



Raptor Report

Betty Gilbert Middle School Newsletter

October 18, 2018

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Upcoming Dates

OCTOBER

- 19: Pro-D Day – No School
- 19: Babysitting course at BGMS
- 24-25: Parent Teacher Interviews – Early dismissal 1:55 pm
- 29: Collaboration Day – Early dismissal 1:40 pm
- 31: Halloween Carnival

NOVEMBER

- 2: Photo Retakes
Hot Lunch
- 5: Report Card Prep – Early Dismissal 11:30 am
- 8: Remembrance Day Assembly
- 8: PAC Meeting 7pm (library)
- 9: Pro-D Day – No School
- 12: Pro-D Day – No School
- 13: Grade 6 Immunizations
- 20: Collaboration Day – Early Dismissal 1:40 pm
- 30: Interim Report Cards Issued



Respect
Responsibility
Empathy
Integrity
Kindness

Fall is upon us and yet the weather has been quite good. Very little rain has kept students burning energy at lunch and teachers have kept them working hard in the classroom. In my roaming around the school I see so many great learning activities and work by students. Focused, determined and diligent, in their effort to produce quality work and do the best they can.

Each year our school sets goals for the year. We continue to have two school goals, one academic and another social/emotional.

- To build students literacy in a balance approach including Reading, Writing, Speaking, Listening and Thinking.
- To improve the Social and Emotional climate for our students through comprehensive programming supporting our Raptor Traits – Kindness, respect Responsibility Empathy and Integrity.

As we move through the first few months we will be assessing every student's reading level as part of our first goal. We also have regular assemblies supporting our **Raptor Traits**. We hope you continue to hear of this and we encourage you to use these traits to help develop strong character attributes that everyone can be proud of.

There are quite a few things happening in the school over the next month or so. Please check your e-mail regularly to ensure you don't miss anything. If you know someone who is not receiving these e-mails please have them contact the school to update our records. We also have our 'Remind App' that you can sign up for. Please see your child's agenda for instructions or this Newsletter below.

One item of note is the Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA). The FSA is a snapshot assessment to find out how our students are doing compared to expected curriculum outcomes. Parents of grade 7 students should note that all students are expected to write the FSA. Students may only be exempt due to very specific criteria that school administration must use. If you have any questions, please contact the school.

Next week, October 24th & 25th will be Parent Teacher conferences. We sent a notice home giving information regarding on-line sign up. Our **Exploration Teachers will be available in the gym from 3 -4pm on Wednesday** if you would like to drop in and meet them and get more information about the Exploration course they teach.

Mr. Bako

Langley School District Code of Conduct

The Langley School District believes that everyone has the right to learn and work in a safe, caring, healthy and orderly environment. All members of the school community are expected to maintain an attitude that is cooperative, courteous and respectful. It is a shared responsibility to demonstrate positive conduct while attending any school or District related activity, regardless of time and location.

Respect Yourself – Respect Others – Respect Property – Be Safe

All members of the school community are expected to comply with the purpose and spirit of the British Columbia Human Rights Code (Section 7 and 8), including not engaging in discriminatory conduct on the basis of race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, political beliefs, and age.

Note – This is only a portion of the Code of Conduct. Please visit the school district web site or the BGMS student Agenda for more detailed information.



What to wear to school? Dress Code or Guideline?

Every year, at some point, students may struggle with wearing clothing that is appropriate for school. Recently, with the removal of the heading 'Dress Code', in favour of "Dress Guidelines" some further confusion has occurred with some students thinking it means they may wear whatever they like to school. *This is not the case.* Below is the School Districts Dress Guidelines. Please review and help your child chose clothing appropriate for the school environment.

"The intent of a dress guideline is to set expectations to assist students, staff, and parents in decision-making with respect to clothing. It is not intended to be prescriptive nor punitive, but to provide a level of clarity so that correction or discipline is not required.

Dress guidelines are intended to incorporate individual preferences for students and their families to dress in a manner that they choose. Individual choice is however tempered by a responsibility to recognize that a school is a learning and working environment, in which there is an expectation of reasonableness.

Staff members have a responsibility to assist students in understanding and abiding by the District dress guidelines. Parents have a responsibility to support appropriate dress for the school and the workplace.

