



Goings-On at Gray



From the Principal's Desk

Now that we are settling into the school year, it is time to get back to some sense of normalcy; including writing the monthly newsletter. Although at school we can see many changes, and the educational setting may not be as it once was, please know that we have the right group of enthusiastic, dedicated and hard-working staff, who are here to ensure your children are safe and will continue to provide superior educational lessons.

It has truly been wonderful having the students back in the building, and having the school run as it is meant to – with kids engaging in learning and working alongside one another. As we transition into October, it is the right time to take a second and reflect on the amazing community we are a part of. Through your support and encouragement, we have been able to safely navigate these uncertain times. Through your patience and understanding, we will continue to move slowly and adjust to the ever changing landscape we find ourselves in.

Through October, I encourage everyone to stay strong, physically distance and maintain self-care. It is only by respecting one another and demonstrating understanding that we will continue to safely progress. As Coretta Scott King said “The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members.”

Gray Elementary is and has a wonderful and thriving community, with support around every corner. Thank you for being a part of it and for taking the time to continue making it a wonderful and safe place to be.

Spirit Activity

The first Spirit Day is Crazy Socks Day on October 9.

Because we are all in different learning groups this year, and don't get to mix as a whole school, teachers will be taking pictures of the students and staff within their small groups and then the Spirit Committee will put together a slideshow for teachers to share with their class shortly after the Spirit Day has taken place.



October 2020

Keep up to date on the “Goings-On at Gray by book-marking the Gray Website.

[Gray Website](#)

Mark Your Calendars:

- ◆ **Oct 9th**
Gray Spirit Event
Crazy Sock Day
- ◆ **Oct 14th**
Parent Teacher Conferences via Zoom
Early Dismissal at 2:00 pm
- ◆ **Oct 15th**
Parent Teacher Conferences via Zoom
Early Dismissal at 2:00 pm
- ◆ **Oct 19th**
Photo Retake Day
- ◆ **Oct 23rd**
Pro-D Day - School Closed
- ◆ **Oct 28th**
PAC Mtg. - 7p.m.

West Coast Weather

Please make sure that your children are dressed appropriately for the weather every day. Although through a typical school year, we celebrate West Coast Weather days and go outside for recess and lunch. This year, it is imperative that we spend a lot of time outside and this could mean during rainy and stormy weather.

We would like all students to make sure that they have the right clothing to keep them healthy and dry during these days. This means providing rain coats, hats, umbrellas, change of clothes, extra socks, inside shoes, boots, snow gear or sunscreen. Please do your best to ensure your child is ready for the day. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Mr. Klassen at the office.



Daily Health Check



It is important that every day, you are discussing with your child about their health. It is important to monitor this and have a back-up plan, just in case your child becomes ill at school and needs to go home.

At Gray we are being as cautious and careful as possible. Please ensure you are monitoring your child's health daily. If your child needs to stay home, please know they will not be penalized for the work they miss and will have an opportunity to catch up.

If you require a different translation of the Daily Health Check, or would like more information about the ministry health and safety guidelines, please visit this website: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases->

Photo Retakes



Darby Photos will be here in the morning of October 19th for photo retakes and to take photos of students who were absent for the first photo day.

If you would like your child to have a retake please complete the student information section of the original photo order form and send it to school with your child (with the proof attached). If you can not find the original order form and proof, please write a note including your child's name and division, indicating you have lost the proof and that you would like a retake photo.

Make sure you talk to your child to let them know that they need to have a retake done. For younger children, it might be a good idea to talk to your child's teacher or write a note in their planner indicating that they would like a retake.

Monthly Connection Activity



Once the pandemic hit, we started doing weekly connection activities to ensure that the school and families were in contact and that people could see what others were up to. We would like to continue this, but not on a weekly schedule. Instead, we would like to do it on a monthly schedule, to ensure families have time to send in a photo of the requested action. As we are not going to be able to come together in large groups, it is important for us to still connect and touch base.

