



Gordon Greenwood Elementary School

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Langley, BC V1M 2X2
Canada

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Principal: Mr. A. Joo
Admin Assistant: Ms. N. Ohrlein



Newsletter #4

October 2nd, 2026

<i>Date</i>	<i>Upcoming Events</i>
Oct. 5	World Teachers Day
Oct. 12	Thanksgiving (School Closed)
Oct. 14	Individual & Class Photo Day
Oct. 16	Terry Fox Run
Oct. 19	Hot Lunch
Oct. 20	PAC Family Photo Sessions
Oct. 21	Pumpkin Patch at GGE
Oct. 23	Professional Development Day (Students not in attendance)
Oct. 27	PAC Meeting 6:30 PM

Orange Shirt Day at GGE:



On Tuesday our staff and students took time to reflect and learn about the roots of Orange Shirt Day. Orange Shirt Day, began with the story of a young girl, her new orange shirt, and the beginning of her life in St. Joseph Mission school in Williams Lake BC. Phyllis Jack, on her first day of school, arrived in a brand-new orange shirt. Her shirt was taken from her by the residential school. For her, the colour orange has always reminded her of how students were treated unfairly while at school. As a community we wore orange shirts on Tuesday day to be remind us of the message that “Every Child Matters” while we honour the survivors and intergenerational survivors of the Residential School System.

As a school, we created a mural in the main lobby. The artwork in the centre of the heart is a tribute to the design created by Andy Everson of the K'ómoks First Nation in British Columbia in 2015. The artwork features hands encircling the words "Every Child Matters". The layout consists of four pairs of hands which is arranged in a continuous circle, and it carries deep symbolic meaning rooted in Indigenous culture and the path toward truth and reconciliation.

- **Children Being Lifted Up:** Everson designed the circle of stylized hands to symbolize children being collectively raised, supported, and uplifted by the community.
- **Protection and Unity:** The hands form an unbroken circle around the words, representing a boundary of protection and love ensuring that "every child matters". It serves as a reminder to safeguard the upcoming generations.
- **The Number Four:** In many Indigenous cultures, the number four holds sacred significance, often representing the four cardinal directions (North, South, East, West), the four seasons, or the four stages of life. The four distinct pairs of hands honor these traditional teachings.
- **Working Together:** The overlapping hands represent unity, collective healing, and different people coming together in the spirit of truth and reconciliation.

With the inspiration of Andy Everson's artwork, our students have written a message of why they matter to ensure that every child matters for a hopeful future. These words have been posted around the four pairs of hands in the shape of a heart as well as at the center of the hands. As a community, we will continue to commit ourselves in making sure that "Every Child Matters".

Terry Fox Donations:

Hello Gordon Greenwood families,

"In 1980 Terry showed us what courage, compassion and determination look like. Today that example is needed more than ever and we are inspired to join 4,000,000 Canadian students who are leading the way. By fundraising for innovative research our school community is literally changing the lives of Canadians facing cancer. Thanks to your donation, we're driving cancer research forward, faster than ever. Terry started a marathon against cancer and together, we can Finish it." - Terry Fox Foundation

At Gordon Greenwood Elementary, we will be having our Terry Fox Assembly on **Tuesday, October 6th** and then we will be having our Terry Fox Run on **Friday, October 16th**. Please click on the link below to share your donations as our community contributes to the Terry Fox Foundation for cancer research.

[Gordon Greenwood Elementary - Langley, BC | Terry Fox School Run](#)

Halloween Costumes:

It is hard to believe that we are in the month of October. We know that some of our families may be looking into costumes, and we wanted to share some information. Spirit Day will be on Friday October 30th and we remind our families regarding costumes at school, students are not to bring any accessories that involve weapons. Students can bring a mask, but this will only be worn during our costume parade. It is important to be mindful of appropriate school costumes as well. We also recognize that not all our students will want to wear a costume. Students also have the choice to wear black or orange on October 30th for Spirit Day.

