



GRAY SCHOOL NEWS

From the Principal

Mother Nature has blasted us again! We are experiencing such different weather conditions from our usual winter, and many of us, meaning me, are having difficulty with it. I love the snow on weekends and holidays, I don't love what it does to our grounds. That's why I want to thank a group of families who took the initiative on the weekend to support

the school by clearing a path around the entire building, and from the sidewalk and parking lot to the office. The staff, especially Lorraine Russell, Nicole and I, are very grateful to these parents for helping to make our job easier.

Traffic Issues

We are aware that traffic is once again a problem in the mornings. Some of the issues of which we are aware include drivers making U-turns after dropping off their children, drivers allowing students to exit the vehicle while stopped in the roadway, and misuse of the 5-minute Drop Off Zone.

Last year, we began putting the tall traffic markers down the centre of the street. While this has worked to slow the traffic down and has reduced the number of drivers making U-turns, it has not eliminated those two issues. We want to remind parents that the speed in a school zone is 30 KPH. Also, U-turns are extremely dangerous in high traffic areas. We are working with The Corporation to have "No U-Turn" signs installed, but have not yet been successful. Therefore, we request that drivers do not make U-turns in the school zone.

For the safety of your children, please do not allow them to exit the vehicle unless you have pulled over into a Drop Off Zone, or have parked the car in an area where parking

is permitted. Please ensure that they exit the vehicle on the passenger side.

The 5-minute Drop Off Zone is intended to permit students to be dropped off for school. It is not a parking zone. Please do not leave your vehicle to wait with your child for school to begin. If you need to wait for the bell, please park elsewhere in a parking zone. There are many parking spots available on 108 Street, across the grass field. The staff parking lot is not available for parents who are dropping off or picking up their child. The traffic circle is for buses only and is not to be used for a drop off or pick up area.

Thank you for adhering to these safety issues.

Gray Elementary

Volume 4 Issue 5

February 2017

Dates to Remember

- ☺ **February 13th**
Family Day - School closed
- ☺ **February 14th to 23rd** -
Parent Connect open to book Student Led Conferences
- ☺ **February 16th**
Kindergarten Registration
9:00 am to Noon
- ☺ **February 22nd & 23rd**
Early Dismissal at 2:00 pm - Student Led Conferences
- ☺ **February 22nd & 23rd**
Scholastic Book Fair -
Library open during Student Led Conferences
- ☺ **February 22nd**
PAC Meeting - 7:00 pm
- ☺ **February 24th**
Pro-D Day - School closed

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Kindergarten 2016 Registration

Registration of Kindergarten students who are eligible for entry in September 2017 will take place at Gray in the Library on

Thursday, February 16, 2017
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

A child may be registered to attend Kindergarten in September 2017 if his or her fifth birthday occurs on or before December 31, 2017.

Detailed information on Kindergarten Registration is available on our district website at: <http://www.deltasd.bc.ca/>

Student Led Conferences

Student Led Conferences will be held on:

Wednesday, February 22nd, 2:10 to 6:00 p.m.

and

Thursday, February 23rd, 2:10 to 4:00 p.m.

Conferences will last approximately 20 minutes, with the exception of Kindergarten. KN Teachers are holding Parent Teacher Conferences and they will be 10 minutes long. At the Student Led Conferences the students will be in charge of conducting the conferences. Grade 1 to 7 Classroom Teachers will be equipping their students with the skills required for a successful conference and will be present to provide support and encouragement. To provide students with the full attention they deserve, we ask that you do not bring siblings to the conferences.

Parents benefit by:

- seeing that their children are enthusiastic learners who can report on their progress in school and set personal goals
- engaging in a structured opportunity to encourage their children by providing positive, specific feedback for their efforts



Students benefit by:

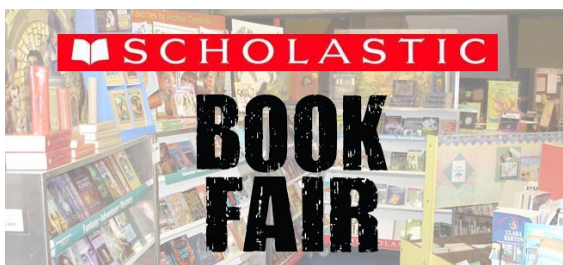
- accepting responsibility for reporting their progress to their parents
- experiencing enhanced self-esteem and empowerment
- being accountable for the work they produce
- having a meaningful opportunity to practice communication skills
- learning to use organization skills
- increasing leadership skills
- practicing time-management techniques
- developing problem solving and decision making strategies
- engaging in self-evaluation

We invite you to participate in this opportunity to celebrate your child's learning and hope you will enjoy this time together.

Parents will be able to book their conference times through Parent Connect. The **Parent Teacher Interview/Student Led Conference** module allows parents to register for set interview times with their child's teacher during designated Interview dates and times. Parents can schedule times for all children in the family from the same registration screen.

Parent Connect will be open to book conference times starting at 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, February 14th.

