

# GORDON GAZETTE

GORDON PUBLIC SCHOOL 468 Thorold Road West Welland, ON L3C 3W6 October 2019

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

*Wow! This September has come and gone in a flash and made my first month at Gordon quite eventful!*

*I want to thank the community, parents and students for being patient as we waded through a reorganization and added new staff to the building. Our numbers continue to grow and we welcome one and all to our Gordon family!*

*Our Open House BBQ was well attended and we have just been introduced to our first fundraiser!*

*Coach Miguel from MTC Life will be joining us each month to build on our Character Education and promote kindness and responsibility.*

*It is wonderful to walk down our halls and seeing so many smiling faces. I look forward to a long tenure here at Gordon and want to especially thank our amazing teachers, office admin, and support staff.*

*Your children are very lucky to have such caring and dedicated professionals working each day with them. Have a great October and come and say hi when you are in the building!*

*Sincerely,*

Mr. Mac



## COMMUNICATION

Please be aware that our school wide communication will be via **School Messenger** which includes email and telephone calls.

This communication will provide you with updates and reminders of what's happening at Gordon so we encourage you to stay connected through these messages.

Thank you :)

## PA Day

**Friday, October 11th** is a Professional Activity Day and there will be **no school** for students.

**Thanksgiving Monday, October 14th** there will be **no school** for students.



## October Calendar

Did you know a **detailed** Gordon School calendar is also posted on our website? Please re-visit the calendar throughout the month as it is updated regularly.

## Highschool Open Houses

### Save The Date!

High School Open Houses will be held on

**November 25th-November 28th.**

More details to follow via upcoming communication .

## Progress Reports

On **Thursday, November 7th** Progress Reports will be sent home.

Please see next page for a detailed description.



## Soccer Teams

### Intermediate Co-Ed Soccer

Mme Gardiner and Mrs. Gaspich would like to congratulate the Intermediate Co-Ed Soccer team for their strong teamwork and sportsmanship during the tournament on Wednesday September 18th. You made Gordon proud:)

#### **Team Members include:**

Addisyn B, Alex B, McKenna B, Callum C, Lauren C, Brody G, Riley G-S, Presley K, Kaya L, Dustin L, Kloe M, Keirah M-C, Aiden Mc, Dontay R, Mason S, Nathan S, Sarah S, Jake V and Austin W.

### Junior C-Ed Soccer

Gordon's junior soccer team travelled to Centennial Park in Fenwick yesterday to compete in the Area 4 soccer tournament. The team played remarkable. They were undefeated all day outscoring their opponents 15-2. Congratulations to all of the team members as they brought home the championship for Gordon. More importantly, this team demonstrated excellent sportsmanship. They played hard, passed often and represented Gordon the best way possible. Way to go Grizzlies!



**GO  
GRIZZLIES  
GO!!!**



Calling all parents & caregivers

**IT'S TIME TO REGISTER!**

Join us for an evening of learning & free workshops!

Register online at [www.dsbm.org/pic](http://www.dsbm.org/pic)

**Wed. November 6, 2019**

4:00 to 8:15 pm at Eden High School  
535 Lake Street, St. Catharines



## Elementary Progress Report

On November 8th, your child will bring home their Elementary Progress Report. The format was created after years of consultation with parents, teachers, principals, and students across the province. Although it looks much like the Report Card, this report has a very different intent. The purpose of the Progress Report is to share early and specific feedback on your child's development of work habits and learning skills as well as his/her progress towards achieving the curriculum standards by the end of the school year.

Traditionally, when reporting to parents about their child's progress teachers have prepared by *looking back* over the work done. The teacher evaluated your child's progress from the beginning of the school term to the current point in time, and reported on the highlights of achievement as they compare to overall curricular expectations. Teachers continue to report on Provincial Term One and Term Two Report Cards in this manner.

Reporting on the Progress Report is about *looking forward*. The purpose is to set the course for the learning journey ahead. Based on the evidence teachers see, as well as what teachers know about learning at this grade level, the report communicates the path your child is on towards achieving the grade level expectations by the end of the year. For students who are on a modified Individual Education Program, the teacher uses those modified goals when determining whether a child is progressing well, progressing very well, or progressing with difficulty.

All subjects that are part of your child's program in the first weeks of school will be assessed according to the following indicators:

**Progressing Very Well:** In the first weeks of school, evidence shows that the student is demonstrating consistent progress and is on track to meet and/or surpass the provincial standard set for the end of the year.

