



## George Bonner Elementary School February Newsletter



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### FAMILY DAY

A reminder there will be no school for students on **Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup>**, due to a **Non-Instructional Day** and **Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup>**, due to the **Family Day holiday**. School will reopen on Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>. Have a great long weekend with your family!



### 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 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 many 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.
- Please **DO NOT** park on or near the crosswalk in the parking lot---doing this makes it dangerous for children to cross in front of your vehicle because passing vehicles cannot see them until the last second
- If exiting the vehicle with your child please wear a mask or ensure you remain at least 6 feet apart from other adults or children
- Please do not linger when dropping off or picking up your child, but do so promptly to reduce grouping.

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

## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION



Although the scheduled kindergarten registration period has now ended, please note that Kindergarten Registration for the 2021/2022 school year will continue until September. Kindergarten registrations will be accepted from families that live within our school catchment area and from those with siblings presently attending with out-of-area approval (the same as previous years).

Any family wishing to register their child in a different school may apply to do so until May 30<sup>th</sup>. An out-of-area request form is available at [www.sd79.bc.ca](http://www.sd79.bc.ca). A reminder that preference 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 2020/2021 school year.

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

Should you have further questions, please call the school.

## SPIRIT DAYS



Friday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> was "Crazy Hat and Hair Day" at Bonner. Students were encouraged to wear any type of hat or show off their crazy hair. Thank you to the many students and staff who took the opportunity to show their school spirit. Well done everyone! The next spirit day will be on Thursday, February 11<sup>th</sup> and the theme will be Red/White day in order to coincide with Valentine's Day.

## PINK SHIRT DAY

The original pink shirt event was organized by David Shepherd and Travis Price of Berwick, Nova Scotia, who in 2007 bought and distributed 50 **pink shirts** after a male ninth grade student Chuck McNeill was bullied for wearing a **pink shirt** during the first day of school. Since then, the idea has grown each year with worldwide support and participation. Countries across the globe are now organizing anti-bullying fundraisers of their own including Japan, New Zealand, China, Panama, and numerous others. In fact, last year alone, people in almost 180 countries shared their support of Pink Shirt Day through social media posts and donations.



The PAC is offering pink shirts for purchase online: Order cutoff date is Feb. 14, 2021.

<https://columbiapromotions.commonsku.com/shop/c8e9c4a2-e317-4564-9674-b6482afacdaf>

**On February 24, 2021, we encourage everyone to practice kindness and wear pink to symbolize that you do not tolerate bullying.**

## PARKING ON COBBLE HILL ROAD

If you park on Cobble Hill Road when dropping off or picking up your children please ensure you are not blocking any driveways. Some of our neighbours have expressed concern about not being able to get in or out of their driveways at various times throughout the day. Thank you for being considerate of our neighbour's space.

## **SPORTS AND CLUBS**

At this time of year in a typical school year there are usually many clubs, activities and sports happening for students before school, at lunch and after school. Unfortunately, the safety protocols required to keep students, staff and parents safe have drastically limited what staff are able to do outside of the classroom or their cohorts. However, the following clubs and activities are still happening. Thank you to all staff for volunteering your time

Grade 7 Volleyball	Mrs. Merrett, Mr. Burgess-Tuesday's at Lunch
Grade 6 Volleyball	Mrs. Griffiths-Wednesday at lunch
TC10K running club	Ms. Cadorette, Mrs. Merrett and Mrs. Joyce - Wednesday's at lunch
Grade 7 Rock Band	Mr. D. McDonald -Thursday at lunch
Art	Mrs. Merrett -Thursdays @ lunch

## **GEORGE BONNER BEARS TC10K TEAM**

George Bonner is once again putting together a team to run the Virtual TC 10K. The TC10K club is open to all grade 7's. Practices are Wednesdays at lunch and students are encouraged to run on their own during the week. If you would like to register for the Family 1.5km, 5km, or 10km or know anyone planning on running the race, and they want to join our Bonner Bears team, they can register at <https://runsport.ca/2021-tc10k>

If you have any other questions, please contact Ms. Cadorette at [ecadorette@sd79.bc.ca](mailto:ecadorette@sd79.bc.ca)

## **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, February 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm via zoom.

## **YOUR PAC \$\$\$ AT WORK**

With your continued support in organizing and participating in the various PAC fundraisers. Your children have enjoyed many fun events. These events include field trips to the Shaw Discovery Center, Kerry Park skating rink, and Museum; many classroom crafts and celebrations. Many thanks for contributing in whatever way you can – every bit helps the children!

**Is Your Child Anxious?**

Children who are anxious quite often need to feel in control of their situation. As children mature and are taught strategies, they are better able to accept what they cannot change.

**Tips for Parents:**

- Acknowledge your child's stress
- Listen to your child and stay calm
- Identify the feelings and help them name how they really feel (sad, worried, overwhelmed, etc.)
- Validate their feelings
- Try to maintain routines but be flexible when needed.
- Be careful not to put too much pressure on your child's grades or performances. Every child learns differently!

Feel free to contact me at: [bmarchi@sd79.bc.ca](mailto:bmarchi@sd79.bc.ca)

**FREE EVENT**



**Free Event - Childhood Stress and Anxiety**

ZOOM Presentation: **Childhood Stress & Anxiety**

**Building Resilience, Empowering Strategies and Effective Supports**

This presentation is tailored for adults who support children ages 5 -12 years old.

When: **Tuesday, February 9, 2021 6:30 - 8:00**

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED** (copy and paste in browser)

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/free-virtual-presentation-on-childhood-anxiety-by-julie-anne-richards-tickets-139264861951>

**George Bonner Elementary Monthly Calendar**

**February 2021**

MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
1	2	3 BC Lions virtual visit to Div. 12	4	5 Newsletter	6	7
8	9 ZOOM Childhood Stress & Anxiety Presentation	10 Staff Meeting	11 Red/White Day 	12 Non-Instructional Day	13	14
15 Family Day	16 PAC meeting 6:30 via zoom FSA Testing starts 	17	18 Bottle Drive in front of school all day 	19	20	21
22	23	24 Pink Shirt Day 	25	26	27	28