



# GRAY SCHOOL NEWS

## From the Principal

Hard as it is to believe, we have already begun planning for the next school year. We could really use your help as we start thinking about the organization of the school. If you are aware that your child will definitely not be returning to Gray in September, please inform the office. Conversely, if you know of someone with an elementary aged child who is moving into the neighbourhood, please inform them that they need to register as soon as their address is confirmed; preferably before June 2nd, otherwise we may not be able to accommodate them in September. As we are still a growing school community, space is at a premium. We want to ensure that all of our catchment students can attend their home school.

### Summer Student Dress Code

Although we are still patiently waiting to experience some summer-like weather, we sincerely hope that some will be arriving soon. Therefore, it is once again time for a reminder about student attire. Please remember that we ask all students, Kindergarten to Grade Seven, boys and girls, to wear tops that cover their shoulders and stomach, shorts that reach to the thigh, and shoes that are suitable for active days on the field and playground, and in gym classes. Children cannot do the many activities required of them when they are wearing shoes that do not stay on their feet securely, such as flip flops and loose crocs. Students who do not conform to these guidelines will be sent home to change their attire or, if that is not possible, instructed to wear a jersey.

### Parent Appreciation Breakfast

As we are getting closer to the final month of the school year, all the staff at Gray would like to acknowledge and celebrate our partnership with you, our parent community. You have made a valuable contribution to the life of our school. Without all your help and support, Gray wouldn't be the great school that it is.

The staff of Gray would like to express our deep appreciation of our parent community by providing you with breakfast on the morning of Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup>. Staff will be outside at 8:30 a.m. with coffee and goodies, and smiles of gratitude for the work that you do to support your children and the school. Please join us if you are able.



## Gray Elementary

Volume 4 Issue 7

May 2017

### Dates to Remember

- ☺ **May 11**  
Regional Track Meet
- ☺ **May 12**  
**Spirit Theme Day -**  
Wacky Hair Day
- ☺ **May 18**  
District Track Meet
- ☺ **May 19**  
Pro-D Day - School Closed
- ☺ **May 22**  
Victoria Day - School  
Closed
- ☺ **May 24**  
PAC AGM - 7:00 p.m.
- ☺ **May 26th**  
Parent Appreciation  
Breakfast
- ☺ **June 2nd**  
PAC Spring Carnival
- ☺ **June 8th**  
Starting with Stories &  
KN Orientation - 1:45 pm

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# Planning for 2017/2018

As we plan for the 2017-18 school year, it is important for parents to be aware of factors that are a consideration in organizing classes for next year. Combined classes (split grade) are an organizational necessity based on student numbers.

**If your child is in a straight grade class this year, you can expect that they may be in a combined class in September. *THIS DOES NOT MEAN* that if they are currently in a combined class, they will automatically be in a straight grade class next year.** While combined classes are an organizational necessity, research indicates that multi-age groupings provide very positive learning environments for children. Studies show that children in combined classes learn to become more independent, responsible learners and develop a greater degree of social responsibility.

## Class Placements

Parents frequently ask questions about how decisions are made regarding a child's placement into their new class. They wonder if they should be making requests to the present teacher, or the principal. As you can see by the following list, as a staff, we go to great lengths when organizing classes. It honestly takes hours! We take into consideration such things as:

- Academic ability and progress
- Student behaviour
- Student personalities, e.g., outgoing and very participatory, quieter and needing encouragement to participate, etc.
- Student interactions, i.e., how students get along with one another
- Boy/girl ratio
- If it's a combined grade class, the numbers appropriate for each grade
- Match between teaching and learning styles, if possible
- Students with special learning needs
- Students who receive support from the Learning Support Teacher

- Number of students who require EA support
- Whether it is a straight grade or a combined class, we try for a heterogeneous group

This is by no means a comprehensive list. In any class, there is a wide range of abilities and personalities. One of the roles of the teacher is to seek to provide activities for the students that will foster their learning and growth, whether they are in a straight grade class or a combined class. After initial class organization takes place, we re-visit the lists to double-check if we think our decisions are educationally sound - for all the reasons listed above. Again in September, once registrations and attendance are confirmed, we re-visit the class lists before moving students into their new class. After all this, educators recognize that in every class there will be a wide range of abilities and needs. As students progress through the grades, this gap widens. The notion of a "straight grade" class being more advantageous to a child's academic progress is an educational myth.

