



THE GRIZZLY GAZETTE

October 24, 2025

Happy Friday Everyone!

Greetings, Gordon Head Families. We've had another great week at GHMS.

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend our Parent Teacher Interviews this week. It is so nice to see you in the building connecting with our teachers and the learning spaces.

As the weather changes and the days become shorter, I want to remind everyone to be extra careful on the way to and from school. Students riding bikes or scooters need to remember that drivers struggle to see them in the dark, so riders should always be wearing reflective clothing and/or lights.

Its also a good time to remind students to bring weather appropriate clothing for breaks. Students know that they will be outside for breaks unless there are severe temperature or precipitation events.

Friday October 24	Pro D Day No students at the school.
Friday October 31	Halloween
Sunday November 2	Daylight Saving Time
Tuesday November 11	Remembrance Day

In This Weeks Gazzette

- Upcoming Sports/ Meetings
- Library News
- PAC News
- Community Opportunities



Clubs and Meetings

- GSA Club - **Mondays** in the library
- Math Challengers - **Tuesdays**, after school in the library
- Musical Theatre - **Tuesdays and Fridays** @ lunch and **Wednesdays** after school
- Dance Ensemble - **Wednesdays** @ lunch
- Coding Club - **Wednesdays** after school
- Library Club - **Wednesdays** in the library
- Pokemon and Magic - **Thursdays**
- Chess Club - **Fridays** @ lunch

Upcoming Sports - Games and Practices

Basketball Practices

- 8 Boys Comp **Tuesdays & Thursdays Lunch**
- 7/8 Girls Rec **Tuesdays @ lunch**
- 6/7 Boys Comp #1 **Tuesday @ Lunch**
- 6/7 Boys Comp #2 **Monday and Wednesday @ Lunch**
- 6/7 Boys Comp #3 **Wednesday 3:00**
- 6/7 Girls Comp **Mondays & Wednesdays 7:30am - 8:30am**
- 6/7 Girls Recreational **Wednesdays & Fridays @ lunch**

Basketball Games

- Girls 6/7 Comp **Tues Oct 28th** @ Cedar Hill (Exhibition) 3:45
- Girls 6/7 Rec **Tuesday Oct 28th** @ GHMS vs St. Pats & Central 3:45
- Boys 6/7 Comp #1 **Thurs Oct 30th** @ SMUS 5:00
- Boys 6/7 Comp #2 **Thurs Oct 30th** @ GHMS vs Cedar Hill 3:45
- Boys 6 Comp #3 **Thurs Oct 30th** @ SMUS 3:45
- Boys 8 Comp **Mon Oct 27th** @ GHMS vs Cedar Hill 3:45
- Boys 8 Comp **Wed Oct 29th** @ GHMS Central 3:45



LiBRARY NEWS

OCTOBER 2025

NEWS

The newly-organized non-fiction section is now open!

All non-fiction materials are organized in 11 **easy** to find categories!

We are still fine-tuning some of our labelling and signage so there will be minor changes to come but it's ready for students and staff to check out books again.

Thank you to everyone for your patience in waiting for this section to re-open while we were working on it. We'd love to hear what you think of the new arrangement!



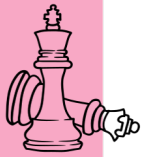
Come check out some great NEW BOOKS!



CLUB REMINDERS

Check out these **FUN** clubs in the library at lunch:

- **Monday** - GSA Club
- **Tuesday** - Lego Club
- **Tuesdays after school** - Math Challengers
- **Wednesday** - Library Club
- **Thursday** - Battle of the Books (starting October 16, details TBA)
- **Friday** - Chess Club



SEPTEMBER STATS

- 1852 books checked out
- Division 14 took out most books, 280. WOW!
- Wimpy Kid Hot Mess was the most popular novel
- Demon Slayer was the most popular manga.



UPCOMING

Scholastic Book Fair
in the Library
October 20-22.

**Stay
Tuned**

PAC News

PAC meeting will be on **Thursday, November 20th, at 7:00pm**, in the Library.

Mesassage from the PAC Chair

I'd like to take a moment of your time to introduce myself and provide a brief outline of plans for the 2025/2026 PAC (which I am Chair of this year because it sounded like nobody else was keen;)

My name is Danielle but I'm also known by many as Danni. I have two daughters at GHMS, one in Grade 6 and one in Grade 7. By day I am a Dock Hand and Reservation Agent at the Victoria Clipper and by night I am a yoga teacher, artist and vintage furniture restorer and seller.

