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# Gordon Terrace News

December 2024

## Christmas Concert and Celebration



We are excited to share the details of our school Christmas celebrations. This year, our primary grades (K-3) will be hosting a Christmas Concert on Wednesday, December 20th (not December 13th as previously indicated). The Christmas Concert will take place in the afternoon starting at 1:30. If you are unable to make that time, there will be a dress rehearsal in the morning. Please call the office to RSVP if you are coming to the dress rehearsal.

Our Intermediate grades (grades 4-6) will be hosting a Fine Arts Celebration and Dance in the afternoon of Thursday, December 21st from 1:45 to 2:30 pm. Parents will be treated to a band performance as well as student art and a Christmas Around the World project display. Then there will be a parent and student dance. Snacks and beverages will be served.

## HOUR OF CODE

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2023**  
**GORDON TERRACE ELEMENTARY**

Anyone can learn to code! Come kick-off **Computer Science Education Week** in the Gordon Terrace gym with us!

**TIMES**  
Morning - Recess: 4/5, 5, 5/6, 6  
Recess - Lunch: 2, 2/3, 3, 4  
Lunch - End of Day: K, K, 1, 1/2

**SUPPORT**  
Teacher Candidates from the University of Victoria East Kootenay Teacher Education Program

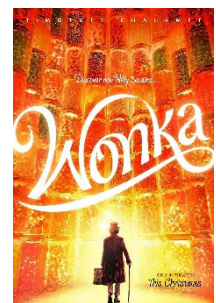
*"If you want to create and be a visionary, you're probably going to be working with technology in some way."*  
— Mark Zuckerberg

*"A car today can have tens of millions of lines of code. As engineers, scientists and inventors, we get to imagine what's next, and then make it happen."*  
— Elon Musk

What will you create?

## Grade 5 and 6 Movie Day

On Friday, December 22 GT PAC is generously treating our Grade 5 and 6 students to the movie *Wonka*. Please return the permission slips sent home to your child's teacher on or before December 6, 2023.



## School Supplies



Thank you to all those who have paid this year's fees. If you have not yet done so, please pay your student's school supply fees as soon as you are able. School Cash Online

[\(https://sd5.schoolcashonline.com/\)](https://sd5.schoolcashonline.com/)

## Gordon Terrace PAC News

From our PAC Chairperson, Eryka Alaric:

Thank you to everyone who has supported our PAC fundraisers thus far in the school year. Our programs cannot run without your crucial support!

We have some exciting news to share with more details to follow. We have been informed that we will receive partial district funding for a new play structure in the next 2 to 3 years. This means that we have some work ahead to raise the remaining funds! We are looking for your input on new fundraiser ideas. What would you like to see at GT? Please send your suggestions to the PAC email address (listed below). We are also working on updating our PAC bylaws for the 2024/2025 school year to help us continue to evolve and serve the school community. If you would like to be a part of this process, starting in January, please send PAC a quick email. Our treasurer, Milana Dreger is the head of that committee and will contact you.

PAC Contact info:

email: [gordonterracepac@gmail.com](mailto:gordonterracepac@gmail.com)

Facebook page: Gordon Terrace PAC (please answer security questions so we know you are a parent/guardian 😊)

## Growing Smiles Fundraiser

Thank you for your generous support. We were able to raise close to \$600 for our school! These funds are used for a variety of programs throughout the year. *Thank you!*



## The Nepal Winter Sale News

Thank you to everyone who was able to support our Friends of Nepal Winter Market this year- and a special thanks to all our school helpers who volunteered their time to set up and work at the market. The generosity of our community helped us raise over \$6,500 for our hot pink school in the Kuttal village!



Please join us on Zoom for our workshops designed for parents, caregivers, and community members ...

- **Internet Safety (60 Minutes)**
  - Tips for speaking to children about tech and social media usage
  - Safety settings for popular gaming and social media apps
  - Signs of grooming and exploitation
- **Positive Parenting (60 Minutes)**
  - Safe discipline strategies
  - Effective parent/child communication methods
  - Developmental and behavioral risks associated with corporal punishment

| Date       | Time             | Topic              |
|------------|------------------|--------------------|
| 11/17/2023 | 9:00am - 10:00am | Internet Safety    |
| 12/1/2023  | 9:00am - 10:00am | Positive Parenting |
| 12/8/2023  | 9:00am - 10:00am | Internet Safety    |
| 12/15/2023 | 9:00am - 10:00am | Positive Parenting |

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84350462426>  
Meeting ID: 843 5046 2426

Questions about The New York Foundling's Parent/Community Workshops?  
Please reach out to [Reina.Valentin@NYFoundling.org](mailto:Reina.Valentin@NYFoundling.org) or [Tracy.Etienne@NYFoundling.org](mailto:Tracy.Etienne@NYFoundling.org)


The New York Foundling, Child Abuse Prevention Program <https://www.nyfoundling.org>

## Speech and Language Skills during the Holidays

The holidays are always a special time of year to connect with your family. There are many ways to create memories together that are also fun activities for improving speech and language skills, such as:

- Building a snowman or building a gingerbread house (use prepositions like on, in, beside, next to when doing this with your child)
- Building vocabulary (use adjectives when talking about decorations, snowy landscapes, or festive meals)
- Discuss categories, similarities, and differences when decorating your Christmas tree (e.g., this ornament is round, that one is an animal, that one is special because...)
- Discuss your favourite light display when looking at Christmas lights. After your turn, have your child tell you their favourite, and why.
- Read, read, read! There are too many benefits of reading with your children to fit here. Remember, even older children benefit from being read to... reduce screen time and read together instead.
- And for intermediate students, practice executive functioning skills like planning for buying a gift, remembering the time needed to wrap a gift, or following a recipe

## Mark your calendars!!

|  |                 |  |
|--|-----------------|--|
| <b>December</b>  | 1               | Growing Smiles pick-up   |
|  | 5               | Hour of Code event   |
|  | 6               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dilly Bar Day</li> <li>• Mass Choir 7 PM</li> </ul>   |
|  | 8               | Pro-D Day – <b>No School</b>   |
|  | 18              | Plaid Day  |
|  | 19              | Christmas Sweater Day<br>“Anything Christmas” Gear Day   |
|  | 20              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Christmas Concert – Primary grades</li> <li>• Toque Day</li> </ul>  |
|  | 21              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fine Arts Celebrations and Dance - Intermediate grades</li> <li>• Green &amp; Red Day</li> </ul>              |
|  | 22              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grade 5 &amp; 6 Movie Day</li> <li>• Pj’s &amp; Pancakes Day</li> <li>• Learning Updates sent home</li> </ul> |
|  | 25-<br>Jan<br>5 | School Break   |
| <b>January</b>   | 8               | School Back in Session   |
|  | 9               | PAC Meeting 4 pm   |
|  | 17              | Dilly Bar Day  |
|  | 18              | PAC Movie Night  |
|  | 20              | Lunar New Year Day   |
|  | 25              | National Family Literacy Day   |
|  | 26              | School Break – <b>No School</b>  |