



# Georgia Avenue News

Principal: Mrs. Lisa Frey Vice-Principal: Mrs. Cindy Haack Secretary: Mrs. Lori Currell & Ms. Pam Dawson

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December 2020 Newsletter #3

## Principal's Message:

It continues to be a busy and fun place here at Georgia. There have been a lot of great learning activities and events lately.

### Remembrance Day:

Thank you so much to the following people for their valuable contributions to our remembrance day assembly (virtual). First a big thank you to Mrs. Haack, who spent countless hours preparing students, video taping and taking care of the technical aspects involved in creating a digital presentation for classes. Thanks to Sierra for being our assembly m-cee. Thank you also to the following who spoke: Jade & Jayda (History of Remembrance Day), Jolan (Pittance of Time introduction), Mrs. Malthouse's class (Poppy poem) and Lizzy, Kaitlyn and Isabella (In Flander's Fields). Much appreciation to all those classes who shared thoughtful artwork.

**New Staff:** Welcome to Mrs. Lisa Sutton (in for Mrs. Ethier) and Karina Carvalho (EA in for Ms. Schnell).

**Dancepl3y:** Recently our classes had the opportunity to participate in Dancepl3y, an innovative dance program that combines physical literacy, high energy dance and positivity. *"The big idea is that through positive and playful experiences with music-based movement, everyday people can discover the physical, social and mental benefits of physical activity."* This program was sponsored by a district community schools grant. Thank you to our community school's coordinator Basia Henoch and to Mrs. Haack for organizing this for us.

**Scholastic Book Fair:** Thank you to Mrs. St. Jules for organizing our recent online Scholastic Book Fair. Our net sales were \$908.69 which earned us about \$200 of rewards to go towards library books. I know that she is very happy to get new books to families and add to our library's collection.

**Food Hampers:** Our student leaders are sponsoring a non-perishable food drive to help support Georgia Ave. families in need. Collection of these items will be from December 7-17th. Thanks for your help.

**Upcoming Spirit Days:** Our Student Leaders have planned 2 spirit days before the break. The first spirit day will be *"Wear your Favourite Winter Clothing"* on Thursday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. Students can wear a Christmas sweater, winter hat, etc. On Friday, December 18<sup>th</sup> we will have PJ Day for our Comfy Cozy Day.

**Gift Gala:** Gift Gala (formally Christmas Closet) is Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>. This year each class will receive a box of items and wrapping for students to select 2 gifts for their special people. A \$2 donation will be accepted. Thanks to our PAC for organizing this event.

**Soup Day—Sponsored by John Barsy:** Thank you to Chef Holly and her students for providing free chicken noodle soup, bread and cookies recently to our students. It was enjoyed by all who participated.

Continued thanks to all parents for their attention conducting morning health checks with their children. <https://www.sd68.bc.ca/documents/2020/09/island-health-letter-from-mho-updated-daily-health-check-sept-22-2020.pdf/>

**Run Club:** Congratulations to the following students who recently earned their 10 KM ribbons: Ahmed, Brielle, Chloe, Dani, Grace, Hamza, Karam, Leen, Len, Malak, Mustafa, Rafaat, Ranim and Tasneem.

These have been challenging times. On behalf of staff at Georgia Ave., we truly wish you happy and healthy holiday season/winter break. We will see you back on January 4, 2021.

Lisa Frey, Principal



**DRESS FOR THE WEATHER:** Our COVID guidelines call for more outside time for our staff and students. Please assist by making sure that your children are dressed for and prepared to be outside during inclement weather.

Reminder of **COVID Food Guidelines:** Students should not be bringing food items to share with other children, even if they are individually packaged. Thank you

## BELL SCHEDULE:

### Mondays-Fridays

8:45—10:15	Morning session
10:15-10:30	Recess
10:30-11:45	Morning session
11:45-12:20	Noon Recess
12:20-2:25	Afternoon Session

## Important Dates:

December 10	Wear your favorite Winter clothing
December 18	PJ Day— Comfy Cozy Day
	Last Day before break
Dec. 21-Jan. 1	School closed (Winter Break)
January 4	First Day back after break
February 11 & 12	Pro-D Days—School Closed
February 15	Family Day Holiday—School Closed

**COVID SAFETY REMINDERS: Student Drop-off and Pick-up**

We continue to urge parents/families to exercise caution when dropping off or picking up children. When you are dropping off/picking up children, please keep physical distance (2 metres) in accordance with COVID-19 protocols and/or wear a mask. We would ask that you encourage students that are able, to walk independently to the lineup. If you are staying after school for your child to play on the playground, please keep distance and/or wear a mask. Adults without masks should not be in close proximity to other students. Thanks for helping to keep our school community as safe as possible. Because people are standing together for a period of time, we recommend parents/families wear masks to assist in keeping our school community healthy.

