



# Georgia Avenue News

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Georgia Avenue Community School

Issue 5

### School Goals:

1. To implement a school-wide system (PBIS) of support that includes proactive strategies of defining, teaching and supporting appropriate student behaviours to create a positive school culture.
2. To improve students' literacy skills (reading, writing and oral language.)

### **FROM THE OFFICE**

Dear Parents,

We hope you had a wonderful holiday filled with family and friends. We want to thank you for coming out to our Winter Concert and for all the donations that went to the local food bank from our dry goods collection campaign. Thank you to all the staff who volunteered their time as well to make these programs the success they were.



Your child(ren) and staff have returned from their break refreshed and ready for the learning opportunities that lie ahead. As January unfolds, it is a perfect opportunity to re-establish routines and regular habits to support your child (ren's) school life. Here are six ways to assist you in this regard:

1. Regular bedtimes with time for brushing teeth, bathing and quiet reading time helps to calm active children and enable them to sleep well each night.
2. Consistent wakeup times, healthy breakfasts and sufficient time to dress and gather school books enables children to begin the school day on time and in a calm way.
3. Regular daily homework time (with parental support as needed) is essential to help children feel competent and confident in class.
4. Ensure there is a balance between active play and television or computer time. Time with friends and family is essential to developing positive social skills and a sense of belonging.
5. Computers should be in a highly visible area of the house. A child's computer time must be monitored and should follow specific safety guidelines regarding site and program access.
6. Share a caring conversation and a smile with your child each day.

We are also at that time of the year when we are accepting registration for new, in catchment, students for September including new kindergarten students. If you know of a family with a child who should be entering Kindergarten in September in our neighborhood please encourage the family to register their child immediately. This process is done on line and the information in this newsletter.

I would like to thank our PAC for their strong leadership and for all their hard work this school year! They have spent countless hours behind the scenes working on various projects and activities that make Georgia Avenue a very special place for our students and their families.

We have many dedicated parents who help out with classroom and/or school related activities. Remember that the PAC includes all parents of the school. Please attend meetings and become active with the PAC sponsored activities.

Yours truly,

Mr. Larry Dean

Principal

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

- Mon, Feb 13 ..... BC Family Day (School Closed)
- Mon, Feb 20 ..... Pro-D (School Closed)
- Tue, Feb 21 ..... Pro-D (School Closed)
- Fri, Mar 17 ..... Last Day of School before Spring Break
- Mon, Apr 3 ..... First Day Back
- Fri, Apr 14 ..... Good Friday (School Closed)
- Mon, Apr 17 ..... Easter Monday (School Closed)
- Fri, May 12 ..... Pro-D (School Closed)
- Tue, May 16 ..... School Track Meet at Rotary Bowl
- Mon, May 22 ..... Victoria Day (School Closed)
- Thu, May 25 ..... Zone Track Meet at Rotary Bowl
- Thu, Jun 29 ..... Last Day of School

### **NEW SCHOOL WEBSITE!**

<http://ge.schools.sd68.bc.ca>

You can access lots of great information about our school and District from this website—including our newsletters .

### **WONDERFUL PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

It was so nice to see so many families at our pancake breakfast! It was so successful we are arranging to have another pancake breakfast event in the spring. Events like these go a long way in building school spirit and community.

### **Did you know that these cool things happen at Georgia Avenue during Long recess?**

**Art club**—sponsor Ms. Wilson

**Chess and checkers club**—sponsor Mr. Buck

**Games room**—sponsor Ms. Ashbee

**Jiv'in Jags**—sponsor Ms. Botten

**Peer Helping**—sponsor Mrs. Haack

**Library Club**—sponsor Ms. Stewart

**Student Leadership**—Mrs. Haack

### **Did you know that we have 4 Georgia Avenue volleyball teams playing in the District Sports league?**

**Bantam boys** Coach: Mrs. Chesher

**Bantam girls** Coach: Mr. Johnson and Mrs. Wicks

**Peewee boys** Coach: Mr. Dean

**Peewee girls** Coach: Mrs. Booth and Mrs. Galloway

Refereeing games—coaches and also Mr. Lavery

In addition, we have many wonderful and dedicated staff who volunteer to be on our school committees. The work they do helps to make our school run smoothly and contributes greatly to creating a safe, caring and productive school.

## **SCHOOL CLOSURE**

If schools are closed due to snow, or any other weather-related problems, announcements will be made on local radio stations (WOLF 106.9 FM, WAVE 102.3 FM, and 91.7 COAST FM) by 7 a.m. on the day of the closure. Please do not call the radio station – tune in and listen for the announcements, which will be made on a regular basis.



In addition, the district will post the information on the district's website, Twitter, Facebook and mobile app. Please keep in mind, however, that there may be situations where this is not always possible, for example, power outages or technical problems. The most reliable method is to listen to the local radio stations.

