

Dear Gordon families,

The 2025-2026 school year is finally underway. As you know by now, students moved into their permanent classrooms yesterday. The day was full of excitement, and I saw happy faces streaming down the hallway at recess and lunch times.

I want to take this opportunity to highlight the effort of the teachers in constructing new classes. I have seen many schools organize classes through my years and every school takes the task seriously and puts in a lot of effort to do the best they can. At Gordon, the teachers put in the extra effort to construct these classes. There are a lot of factors that have to be considered and balanced and let me tell you – it is not a simple and easy process. There are many considerations and rules that need to be followed. The teachers here do an amazing job, and I thank them for their efforts and thoughtfulness.

I'll share with you the message that I passed on to students just before their move. Drawing on my many years of seeing this happen, I told students that moving into a new class is the opening of new possibilities. The possibility to make new friends. Many new friends have been made in people's lives because of this very scenario. Old friends are not lost as students still have time to spend with them before school, at recess time, at lunchtime, after school, and anytime you're not in school such as weekends.

Because it's the beginning of the school year, there are a lot of informational pieces to share with you.

1. Meet the Teacher and P.A.C. organised Get-Together – All Families are invited to come to the school Thursday Sept. 18 to see the school and their children's classrooms from 4:30 to 5:30 PM. This is an informal event and a chance for you to meet your child's teacher. Please keep in mind that as it is the beginning of a school year your child's teacher has not had an opportunity to evaluate your child and will be unable to provide information on your child's academic progress so far. All families are also invited to socialize with one another from 5:30 pm onwards. Please see below some information from our P.A.C. Further information on how to purchase will be sent later.

Tacos and quesadillas by Puerto Mexico (a small family-owned business on Fourth and MacDonald) will be ***available for purchase.***

Non-alcoholic drinks/treat(s) will also be ***available for purchase.***

Music by Gordon's own DJ - DY Arems (Andre and Alyssa's dad!).

Seating on the basketball courts or the gym (weather dependent).

2. Gordon Spirit wear is available to be purchased from now to Sept. 22. Do not hesitate as once the store closes, it will NOT be open again for many months. Here is the link: <https://www.beastvan.com/gordonspirit>
3. School Streets is back! This year the event will run every Tuesday starting Sept. 16. In the spring, School Streets will be expanded to run every day for several weeks as per past practice. Please find attached 2 letters that explain more about School Streets.
4. We have several outside of school time opportunities for you to consider. These are from 3rd party providers and are not affiliated with the school other than renting our spaces. Please see attachments.
 - a. Basketball with Rodney
 - b. Playbuilding
 - c. Young Rembrandts
 - d. Lights up

Thank you,

Stephen Leung – Principal

Pawan Sumra – Vice-Principal