



GRAY SCHOOL NEWS

From the Principal

You may remember a letter that was sent home to parents last month regarding a Code Yellow that had been in effect at Sands Secondary for a short time. Some Gray parents were alerted to the situation via social media posts within minutes and began calling our office. Through various conversations I had resulting from that Code Yellow, it occurred to me that parents do not have sufficient information regarding all of our safety procedures in schools. You are all probably familiar with Fire and Earthquake drills and Emergency Release procedures, but perhaps Code Yellow and Code Red lockdowns are a mystery.

A Code Yellow is a lower level emergency. It generally means that something is happening in the neighbourhood, external to the school building, and is usually called by the police. We lock all interior and exterior doors and windows, classes remain in their rooms, and they then continue with regular activity for the duration of the Code Yellow.

A Code Red is called when there is an immediate risk to individual safety inside the building or school grounds. Again, it is generally the police who call to put us into a Code Red situation. This means that all doors and windows are locked, lights are off, students are contained within the classroom and remain silent until the threat is removed and the police take us out of the

Code Red situation. During this time, no communication is possible with parents as the office cannot answer any phone calls. The police have complete control of the building until the situation is resolved.

I'd like to emphasize that these instances are extremely rare at elementary school, particularly Code Red. There may be times when the police could put Gray into a Code Yellow because of something that is happening at Sands, but again, that would be a very rare occurrence and has not happened yet. We do have regular safety drills for these procedures, just as we do for Fire and Earthquake, but I have only been involved in one Code Yellow in the 11 years since we instituted this procedure.

I'd like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the staff, to wish everyone a safe and relaxing break. To those of you lucky enough to be heading out on vacation somewhere warm and sunny, lucky you. Remember that Easter falls at the end of Spring Break, therefore we do not have school on the first Monday in April. We look forward to seeing you all when school re-opens on Tuesday, April 3rd.

Gray Elementary

Volume 5 Issue 7

March 2018

Dates to Remember

- ☺ **March 15th**
Report Cards Issued
- ☺ **March 16th**
Crazy Hair Day
- ☺ **March 19th - 29th**
Spring Break - School closed
- ☺ **March 30th**
Good Friday - School Closed
- ☺ **April 2nd**
Easter Monday - School Closed
- ☺ **April 3rd**
School Re-opens
- ☺ **April 4th**
Class Photos

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Basketball

Congratulations to all of our Grade 6 and 7 Basketball Teams for their hard work and dedication. All the players were excellent representatives of our school and we are proud of them. Go Owls!

A special thanks again to the coaches and teacher sponsors who donated their time and effort to make the season a success for all.



"Starting with Stories"

Parents & Caregivers of children who will be starting Kindergarten in September 2018, please join us in learning ways to help your child get a good start in school at our "Starting with Stories" sessions.

There will be two sessions in April both from 1:45 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. in the Gray Library.

April 4th - Jason Hodgins - Coordinator of Primary Learning will be discussing the Social and Emotional Development of Kindergarten aged children

April 25th - Claire D'Aoust - Coordinator of Primary Learning will be discussing Early Literacy and Numeracy as well as Exploratory Learning.

Each session your child will receive a free book and have the opportunity to meet some of the Kindergarten teachers, visit the classrooms and meet some of their new classmates.

The final date, May 30th, will include an orientation to Kindergarten.

A reminder to our families that if you haven't registered for the "Starting with Stories" sessions, please call the office at 604-594-2474 or email btturner@deltasd.bc.ca to register.



New Delta Police School Initiative

The Delta Police Department has a new initiative this year which increases their presence and visibility in and around schools. In addition to the long established School Liaison Officer program, this fall the DPD launched the Adopt a School program, where patrol officers who work in the area will be dropping by from time to time (typically in the mornings), as their schedules permit. The Adopt a School program is intended to help foster positive relationships between police and the school community, and challenge assumptions that police only show up when there's "trouble".

In addition to stopping by to say hello and chat with kids and parents, officers having a more visible presence at school also helps with traffic safety. Seeing uniformed police officers walking around the school grounds can sometimes raise anxiety levels and leave

people wondering if something is wrong. Please rest assured if you notice them on the grounds at any time during the day, things are just fine at the school.

Student Led Conferences

Student Led Conferences will be held on:

Wednesday, April 18th, 2:10 to 6:00 p.m.

and

Thursday, April 19th, 2:10 to 4:00 p.m.

Conferences will last approximately 20 minutes and 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
- 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

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., Monday, April 9th.

Track and Field

Track season will be upon us when we return from Spring Break. The Regional track Meet is Tuesday, May 8th and the District Track Meet is Thursday, May 17.

However, we would like parents of all Intermediate students to be aware that our in-school training will take place during class time starting April 4th and ending April 9th.

All intermediate students must have their gym strip at school during this time period. Gym strip consists of an appropriate pair of runners (which does not mean brand new or brand name), a t-shirt, and shorts or jogging pants.