## Parent Input

As our partners, we recognize that parents have important information that can assist with the placement of students. Parents are welcome to advise the school of personal, educational, or social information that could affect a child's progress and placement. Our staff will keep in mind this information, along with the above considerations, when building tentative classes. **This information should not include any request for placement in a straight grade class or with a particular teacher.** Any requests received of this nature will not be considered. We will consider the number of **consecutive** years that your child has been in a combined class as one of the factors of placement, but **will not consider** whether they have been in the higher or lower grade of the combined class, as that makes no educational difference to their progress. Please know that if you send an information letter or email, it will be considered but **does not** ensure it will be accommodated.

# Track and Field

Our intermediate students have been very busy practicing for the Regional Meet next Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Teams have now been determined and permission forms sent home to those who have qualified. Students will assemble at Gray and walk over to the track at North Delta Secondary.

If your child is participating in the Track Meet, please ensure that your child arrives to school at **8:15 a.m.** promptly and suitably attired, as we will be unable to wait for latecomers. Please remember that this is a regular school day for all students, so those not participating in the track meet are expected to attend class as usual.

Participants should bring a packed lunch and snack, including a water bottle. The cafeteria at North Delta will be open, and the North Zone A organizing school, Annieville will have a concession open. Students may bring

some money, should parents choose, but please remember that the school cannot be responsible for any losses that may occur. Parents are welcome to attend the meet to cheer our team on.

A huge thank you goes to all the staff who have given their time to assist with the track team, especially Mrs. Roder and Mrs. Matheson, our organizers.

Good good luck to all of the competitors; we know you will be exemplary ambassadors for our school. Go Owls Go!



# Primary Track Meet

Division 3 and 4 students have planned a Track Meet for the Primary classes on Monday, May 15 and Wednesday, May 17 from 1 pm to 3 pm.

Primary classes will be taking part in modified track activities on the all weather field. Come out and cheer on your son or daughter while they take part in the activities.

# Battle of the Bands - Lip Sync Contest



This year we will be holding our first Lip Sync Battle of the Bands on Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the Gym. The contest is open to all Intermediate Students. Contest tryouts will be held this week at lunch time in the Gym. Encourage your child(ren) to put together a group and try out. Parents are welcome to attend the final contest on May 30<sup>th</sup>.

# Emergency Preparedness Week

May 7-13, 2017 is emergency preparedness week in Canada. In the Delta School District we take emergency preparedness very seriously. All of our schools conduct emergency drills throughout the school year. Some of these drills may be full emergency release drills, meaning that parents are involved in the drill because we are practicing how students will be safely released to their parents in the event of a disaster. It is important that when a school has a full release drill, that parents take part. Our students, staff and parents need to be ready in case disaster strikes.

## 72 hours... Is your family prepared?

Natural disasters may be beyond our control, but there are ways to reduce the risk and the impact

of whatever emergency we might face - whether natural or human-induced.

By taking a few simple steps, you can become better prepared to face a range of emergencies - anytime, anywhere. It is important to:

- Know the risks - Although the consequences of disasters can be similar, knowing the risks specific to our community and our region can help you better prepare.
- Make a plan - It will help you and your family know what to do

Get an emergency kit - During an emergency, we will all need some basic supplies. We may need to get by without power or tap water. Be prepared to be self-sufficient for at least 72 hours in an emergency.

