



George Bonner Elementary School January Newsletter



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WELCOME BACK

On behalf of the staff at George Bonner, I would like to welcome all students and parents back to school and wish you all a Happy New Year. I hope you all had a safe and relaxing break and are ready to return to the school routine.

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.

STUDENT CLOTHING



Please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather each morning. Unless there are extreme weather conditions such as very heavy rain or high winds, students will be outside every day during the 45-minute lunch hour break. In addition, students are often outside with their classes for 15-20 minutes each day. Should your child have a health condition that prevents them from being outside, please provide the school with a note and we will provide an alternative supervised location for them.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

If the Superintendent needs to officially close one or more schools for the day due to inclement weather, these closures will be reported on The Q! (100.3 FM), The Zone (91.3 FM), JUICE FM (89.7), CBC FM (90.5), CFAX FM (1070) and CTV VI News by 6:00 am. Notification on the School District #79 website (<https://sd79.bc.ca/winter-weather-information-for-2019-20/>), Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/CowichanSchools/>), and Twitter account (<https://twitter.com/cowichanschools>) will occur as soon as possible. Typically, schools are only closed when it is unsafe for school buses to travel on the roads or if there has been an extended power failure causing the schools to become too cold.

CROSSWALK SAFETY

There have been reported incidents of people almost being hit by vehicles while on the crosswalk in the Bonner parking lot. The problem is that parents are parking on or very near the crosswalk when dropping off their children, then waving goodbye to their children out the side of their vehicle as they pull away instead of looking forward for pedestrians.

Please **DO NOT** stop your vehicle on the crosswalk. Please **look forward** and watch carefully for pedestrians at all times when driving your vehicle. Thank you for helping to ensure the safety of all children.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Kindergarten Registration for September 2021 will take place the week of January 25th to January 29th. Kindergarten registrations will be accepted from families that live within their neighborhood school catchment area and from those families with siblings presently attending with out-of-attendance area approval (the same as previous years).



Any family wishing to register their child in a different school may apply to do so using an Out-Of-Attendance Area Request form available at the school and on the SD79 website.

Due to limited space and resources, there is no guarantee that parent requests to attend a school out of their neighborhood school catchment area will be approved.

Please note that first priority for registrations will be given to those children who reside in the school catchment. Second priority goes to those families who have siblings already attending the school for the 2020-21 school year.

Please bring proof of residency (such as a hydro bill or driver's license) and a copy of your child's birth certificate when you register.

Should you have further questions, please call the school.

Please note that registration at Ecole Cobble Hill (French immersion) and Mill Bay Nature School will start the week of Monday, January 18th.

EARLY DISMISSAL DAY

Wednesday, January 27th, is a one-hour early dismissal day. Students will be dismissed at 1:13/1:18 pm and buses will be running one hour earlier than usual.

FOOD DRIVE

Before the holidays George Bonner collected food items for the local families in need. Thanks to the generous donations from the George Bonner School community, we were able to distribute almost 20 boxes of food to families. Well done everyone!

REPORT CARDS

Teachers are currently working on report cards. Reports for all grades will be sent home on or before February 5th. The January summary is intended to be a description of the student as a learner and outline how the student approaches the learning process and summarizes the student's current progress. Please note that teachers have the flexibility to send home report cards any time before February 5th so classmates or siblings may not receive their report cards at the same time. Please contact your child's teacher directly should you have any questions or concerns.

SPIRIT DAY

Every month at Bonner we hold a spirit day. The spirit theme for this month will be crazy hats. On Friday, January 22nd students are invited to wear hats of all shapes and sizes to show their school spirit.



SPORTS

Basketball season is coming to a close with our in house 3 VS 3 tournament! Students will match up in teams of three and go for the title. Thank you to Ms. Merrett for her support coaching this year and good luck to all participants in our tournament.

Volleyball season is about to begin. Students should keep an eye on the Sports Board as well as listen for announcements related to sign up as well as dates and times of practices.

BOTTLE DRIVE

We will be holding our monthly bottle drive next Thursday, January 14th. Simply drop off your recyclables in front of the school near the parking lot exit. Thank you in advance for your support!

RAINBOW CLUB

George Bonner now has a Rainbow Club every Friday at lunchtime. This is a club which supports students at Bonner from all our diversity of gender expression and sexual orientation, and their allies. Every student is welcome. 😊

LICE

This is the time of year when head lice outbreaks are prevalent. Should there be a case of head lice in your child's classroom an information notice will be sent home. The best way to prevent your child from getting head lice is to make sure they do not share jackets or hats with other children. If your child has long hair you could also have them wear their hair up to help prevent hair to hair contact with other children.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Playcare - Afterschool Care Program

For children in grades 1-7

Located at the Cowichan Sportsplex, 5847 Chesterfield Avenue

Free of charge (or \$12 for 16 weeks for those able to contribute)

Tuesdays and Thursdays, January 12th – April 29th

Brought to you by Cowichan Sportsplex & Pacific Sport

Call 250.746.5666 or go to <http://www.pacificsportvi.com/>

George Bonner Elementary Monthly Calendar

January 2021

MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
				1	2	3
4 School reopens	5 Zoom Assembly	6	7	8 Newsletter	9	10
11	12	13 Staff Meeting	14 Bottle drive 	15	16	17
18	19 PAC meeting	20	21	22 Crazy Hat Day 	23	24
25 Kindergarten registration all week	26	27 One-hour early dismissal	28	29	30	31