Remembrance Day:

On November 10th, we will be recognizing Remembrance Day at our school. Remembrance Day is a Canadian holiday on November 11th. Remembrance Day is not a celebration but rather a time for us to reflect, recognize, and honor the sacrifices made by Canadians who fought for our freedoms. During our assembly, we are hoping to specifically honor those who have served or are serving in the Canadian military who have connections to our school community. We are asking for photos of those family members or family friends of students and staff who have served. We ask that you send an email with the **photo, soldiers name, when they served, and how they are connected to our school** (ex. grandpa of student name, aunt of student name, friend of student name). If you sent in photos last year, you do not need to send them in again unless you want to update the information. These will be used in our assembly presentation to showcase the connections Remembrance Day has to our school community. If you do not have a digital copy, feel free to drop off a picture at the office to be scanned and returned to you. If you have a digital copy, please send them to Mrs. Forrest at dforrest@sd35.bc.ca. Photos and information are due by **October 23rd**.

Wet & Rainy Weather:

As the weather is changing, please ensure your child has proper footwear and clothing in case of rain/cooler weather. If possible, a change of clothing including socks and gym runners should be stored at school or in your child's backpack in case of puddle encounters.

Bell Schedule for 2026-2027

8:40- Welcoming Bell

8:45- School Day Starts

10:20- Recess Starts

10:35- Recess Ends

11:57- Playtime

12:30- Eating Period Begins

12:40- Eating Period Ends

2:32- School Day Ends

School District #35 (Langley)
2026-2027 School Calendar
Elementary Schools

MONTH	DATE	
September	Sep 7 (M)	<i>Labour Day (School Closed)</i>
	Sep 8 (T)	School Opens
	Sep 25 (F)	<i>School Improvement Day (Students Not in Attendance)</i>
	Sep 30 (W)	<i>Truth and Reconciliation Day (School Closed)</i>
October	Oct 12 (M)	<i>Thanksgiving (School Closed)</i>
	Oct 23 (F)	<i>Professional Development Day (Provincial - Students Not in Attendance)</i>
November	Nov 11 (W)	<i>Remembrance Day (School Closed)</i>
	Nov 20 (F)	<i>Design & Assessment Day / Learning Update Prep (Students Not in Attendance)</i>
December	Dec 2 (W)	Student Inclusive Conferences
	Dec 3 (Th)	2 Hour Early Dismissal - Student Inclusive Conferences
	Dec 17 (Th)	Last Day Prior to Winter Break
January	Jan 5 (T)	School Re-Opens After Winter Break
February	Feb 8 (M)	<i>Professional Development Day (District - Students Not in Attendance)</i>
	Feb 15 (M)	<i>Family Day (Schools Closed)</i>
March	Mar 3 (W)	2 Hour Early Dismissal - Student Inclusive Conferences
	Mar 4 (Th)	Student Inclusive Conferences
	Mar 12 (F)	Last Day Prior to Spring Break
	Mar 26 (F)	<i>Good Friday (School Closed)</i>
	Mar 29 (M)	<i>Easter Monday (School Closed)</i>
	Mar 30 (T)	School Re-Opens After Spring Break
April	Apr 12 (M)	<i>Design & Assessment Day / Learning Update Prep (Students Not in Attendance)</i>
May	May 21 (F)	<i>Professional Development Day (District - Students Not in Attendance)</i>
	May 24 (M)	<i>Victoria Day (School Closed)</i>
June	Jun 29 (T)	Final Learning Update & Last Day for Students Prior to Summer Vacation
	Jun 30 (W)	<i>Administrative Day (Students Not in Attendance)</i>
July / August		Summer Session

APPROVED: SD35 Board of Education Meeting
April 28, 2026

Students Requiring Nursing Support Services (NSS)

Delegated Care Plans:

- Families must register for NSS through their Family Doctor
- Direct them to <http://www.bcchildrens.ca/our-services/sunny-hill-health-centre/our-services/nursing-support>

Reminder about Closed Campus during school hours:

Just a reminder that all schools including Gordon Greenwood Elementary school are closed campuses. If families need to drop off lunch or belongings for their child, you are to drop them off at the office. Parents, guardians and caregivers are not to be using playgrounds during school hours. All visitors that are volunteering need to sign-in and sign-out at the office. If you are volunteering at the school, there will be further details coming regarding new procedures from the School District, which involves a criminal record check that will be implemented across the District. Thank you in advance for helping keep our students safe.