For more information about emergency preparedness in the Delta School District visit <http://facilities.deltasd.bc.ca/deltaprepared>

The graphic features a stylized background with overlapping shapes in shades of pink, red, and orange. The text 'Emergency Preparedness Week' is written in a mix of red and orange fonts, with 'May 7-13, 2017' in blue below it. A large blue circle contains the text '72 HOURS'. To the left of the circle are three icons: a lightning bolt in a red square labeled 'Know the risks', a notepad in an orange square labeled 'Make a plan', and a water bottle in a blue square labeled 'Get a kit'. Below the circle is the text 'IS YOUR FAMILY PREPARED?' and a QR code. At the bottom, it says 'www.GetPrepared.ca' and 'Follow us on Twitter: @Get\_Prepared'. The footer includes logos for various Canadian provinces and the 'Canada' logo.

For more detailed information on Emergency Preparedness go to

Government of Canada's website at:

<https://www.getprepared.gc.ca/cnt/rsrncs/pblctns/index-en.aspx>

BC Government 's website at:

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery>

# PAC News



## SPRING MARKET

WOW!!! Such an incredible turnout!! Thank you to our awesome vendors for spending countless hours prepping and gearing up to bring super special items to our very first Spring Market and for their wonderful door prize donations; and to all our guests for taking time out of their Saturday to spend it with us and support our school as well as local businesses!!

A special thank you to all our parent volunteers (Amanda, Andrea, Sonja, Jenn, Rash, Jeanette, Colin & Marc), Gr. 7 student & parent volunteers, Mrs. Braid, Mrs. Ray & Mrs. Turner for coordinating this event!

All door prize winners have been contacted.



## SPORTS DAY

Sports day is just around the corner! This is our annual fun day where all Gray students participate and parents get to come out and cheer on their children!

Gray PAC is looking for a small team of parents to assist with concession the day of. Lunch BBQ will be provided by M&M Food Market.

- Morning shift (8:00 - 11:00 am)
- Lunch shift (11:00 am - 1:00 pm)

## M&M FOOD MARKET SCHOOL DAYS PROGRAM

SHHHHH... I heard through the grapevine that M&M will be providing Gray families with a 10% coupon for those who attend Carnival!!

Check out their weekly specials online or in your local newspaper! They also have a new online ordering system so you can shop at home and pick up in-store.



Continue to mention "Gray Elementary" at checkout at the M&M @ 84<sup>th</sup> Ave and they will donate 15% of your purchase back to our school!!

## PAC AGM

The next PAC meeting will be on May 24 @ 7:00 p.m., and it is the final meeting of the school year. As such, it's our Annual General Meeting! This gives all parents an exciting chance to participate in the election of positions for the next school year!! There are several positions open this year, so come and make your voice heard, get a sneak peek at what will be happening next year!

## CARNIVAL

We have some new & exciting things lined up this year, Angel Events will be supplying all our carnival games:

- ◆ 14 Carnival Games
- ◆ 2 Jumbo Bouncy Inflatables
- ◆ Pit Stop Challenge
- ◆ Double Shot Basketball
- ◆ 9 Hole Mini Golf
- No more lost game cards & children hassling you for another game card! We are replacing them with wristbands that provide unlimited carnival game access for the entire evening!!
- All wristband holders will receive a JUMBO FREEZIE!!
- M&M will be on site to BBQ some delicious burgers, smokies & hot dogs! Grill open from 5:30 - 7:30pm.
- Crowd favorites will be back:
  - ◆ Caricaturist
  - ◆ Photo Booth
  - ◆ Bottle Toss
  - ◆ Cotton Candy & Popcorn & Other Refreshments
  - ◆ 22 Themed Raffle Baskets (donated by Division classes)
  - ◆ Dunk Tank & Sponge Toss (Gr 7 fundraiser)
  - ◆ Cake Walk (Gr 6 fundraiser)

Pre-orders must be submitted by Wednesday May 24<sup>th</sup>. Preorder tickets will go home with your child May 29<sup>th</sup>.

Bottle Toss donations - bring in a bottle of something - scented soap, shampoo, pop, various food items or anything else that could fill a bottle or a jar such as candies, crayons, etc (as long as it is new and unused). Use your imagination!

