



Georgia Avenue News

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Georgia Avenue Community School

Issue 7

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.)

DATES TO REMEMBER

Fri, Mar 17Last 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

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

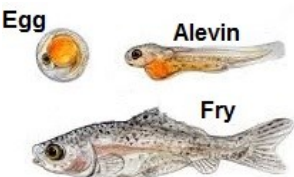
Did you know that Georgia Ave has a library helper club? Students in grade 4-7 volunteer to work in the library every Tuesday at long recess shelving books and doing other odd jobs for Mrs. Stewart. Students earn three dollars of book credit each time they work to put towards a new book from Chapters. Pictured are three library helpers on "payday" with the new books they requested. See you Tuesdays in the library at 11:45.



SALMON ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

199 of 200 of our Salmon eggs have hatched!

Did you know we have two large fish tanks in the school (office and Library) that both have 100 Coho salmon eggs? Well, we did have eggs. They have hatched and now we have 199 Alevin swimming around. We are excited to have the opportunity to partner with the Department of Oceans and fisheries for this exciting program. We will enjoy watching the life cycle of the salmon and releasing them into the river later in the school year. What a great learning opportunity. Feel free to come have a look!



READY, SET, LEARN

Junior Jaguars is an exciting *free* playtime and learning program for children 0 to 4 years old and their families.

Join us once or for all six sessions!

Come meet other Georgia Avenue families and enjoy playtime, story time, circle time, activities, song and snacks on

Thursdays April 6th – May 11th, 2017
 5:30 - 7:00 pm in the StrongStart Room



WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN

There will be an event for students (and parents/guardians) starting Kindergarten in September 2017 on Friday, May 26 from 1:00-2:30 PM in the gym.

Please ensure you have registered your child for Kindergarten ASAP. You do not need to preregister for this session as we will be expecting most registrants to be present, along with parent(s) and/or guardian(s).



MUSIC NEWS FROM MS. ROKEBY

Our Spring Concert is on Thursday May 18th at 1:00pm AND 6:30pm. All students in our Grade 4-7 classes will be performing. SAVE THE DATE!

STUDENT WRITING SAMPLES

By Cadence

Georgia Avenue is a great school because it has many great teachers and kids in the school. Our school has 13 divisions and a life skills program with lots of great kids that are always learning. I have been at this school since Kindergarten and I like my school. I have one more year at Georgia and I will be sad when I have to leave. In our school, we have just over 300 kids and amazing teachers to teach them all from Kindergarten to Grade 7. My school has a bunch of different activities for our Peewee and Bantams girls and boys. We have basketball, volleyball, and football as well as Friday night floor hockey. For all the ages, we have art club taught by Mrs. Wilson, choir and Orff club taught by Mrs. Rokeby, and Ms. Botten does Jivin' Jags. We have after school programs as well such as I Have a Dream and Kids 4 Kids, and before and after school care. Mrs. Matt and Mr. Cardinal have a breakfast program for kids before school. Mrs. Matt also has a cooking program and a 2D/3D program. The gardening program is also busy in our garden courtyard. I think our school is the best school ever.

By Jaskarn

Imagine a school with a vast amount of space and the kids are kind to people walking by the school. This would be Georgia Avenue Community School located in the south of Nanaimo, second largest city on Vancouver Island. Kids at Georgia are very nice and are hard working. Teachers help the kids to be safe and teach them all kinds of educational subjects including music, library and art. Our school has all kinds of opportunities before and after school like Kids4Kid, which is a fun after school program in which the kids aged from 5 to 13 play all kinds of games when school has ended. Georgia has a variety of sports for kids such as basketball, football, hockey, soccer, and volleyball. Doesn't this sound like a great school?

PROGRESS REPORTS (REPORT CARDS)

Progress Reports went home on Friday, February 10th. Please take the time to go over your child's progress report and celebrate their strengths and accomplishments. Also, take the time to discuss some possible goal areas and make a plan for working on these goals in the coming months.

STUDENT INFORMATION - IMPORTANT

Keeping student information accurate and updated is very important. Often, contact information changes throughout the year, and the school should be notified of these changes right away. If a child becomes ill during school hours, or in case of an emergency, it is imperative that we have correct phone numbers in order to make contact with parents. Sometimes, when trying to contact parents, the phone numbers are no longer in service. Please advise the school of your new number, or an alternative number that can be called.

BIKES, SKATEBOARDS, SCOOTERS

- ⇒ Dismount once you reach the school grounds
- ⇒ Walk your bike, skateboard or scooter off the school grounds at the end of the day
- ⇒ Wear a helmet
- ⇒ Bikes should be locked up in the bike rack (in front of office)
- ⇒ Skateboards/scooters will be kept in a designated spot in the classroom



Now all we need is the nice weather to arrive!