**Homework for Absent Students**

During these unprecedented times, we understand that parents/guardians will make decisions in the best interest of their children and potentially keep children home (at different times throughout the year). Please understand that, at this point in time (Stage 2), we do not have the capacity for teachers to create two programs for students. Stage 2 dictates that schools are providing in class instruction. Students are welcome to use anything online set up by the classroom teacher (e.g. Teach Your Monster to Read, Prodigy, Mathletics, Google Classroom) and teachers will put aside work missed for parents to come and pick up if the parent would like to do this. Additional suggested educational activities for students who are absent might be:

1. Daily Reading – discussing characters, main events and setting
2. Writing – keep a journal about daily events in their life and/or summarize/respond to text that's been read or watched
3. Math - play math games (cards, board games, dice games)
4. Georgia Ave. Weebly site—thanks to Mrs. Haack for providing these ideas <http://georgiaavecommunityschool.weebly.com/>
5. SD68—Learning at home suggestions—<https://learningathome.sd68.bc.ca/>

Thank you for understanding and supporting our staff who are committed to providing safe, caring and inspiring classrooms for our students.

**Library News:**

We are now on Instagram! You can follow us @georgiaavenureads to find out the latest news from our reading community.



You can also follow us on our library website. Click on Library News to see our posts. <https://georgiaavenuelibrary.weebly.com/>

Students in the intermediate grades are learning about databases. World Book Kids and National Geographic Kids are fun for all ages and would make a great activity for Winter Break.

Follow these steps.

Go to our library website: <https://georgiaavenuelibrary.weebly.com/>

1. Click on **Learning Resources**.
2. Click on **BC Digital Classroom**.
3. Click on the database you would like to explore.

Enter the username and password. Username: 68GEOR Password: library

Winter Break is also a great time to read aloud together. To access online books, go to the library website and click on **Let's Read**. You will find TumbleBooks, Audible Stories and more. There is also a link to get a library card for Vancouver Island Regional Library. They have a large selection of ebooks and audiobooks to enjoy. Happy reading! *Danielle St-Jules* Teacher-Librarian

**STUDENT INFORMATION UPDATE:**

Keeping student information accurate and updated is very important. Please notify the school front office staff if your contact information changes throughout the year. If you have moved please let us know what your new address is. 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. If you are away, please ensure we have an up to date emergency contact. There are a number of families who have not provided updated student information sheets this year. A student information verification form will be sent home to those families who did not return the original sent at the start of the year. Please check backpacks/planners. Thanks

# SCHOOL REGISTRATION 2021-2022

The online,  centralized registration will begin on January 6, 2021 at 8 a.m. Pacific Standard Time.

The following information will help determine if this process applies to you.



FOR MORE INFO? [WWW.SD68.BC.CA](http://WWW.SD68.BC.CA)  
OR EMAIL [EREG@SD68.BC.CA](mailto:EREG@SD68.BC.CA)

## ASK YOURSELF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS

- 1** Is my child new to Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools?
- 2** Do I have a child turning five years old on or before December 31, 2021 entering Kindergarten? Applications must be received by June 15, 2021 to ensure a placement in your child's catchment-area school.
- 3** Do I want to register my child in Late French Immersion? Late French Immersion Students are placed as space permits.
- 4** Do I want to register my child in Early French Immersion? Applications will be received until January 31, 2021, at which time student selection will be determined by lottery. Parents will be notified in early February 2021.
- 5** Do I want to register my child in secondary academies?
 

Lottery	Hockey	Soccer	Beach Volleyball
Try-outs / Audition	Lacrosse	Performing Arts	Jazz




*Applications received until March 1, 2021, at which time student selection will be determined either by lottery or tryout/audition. Parents will be notified in May 2021.*
- 6** Do I want to register my child or a school transfer request (out-of-catchment)? Applications are due March 31, 2021.