Cake walk donations - Email Terri @ [mkteriburton@gmail.com](mailto:mkteriburton@gmail.com) if you would like to donate a cake/cupcakes to the cake walk. To ensure freshness, bring in your baked goodies on Friday June 2 to the office.

Themed Division Raffle Baskets - a student notice will be coming home shortly with more info.

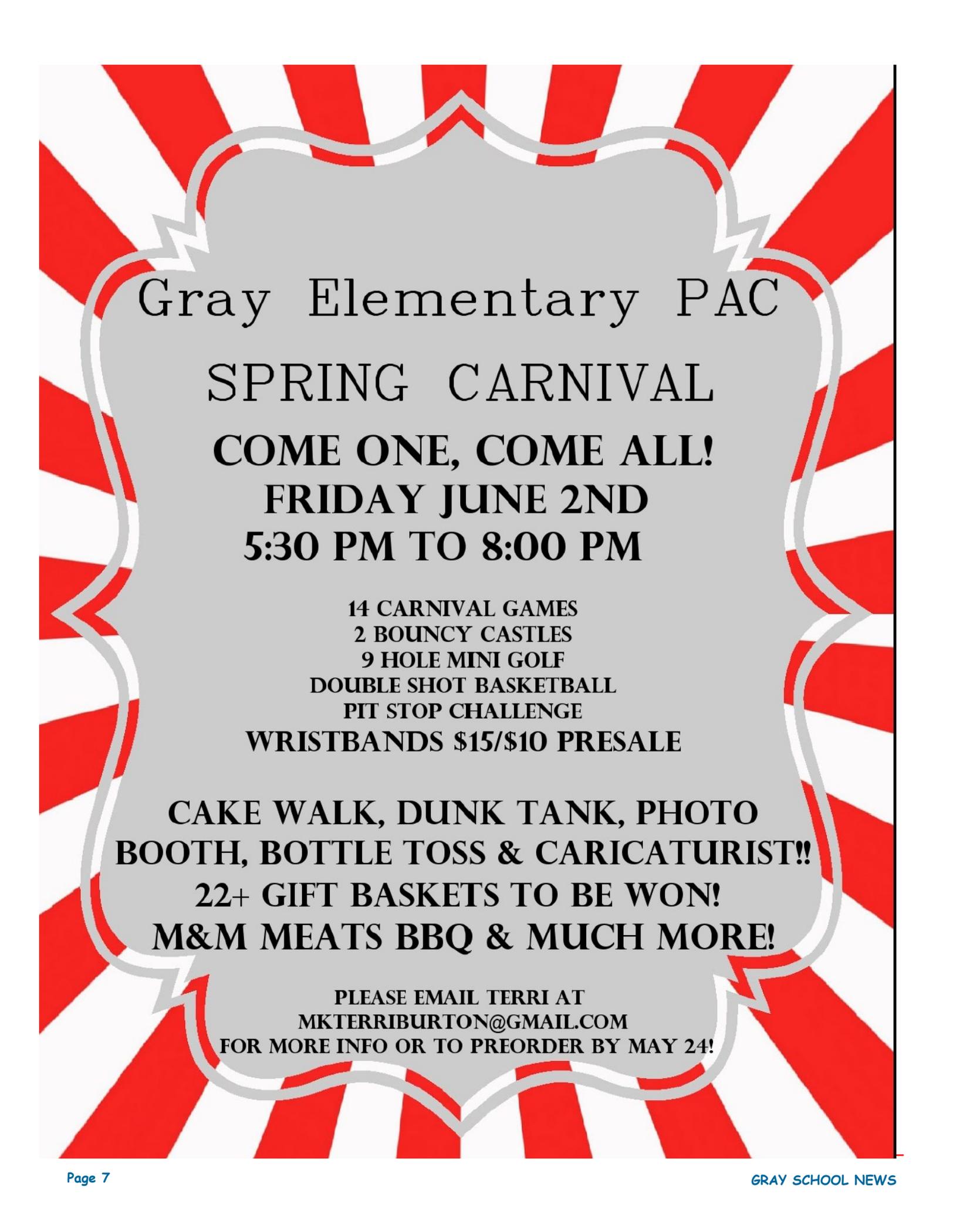
As this is our biggest event of the year, we require many parent volunteers the day of to pull it off. All volunteers will receive a complimentary meal. If you are interested in lending a hand, please email Terri @ [mkteriburton@gmail.com](mailto:mkteriburton@gmail.com) your availability & preference:

Shift 1 (5:00 - 6:30 pm) Ticket Sales, Concession, Games

Shift 2 (6:30 - 8:00 pm) Ticket Sales, Concession, Games

Join the Facebook Event page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/491318094592455/>

See the pre-order form and Carnival poster attached. Thank you!



**Gray Elementary PAC  
SPRING CARNIVAL  
COME ONE, COME ALL!  
FRIDAY JUNE 2ND  
5:30 PM TO 8:00 PM**

**14 CARNIVAL GAMES  
2 BOUNCY CASTLES  
9 HOLE MINI GOLF  
DOUBLE SHOT BASKETBALL  
PIT STOP CHALLENGE  
WRISTBANDS \$15/\$10 PRESALE**

**CAKE WALK, DUNK TANK, PHOTO  
BOOTH, BOTTLE TOSS & CARICATURIST!!  
22+ GIFT BASKETS TO BE WON!  
M&M MEATS BBQ & MUCH MORE!**

**PLEASE EMAIL TERRI AT  
MKTERRIBURTON@GMAIL.COM  
FOR MORE INFO OR TO PREORDER BY MAY 24!**



## Gray Spring Carnival Pre-Order Form

Friday June 2<sup>nd</sup> (5:30 - 8:00 pm)



### TOP 3 REASONS TO PRE-ORDER

#3 - Skip the lengthy event day line ups - trust me, you DO NOT want to end up in this line up...

#2 - Save money with combo deals

**\*\* The number 1 reason: GET THE \$15 WRISTBAND LEVEL FOR ONLY \$10!! \*\***

TICKET ITEM	COST	QTY	TOTAL
\$10 WRISTBAND - unlimited access to 14 carnival games	\$ 10		
\$15 WRISTBAND - unlimited access to 14 carnival games, 2 bouncy castles, pit stop challenge, basketball & mini golf	<del>\$15</del> <b>PRE-ORDER PRICE \$ 10</b>		
CARICATURE	\$ 5		
PHOTO BOOTH	\$ 2		
BOTTLE DRAW	\$ 2		
DUNK TANK (Gr 7 Fundraiser)	\$ 2		
SPONGE TOSS (Gr7 Fundraiser)	\$ 1		
CAKE WALK (Gr 6 Fundraiser)	\$ 1		
RAFFLE TICKETS - 3 tickets for \$5	\$ 5		
RAFFLE TICKETS - 25 tickets for \$20	\$ 20		
BEEF BURGER COMBO (includes beverage & chips)	\$ 5		
CHICKEN BURGER COMBO (includes beverage & chips)	\$ 5		
VEGGIE BURGER COMBO (includes beverage & chips)	\$ 5		
SMOKIE COMBO (includes beverage & chips)	\$ 5		
BEEF HOT DOG COMBO (includes beverage & chips)	\$ 4		
BEEF BURGER	\$ 4.50		
CHICKEN BURGER	\$ 4.50		
VEGGIE BURGER	\$ 4.50		
SMOKIE	\$ 4.50		
BEEF HOT DOG	\$ 3.50		
BEVERAGE	\$ 1		
CHIPS	\$ 1		
POPCORN	\$ 1		
COTTON CANDY	\$ 2		

Please include exact payment.

Cheques payable to "GRAY ELEMENTARY"

**TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CHILD'S NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DIV/TEACHER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\* RETURN THIS PRE-ORDER FORM TO THE SCHOOL BEFORE WED MAY 24<sup>th</sup> \*\***

Tickets will be sent home with your child on May 29<sup>th</sup>.