For October's monthly connection activity, we would like to see a photo of your family celebrating the Autumn season. We are aware that Thanksgiving and Halloween may not occur as they have traditionally in the past, but it is still a time for us to be creative and to reflect on the positive that happens around us. This photo may be of your family having dinner together, celebrating the extra hour of day light savings time, dressed up in costumes, or just out enjoying a fall walk.

We just want to see your families. When you have your photo, please e-mail it to Mr. Klassen at pklassen@deltasd.bc.ca and we will put it on the school website.

Parent Teacher Conferences



This year at Gray we will providing the opportunity to meet your child's teacher and discuss their learning. As this cannot be done in a traditional way, face-to-face, we will be holding Parent/Teacher Conferences for students in Grades 1 through 7 over Zoom or a phone call. The Conferences will be held on Wednesday, October 14th from 2:10 to 6pm and on Thursday, October 15th from 2:10 to 4 p.m. Classes will be dismissed at 2:00 p.m. on both days.

Parent Teacher Conferences will be booked through Parent Connect. Parent Connect will open for conference booking on Tuesday, October 6th at 8:30 a.m. and will remain open until Wednesday, October 14th at 12:00 p.m. The office will send home an email to remind parents to book their conference time, so stay tuned. As Kindergarten parents have just met with their child's teacher there will be no Parent Teacher conferences for Kindergarten students at this time.

Instructions on how to book Parent Teacher Conferences are posted on the school website, via the parent page. You will also be able to find guidelines to set up and activate Zoom. Please make sure you are in the Chrome Brower when accessing the link below:

[Parent Page on the Gray Website](#)

Traffic Safety



We encourage all families to walk or ride their bikes to school, as this will help alleviate the congestion on the roads in front of the school. It is imperative that families follow the road rules and use the designated crosswalk for safety of everyone around.

If you need to drive, we request that parents park on the roadway spots available and use the pick-up and drop off area without leaving their vehicle; please DO NOT drive onto school grounds at the beginning and end of each school day. Many of our families walk up and down the driveway before and after school, as there is no sidewalk for them to use. It is extremely dangerous to have parents turning into the driveway.

The parking lot is for staff use only and cannot be used by parents for dropping off or picking up their children.

Lastly, on Wednesdays, when Sands has a later start, we have noticed it being very busy at 8:55 a.m. at Gray – please remember safety first. Take the time to ensure all students are safe while dropping your child off.

Staff Changes

We have a few new staff members to welcome to the school this year:

Mrs. Dobie – Grade 6/7 Teacher, returning from a maternity leave

Ms. A. Mann – Learning Support and Inclusive Team Teacher

Mrs. Hass – Grade 4/5 Teacher

Ms. Olak – Grade 4 Teacher

Ms. Minici – Grade 3/4 Teacher

Mr. Plut - Counselor

Mrs. Mercier – Grade 2 Teacher

Ms. Payette – Grade 2 Teacher (Covering for Mrs. Bhardwaj's maternity leave)

Mrs. Neall – Grade 1 Teacher

Ms. Mok - Hearing Support Teacher

for a complete staff directory, go to our website at: <https://gr.deltasd.bc.ca/staff/staff-directory/>



OCTOBER 2020

Thank You!
A GREAT BIG THANK YOU...
...to all the teachers, staff and administrators for all of their continued hard work and dedication.

NEXT PAC MEETING...
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28TH @ 7PM
Zoom link will be emailed to all parents by noon on October 28th.

ONGOING FUNDRAISERS

Gray PAC has a Return-It account and we hope that you will consider using it next time you bring your empties in.

It's easy to do:

1. Place your empties in a transparent bag—cans and glass bagged separately
2. Visit the Return It Depot kiosk and enter the school's phone number 604-594-2474.
3. Print labels and attach them to each bag
4. Drop the bags in the Express bins

Hot Lunch Program Announcement

Due to COVID-19 regulations, we regretfully cannot move forward with any hot lunches for the foreseeable future.

All parents who have a credit on their account will be contacted in the coming weeks.

Cobs Bread @ Scott Rd & 72nd

The Cobs Bread Dough Raiser Program donates 15% to Gray PAC with every purchase .