# Kindergarten

## Registration starts now ...



-  If your child will be turning five years old before December 31, 2021, it's time to register for Kindergarten.
-  Online registration will begin on Wednesday, January 6, 2021 @ 8:00 a.m.
-  Registration is online only at:  
[www.sd68.bc.ca/students-parents/registration-information](http://www.sd68.bc.ca/students-parents/registration-information)  
Questions: [ereg@sd68.bc.ca](mailto:ereg@sd68.bc.ca)



# LATE FRENCH IMMERSION GRADE 6

Late French Immersion (LFI) is a two-year intensive program offered to students who have successfully completed Grade 5.

**SPACE STILL AVAILABLE SEPTEMBER 2021**

The program is offered at  
École Quarterway Elementary.



If your child is entering Grade 6 in September 2021, they are eligible to enrol in LFI and obtain a bilingual Dogwood certificate upon graduation.



FULLY FUNDED WITH NO ADDITIONAL COSTS.

Registration is accepted through the Online Central Registration process.

QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT  
Arlette Begoum-Kake  
(École Quarterway Principal) for more information about Late Immersion entry.

**250-754-6845**



**Strong Start Program:** Strong Start is a school-based, free program for families with young children (aged birth to five). This provincial program is in place to help prepare children for success in Kindergarten. Children are registered into the program. Qualified early childhood educators lead learning activities where children learn through PLAY, promoting social, emotional, physical, cognitive and early literacy development in each child. Currently our program is on-line. Please visit <https://www.sd68.bc.ca/programs/early-years/strong-start/> and <https://sites.google.com/learn68.ca/nlpsstrongstart/home> to learn more.

## ON GOING COMMUNICATION OF STUDENT LEARNING:

In Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools, we have moved from a model of 'reporting to parents' to 'communicating student learning with parents' on an ongoing basis. We work towards providing families/caregivers with timely and responsive communication of student learning throughout the year, following district policies and procedures.

In addition to two written reports (Feb & June), you will receive communication from your child's teacher a minimum of three times throughout the year (recent parent teacher conference counts as one instance). This ongoing communication may come to you by way of a work sample being sent home, a classroom showcase of learning or a Freshgrade communication for those teachers utilizing the program. There are minimum requirements for instances of ongoing communication of student learning:

- ▶ **Explicitly references the Learning Standards**  
Learning standards include the Curricular Competencies and Content as identified in the new BC Curriculum documents. They describe what the students are expected to know, understand, and be able to do.
- ▶ **Provides Descriptive Feedback**  
Descriptive feedback is ongoing, specific and timely. The primary purpose of descriptive feedback is to help the student understand:
  - ▶ What they are doing well
  - ▶ What needs improvement
  - ▶ What are the next steps for learning
- ▶ **Includes Authentic Evidence of Learning**  
Student created evidence. Examples may be: student work samples, photographs, audio, and video offer visible, authentic evidence of learning. These may be observed at any time during the learning process.
- ▶ **Includes Student Voice**  
Ownership of learning becomes more authentic when students use their own voice to communicate about their learning. Student voice is when the student can self-reflect and articulate what they are learning, why they are learning it and identify where they are in the learning process.

There are also minimum numbers of communications by curricular areas required: Language Arts 3, Math 3, Science 2 and Social Studies 2. Teachers are required to keep a record of their Ongoing communications with parents throughout the year, which will be attached to students' written reports.

## SCHOOL CLOSURES DUE TO WEATHER:

It is that time of year again, when the school district would like to remind parents about school closure procedures. The most common reasons that schools might be closed are dangerous road conditions due to a heavy snowfall or ice, or long-term power outage.

If you are wondering if schools are open on a particular day, for the most current updates listen to local radio stations (**WAVE 102.3 FM and WOLF 106.9 FM**) in the mornings.

We also attempt to put an announcement of any school closure on the school district website, [www.sd68.bc.ca](http://www.sd68.bc.ca), and on Twitter and Facebook, but our ability to do so could be affected by such things as power outages and technical issues. If there is no announcement on the website or social media, please be sure to listen to local radio stations.

**We would like to remind parents that it is their right to make the final decision as to whether it is safe for their children to travel to school on any given day. While the district strives to make the best decision possible for students across the district, there may be circumstances in your neighbourhood that lead you to decide to keep your children home, even though schools are open.**