



George Bonner News

georgebonnerheadsecretary@sd79.bc.ca – Rebecca Moreland & georgebonnersecretary2@sd79.bc.ca – Dawn Kowan
Principal – Mrs. Updesh Cheema & Vice Principal – Ms. Del Morgan Phone: 250-743-5571

Principal's Message

We have had quite the busy Fall, with Photos, Guests such as Ms. Corinne Chow who shared the Metis Culture with the us; We had the BC Shake Up – Earthquake preparedness; Girls Field Hockey, Cross Country and Boys Soccer season ended well with a district tournament.

We have basketball that has begun for any student interested in grades 4-7.

We appreciate your diligence in keeping your child(ren) home when they are feeling ill. We all need to work together to prevent the spread of colds, flu, and viruses. If you ever have a question, please call us at the office and we will help you with your questions and concerns.

Re-Take Picture Day

Please note Life Touch was here on Friday, November 3rd, to do re-takes.



Fruit & Veggie Program

Fruit & Veggie program provides local BC grown fruits and vegetables twice a month.

Playground

Playground and fields are wet and muddy at this time of year. We suggest that ALL students have a change of clothing in their backpack, so that they do not need to bother their families for clothing. Please ensure that your child has a pair of running shoes to wear in the gym.



November (formal) Learning Update

will be sent home before the end of November. This update shows how and what your child has learned since September.



The reporting timeline for this year is:

- **First informal report** to Families – between now and Winter break.
- **First written (Formal) Learning Update** - out to Families between Nov. 10th and Nov. 30th
- **Second written (Formal) Learning Update** - out to Families by February 2nd
- **Second informal report** to Families – between February and June.
- **Final written Learning Summary (Formal)** - out to Families June 27th (last day of school)

If you have any questions or would like to set up a meeting, please contact your child's teacher through the office 250-743-5571 or by emailing your child's teacher.

Inclement Weather:

Power Outages

When we have a power outage, school is still in session, unless where health, welfare, or safety of the students is in jeopardy. As the parent, it is your prerogative to keep your child at home should the weather present problems.

If power goes out during the school day, Parent/Guardians will be contacted if the district decides it is unsafe for students to be in the school.

The school bell to the right is the old fashion bell we use when we have no power :)



The 2023/24 winter weather information for parents is now posted on the school district website.

<https://sd79.bc.ca/inclement-weather-information-2023-24/>

Personal Electronic Devices (cell phones)

Please note that during the school day, all electronic devices **must** be stored in backpacks or lockers 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 conversation 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 needs to be conversation 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.

Parking



Thank you for driving slowly through the parking lot. Please drive carefully. Please do not park close to the entry gates as it is difficult for busses to get by. Thank you for helping to keep our children safe!

Remembrance Assembly

Remembrance Day Assembly will take place on Friday, November 10th. **Poppies** will be



given to each child to wear on this day. Our message for students is to think about "Why is it that we wear a poppy?"

If you would like to make a donation, you may send it in with your child.



Winter Celebrations

Staff and students are busy preparing for the winter concert. There will be an afternoon performance and an evening performance. Tentative dates and times are:

Tuesday, December 19th & Wednesday December 20th. Specific dates for the Divisions will be coming out soon.



Late Student Attendance

When children arrive late;

- They miss out on morning routines for the classroom and school.
- The teacher and other students in the classroom are interrupted.
- There may be sad feelings of being left out or not knowing what is going on in the classroom.
- It often takes the child a while to fit back into the routine of the morning.
- The beginning of school is **8:30 am**.

Supervision begins at 8:00 am

8:30 a.m.	Classes begin
11:15-12:05	Lunch (play time)
12:08-12:20	Lunch (eating time)
2:18 p.m.	Dismissal

Supervision ends at 2:35 pm



ANY ALLERGIES, MEDICAL ISSUES

Please let Rebecca or Dawn – secretaries, in the office know as soon as possible if your child has any medical issues.

Sports

Basketball season is underway! All students, grades 4-7 are welcome to join. The focus is on fun and skill development. Athletes will need proper inside athletic shoes and clothing to play. Please see Ms. Tibbel, Ms. Archer, Ms. Hallet, or Mr. Burgess for details.

HAS YOUR ADDRESS, HOME PHONE, CELL PHONE NUMBER, EMAIL ADDRESS OR EMERGENCY CONTACTS CHANGED?

Please call the office and let us know.

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.



"Mo"vember

It's Movember once again and staff at Bonner are ready to start growing their mustaches!

A growing number of men – around 10.8M globally – are facing life with a prostate cancer diagnosis.

Prostate cancer is the most common cancer among young men. And across the world, too many men die every day from taking their own lives. Since 2003, Movember has funded more than 1,250 men's health projects around the world, challenging the status quo, shaking up men's health research and transforming the way health services reach and support men.

At Bonner, we will be raising funds and having fun by selling fake mustaches to all students and staff.

Our grade 7 students will help sell mustaches to all students and staff for \$1 each, every Friday of November. \$1 for natural colours (black, brown, white, or blonde) and \$2 for RAINBOW mustaches! Every cent will go to the "Mo"vember foundation to support initiatives around men's health.

This year we are aiming to raise \$1000. Want to directly support our efforts? You can by visiting our Bonner Team page at: movember.com/t/bears-with-mustaches

Thank you for your support! See Mr. Burgess if you have any questions regarding this fund and spirit-raising initiative.

Multicultural Recognitions:

Nov. 12th – Diwali, known as the Festival of Lights Is celebrated by families whose heritage stems back to India. People gift each other with sweets and treats.

We wish all those families who celebrate these various traditions all the best in their celebrations.

Websites that are very useful for current information:

- "Like" the George Bonner Elementary School's Facebook page to receive updates and information about the happenings at school.
- Bonner website
<http://georgebonner.sd79.bc.ca>
- [Bonner Facebook page](#)
- Transportation, visit
<https://sd79.bc.ca/services/transportation/>
- Cowichan Valley School District
<http://www.sd79.bc.ca>
- Daily Health Assessment
<https://sd79.bc.ca/covid-19-updates-health-and-safety/>

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 CORNER

PAC Meeting Monday, November 27th.

Check the PAC Facebook page and George Bonner's for any updates.

All parents are welcome to attend. Hope to see you there!

PAC Facebook page has information and important dates

<https://www.facebook.com/GBEPAC>

Monday Muffins – This takes place every Monday morning. Students may come and get a muffin at the front of the school. Nut and peanut free. No cost.

For more information, you contact Kathy Lowry at gbmondaymuffins@gmail.com.



Stay Healthy and Safe!



COWICHAN VALLEY
School District

WE'RE
 hiring

Casual, On Call, Noon Hour Supervisors

This position is ideal for anyone who is looking for meaningful work with students. If you, or someone you know, would love to spend an hour a day with students, we would like to hear from you.

Qualifications:

- Grade 12 education
- First Aid / CPR - Occupational First Aid (OFA1)
- Valid Drivers' License

Hourly wage \$25.50

If interested, please email your resume to: Jen Christenson, Staffing Officer and Systems Analyst, jchristenson@sd79.bc.ca or drop off at the School Board Office: 2557 Beverly Street, Duncan. Full Job Description #34 available at www.sd79.bc.ca

NOW AVAILABLE

Make online payments with
SchoolCashOnline

- ✓ Field trips
- ✓ Sports Events
- ✓ Activity Fees

Register at <https://sd79.schoolcashionline.com>

KEVGROUP
School Cash Simplified