



Gordon Terrace News

October & November 2026

Important Arrival Reminder: Late Student Drop-Off Procedures

*The safety of our students is our top priority. If your child arrives at school after the morning bell has rung, we ask that a parent or guardian accompany them to the **main office to check in** before they head to class.*

*For security reasons, students should not be dropped off at other school entrances or sent directly to classrooms. **Any parent or visitor** who needs to access areas of the school beyond the office **must sign in at the office and wear a visitor badge** while in the building.*

These simple procedures help us ensure all students arrive safely, minimize classroom disruptions, and maintain a secure learning environment for everyone.

Thank you for your support and partnership in keeping our school safe! 🐻 ❤️ 💛

Terry Fox Run:

We are thrilled to announce that our recent "Toonies for Terry" run successfully raised an impressive **\$448.55** for the Terry Fox Foundation. This event brought together our school community in support of cancer research, honoring the legacy of Terry Fox.



Growing Smiles Fundraiser:

Gordon Terrace Elementary is excited to launch our **Growing Smiles Winter Fundraiser!** Choose from a beautiful selection of plants, planters, and seasonal arrangements while supporting our school community.



Important Information

- **Fundraiser runs:** Now until **November 17**
- **Plant pickup:** Expected **December 1 or 2** (final date to be confirmed)
- Order online through the Growing Smiles website
- **Cheques payable to:** Gordon Terrace Elementary School

Thank you for supporting our school and helping provide the extras that make our students' year even more memorable!



Order here:

<https://gordonterrace.growingsmilesfundraising.com/home>

Questions? Please contact Ms. Gaudon at gizelle.gaudon@sd5.bc.ca.

Plants supplied by DeVry Greenhouses.



Halloween Activities - October 30th.

Plans are in progress for an amazing day of fun! The

GTES PAC is generously providing pizza lunch for staff and students.

Students are encouraged to wear either orange and black or a school-appropriate costume (no weapons or masks, and please ensure your child can remove the costume without aid). If you send your child in a costume that requires batteries, please send additional batteries with them.



School Fees:

This month, the cost of the student supplies provided to your child at the start

of the school year will be added to **School Cash Online**. Please watch for a notification when the fees become available.

Fees can be viewed and paid through

School Cash Online:

<https://sd5.schoolcashionline.com/>

If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

Thank You, KESA! 🏆

A big thank you to KESA Soccer Club for their generous donation of soccer balls to Gordon Terrace Elementary School. Your support helps provide our students with more opportunities to stay active, build skills, and enjoy the game. We greatly appreciate your contribution to our school community! 🏆 🙌

Basketball Season is Underway!

Our basketball season is off to a great start, and we are excited to see our students developing their skills, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

Practice Schedule

- **Boys:** Tuesdays after school and Thursdays at lunch
- **Girls:** Tuesdays and Fridays at lunch

Game Schedule Games begin **October 20** and run through **November 24**. Please note there will be **no games on November 10**. Our season will wrap up with an **all-day tournament on November 27**.

Schedules will be sent home with players and will also be posted on the **Gordon Terrace website** for easy reference throughout the season.

A special thank you to **Mr. Walton** and **Mrs. Archibald** for generously volunteering their time to coach our teams this year. School sports programs rely on the support of dedicated volunteers, and we are very grateful that they stepped forward to provide this opportunity for our students.

Parents interested in helping with future athletic programs or coaching opportunities are encouraged to contact the school office to be added to our volunteer interest list. We are always happy to hear from community members who would like to support student athletics.

Thank you to everyone helping make this basketball season a success. **Go Grizzlies!** 🏀





Scholastic Book Fair:

Thank you for supporting our GT Scholastic Book Fair this year - Ms. Molnar is so excited to tell you that we earned \$3000 in FREE books for our library for

selling so many books! We couldn't do it without all the help from the volunteers and the support of the students and their families of Gordon Terrace. Thanks GT - happy reading!!!

The 2026 Angel Tree program, in conjunction with the Rotary Club of Cranbrook Sunrise, the Tamarack Centre and the Canadian Cancer Society, will begin accepting registrations now for children aged 0 to 17 years old. The due date for request forms to be returned is November 26th, 2026, and if you need an information letter and registration form, please see your school's administrative assistant, visit the Tamarack Centre's administration office or request a digital copy to download and print from: cdbermel@shaw.ca

This program will ensure that all our little "Angels" in Cranbrook have a very Merry Christmas.