**Progressing Well:** In the first weeks of school, evidence shows that the student is demonstrating consistent progress and is on track to meet the provincial standard set for the end of the year.

**Progressing With Difficulty:** In the first weeks of school, evidence shows that the student is experiencing difficulty towards meeting the provincial standard set for the end of the year.

For subjects in which your child is Progressing With Difficulty, the teacher will discuss specific next steps needed for success. We look forward to partnering with you and your child for a year of great learning and growth.



## Halloween at Gordon



Teachers will be sending home specific directions regarding plans for their divisions but you should be aware that Halloween activities for all students will not commence until after the second break, (1:40 p.m.), at which time they are welcome to dress in appropriate costumes – those with a non-violent theme and which still meet the school dress code. Kindergarten to grade 3 students may come to school dressed in their costumes. We will be having a parade on the school property for our classes beginning @ 2:00pm. Students not taking part in these activities will have an opportunity to participate in an alternative program. Activities will include computers, the Arts and/or Physical Education.

**Kindergarten**—Kindergarten students arrive at school in their costumes. They enter school as usual (8:50a.m.) to hang up back packs, sing O'Canada and do attendance. **Our parade will begin at approximately 9 a.m.** The 3 Kindergarten classes will come out the Kindergarten doors and walk along the sidewalk in front of the Kindergarten classrooms to the front doors of the school. At the front doors to the school, the Kindergartens will wave goodbye to any parents who are watching the parade and continue down the halls to visit the office and the classrooms. **Parents wishing to view the Kindergartens on the parade are invited to stand along the sidewalk in front of the Kindergarten classrooms (please remember to leave room on the sidewalk for the children to walk).** If it is a rainy day, parents will be invited into the gymnasium for the Kindergarten parade.

### Halloween Safety:

- Children under nine years of age should go out with an adult or responsible older child.
- Be sure your child stops at all curbs, looks left, right and left again to check for traffic. Remind children to cross at crosswalks, street corners or intersections. It is important they walk on the sidewalk, or walk facing the traffic if there is no sidewalk.
- Bright colored costumes make your child easier to see. You can use reflective tape on a costume to make your child more visible. Face paint instead of a mask helps them to see well. Have your child carry a flashlight.
- When they get home, check all of their treats carefully. Throw out any treats that aren't wrapped, if the wrapping is torn or loose, or if the wrapper has a hole. Remember that small treats can cause your child to choke.
- You might want to offer an alternative to sugar based treats. Stickers or multicolored pencils can be a nice surprise in place of, or in addition to, traditional treats.

## Helmets

It is an expectation that all students attending Gordon wear a bike helmet when riding their bike, skateboarding or scootering to and from school. It is also expected that all students walk their bikes, skateboards or scooters on school property.

## Pizza Days

Pizza days are back at Gordon School. We will be ordering from Mossimos Pizza, a local favourite. Order forms should have been returned by Thursday, September 26th for the month of October. **\*\*Please note that future order forms will only be available on-line, for your convenience at <http://gordon.dsbm.org>.**



## Milk Orders



Milk orders for October have already been submitted. Future milk order forms will be available **only on-line**, for your convenience. Simply go to our school's webpage <http://gordon.dsbm.org>.

Our next milk order will be due October 24th for the month of November.

## Crossing Guards

Please note that a crossing guard will be present 30 minutes before entry bell and 30 minutes after dismissal. Our crossing guard at Clare and Thorold wishes to remind students and parents to be patient, and wait for his instructions before crossing this very busy intersection. In addition to looking to the right, then the left and again to the right, he advises that you always check your 6 o'clock – which means to check *behind* you before crossing. Parents please take the time to talk to your children who may periodically go out at lunch. We want to make sure that all children are being responsible when crossing the street. These students are asked to utilize the crossing guard at this time as well, for their own safety.



## EQAO REMINDER!

We would like to remind our parents that all Grade 3 and Grade 6 students will be writing the Primary or Junior EQAO assessment

## Spirit wear

Our new spirit wear will be available very shortly online through our school website, and will be available throughout the entire school year. We will keep you posted on this.



The **Homework and Help Room** is open daily from 8-8:45 a.m. in Mr. Costantini's portable, for those who need extra help or just a quiet workspace. This room is open to **ALL** Gordon classrooms and grades.