Clothing should be comfortable and allow a student to participate safely in activities such as physical education, science experiments, and/or shop projects. Clothing should demonstrate a respect for the school community. Clothing should meet standards of suitability that are typical of an office workplace and should not be offensive to others.

Articles of clothing that promote alcohol or drugs, that display offensive language or images, or that encourage sexism, racism or bigotry are not acceptable in a school. Clothing bearing direct or indirect messages or graphics referring to gang culture, sex or pornography, weapons or violence will not be permitted.

When there are differences in perspective, all involved have a duty to seek common understanding in a mutually respectful manner. Ultimately, the school administration has the responsibility to apply the dress guidelines when necessary. If any person dresses in an inappropriate manner, the student should be advised personally and discretely and given an opportunity to meet the District guidelines."

Parent Advisory Committee (P.A.C.)

The Betty Gilbert PAC will be meeting the first *Thursday* of the month in our school library with the first meeting this week, September 14th. **ALL** parents are welcome and encouraged to attend. Meetings begin at 7pm sharp. These are great opportunities to become more involved in your child's school. For more information and PAC executive contact information please contact the office.



Betty Gilbert had a very successful Terry Fox Run this year. The students raised a total of \$517.85!

Homework Club



Reminder to parents that our Homework Club is up and running. This is a drop in program afterschool daily, Monday – Friday, in the Library until 3:45 each day. Just show up! Please connect with your child's teacher if you would like to have your child attend. This is a great way for any student to stay ahead of their homework. Great work habits always get results.



Bikes, Scooters & Skateboards!

We encourage students to get to school on their own power. If your child rides a bike, scooter or skateboard we ask that they do not ride them on school property and that they bring a lock to lock them up at the front of the school. Last year we installed new skateboard and scooter racks so there is no need to bring them into the building. It is the responsibility of the students to provide a lock for their 'wheels'.

Photo RETAKE Day!



School Photos Retakes will be taken on **November 2nd**. These will be the individual photos only. Class photos come later in the year. Please mark this day on your calendar if your child needs retakes.

Cell Phones



If phones are brought to school they **must be turned off and put in their locker for the day.** Cell phones pose other challenges for us, with cameras, texting and general disruptions to the classroom. More importantly, in an emergency, use of a phone without permission can cause serious problems during emergencies. If you need to get hold of your child at any time through the day, please contact the office. Inappropriate use of these items will have them confiscated and returned at the discretion of the administration. We appreciate your support. If you have any questions please contact the office.

Peanut Aware School

Due to several students having severe allergies to peanuts, Betty Gilbert will now be a **Peanut Aware School**. What this means is that we have students with severe allergies to peanuts and products containing peanuts. We ask that parents consider the safety of all students when packing lunches and refrain from including these items. We realize this is an inconvenience, but greatly appreciate your cooperation.



Betty Gilbert offers many ways to ensure that parents and students stay connected with school highlights and important information.

SCHOOL WEBSITE: www.bgms.sd35.bc.ca
TWITTER: @BGMSRAPTORS
INSTAGRAM: @BGMSRAPTORS

Betty Gilbert also offers a way to get information for each grade right to your phone. We recommend all parents sign up for this service as a way to receive pertinent information and updates about events your child is involved with as well as a way to message the school with any related questions. Please sign up using the following codes.



For **Grade 6 Parents**,
 Text the message [@bgms2020](https://www.remind.com/messages/@bgms2020) to (450) 977-0818

For **Grade 7 Parents**,
 Text the message [@bgms2019](https://www.remind.com/messages/@bgms2019) to (450) 977-0818

For **Grade 8 Parents**,
 Text the message [@bgms2018](https://www.remind.com/messages/@bgms2018) to (450) 977-0818



ABSENCES

Please remember if your child will be absent to phone the office and leave a message. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Car Parking and Bus Pick Up



Picking up and dropping off students can be a challenge before and after school. We have a bus that comes before and after school. Please **do not** park in the bus lane closest to the school. We also ask that you park in one of the parking stalls if you need to get out of your car. Keeping the flow of cars moving is helpful to everyone. Thanks for your cooperation.