Students who would like to make the track team for any running events must come out to the morning practices as follows:

Grade 6 and 7 Practices

Tues & Thurs starting at 8:00 a.m.

Starting on Tuesday, April 10th

Grade 4 and 5 Practices

Mon & Wed starting 8:00 a.m.

Starting on Wednesday, April 11th

Practices for field events will be held either at lunch or after school. Once practices times are confirmed we will post a schedule on our website.

PAC News



PURDYS EASTER FUNDRAISER

Thank you for supporting our Purdys Easter fundraiser! We are pleased to announce we raised approximately \$400!

Orders will be sent home with your child on Thursday March 15. If you specifically requested to pick up your order, you would have been contacted to pick up at the school office during office hours.

BINGO NIGHT - THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who donated prizes and who came out to support our Family Bingo Night! It was a lot of fun and so many wonderful prizes were won!

Special thank you to our amazing parents for organizing and running this event - Andrea, Amanda, Alison, Antonella, Sonja, Rash, Deborah, Rhonda, Paula, Kim, James, Valerie and Terri. And we can't forget our awesome students Brianna, Molly, Sumat, and Aleena for all their help!! Also to Ms. Ray, Mr. Klassen and our custodial staff for their support. A final thank you to the Advantage Home Team, Cobs Bread at 72nd, Starbucks at 72nd, and West World Paper for their community support.

SPRING CARNIVAL



Mark your calendars! Our annual Spring Carnival is taking place on Friday, May 25th. Stay tuned for more details.

Many parent volunteers are needed to run this event as well Sports Day. If you are able to help out with planning or lending a hand at either of these events, please email grayelementarypac@gmail.com

YEAR ROUND PAC FUNDRAISERS

- **M&M Food Market School Days Program** - Stop and shop at our local M&M at 112 St. & 84th Ave - mention "Gray Elementary" at check out and they will continue to donate 15% of your purchase back to our school! It's that simple!
- **COBS Bread Dough Raiser Program** - Mention "Gray Elementary" at the Scott 72 Centre location (Scott Road & 72nd Ave) when making your purchase and they will donate 5% of it back to Gray!
- **Kaboom Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Fundraiser Program** - Kaboom Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu has a fantastic program for Gray students and a brand new open learning environment! - Perfect timing for Spring Break! Mention "Gray Elementary" when you register!

There will be no PAC meeting in March due to Spring break. The next PAC meeting will be held Wednesday, April 25th at 7 PM in the Gray Elementary library. See you there, and have a wonderful Spring break!



Attention: Gray Parents & Guardians

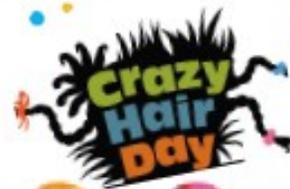
GRAY ELEMENTARY

PAC HAS A

FACEBOOK GROUP!!

Search "Gray Elementary PAC"

to join the action & stay
connected with updates on
activities & events!!



Community News and Events

Kidsport™

KidSport™ is a community based sport-funding program established in 1993 by Sport BC. KidSport™ provides grants for children ages 18 and under to participate in a sport season of their choice. There are 42 community chapters in BC and over 180 chapters across Canada. KidSport™ works to fulfill its mission of eliminating the financial barriers to sport participation, 'So ALL Kids Can Play!' For more information on KidSport™ [click here](#).



You can also pick up a KidSport™ application from the school office.

Community Schools Partnership Day Camp

Community Schools Partnership in conjunction with Delta School District is pleased offer Spring Day Camp. The Spring Day Camp will be run by our energetic, enthusiastic, and trained staff and youth leaders who are excited to lead various activities throughout the weeks. Each week, children will be able to learn new games, crafts, and other activities while working with one another. Both weeks will include spring themes for the activities including St. Patrick's Day and Easter.

The camp will be held at North Delta Secondary School from 9am-3pm each day.

For more information and a registration/waiver form [click here](#).

DELTA FORCE ATHLETICS
SPRING CLUB BASKETBALL PROGRAM
MARCH - JULY

GIRLS PROGRAM	BOYS PROGRAM
PRACTICES - TUESDAYS / THURSDAY	PRACTICES - MONDAY / WEDNESDAY
U11 - U13 6PM - 8PM	U11 - U13 6PM - 8PM
U14 - U17 7PM - 9PM	U14 - U17 7PM - 9PM
TEAMS WILL PARTICIPATE IN 2 LOCAL TOURNAMENTS PER MONTH AND EXHIBITION GAMES AS SCHEDULED.	TEAMS WILL PARTICIPATE IN 2 LOCAL TOURNAMENTS PER MONTH AND EXHIBITION GAMES AS SCHEDULED.

FEES INCLUDE: ALL TRAINING SESSIONS, STRENGTH TRAINING (30 MINS EVERY PRACTICE), UNIFORMS, SHOOTING SHIRTS, HOODIES, UNIFORMS AND TOURNAMENT FEES.

