



January 22, 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Happy New Year! We were very excited to see the students return from their Winter Break. It sounds like many of our students had a wonderful break with family and friends. We hope you all managed to squeeze in some time to relax amidst the busy holiday season. There has been a noticeable drop in temperatures since school reopened. Please ensure that your children are dressing for the weather. It is also a good idea to label jackets, hats, scarves and gloves. It makes it much easier for us to reunite students with their belongings if they are clearly marked. There has also been quite a few students and staff away ill. A gentle reminder to please review hand hygiene at home and we will be doing the same at school. If at all possible, please also try and keep children at home if they are not feeling well. We are looking forward to the rest of this short but exciting term!



IMPORTANT SAFETY REMINDERS

The safety of our students is of the utmost importance to all of us here at Gray Elementary. Please carefully read the following safety reminders:

- Our school grounds are 'closed' during school hours. As a staff, we do our best to ensure that only school personnel are out on the grounds during instructional hours. You are advised not to visit school grounds during instructional times and if you are visiting school grounds during instructional hours, it is important that you sign-in at the office. Please do not approach any students if you are on school grounds or walking by school grounds. This can be disconcerting for students. Please call or visit our office if we can be of assistance instead.



- If you need to see your child or drop off your child, we would be happy to help you with this. Please stop by the office. We need to ensure families are signing in at the office if they are entering the school for any reason.
- When dropping and picking up your child/children from school, please build extra time into your schedule to park in the designated areas around the school. Our loop is closed to everyone except staff and families with parking passes. Many students and families walk through this area both in the morning and afterschool and it is very important that as few cars as possible pass through this area. We are happy to sign-in late students at the office if this ensures that they are arriving safely.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION 2025/2026

A child may be registered to attend Kindergarten in September 2025 if their fifth birthday occurs on or before December 31, 2020.



There are two registration options available to parents. Parents may submit an application online through a MyEd Portal anytime between Feb 10th and Feb 21st or parents may submit an application in person on Wednesday, February 11th between 9:00 am and Noon. Either option is acceptable, as all applications will be given the same priority whether families choose to register in person or online. Please register ASAP during this time frame

[Click Here for More Information](#)

ERASE FAMILY SESSIONS

Due to a high demand, Erase will continue on with their family sessions on the topic of "Establishing Safe, Caring, & Respectful Digital Communities". This session is recommended for Parents/Caregivers/Grandparents and youth aged 10 and up as a way to facilitate conversations about safe and caring use of technology at home and in the community. There is one training per month and if you are interested, please click on the following link to register: [erase Family Sessions](#)

PAC NEWS

• It is movie night this Thursday! If you did not get your tickets on Munch a Lunch, not to worry. You can still buy tickets at the door. Please see the attached flyer for more details. The PAC is also eagerly looking for volunteers to help with movie night. If you can help out this Thursday, please email graypacvolunteers@gmail.com Your help would be greatly appreciated!



• Toonie Tuesdays are here! Every Tuesday until the end of the year, we will be having Toonie Tuesdays at 3:00 p.m. Please mark this in your calendar! You and your child can head over to the gym doors to choose a tasty treat to buy for \$2. The funds from these days will be used for both Grade 6 and Grade 7 initiatives like the ski trips and the year-end Grade 7 celebration. Please see below for the attached flyer.

PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS

Family Smart's lineup of FREE virtual events for January to March are open for registration, including a new topic "Explosive Behaviour in Teens: Strategies to Empower Families". Please share with anyone who may be interested.

Virtual Event: Understanding, Supporting and Connecting with Teens with Depression

Description: When our teens are struggling with depression, we can feel lost about how to support them. How do we know when they are experiencing a mental health challenge and when we should intervene? This video introduces parents and caregivers to some ways that can help us move from reacting to our fears about substance use and towards a more thoughtful response that supports connection with our kids.

Registration: [FamilySmart - Events](#)

Dates: **January 22nd 6:30pm-8pm**
January 28th 6:30pm-8pm

Virtual Event: For Families: A Conversation About Eating Disorders

Description: Knowing how to help our kids who are experiencing an eating disorder can be a terrifying, isolating and overwhelming experience. Learn about disordered eating, what to be aware of, the importance of connection, and strategies that help support recovery. Victoria Keddis hosts a conversation with Eating Disorders Therapist & Educator Carmen Kauffman, along with a mom and daughter with lived experience.

Registration: [FamilySmart - Events](#)

Dates: **February 5th 6:30pm-8pm**
February 20th 6:30pm-8pm

Virtual Event: ADHD - The Real Deal

Description: ADHD doesn't just affect the person with ADHD, it also affects those around them. As parents of kids living with ADHD, we can benefit from learning what ADHD is and how to support our kids. Dr. Duncan, Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist, dispels some myths and explains how and why the ADHD brain works the way it does.

Registration: [FamilySmart - Events](#)

Dates: **February 6th 6:30pm-8pm**
February 19th 12pm-1:30pm
February 25th 6:30pm-8pm

Virtual Event: Explosive Behaviour in Teens: Strategies to Empower Families

Description: When our teens are showing up in explosive ways, we sometimes blame ourselves. Discover with us as a therapist explains some causes of explosive behaviour and strategies that support parents and teens. Victoria Keddis hosts a conversation with Kirk Shields-Priddy, MSW/RSW Group and Family Therapist with Fraser Health START Program.

Registration: [FamilySmart - Events](#)

Dates: **March 4th 6:30pm-8pm**
March 5th 6:30pm-8pm

March 6th 6:30pm-8pm
March 11th 6:30pm-8pm
March 12th 12:00pm-1:30pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, January 22 nd	PAC Meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Library – All are Welcome!
Thursday, January 23 rd	Movie Night at 6:00 p.m.
Friday, January 24 th	Professional Day – No School
Wednesday, January 29 th	Lunar New Year Assembly
Tuesday, February 4 th	Class Photo Day
Tuesday, February 11 th	Kindergarten Registration

Respectfully,

Mr. J. Mann
Principal

Ms. T. Sohal
Vice Principal



TOONIE TUESDAY



EVERYTHING IS A TOONIE!



**Tasty Tuesdays are
BACK!**

**Starting Dec 3, 2024
Goodies will be available
@3pm - Sold Out
@Gym Doors**



all profits will go towards
Grade 6 and 7 initiatives

MA
TICKET
ADMIT ONE
751612389



THURSDAY, JAN 23

MOVIE NIGHT

DOOR OPENS AT 6PM | MOVIE STARTS AT 6:30PM

DEADLINE TO ORDER IS JAN 17TH
TICKET AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR

- Bring your Blankets and Pillows!
- Concession, Pizza, Sundae Bar (Pizza is Preorder Only)
- Presale tickets available on Munch A Lunch (highly encouraged)

**MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT
NO DROP OFFS**