## 2019 Gordon Public School Fundraiser: Parents, we need your support!

On October 3rd, we will begin a major fundraising effort, and we are asking for the support of all our families. We depend on our fundraisers to provide funds to subsidize class trips and special events as well as for the purchase of technology, sports equipment, classroom and library materials.

We will be selling a peanut-free assortment of Laura Secord Chocolates. The carry boxes contain thirty items including Pure Milk Chocolate Bars, Milk Chocolate with French Mint Bars, Milk Chocolate with Crisp Rice Bars, Milk Chocolate with Caramel & Sea Salt Bites and Milk Chocolate with Creamy Maple Bites. Each item sells for \$3.

**October 3rd, the chocolate will be sent home with each student who has returned the attached permission slip. Our Preferred method of permission is through school cash online.** Our sale will run until October 23rd.

## PLEASE REMEMBER TO GET SIGNED UP FOR SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

We know you have many different priorities competing for your attention each day. To respect those demands, we'd like to help you save both time and effort. It takes just five minutes to register for this service. You will be able to access this service by visiting our school website and clicking on "**School Cash Online.**" There, you'll find more information about the system, links to registration and support. You can use School Cash Online with confidence; it is a safe and secure portal.

**NOW** available for November on school cash on line.....

**MR. SUB**, Pizza, Gourmet at home, calendar, newsletter, milk, field trips, Gordon spirit wear!!!!

## ALLERGIES!!!



Please be advised there are a number of students attending our school this year with severe allergies which can cause an anaphylactic reaction. An anaphylactic reaction is an allergic reaction so severe that in some cases, it can be life threatening. At this time, we are insisting that no products containing nuts be sent to the school and if these products are consumed at home that students wash their hands and brush their teeth thoroughly prior to arriving at school. It is crucial that we work together to ensure the safety of all students.

## Student Medication



### MEDS

If students require medication while at school, a medical form **MUST** be completed. If a student has a severe allergy i.e., (anaphylactic) and you did not receive a form on the first day please contact the office.

### ASTHMA

Students are permitted to carry their puffers with them as directed by their physician. Please contact the office for any paperwork or more information if your child is asthmatic. Thank you for your cooperation.

## BELL TIMES

Please review the following bell times. It is very important to your child's education that they arrive on time to start their day. Please do your best to ensure your child (ren) are here to start their day when the bell rings. Late students entering the classroom affects all of the students in the class and interrupts teaching. As well, it is important that students being signed out of class early be kept to a minimum. Instructional time is precious and therefore we would expect all students to be present for the entire instructional block both at the beginning and end of the day. Interruptions interfere with the learning environment.

Thank you!

TIME	ACTIVITY	INSTRUCTION/BREAK TIME
8:50 – 10:30	Instructional Block 1	<b>8:50 ENTRY BELL</b> 8:50-9:40 Period 1 9:40 –10:30 Period 2
10:30 – 11:10	<b>Fitness/ Nutrition Break</b>	10:30-10:50 Gr. 1-3, Gr. 7-8 - Inside FDK, Gr. 4-6 - Outside 10:50-11:10 Gr. 1-3, Gr. 7-8 - Outside FDK, Gr. 4-6 - Inside
11:10 - 12:50	Instructional Block 2	11:10-12:00 Period 3 12:00-12:50 Period 4
12:50 – 1:30	<b>Fitness/Nutrition Break</b>	12:50-1:10 Gr. 1-3, Gr. 7-8 - Inside FDK, Gr. 4-6 - Outside 1:10 -1:30 Gr. 1-3, Gr. 7-8 - Outside FDK, Gr. 4-6 - Inside
1:30- 3:10	Instructional Block 3	1:30-2:20 Period 5 2:20-3:10 Period 6 <b>3:10 DISMISSAL</b>



Roots of Empathy

Racines de l'empathie

This is a classroom based program where infants and their families visit our classrooms on a regular basis in order to have our students learn about empathy, emotional growth and development. The classes designated who have this program are Mrs. Gaspich and Mrs. Cabaj.

This program will train Leaders and Champions from grades 5 to 8 to be responsible for planning and delivering games and activities on the primary playground during nutrition breaks, both indoor and outdoor.



