

### **Gordon Happenings – Oct. 2, 2025**

**Individual Photos by Artona** will be happening in the Multipurpose room on **Wed. Oct. 8**. We start with the Kindergarteners first thing in the morning and work our way up the grades. Please dress your children appropriately and ensure they arrive on time so that they do not miss this important event. Please try to avoid making appointments during this day, as it is difficult to slot children in individually. The make-up picture day if your child is away sick is on Wed. Nov. 5, 2025.

**Earthquake Drill – Thursday, Oct. 16 at 2pm.** For any students who are new to Gordon this year we are requesting you join us for the earthquake drill. Please refer to the yellow form sent home regarding the proper ID to provide for pick up. This will be your chance to see how the pick-up procedures work in case of a real emergency. Once you pick up your children please proceed directly home, and do not stay to play on the playground.

Your participation also allows us to practice our procedures and make improvements as needed. We will start the drill just before 2pm with the goal of being outside at 2pm. Please do not arrive at school before then. We will not be ready for you. Also, please note that we will endeavor to process as fast as possible, but there is a chance we will not be able to reunify you with your child(ren) by the time we are scheduled to head back inside (2:40pm approx.). If we cannot get to you in time, we apologize. In the event of an actual earthquake and reuniting with families, we would not expect all families to descend upon the school at the same time, so a drill is only an approximate replication of a real earthquake scenario.

Also, it is vital that your yellow form is updated and accurate. We will not release any child if the information is inaccurate (even though we may know you). Please ensure it has been filled out and returned to the office. If you need another copy, extras are available in the office. This is in following our strict VSB Guidelines. This is our assurance to you that we are keeping your child(ren) safe and not releasing students to unauthorized people.

**The Gordon Library will be having a Scholastic book fair this month!** Come to the library on October 21-22, the same days as parent-teacher conferences, to check it out! Please see our book fair website for details, and email Ms. Macdonald (kmacdonald@vsb.bc.ca) if you'd like to help out! <https://bookfairs.scholastic.ca/bf/generalgordonelementary2>

Visit our school's homepage to get the latest Book Fair news, shop our Online Fair, and more!

**Parent Teacher Conferences** – Early Dismissal @ 2pm Tuesday, Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> and Wednesday, Oct. 22. More information will be sent home directly from teachers regarding this event.

## News from the Gordon Elementary PAC

**Bike Bus Friday: Hot Chocolate Edition!** 🚲 - This week is [Go by Bike week!](#) and we encourage everyone to bike to school every day!

We will host a **Hot Chocolate Bike Bus this Friday** for everyone who bikes to school! It's a great way to celebrate Go By Bike Week and enjoy a warm treat upon arrival. Info about our [Gordon Bike Bus here!](#)

**School Streets Volunteers!** - Come enjoy [School Streets](#) - a Car-free space on Bayswater St. between 6th and 7th Ave. every Tuesday morning and afternoon!

We still need **lots of volunteers** to help make this program a success! There are plenty of shifts to choose from: <https://volunteersignup.org/PEMD7>

For every shift you volunteer, you will receive a \$5 gift card to JJ Bean (thanks to support from the City of Vancouver!).

**Winter Coat & Boot Swap –** 🧥 **Thursday, October 17th!** 📍

Clear out those closets and find something new-to-you just in time for the chilly weather.

- Donations are being accepted now until the morning of Oct 17th
- Swap runs from 2:45–3:45 PM in the school
- Kids must be accompanied by an adult
- Minimum donation: \$5 per item
- **Drop-off: designated area at the front entrance—look for the sign!**
- Accepted items: clean, lightly worn winter jackets, snow pants, winter boots, rain boots, rain pants, rain jackets, mitts, scarves, toques
- **Please note: this is not a general clothing drive. Please only send the items requested above.**

**Mark Your Calendar!** 📅

Our first **PAC meeting** of the year is coming up on **Monday, October 6th** at 6 PM. Everyone is welcome—come join the conversation!

📵 **Unplugged Canada**

The research is in—and it's alarming. Kids' mental health is taking a serious hit from smartphones and social media ([read the study here](#)).

So what can we do as parents? Join [Unplugged Canada](#)—a pledge that helps families stick together and keep kids smartphone-free until 14.

Thanks as always!

-Kelsey, Margaret and the PAC Exec

P.S. Need to put in a [Hot Lunch order](#)?