A message from Mrs. Doll and Mrs. Dueck, your school counsellors:

Welcome back GT families! We are so excited to be working at your school again this year and are looking forward to continuing to support the mental health of our students, families, and staff. Elementary school counsellors are available to help students and families navigate many different challenges that may arise both within the school setting or at home; if you are interested in hearing more about the school counselling process, or would like to discuss a referral for your child, please feel free to contact us at karley.doll@sd5.bc.ca or sharon.dueck@sd5.bc.ca, or connect with your child's classroom teacher for more information.

Now that we have begun to fall back into the routine of school, it is important to remember how much a school day can take out of our children. Spending the day learning, regulating, socializing, and playing can leave students with an empty tank by the time the school day is done. On top of that, many of our students have begun extra-curricular activities or spend time in after-school programs, both of which continue to deplete emotion-regulation reserves and their ability to "hold it all together". After-school restraint collapse is a term used to describe the big feelings that we may see in our children when the day is done. Many of the ways we can support children during this transition are the same things that adults like at the end of a long day: a quiet space, a snack, a calm activity of choice, and

maybe a snuggle on the couch with their favorite person. If at all possible, try to practice this routine before putting too many demands on your child—homework and chores are of course important, but might be better accomplished after a reset. By creating a consistent and calm home-base for the end of the school day you can hopefully mitigate some of the emotional release at the end of the day, and support your family connecting positively throughout the rest of the evening.

A Note From PAC:

Halloween Pizza Lunch 🍕

Trick or treat, pizza to eat! On **October 30**, PAC will be providing a complimentary pizza lunch for all students. We are looking for parent volunteers to help distribute pizzas and make this fun event a success. If you are available to help, please sign up using the volunteer link above.

Join Us!

Our next **PAC Meetings** will be held on **Thursday, October 22 and November 26th at 6:30 p.m. in the school library.**

Topics this month include:

- Principal's updates
- Launch of the Munch-a-Lunch program
- PAC fundraising opportunities for 2026-27
- Traffic safety
- And more!

All parents and guardians are welcome to attend.

Stay Connected!

For up-to-date information, reminders, and volunteer opportunities, follow us on Facebook: **Gordon Terrace PAC.**

A note from Indigenous Education:



Welcome back to another exciting school year within Indigenous Education and The Gathering Place!

October 2nd will be the start of the weekly Movie Night Treat draws.

Ms. Juanita- Ktunaxa Elder will be supporting again this year with Ktunaxa Language and Culture sessions.

Mel and Dorothy Ratch- Metis Elder support.

We will be gathering, cooking, baking and learning about a variety of Indigenous Cultures.

Gordon Terrace will host Nasukin Joe Pierre and the Metis Fiddlers once again.

October 6th – Friendship Soup lunch and a story with Ms. Teri- Grade 1's invites given-door prize draw.

Oct. 28th- Cupcake decorating.

Joe Pierre in to tell Ktunaxa Legends – Nov 4th- whole school

Juanita Eugene – Ktunaxa Elder in Nov. 13-teaching Language and Culture to students

Lunch time activities with Ms. Teri

Weekly movie treat pack draws and other special events as planned

Magnetic School Calendars Available

Thanks to the generous donation from **DPAC**, we have a few extra magnetic school calendars available in the office. If you would like one for your home, please stop by the office and pick one up while supplies last!

Mark Your Calendar!	
October	
12	Thanksgiving - No School
14	District Hot Lunch
21	District Hot Lunch
22	PAC meeting – Library 6:30
23	Professional Development Day – No School
26	Fall Picture Day -Retakes
28	District Hot Lunch
30	- Halloween Day activities - PAC pizza lunch provided
November	
4	- District Hot Lunch - Dilly Bar Day
10	Remembrance Day Assembly
11	Remembrance Day - No School
18	District Hot Lunch
21	Professional Development Day – No School
25	District Hot Lunch
26	PAC meeting – Library 6:30
December	
2	- Dilly Bar Day - District Hot Lunch
7	Holiday Concert - info TBA
9	District Hot Lunch

District Hot Lunch:

A friendly reminder that families will need to re-register for the District Hot Lunch Program, as outlined in the email sent earlier this month.