Playground Activity  
Leaders in Schools

# Message from Public Health

## Grade 7 School Vaccination Clinics

In the fall, Niagara Region Public Health nurses will be providing all grade 7 students free vaccinations for hepatitis B, meningitis and human papillomavirus (HPV). Getting vaccinated is one of the best ways to protect your child's health. For more information, please refer to the Grade 7 Vaccination flyer and consent form provided by the school health nurse or visit: [www.niagararegion.ca/health](http://www.niagararegion.ca/health)

Gordon School would like to welcome our new school nurse Nicholas Dushenko. Our school nurse will be working alongside school staff to consult and support on health topics, provide resources and curriculum-based lesson plans, support parent events, and assist with creating a Healthy School environment for all. If you have any questions, please e-mail: [Nicholas.dushenko@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Nicholas.dushenko@niagararegion.ca).

## FLU SEASON IS HERE

**Washing your hands prevents the spread of germs and reduces your risk of getting sick. Wash your hands after:**

- coughing or sneezing
- blowing your nose
- using the washroom
- playing with pets
- playing outdoors
- and before preparing meals and eating



**Use warm water and soap, lather and scrub for at least 15 seconds. Have children sing the ABC song, so they scrub for long enough. Alcohol-based hand sanitizers are safe for children and can be used when you don't see any dirt. For more information, talk to your school nurse.**



## I Matter.

At the DSBN, we strive to show all students how they matter: as individuals, as learners and as community members. Our students learn about the ideals of good citizenship and how they can become active participants in building a stronger community, locally and globally. We invite you to discover more about I Matter from the website below.



**I Matter  
At DSBN**

DSBN Strategic Plan 2015-2020  
[dsbn.org/imatter](http://dsbn.org/imatter) #IMatterAtDSBN

### October is International Walk to School Month

Lace up your shoes or snap on those bike helmets for an active trip to school. If you live far from school, park a few blocks away and walk part of the trip. If you ride a bus take part by walking to your bus stop.

Here's a quick trivia question to have fun with at the dinner table tonight. Walking and wheeling to school can improve:

- A) Health
- B) Happiness
- C) Stress Level
- D) Grades
- E) Safety
- F) All of the above

If you said F, you're correct! Walking and wheeling to school have many benefits and those are just a few.  
Source: [activesaferoutes.ca](http://activesaferoutes.ca)

Tips to remember when walk or biking:

Look left, right and left again when crossing the street.

Never run or dart out into the street or cross between parked cars.

Make eye contact with drivers before crossing in front of them and watch out for cars that are turning or backing up.

It's always best to walk on sidewalks or paths. If there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic as far to the left as possible.

Cross streets at corners, using traffic signals and crosswalks.

Watch out for cars coming out of driveways and alleys.

If what you are doing has wheels, protect your brain – always wear a helmet!

When riding your bike, ride in the same direction as the cars are driving.

Tips from [www.parachutecanada.org](http://www.parachutecanada.org)



You may have already heard your child discussing the “zones” at home. An important aspect of this program is that all who interact with the children know and understand The Zone language.

For your convenience, we have included a visual that explains each of the “zones”.

You can support your child during this process by doing the following:

- Use the language and talk about the concepts of The Zones at home.
- Help your child gain awareness of his or her zones and feelings by pointing out your observations.
- Talk about what zone is “expected” in the situation or how a zone may have been “unexpected”.
- Share with your child how his or her behavior is affecting the zone you are in and how you feel.
- Help your child become comfortable using the language to communicate his or her feelings and needs by encouraging your child to share his or her zone with you.
- Show interest in learning about your child’s triggers and zone’s tools. Ask your child if he or she wants reminders to use these tools.

## What Zone Are You In?

Blue	Green	Yellow	Red
			
<p>Sick Sad Tired Bored Moving Slowly</p>	<p>Happy Calm Feeling Okay Focused Ready to Learn</p>	<p>Frustrated Worried Silly/Wiggly Excited Loss of Some Control</p>	<p>Mad/Angry Mean Yelling/Hitting Disgusted Out of Control</p>

# Terry Fox Fundraiser



This year our Grizzlies raised **\$2,135.80** for our Terry Fox Walk. That surpassed our goal of \$2 for every student.  
**THANK YOU** to all who donated!!!!  
Gordon School has been participating in Terry Fox Walk for over 17 years. Official tax receipts will be sent out for anyone who donated \$20 or more.