



# Georgia Avenue News

Principal: Mrs. Lisa Frey Vice-Principal: Mrs. Patti Mountain

Secretary: Mrs. Lori Currell

Website: <http://ge.schools.sd68.bc.ca/> Phone: 250-753-1044

Mrs. J. Miehl

Dear Parents,

How quick the time flies! It seemed like just yesterday we came back from summer holidays and here we are at over 50% done this school year. I would like to thank our teachers, educational assistants and other support staff for their excellent work this school year. I would like to thank Ms. Gallazin and Mr. McMullen for supporting us during Mrs. Mountain and Mrs. Christie's leaves and also many thanks to Mrs. Miehl who has increased time in the office recently to cover Mrs. Currell.

I would like to extend a thank you to those staff, parents and volunteers for helping out with various activities either before school, on field trips, or after school. The activities further enhance the overall experience of the children.

Thank you to members of our PAC for your continued contributions to the school. These members work tirelessly at the school to aid in your child's day to day school life. Your help and assistance is appreciated by the staff, students and Georgia Avenue Community.

#### School Parking Lot:

Thank you for your attention to safety in our school parking lot. There has been a lot of improvement. Just a reminder that caregivers cannot stop and leave their cars while in the drop-off lane. We have had issues with vehicles blocking bus and wheelchair access. Thank you for your continued attention to this matter.

#### Head Lice a Georgia Ave.:

We have heard from many parents who have been dealing with Head Lice. This is a problem that needs your close attention and dedication to eliminate. The key responsibility for the control of head lice rests with the parent/guardian. The school has a role to play in educating students and parents about early detection, treatment and prevention of head lice infestations. Please refer to the education package in this newsletter for information on managing head lice. We appreciate parents making us aware when their child has head lice so that we can notify other classroom parents to be on alert. Parent information can also be accessed through the Vancouver Island Health Authority website: <https://www.islandhealth.ca/sites/default/files/2018-08/head-lice-management.pdf>

## GEORGIA AVE. SCHOOL HOURS:

**Mondays—8:45am—1:37pm**

**Tues. –Friday —8:45am– 2:37pm**

### Important Dates:

February 5	Kindergarten Hearing/Vision Screening
February 8	Progress Reports go home
February 12	PAC Meeting 6pm
February 13	Science World presentation/assembly
February 18	BC Family Day—school not in session
February 20	Kindergarten Dental Screening
February 25	Pro-D Day - school not in session
February 26	Pro-D Day—School not in session
February 28	Pink Shirt Day
March 15	Last Day before Spring Break
April 1	Welcome Back
April 19	Good Friday Holiday
April 22	Easter Monday Holiday
May 10	Pro-D Day
May 20	Victoria Day—Holiday
June 17	Grade 6 Immunizations
June 27	Last Day in attendance

## 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.



## Cobbs Bread:

Mention our school's name when you or your family/friends purchase items as Cobbs and a percentage of your purchase will be donated to our school. THANKS!!



### School District Inclusion Policy

Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools passed its Inclusion Policy in 2016, the first of its kind in BC. The Inclusion Policy sets out the principles and expectations that our Board of Education has for staff, students, and all members of the NLPS community. In Canada we have the right to hold any personal values and beliefs we choose; however, in our public schools we are required to demonstrate respect, acceptance, safety, and equity for **everyone**. Our schools must be places where diversity is valued and celebrated, and discrimination is unwelcome.

This means that you may notice schools gradually changing some of their practices:

Work is being done to help staff and students understand how to be understanding and welcoming of difference and diversity. Schools are making efforts to advocate for social justice and promote human rights in everything we do. (At Georgia Ave., we have a collection of books in our library that is intended to assist staff in educating about diversity)

Preventative measures are the first line of action, but where disciplinary action is necessary it is shifting to a restorative practice in many cases, where students face natural consequences for their actions and there is effort made to enable students to resolve problems in a way that allows damage done to be repaired or healed and all parties involved to move forward in a good way.

If you have any questions or comments don't hesitate to contact your school or Assistant Superintendent, Diversity and Equity Bob Eslinger.

### COMMUNITY SCHOOLS UPDATE:

- **Kids 4 Kids Senior** ( for Grades 6/7) is now up and running on Mondays after school and enrolment is closed. We have a great new group of facilitators and participants seem to be having lots of fun doing arts , crafts and sports as well as preparing and eating nutritious and delicious food. The next session will be for students in Grades 4/5 and will take place after March Break. Please stay tuned for exact dates
- **Friday Night Lights:** This Floor Hockey program is run by the VIU Child and Youth Care Department and continues on Friday afternoons in the gym. 5:15-6:15 – Grades 2-4, 6:30-7:45 Grades 5-7 Come and join in the fun, bring your favourite adult so they can play too! FREE DROP IN
- **ASSAI before school program:** students who are registered for this before school program enjoy fun activities in the gym on Tuesday and Thursdays from 8-8:40. Registration is now closed.
- **Certifications courses:** John Barsby is hosting a Foodsafe course on February 26<sup>th</sup> and is open to parents of children at Georgia, Cost is only \$45. There will also be a 2 day Cashier Training course on March 25/26<sup>th</sup>, Cost \$100. Contact Basia Henoeh for details on how to register, [bhenoch@sd68.bc.ca](mailto:bhenoch@sd68.bc.ca), phone: 250-616-7984.
- **Spring Break:** Planning is underway for a couple of programs. We will be offering a Reading Camp for 6-8 year olds, March 18-21<sup>st</sup>, 9:30-11:30, cost \$20. Partial subsidy available based on need. Stay tuned for news of other programs!