All you have to do is mention "Gray PAC" every time you make a purchase!

We are pleased to announce the following Gray parents on the 2020/21 Gray PAC Executive

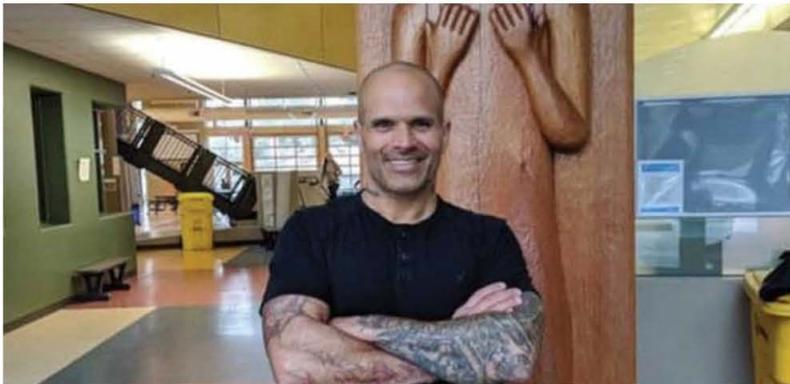
| | |
|--|--|
| CHAIR Andrea Mori | HOT LUNCH & NEWS LETTER Jenn Clarke |
| VICE CHAIR Amanda Berera | EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS Sonja Gustavsen |
| TREASURER & DPAC Kristin Unger | FUNDRAISING (Vacant) |
| SECRETARY Karen Kang | EVENTS (Vacant) |

Contact us at grayelementarypac@gmail.com if you'd like to help in any way.

Thank you to our Gray families for your continued support.

HOPE, STRENGTH AND RESILIENCE:

An interactive and informative discussion on substance use prevention, addiction and recovery with Guy Felicella



Guy Felicella is an addiction specialist and father of three who is passionate about advocating for the vulnerable people who still suffer in addiction and educating communities on harm reduction to eliminate the stigma that exists around it.

Currently Guy works for Vancouver Coastal Health, the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions as a Peer Advisor, and the BC Centre on Substance Use. In addition, Guy attends various school districts and post-secondary institutions to educate students, parents and community on addiction.

Thursday, October 8th at 6:30 - 8pm via Zoom

Space is limited and pre-registration is required.

Please register by emailing to Stacey Jones, sjones@deltasd.bc.ca with the subject title "Session 1 Parent Session". Once registered, you will be sent a private Zoom link for the session.

Unfortunately, there will be no recording available.

PRESENTED BY:



A FREE
EDUCATION SERIES
FOR PARENTS AND
CARGIVERS

SESSION 1

A GUY FELICELLA
EVENT

SPACE IS LIMITED

Email questions for Guy
ahead of time to:

**Kirsten Hermanson,
Manager – Prevention
and School Wellness**

khermanson@deltasd.bc.ca



CANSKATE LEARN TO SKATE



with the
Sungod Skating Club



New CanSkate Program following the Skate Canada, Skate BC/YT Health and Safety Guidelines!

21 SKATERS MAXIMUM PER SESSION

- All Coaches and Program Assistants wear masks and gloves during each session
- Verbal screening and temperature checks
- 3 Nationally certified Coaches per session
- 7:1 Skater to Coach ratio
- 30 minute sessions age 7 and under
- 45 minute sessions age 8 and over
- Skate and helmet rentals are not available



Return to CanSkate Covid-19 Safety Guidelines

- Physical and Social Distancing safety protocols followed on and off the ice
- Rink and equipment cleaned before and after all sessions
- 1 parent/guardian permitted in per skater
- Masks must be worn in all common areas of the arena; skaters may choose to wear masks on the ice
- Skaters must be Stage 2 or above, or equivalent in another program (No Pre Canskate or Stage 1 offered at this time)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
 info@sungodskatingclub.com
 (604) 839-0950

REGISTRATION NOW AVAILABLE:
<https://sungodsc.uplifterinc.com/registration/>
www.sungodskatingclub.com