Scholastic Book Fair



The **Book Fair** is coming!

Come and check out all of the amazing new titles. A portion of the proceeds goes directly back into the school library!

The Scholastic Book Fair will be held on Wednesday, February 22nd and Thursday, February 23rd during student led conferences.

So drop by the Library before or after your conferences and check out all the great books.

Our Rain Garden

In the fall, the Cougar Creek Streamkeepers worked with our students to install a Rain Garden at the front of the school, near the cross-walk. As with all gardens it will require some maintenance. If any community members would be interested in working with classes in the

school to do some periodic maintenance of the garden, and adopt it over the summer, we would welcome their support. Please contact the office, 604-594-2474, if you, or someone in the neighbourhood that you know, would be interested in working with us.

Ready Set Learn

Ready, **S**et, **L**earn

McCloskey Elementary

March 3, 2017

9:30am to 11:00am

-featuring-

will stroet



If you are planning on attending this event please call the school office at 604-594-2474 to register .

Free event for any children turning 3, 4, or 5 in 2017

All attending children will receive a book and package of materials

Children attend with parents or caregivers

this Ready Set Learn is hosted by Gray, Devon Gardens, and McCloskey Schools

PAC NEWS

HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT TASTY TUESDAY?

Tasty Tuesday is a popular PAC Fundraiser that's been running since 2011!

On Tuesdays after school, stop by the PAC kitchen in the gym for Tasty Treats! Selection varies from week to week and includes items such as cookies, donuts, cinnamon buns, chips, hot chocolate, juice, candy, and seasonal items (such as ice cream and frozen treats)... and everything is only \$1 each!

HOT LUNCH

Here's a summary of what's in the works:

Thursday, February 9th - Foodie Kids Mexican Day - Ordering closed

Thursday, February 16th - Grade 5 Little Caesar's Pizza Fundraiser Lunch (Ordering not available online) -

Order forms sent through school are due Wednesday, February 8th @9am

Thursday, February 23rd - FUEL Favourites Day - Ordering opens February 5th

Thursday, March 2nd - Subway Day - Ordering opens February 5th

Thursday, March 9th - Foodie Kids Pasta Day - Ordering opens February 19th

Thursday, March 30th - FUEL Wrap Day - Ordering opens February 19th

Thursday, April 6th - Foodie Kids Hot Dog and Slider Day - Ordering opens February 19th

Thursday, April 13th - Grade 7 Quiznos Fundraiser Lunch (Ordering not available online) - Order forms will be sent through school

Thursday, April 20th - FUEL Sushi Day - Ordering opens April 2nd

Thursday, April 27th - Whitespot Day - Ordering opens April 2nd

Thursday, May 4th - Foodie Kids Asian Day - ordering opens April 2nd

Wednesday, May 10th - Grade 7 Panago Pizza Fundraiser Lunch (Ordering not available online) - Order forms will be sent through school

Wednesday, May 17th - FUEL Pasta Day - Ordering opens April 30th

Thursday, May 25th - Subway Day - Ordering opens April 30th

Thursday, June 1st - Whitespot Day - Ordering opens May 14th

Thursday, June 8th - Foodie Kids Favourites Day - Ordering opens May 14th

Friday, June 16th - Little Caesar's Pizza Sports Day Lunch - Ordering opens May 29th

Thursday, June 22nd - FUEL Favourites - Ordering opens June 4th

Wednesday, June 28th - Quiznos Day - Ordering opens June 4th

BINGO FAMILY NIGHT

Get your daubers out, Bingo Family Night is back! Join us on Friday, March 3rd in the Gray Gym for this popular family event. Doors open at 6:30 pm, so come early and get set up!

Many prizes to be won, concession available & build your own mouth-watering creation at our Sundae Palace! See you there!

If you would like to donate a prize or lend a hand with this event, contact Terri Burton at mkterriburton@gmail.com.



GRAY SPRING MARKET

We had such a fantastic turnout at our Christmas Market that many members of our community have requested for us to host a Spring Market!

Our first Spring Market will be held on Saturday, April 29th from 10 am - 3 pm in the Gray Gym. There will be 40 Vendors, Concession, Bake Sale & MANY door prizes to be won!

Interested vendors can contact Terri Burton at mkterriburton@gmail.com to book a table.



SPRING CARNIVAL

Mark your calendars! Our annual Spring Carnival is taking place on Friday, June 2nd!! Stay tuned for more details.

Many parent volunteers are needed to run this event, please contact Terri Burton at mkterriburton@gmail.com if you are able to help out with planning or lending a hand the day of.

M&M FOOD MARKET SCHOOL DAYS PROGRAM

Thank you Gray families for your continued support through our School Days Program!

Continue to mention "Gray Elementary" at checkout at the M&M @ 84th Ave and they will donate 15% of your purchase back to our school! Fundraising goes all year round!!



NEXT PAC MEETING

The next PAC meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 22, @ 7 PM in the Gray Elementary library. We hope to see parents there, to learn more about the exciting new changes coming in the future for your children!