### BE PREPARED FOR INCLEMENT WEATHER

During December – February we will notice the shorter days, cooler temperatures and most likely an increase in rain. Remember to send your child(ren) to school with appropriate outer wear as they will be going outside most days during playtime. Spending their breaks outside provides students with the opportunity for movement and fresh air. Thank You!

## HEAD LICE AWARENESS:

Head lice are common in BC communities. Although they are a bother, head lice are not a health risk. Head lice can spread quickly by close, head-to-head contact. Lice cannot live on furniture or carpet, and they cannot jump or fly. There may be few or no symptoms, but itching may occur. You can help by: checking your child's head with the wet combing method of detection once a week throughout the year. Encouraging your child to wear their hair tied back. Treating if you notice live lice on your child's head. Reminding family and friends about the importance of routine head checks, using the wet combing method.



# WET COMBING HOW TO GET RID OF HEAD LICE



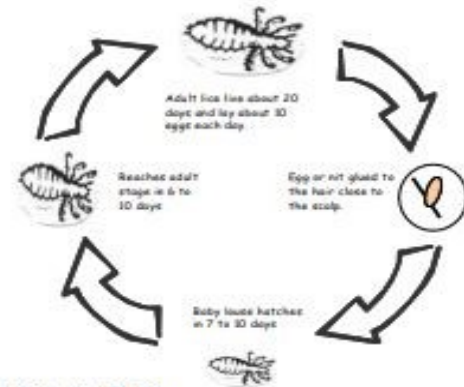
## HEAD LICE FACTS:

- ◆ Lice are tiny insects about the size of a sesame seed.
- ◆ Anyone with hair can get head lice.
- ◆ Lice do not have wings and cannot fly or jump.
- ◆ Lice move quickly in dry hair, and this makes them hard to see.
- ◆ Lice can only stay live on the head and will only lay eggs on the head.
- ◆ Having head lice does not always make the scalp itchy.
- ◆ Lice move to other heads when heads touch and by sharing brushes and combs.
- ◆ Lice are common where children play or work closely together.

## MORE HEAD LICE FACTS:

- ◆ Adult lice live about 20 days and lay about 10 eggs each day.
- ◆ Lice eggs are called nits and are glued to hair near the scalp.
- ◆ It takes about 7 to 10 days for the lice eggs to hatch.
- ◆ Once a lice egg has hatched the empty eggshell stays stuck to the hair.
- ◆ If you find an eggshell more than half an inch away from the scalp it is most likely empty.
- ◆ The eggshells are white and look like dandruff but cannot be brushed or blown away.

## LIFE CYCLE OF THE HEAD LOUSE



## WHEN TO CHECK:

- ◆ Regularly ONCE A WEEK after shampooing
- ◆ If you receive a note home from your school or daycare about lice
- ◆ If your child's playmates have head lice
- ◆ When school vacations end
- ◆ When a person is scratching his or her head more than usual

## WHAT YOU NEED:

- ◆ Shampoo and white-coloured conditioner (low-priced is fine)
- ◆ Wide-tooth comb to untangle hair
- ◆ Towels and paper towels
- ◆ Lice comb—we recommend a comb called a "Bug busting" comb. It has very fine teeth that make it easier to remove lice.
- ◆ Contact your local health unit to find out where you can purchase a "Bug Busting" comb

## IF YOU FIND LICE:

Clean combs and hairbrushes in hot soapy water.

Clean the combs, towels, and other supplies that you used for checking for lice in hot soapy water.

You **DO NOT** need to spend time cleaning the house.

## HOW TO CHECK FOR LICE:



1. Wash and rinse hair.
2. Put enough conditioner on the hair to cover the whole scalp (usually about 2 handfuls).
3. Use a wide-toothed comb to get tangles out.
4. Begin combing the head carefully with the bug-busting lice comb. Do not lift the teeth of the comb away from the scalp.
5. Checking can be done with the head forward over the sink combing from the back of the head to the front, or from a sitting position going from the front of the head to the back.
6. Pull the comb through the hair in one stroke. If the comb tugs, add more conditioner.
7. After each stroke, wipe the comb on a paper towel and look for lice.
8. Make sure to comb the entire head, checking for lice after each stroke.

Use this chart to keep track of the days (shaded areas) that you need to comb and condition.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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## TREATMENT (IF YOU FIND LICE):

1. With the conditioner still on, keep the teeth of the lice comb next to the scalp and carefully pull the comb through the entire length of hair.
2. Comb the whole head section by section.
3. After each stroke, rinse the comb in warm water. Check the comb for lice before you pull it through the hair again to make sure you do not put lice back onto the head.
4. Keep combing until you find no more lice.
5. Rinse the hair to remove conditioner. Leave the hair wet.
6. Untangle the hair with a wide-tooth comb to take out the knots.
7. Comb the whole head again with a lice comb, rinsing the comb after each stroke to make sure there are no more lice.
8. Keep repeating the steps every 4 days for a full two weeks to make sure that new lice are removed as the nits or eggs hatch.
9. Use the steps to check for head lice on everyone living in your household.

For more information, contact your local health unit:  
Nanaimo Public Health  
(250) 755-3388