Order and register here: <https://sd5.food-for-thought.ca/login>



School Apparel: Spirit Wear

Show your Grizzly Pride with our Gordon Terrace spirit wear! Choose from a variety of styles, colours, and logo options to create the perfect look for your family. Wear it proudly on Spirit Days, every Friday, or any day you want to show your school spirit!

- Comfortable styles for students, parents, and staff
- Multiple colours and logo options to personalize your look
- Easy online ordering: [Order Here](#)

Order today and celebrate being part of the Gordon Terrace community!

Grade 6 Families: A new **Grade 6 Grad Hoodie** design is currently being developed for this year's graduating class. More information, including ordering details, will be shared as soon as the design is finalized. Stay tuned! 🎓 🐻



Traffic Safety and Family Information

Arrival, dismissal and traffic-safety information | 2026-2027

Student safety around our school is a shared responsibility. The following information is provided to families to support safe, predictable arrival and dismissal routines and to help maintain clear traffic flow around Gordon Terrace Elementary School.



Traffic flow and designated drop-off/pick-up areas around Gordon Terrace Elementary School.

Key school-specific safety changes

- The posted speed limit on 5th Avenue South is 30 km/h. Please drive more slowly during congestion, pedestrians or weather conditions require additional caution.
- Do not stop or park within 6 m of a crosswalk. Clear sightlines are essential when students are crossing.
- Please respond respectfully to staff and volunteers who are supporting student-safety and traffic routines.

Traffic flow, arrival and dismissal

- **Staff parking:** No student drop-off or pick-up is permitted in staff parking areas.
- **Side alley:** Please do not travel through or stop in the back staff parking lot.
- **Grade 1-3:** Teachers will walk students to the fence on Larch Drive South near the Bus Zone for afternoon pick-up.
- **Signage:** The school area is in the process of been re-signed. Please follow all posted parking and drop-off/pick-up signs.
- **Crossing guard:** A crossing guard will be located on Larch Drive South from 8:25 am – 8:40 am and 2:50 pm – 3:05 pm near the school playground and Bus Zone.

Morning drop-off 8:25-8:40 a.m.

Afternoon pick-up 2:50 p.m.

Parent and Driver Safety Expectations

Shared expectations for safe travel to and from school

Please review these expectations. They are intended to help keep students, families, staff and neighbours safe during the busiest parts of the school day. Please allow extra time, drive slowly, and model calm and courteous behaviour.

Area	Expectations for Parents, Guardians, Students and Drivers
Biking and scooters	• Do not bike or scooter on school grounds. • Park and lock bikes and scooters at the bike racks on school grounds. • Children under 16 years of age are prohibited from riding electric scooters. • Wear a helmet when biking or riding a scooter.
School-zone driving	• Follow the posted school-zone speed limit and slow down further when children are present. • Yield to pedestrians at crosswalks and follow directions from school staff. • Do not pass vehicles that are stopped for pedestrians or students.
Parking	• Do not stop or park in bus zones, no-stopping areas, no-parking areas, driveways, lanes or neighbouring private property. • Do not park on a crosswalk or within 6 m of a crosswalk. • Keep intersections and sightlines clear so students can be seen by drivers.
School buses when red lights are flashing	• Stop and remain stopped until the flashing red lights are off and the bus begins to move. • Give buses extra space and never pull into or stop in the bus loading area. • Students should wait well back from the curb and board only when directed by the bus driver.
Walking and pedestrian safety	• Use sidewalks, marked crosswalks and designated walking routes whenever possible. • Look both ways, make eye contact with drivers, and wait until vehicles have stopped before crossing. • Cross only at marked or supervised locations; avoid crossing between parked vehicles. • Use extra care in poor weather, low light or icy conditions. Bright or reflective clothing is recommended. • Keep crosswalks clear. Do not stop, stand or park on a crosswalk or within 6 m of the approach side of a crosswalk.

Who to Contact with Concerns

Concern	Primary contact
School pick-up/drop-off procedures and parent questions	David Martin, Principal 250-426-8248 david.martin@sd5.bc.ca
Traffic enforcement or recurring unsafe-driving concerns	Cranbrook RCMP 250-489-3471
Immediate danger or emergency	Call 9-1-1

Thank you for helping to keep our school community safe.