cohort group. The rain held off and all students had a great time. The Bonner community raised almost \$1800 in support of cancer research. Staff who volunteered to complete various fundraising incentive activities will complete them soon. So far Mrs. Sorenson has been toilet papered, Ms. Dunlop was duct taped to the flag pole and Mr. Clark, Mrs. Baxendale and Mrs. Merrett all dyed their hair various colours. Well done everyone and thanks to Mrs. Merrett and Mrs. Baxendale for organizing!

HALLOWEEN

Although it is still unclear what Halloween will look like this year, I have listed a few safety reminders should your child be Trick or Treating. Children do not always have the skills to be safe in traffic. Many children have difficulty judging speed and distance and concentrate for only short periods of time. This will be especially true with the added excitement of Halloween. In addition, there will be many strangers on the street on Halloween night. Here are some tips to help keep your child safe:

- Teach your child road safety rules and to look, listen and think about traffic!
- Know where they are! • Know what they are doing! • Know who they are with!
- Teach your child about personal safety and talking to strangers.
- Teach them to not go with or accept anything from someone they do not know.

COPS FOR CANCER

On Wednesday, September 30th the Cops for Cancer Tour de Rock team visited George Bonner Elementary. The students met the riders outside in our school parking lot to cheer them on as they arrived. The riders took a moment to introduce themselves and they explained the purpose of the ride. Thanks to your generous donations, we were able to donate \$750 to help support children fighting cancer to attend Camp Good Times in Shawnigan Lake.

FACEBOOK AND WEBSITE

George Bonner has a Facebook page and a website. We will be updating both regularly to help keep you up to date on important dates and events at Bonner. The website address is <http://georgebonner.sd79.bc.ca>

The Facebook page is [George Bonner Facebook Page](#)

LOST AND FOUND

Each day there are items left in various locations around the school. These items are collected and placed in the lost and found area near the entrance to the Multipurpose Room. If you are missing any items please have your child check this area or call the school. We encourage parents to label all items to decrease the amount of unclaimed belongings. The PAC has an ongoing fundraiser through Mabels Labels - www.campaigns.mabelslabels.com

E-MAIL ADDRESSES & CONTACT INFORMATION

A reminder that the vast majority of George Bonner notices are sent home electronically. If you have not given us your e-mail address or if it has changed, please contact the school. Please also ensure you have updated the office of any contact information that may have changed. You can give us this information by emailing the office at georgebonner_headsecretary@sd79.bc.ca or by filling in the change form and returning it to the office. If you require a second contact on the email list please contact the office as well.

FSA

Please note that this year's Foundation Skills Assessment for grade 4 and 7 students has been postponed until January. More information regarding the testing will be sent home after the winter break.

PAC

This year PAC meetings are being held via zoom. All parents are welcome to attend these meetings. A link will be sent out closer to this month's meeting date of Tuesday, October 20th.

FROM THE LIBRARY

The library is still undergoing a switch to a new software, with the goal of being totally functioning as soon as possible. The new software will allow children grades 3 and up, to search the catalogue, request, and put a hold on any title in the library. We are very excited about the new software. Book exchanges are occurring but without the use of the software, so it is slow going.

The catalogue is accessible on the Bonner website, as children can search the catalogue, unfortunately the catalogue is not completely accurate which is the hurdle the Technology Department is trying to solve.

The library experience will be different from previous years, as it is a common area available to entire school population, making it a safe environment will take time, and careful planning. Covid-19 protocol for laminated surfaces will be followed to ensure the safety of the students.

GARDEN HOUSE BOOK SALE AT BONNER

Due to uncertainties surrounding the pandemic, the annual October book sale will not take place this year at Bonner. We are, however, continuing to receive book donations for next year's sale. For more information please visit www.gardenhousefoundation.wordpress.com

Grants from the permanent fund will be given before December as usual to Cowichan Family Life, Cowichan Women Against Violence and the Duncan and District S.P.C.A.

Thanks again to everyone in the Bonner School community who has supported the sale in the past. Best wishes to you all for a safe and healthy school year.

INDIGENOUS EDUCATION

Uy'skweyul! Tansi! Welcome to another fantastic year of growth and learning. Indigenous education staff work throughout the district to foster inclusive classrooms where every student feels a sense of belonging and experiences academic success.

As you may know, in 2017, the Federal Government changed from using the term Aboriginal people to using Indigenous Peoples when referring to First Nations, Métis & Inuit peoples. This change acknowledges the rights of Indigenous Peoples as outlined in the UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/wp-content/uploads/sites/19/2018/11/UNDRIP_E_web.pdf

It will take us some time to transition to the new language so you may see the terms Indigenous and Aboriginal both used.

If your child has Indigenous ancestry -First Nations, Métis or Inuit, (documentation is NOT required) and if you would like to self-identify, please see the school secretary for a self-identification form. Each year your child will be funded for and included in Indigenous Education programs. Almost all programs will be delivered in the regular classroom, to ALL students. You will be asked to give permission for any activities offered outside of the regular class.

You can opt out of Indigenous Education services any time by notifying the Indigenous Education staff in person or in writing either at your school or through the district office 250 748 0321 ext 235, ined@sd79.bc.ca Please go to <http://abed.sd79.bc.ca/faq/> for more information.

George Bonner Elementary Monthly Calendar

October 2020

MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
			1	2 Newsletter	3	4
5 Fire prevention week 	6	7 One hour Early Dismissal	8 Bottle Drive in front of the school 	9	10	11
12 Thanksgiving 	Métis Lessons for all classes begin	14	15 Great Canadian Shakeout	16 Picture Day 	17	18
19	20 PAC Zoom Meeting at 6:30 	21 Last day for Métis lessons	22	23 Non Instructional Day 	24	25
26	27	28 One hour early dismissal	29	30	31 Halloween 	