## **SCHOOL REGISTRATION 2017-2018**

A new, convenient and streamlined process to register your child in Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools will begin on January 11, 2017.

The following information will help determine if this process will apply to you. If your answer is yes to any of the following questions, you will register through the new online registration process:

- o Is my child new to Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools?
- o Do I have a child that will be turning five years old on or before December 31, 2017? (ie new Kindergarten in September)
- o Do I want to register my child in French Immersion?
- o Do I want to register my child in Late French Immersion?
- o Do I want to register my child at Departure Bay Eco-School?
- o Do I want to register my child in secondary academies? (Hockey, Soccer, Beach Volleyball, Lacrosse, Baseball, Performing Arts or Jazz)
- o Do I want to apply for a school transfer request (out-of-catchment)?

Before you begin, you will need the following:

- 1) A valid email address
- 2) Photo or scan showing proof of citizenship (ie. Birth certificate)
- 3) Photo or scan showing proof of Canadian residency (ie. Mortgage or bank statement, utility bill, driver's license, etc.)

Online registration began on **Wednesday, January 11, 2017 at 8 a.m.** Pacific Standard Time.

Early and Late French Immersion, and Departure Bay Eco-school students will have until **January 31, 2017** to register online. Student selection will once again be determined by lottery, with parents being notified by **Friday, February 3, 2016**.

New Academy, Out-of-Catchment and Out of District student registrations will be prioritized by date and time submitted online. Deadline is **March 31, 2017**.

For more information please visit the district website or by emailing [ereg@sd68.bc.ca](mailto:ereg@sd68.bc.ca).

## **A SPECIAL NOTE ABOUT GRADE 7-8 REGISTRATION**

Our Grade 7 students are automatically registered and scheduled at John Barsby Secondary for Grade 8, as John Barsby is our catchment high school. There is no need to apply to John Barsby Secondary as this is automatically taken care of for your child. Students wanting to transfer to a secondary school other than our catchment area high school, should notify their Principal and Grade 7 Teacher and apply online at <http://bit.ly/eregk12>. Registration opens January 11th. Out of catchment applications will be prioritized based on time and date stamp of the application as per Administrative Procedure 303 <http://bit.ly/studreg303>

If you currently live in the catchment area of another high school and your child plans to attend that high school (ie: not John Barsby) please ensure the student registration process is completed ASAP.

## **HEALTH AND SAFETY AT SCHOOL- INFLUENZA**

Flu and cold season is upon us. We have noticed a significant increase in both student and staff illness in recent weeks. Please contact the office to inform us that your child is ill with a cold or the flu virus, and keep him or her at home until healthy.



Health professionals advise us to wash our hands frequently to minimize the spread of harmful germs and viruses. They also remind us to sneeze and cough into our arms rather than cup our hands to absorb the sneeze/cough. Germs are primarily spread through hand contact. It is important to see a doctor and to keep your child at home if s/he is sick. This helps us all be healthier and reduces the level of sickness in our school.

## **KEEP COUNTRY GROCER RECEIPTS**

Please bring in all your Country Grocer receipts (originals only) and drop them off at the office! The school receives 1 cent for every dollar spent.



## **COMMUNITY SCHOOL PROGRAMS:**

A reminder that we will have three ongoing popular programs this winter:

**Kids 4 Kids:** An after school program for students in grades 4-7. Come and play sports, do some sewing or crafts and eat great homemade food! This program is run in partnership with Nanaimo Youth Services. It happens every Monday after school until 4pm.

**I Have A Dream:** This program is for students in grades 6&7. Participants will eat healthy snacks, play games, learn about themselves and set some personal goals. Jan 17<sup>th</sup> - March 14<sup>th</sup>; 2:40-4pm in the Multipurpose Room

**Friday Night Lights:** Drop in Floor Hockey in the gym Fridays Jan 20<sup>th</sup> - March 17<sup>th</sup>. Grades 2-4 5:30-6:30; Grades 5-7 6:45-8pm. For more info check out Facebook @ harewoodyouthballhockey or call 250-740-6627.

Both I Have a Dream and Friday Night Lights are facilitated by practicum students in the Child and Youth Care Department and the Centre for Outreach and Community Care. All of these programs are FREE.

Stay tuned for information about possible spring break programs and yet another Southside Soccer League! More details to come. For more information about Community School programs and how you can be involved contact Basia Henoch at 250-616-7984 or [bhenoch@sd68.bc.ca](mailto:bhenoch@sd68.bc.ca).

## **BELL SCHEDULE**

Morning Session	8:45
Short Recess	10:15 – 10:30
Long Recess	11:45 – 12:20
Eat Lunch	12:20 – 12:35
Dismissal Tuesday to Friday	2:37
<b>Early Dismissal MONDAY's only</b>	<b>1:37</b>