DELTA FORCE ATHLETICS

TO REGISTER CONTACT JAS HOTHI CELL: 778.228.1899 OR EMAIL: jhothi@dccnet.com
Follow us on Instagram @ Delta Force Athletics

Community News and Events



To celebrate Delta's Birds and Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and the 2018 International Ornithological Congress this year's contest theme will be:
Birds & Their Environment

AS PART OF THIS YEAR'S EARTH DAY EVENTS DELTA RESIDENTS ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR 10TH ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST!

How the contest works:

1. Take a photograph focused on *Birds & Their Environment* in Delta. Be creative; impress us with your eye for nature!
2. Submit your photograph by **Thursday, March 29, 2018** via email to cae@delta.ca, with the email subject: **EARTH DAY PHOTO CONTEST**
3. Indicate submission category: **Adult (18+), Teen (12-17), Youth (5-11), Delta staff**

* Only one original, unaltered photograph per person can be submitted

TOP PRIZE? A WATERPROOF DIGITAL CAMERA
& a chance to have your photo on a Delta street banner.

All contest photos will be posted on Delta's **Facebook & Instagram** pages and on display at **Municipal Hall** throughout the month of April.

Delta and Boundary Bay supports the largest wintering population of waterfowl, shorebirds, and birds of prey in Canada. The area is critical to continental populations of waterfowl that use the bay and upland areas during migration.

Delta.ca/earthday

earth day PHOTO CONTEST!



DELTA RESIDENTS ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR 10TH ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST

Top Prize? A Waterproof Digital Camera!

& a chance to have your photo on a Delta street banner

Submit your photograph by **Thursday, March 29th, 2018** via e-mail to cae@delta.ca, with the email subject: **EARTHDAY PHOTO CONTEST**

2018 Theme: Birds & their environment

Find full contest rules at:

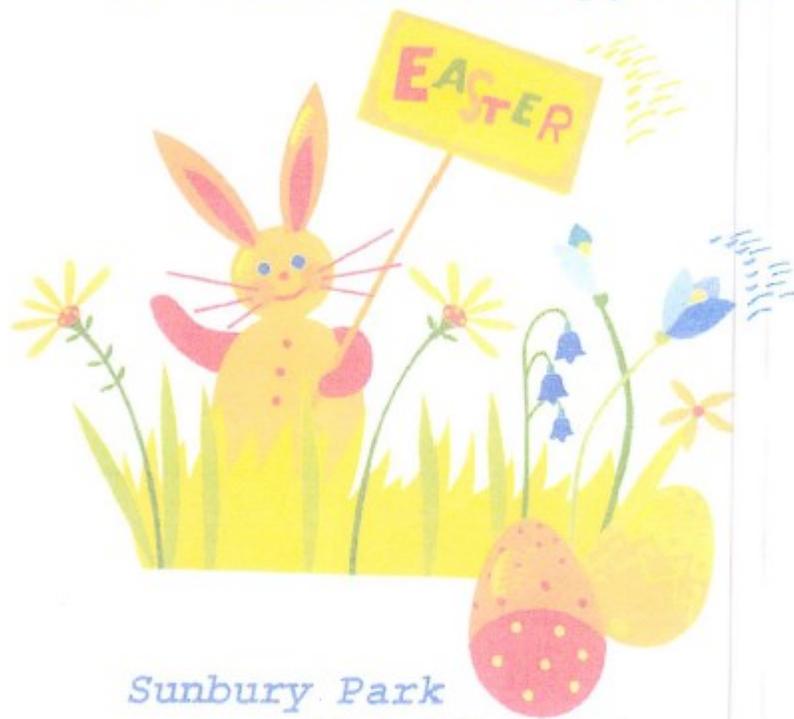
DELTA.CA/EARTHDAY

Community News and Events



North Delta Lions Club

50th Annual Easter Egg Hunt



Sunbury Park

(Dunlop & Centre Street)

Easter Sunday, April 1, 2018

2:00pm Sharp



Rain or Shine



Children ages 1 to 11 years welcome

Community News and Events

SUNGOD SKATING CLUB PRESENTS...

SATURDAY
10
MARCH

REWIND
// PAUSE
PLAY

TICKETS & SHOWTIMES
ADULTS \$10 // CHILDREN & SENIORS \$5

SHOWTIMES: 1PM & 6PM IN THE SUNGOD ARENA

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE SHOW AND WHERE TO BUY YOUR TICKETS
GO TO SUNGODSKATINGCLUB.COM

The poster features a dark background with vertical light streaks in blue and gold. Silhouettes of three skaters in various poses are positioned above the main title. The title 'REWIND // PAUSE PLAY' is rendered in large, bold, white and pink letters, with a vinyl record graphic behind the word 'PAUSE'. The background also includes a faint image of a skating rink.