SCHOOL SAFETY PLAN

As part of our safety plan, Elementary schools are required to conduct fire drills, earthquake drills, lockdown drills (and we are adding “hold and secure” drills) at various times throughout the school year. These planned drills are important in ensuring that staff and students are aware of how to appropriately respond in the event of a real emergency. If any deficiencies or problems are noted, then changes are made to the plan.

I would like to share information on the following drills so that you are informed of what we are teaching your children.

Drill snapshots:

FIRE DRILL: fire alarm is pulled and students exit the building to meet in classes on the blacktop. Attendance is taken and when the “all clear” is given, children return into the school

EARTHQUAKE DRILL: earthquake sounds come on the PA system, students duck and cover, count for 60 seconds, and another 60 seconds (in case of aftershocks), then exit the building to marshal on the blacktop. Attendance is taken and when everyone is accounted for and the “all clear” is given, children return back to the school

HOLD AND SECURE: PA announcement, students remain in the school, instruction continues, exterior doors are locked, and no one is permitted to leave or enter the school until the “all clear” is given

LOCK DOWN: PA announcement, all students and staff proceed to nearest classroom or office, classroom doors are locked (as are exterior doors), blinds lowered and everyone is instructed to stay away from doors and windows and to be silent. Instruction resumes when the “all clear” is given

In addition to the information about our drills, these are the procedures we have in place in the event of a real situation regarding potential threats to schools.

Hold and Secure will be activated if there is a **potential threat outside the school** (such as a cougar or bear, or a police incident in proximity of the school). In these situations, the police typically contact the school and direct the school to go into Hold and Secure. When there is no longer a threat outside the school building, the police inform us that we can resume regular activities. If our school is in Hold and Secure, the following procedures will apply:

- All exterior doors will be locked.
- NO ENTRY signs will be placed on each door.
- No one will be permitted to leave or enter the school until school administration announces that Hold and Secure is over.

Lockdown will be activated if there is a **potential threat inside the school building**. Again, this procedure is typically initiated by the RCMP. If the school is in Lockdown, the following procedures will apply:

Exterior doors are locked

- All students and staff will proceed to the nearest classroom or office.
- All doors to classrooms and offices will be locked and/or barricaded by the supervising adult.
- Students will be kept away from windows and doors and instructed to remain silent and still.
- No one will be permitted to leave their room until the Lockdown is over.

If you hear about a serious emergency at your son/daughter’s school through media reports or other means, **DO NOT PROCEED TO THE SCHOOL**. Please **DO NOT CALL YOUR SON/DAUGHTER’S CELL PHONE** during an emergency, particularly in a Lockdown situation where it is critical to remain silent and still and not draw attention from any threat makers that may be in the building.

We will communicate with families once we have the all clear from the RCMP and the school district in both instances.

SPRING BREAK ACTIVITIES

ESL Camp for 5-8 year and 9-12 olds March 20-23rd and March 27-30th. 9:30-12:00. \$20.

Get a head in your reading and writing while having lots of fun. All language newcomers and learners and welcome!

Into the Wild

This experiential, hands-on program will be spent in the forest at Colliery Dam. Learn to identify trees and plants and how we can use them respectfully. Come dressed for the weather.



FREE FAMILY KNOWLEDGE NIGHTS

Hosted by Nanaimo Child Development Centre

6:30pm to 8:30pm at the CDC: 1135 Nelson Street

Call 250 753 0251 ext 259 to reserve a seat.

March 9: Internet Safety – helping parents to be pro-active in their child’s technology world

March 16: Body Talk – educating ourselves, Educating Kids

March 20: Parent self-care – Parenting can be both joyous and challenging.

March 30: Childhood Anxiety – Parents play an essential role in helping their child/youth manage anxiety

FAMILY MATH NIGHT

Your family is invited to come to Georgia on Wednesday, April 26th 6:00-7:30 to play fun and interactive math games. We will have games for Kindergarten to Grade 7. Come and learn first hand how math can be a fun activity to learn!



HELLO GEORGIA AVENUE FAMILIES

The Georgia Avenue PAC is going to be putting on a fun fair again this year, and we are looking for volunteers. We are going to be having a fun fair committee meeting on Tuesday March 14th at 3pm in the school library. You do not have to be part of or commit to being part of the PAC. Just come out, bring your ideas and volunteer your time for the fun fair. If you cannot attend the meeting but would like to help out please email angeljuly2@hotmail.com.

Hope to see you Tuesday, on behalf of the PAC

Angel Jones

PAC Chair



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
Early Dismissal MONDAY's only	1:37