Attendance/Absence

If your child is going to be absent, arriving late, away or leaving early due to an appointment, please notify the school of your child's absence before 8:30 am by doing either of the following:

E-mail GGEAttendance@sd35.bc.ca with information including:

- Student First Name and Last Name
- Grade
- Division
- Length of Absence
- Reason (illness, late, appointment, vacation)

OR

1. Call **604-882-0114** and follow the prompts for the attendance line and leave a message with information including:
 - Student First Name and Last Name
 - Grade
 - Division
 - Length of Absence
 - Reason (illness, late, appointment, vacation)

Programs of Choice – Deadline to Register is Monday, October 26th

*Langley School District offers a rich diversity of programs that are designed to meet the specific needs and interests of students. Programs include Fine Arts, French Immersion, Fundamental, Langley Environmental Awareness Program (outdoor education), Montessori, and UConnect. Registration for Kindergarten entry (for most programs) begins on **Monday, October 5th at 12 noon**, and closes on **Monday, October 26th at 12 noon**. For UConnect, please contact the school directly. For more information and instructions to register your child, visit our District website [here](#) and review our FAQ choice programs resource [here](#).*

Staying Healthy this Winter (from Fraser Health)

Health, safety, and wellness continue to be a priority in our schools. To help support our students and families, we are sharing important information from our community partner Fraser Health about how to stay healthy this winter. Please see below for helpful reminders to support your child.

Keep Your Children Free From Respiratory Illnesses This Winter

As the weather gets colder and more time is spent indoors, we are more likely to get sick with things like colds, flu or COVID-19 because these illnesses spread more easily in enclosed spaces.

Everyone should take these steps to protect themselves and limit the spread of respiratory illnesses:

- Get vaccinated against flu and COVID-19.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water. Use alcohol-based sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- Cough and sneeze into your elbow.
- If you have flu-like symptoms, stay home and away from people at higher risk of serious illness. If you are sick and cannot stay away from others, wear a mask. Learn more about masks [here](#).

Vaccinations for Respiratory Illness

Vaccinations prepare our immune system to recognize and respond to viruses. When children get immunized, they are less likely to get sick or pass along illness to others. When children remain healthy, they are better able to focus on learning,

playing and doing the activities they love. Their parents and caregivers also have less disruptions in their personal and work routines.

Register your children with the **Get Vaccinated** system so you can be reminded to get flu or COVID-19 vaccinations when they are due. Seasonal respiratory vaccinations are available from pharmacies, public health units and some primary care providers.

School-aged Immunizations

Getting your child **vaccinated on schedule** is one of the best ways to protect their health. To set young people up for long-term health and well-being, vaccines are offered routinely in kindergarten, grade 6 and grade 9 with catch-up opportunities in other grades.

Protection is long lasting for most vaccines, except for whooping cough. This vaccine is one of the **infant immunizations** that can wear off and needs to be given again around Kindergarten and Grade 9 to provide protection. All routine school-aged immunizations are free in British Columbia. If your child is not up to date with their vaccines, please make an appointment with a public health unit, family doctor, nurse practitioner or pharmacy.

If your child's record shows their vaccines are not current, but they did get vaccines from a health care provider outside of public health:

- Contact the health care provider who immunized your child and ask for a copy of the immunization record.
- Provide these immunization records to Public Health online at:

<http://www.fraserhealth.ca/immunizationform>

Learn more about school-aged immunizations, including how to access your child's records, here: **Children and youth immunizations – Fraser Health Authority**

Student in Distress and School Safety

Health and safety are a priority in the Langley School District. Our schools follow procedures to help keep students, staff, and the community safe. Depending on the situation, communication to parents/caregivers is needed to keep families informed about incidents in our school, such as during lockdowns, hold & secures, and room clears, or in the event of a student in distress. Sometimes these situations may not be emergencies but events that require a school response. It is important

to note that the decision to send communications to families is dependent on a variety of factors including the nature of what happened, who has witnessed or was directly impacted by what happened, as well as student and staff privacy. Communication is unique and dependent on the specific situation; there are times when a student is in distress, yet the situation may or may not require a message or letter to families. In addition to communication with parents/caregivers, teachers and staff may debrief with students after an incident that may have upset them. In some cases, the school counsellor may offer support to students in need. As always, we want families to let us know if your child requires support. If you have any questions or concerns about communication related to situations or emergencies, please reach out to the school.