Communication with the School

In our very busy daily lives it is difficult keeping up with all the events and tasks each week and especially keeping up with the events and calendar of our school. We try very hard to keep everyone informed. Information comes home in various ways:

- School newsletter (e-mailed)
- School website – (Newsletters etc.)
- Sign board outside East end of school (PAC)
- PAC Meetings – Second Thursday of the month – 7pm Library
- Foyer monitors scrolling bulletins to students daily
- Student Agendas has a lot of valuable information

Please check these regularly for information. On occasion, dates and times do change. If you are still not sure please give the office a call and we will be happy to let you know.

CALENDAR

Please see the Aldergrove Regional Calendar for next year. All the non-instructional days, holidays and event days for the entire region are included. At a later date we will make a Betty Gilbert specific calendar and send out as well. We try to ensure that the Calendars for the entire Aldergrove Region aligns as many parents have students in more than one school.

School District #35 (Langley) 2018-2019 School Calendar Aldergrove Region ACSS, BGMS, Parkside, Shortreed

| MONTH | DATE | |
|---------------|---|---|
| September | Sept 3 (M) | Labour Day (School Closed) |
| | Sept 4 (T) | School Opens |
| | Sept 21 (F) | School Improvement Half Day (students attend morning only) |
| October | Oct 5 (F) | Ministry Non-Instructional Day (students not in attendance) |
| | Oct 8 (M) | Thanksgiving (School Closed) |
| | Oct 19 (F) | Professional Development Day (Provincial) |
| | Oct 24 (W) | 1 Hour Early Dismissal Parent/Teacher Interviews |
| | Oct 25 (Th) | 1 Hour Early Dismissal Parent/Teacher Interviews |
| Oct 29 (M) | Collaboration Afternoon (75 minute early dismissal for students) | |
| November | Nov 5 (M) | Report Card Prep Half Day (students attend morning only) |
| | Nov 9 (F) | Day Not in Session |
| | Nov 12 (M) | School Closed in Observance of Remembrance Day |
| | Nov 16 (F) | Term 1 Semester 1 Report Cards Issued (ACSS) |
| | Nov 20 (T) | Collaboration Afternoon (75 minute early dismissal for students) |
| | Nov 30 (F) | Report Cards Issued (BGMS, Parkside, Shortreed) |
| December | Dec 21 (F) | Last Day Prior to Winter Break |
| January | Jan 7 (M) | School Re-Opens After Winter Break |
| | Jan 14 (M) | Collaboration Afternoon (75 minute early dismissal for students) |
| | Jan 28 (M) | Semester 2 Begins (ACSS) |
| February | Feb 6 (W) | Collaboration Afternoon (75 minute early dismissal for students) |
| | Feb 8 (F) | Semester 1 Report Cards Issued (ACSS) |
| | Feb 15 (F) | Professional Development Day (District) |
| | Feb 18 (M) | Family Day (School Closed) |
| | Feb 25 (M) | Report Card Prep Half Day (students attend morning only) |
| March | Mar 8 (F) | Report Cards Issued (BGMS, Parkside, Shortreed) |
| | Mar 13 (W) | 1 Hour Early Dismissal Parent/Teacher Interviews |
| | Mar 14 (Th) | 1 Hour Early Dismissal Parent/Teacher Interviews |
| | Mar 15 (F) | Last Day Prior to Spring Break |
| April | Apr 1 (M) | School Re-Opens After Spring Break |
| | Apr 12 (F) | Collaboration Afternoon (75 minute early dismissal for students) |
| | Apr 19 (F) | Good Friday (School Closed) |
| | Apr 22 (M) | Easter Monday (School Closed) |
| | Apr 26 (F) | Term 1 Semester 2 Report Cards Issued (ACSS) |
| May | May 3 (F) | Professional Development Day (District) |
| | May 9 (Th) | Collaboration Afternoon (75 minute early dismissal for students) |
| | May 20 (M) | Victoria Day (School Closed) |
| June | Jun 27 (Th) | Final Report Card & Last Day for Students Prior to Summer Vacation |
| | Jun 28 (F) | Administrative Day (students not in attendance) |
| July / August | | Summer Session |

SD35 Board of Education Meeting
May 1, 2018