VIDEO: Overview of the District Website

*The District is sharing a 7-minute video to give students, staff, and parents and overview of the new District website. In this video, you will learn about new key features including a translation function, accessibility adjustments, and insights on how content is organized to help users navigate. Watch **HERE**.*

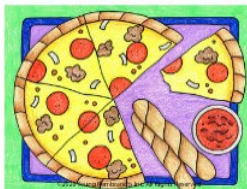


JOIN THE AFTERSCHOOL ART STUDIO



Young Rembrandts

NEW THIS YEAR WITH PAINT & PASTEL LESSONS



THE ART STUDIO THAT COMES TO THE SCHOOL! GORDON GREENWOOD ELEMENTARY

Our new After-School ART STUDIO offers the same amazing drawing and colouring program we've provided for over a decade...now with painting and pastels! Your young artist will learn proper drawing techniques through our award-winning program while exploring a variety of mediums and artistic styles. Every week is a brand-new creative adventure and we come right to your school!

Get your child off screens and back to creative fun.

Register today to reserve your artist's spot!

REGISTRATION CLOSES SEPT 16, 2026



DATES ~ TIMES ~ ROOM

Day: **Wednesday**
Dates: **Sept. 23-Dec. 9, 2026**
Time: **2:35-3:35 PM**
Room: **Library**



TUITION

Cost: **\$215.00**

For the entire session, includes all supplies.

PAYMENT PLAN IS AVAILABLE ONLINE (3 equal payments)



ENROLLMENT

www.youngrembrandts.com/lowermainland

*****SPACE IS LIMITED ONLY 15 SPOTS AVAILABLE FOR FALL 2026**

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olivia.mckenzie@youngrembrandts.com

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owned & operated



PAC NEWS

PAC EXECUTIVE

President - Janelle Born

Vice President - Jenn Sondrup

Treasurer - Justine Trenholm

Secretary - Danielle Chretien

DPAC - Lee Brunjes

Events Coordinator - Rachael Vanderlee

Social Media Coordinator - Elaine Happer

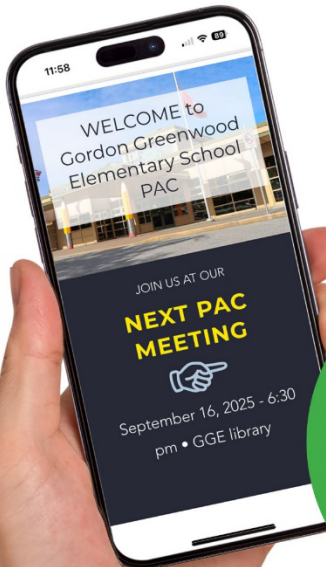
Hot Lunch - Ket Shcherbakova and Rhea Fedorchuk ggepac@hotmail.com

IMPORTANT LINKS

ggepac@hotmail.com

Next PAC Meeting – October 27, 2026 6:30 PM

OH, HAPPY DAY! YOUR GGE PAC IS ONLINE!



FOLLOW US for information about:

- fundraisers •
 - next meeting date and time •
 - past meeting minutes •
 - links to proposals •
 - PAC achievements •
(your fundraising dollars at work)
 - special days •
 - upcoming events •
 - GGE calendar •
- hot lunch ... and more!



FAMILY PORTRAIT MINI SESSIONS

Bring your family together for a portrait session to support your school fundraiser!



100% of the sitting fees go back to your school!

DATE & TIME

OCTOBER 20, 2026
4:00pm - 8:00pm



10 minute sitting
session



Free 8x10 photo of
your choice



Various props
and poses

✉ INFO@HTPHOTO.COM 🌐 WWW.HTPHOTO.COM

BOOK ONLINE: WWW.HTPHOTO.COM/BOOKING-CALENDAR/