I went to Torquay from grade 2-7 and Lambrick from grade 8-12 and grew up in this very neighbourhood, although it looked much different when I was a kid. We roamed farms and orchards and fields and scared ourselves at night by daring each other to go inside this creepy abandoned chicken barn by our house. We attended so many beach and hillclimb parties as teens it actually feels strange to go to those same beaches with my kids sometimes.

What I love the most about living here is all the nature we have at our doorstep, the small community feel and the people. People I run into from my childhood. My high school gym teacher was my neighbour at one point (Miss Johnstone, so many of you Gordon Head Original parents know her of course). And I drove past Mr. Rooksby yesterday, one of my high school teachers. And I run into people I know from 30 plus years ago every day. And I love that about where we get to live.

Lately, I've noticed that everyone has gotten a little too busy these days. A little too stressed. A little too tired. I get that. So when the school PAC wants parent volunteers (or our money) I think a lot of us are already juggling too much and paying for too much. I would like to bring new ways of fundraising that don't require a lot of parent volunteering like online raffles and drop in outdoor yoga classes in the spring. I would like to have more fun events that don't require a ton of parent volunteers but bring people together in person so we can start building back this wonderful community. I remember I never loved school but I did love dances and spring fairs and markets and fun days. Those are the things we remember from school. Like when our elementary school Principal Mr. Tuttle and some of our teachers sat in a dunk tank for the spring fair. Do you know how many kids lined up to dunk the staff? They probably used up all their savings! Fun is so important.

I also feel that fundraising is very important. The PAC Budget is healthy, however there are essential items our children could be benefitting from such as classroom tech packages and outdoor equipment that the school needs to buy and they come with a hefty price tag. Our goal is to purchase at least 2 tech packages this school year as well as upgrade GHMS's outdoor space and equipment for our kids. The PAC and the administration will be working together to come up with a plan later in the school year and more details will come.

Having said all that, we are still looking for a core group of parents to form a volunteer base for future events, grade 8 Advancement Celebration planning, fundraisers and fun lunch. Please email me if you are interested in being added to my list for Events and Fundraising. I promise there will be fun things this year;)

Danielle: theamazingdanni@gmail.com

If you are interested in volunteering for the Grade 8 Advancement Celebration Committee please email Chrissy: chrissykess@icloud.com

If you are interested in volunteering for Fun Lunch (just one hour every Thursday from 11:00-12:00 and you get a free lunch out of it) please email Julianna:

JuliannaMoore@hotmail.com

Looking forward to an awesome school year. Thanks for your time.

Danielle
GHMS PAC Chair



MENTAL HEALTH DAY 2025

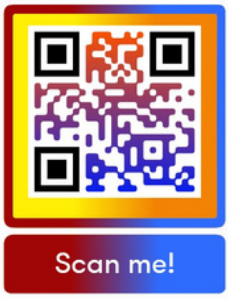
VCPAC EDUCATION TOWNHALL

ENGAGING SPEAKERS.
ENGAGED COMMUNITY.
FOCUS ON
MENTAL HEALTH.

Thu 23 OCT
2025

6:30 - 8:30
PM PM

Spectrum Theatre
957 Burnside Rd W.
Saanich, BC



Parents, Caregivers, & Students
All Welcomed!

Childminding On Site

[Register Now](#)

FREE



Make New Connections

Connect with other parents, PAC members, advocates, and support organizations in your community.

Engage With Speakers

Learn about your rights and discuss new approaches to child and youth mental health.

Access Resources

Get answers to your questions from District Leadership and take home information sheets and handouts.



PANELIST

Rachel Trebilco

District Vice-Principal
Indigenous Education



SPEAKER

Michael Harvey

Information and
Privacy Commissioner
of BC



PANELIST

Tracy Humphreys

Director of Operations,
Family Support Institute
of BC



PANELIST

Monique Moore

Registered Clinical
Counsellor

Supporting Community Partners:



Community
OPPORTUNITIES

COMMUNITY EVENTS FOR ALL!

COME RUN AND CHEER ON THE VIKES!



OCTOBER 25TH, 2025

@ ROYAL ROADS UNIVERSITY

HOSTED BY:
THE UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA
VIKES



RUNSPORT



COMMUNITY RUNS:

10:00AM -
1KM KIDS SUPER
HERO RUN

Sponsored by Westshore
Parks & Recreation

10:30 AM -
COMMUNITY 8KM &
MIXED 4 x 2KM RELAY

Sponsored by RUNSPORT



SCAN or VISIT:

govikesgo.com/crosscountry

UVIC VIKES RACES:

12:00 PM - CANADA WEST WOMEN'S 8KM

1:00 PM - CANADA WEST MEN'S 8KM



THE DISTRICT OF SAANICH WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Shelbourne Valley Plan Up date

We are seeking your input on the updated draft
Shelbourne Valley Plan (SVP).

ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

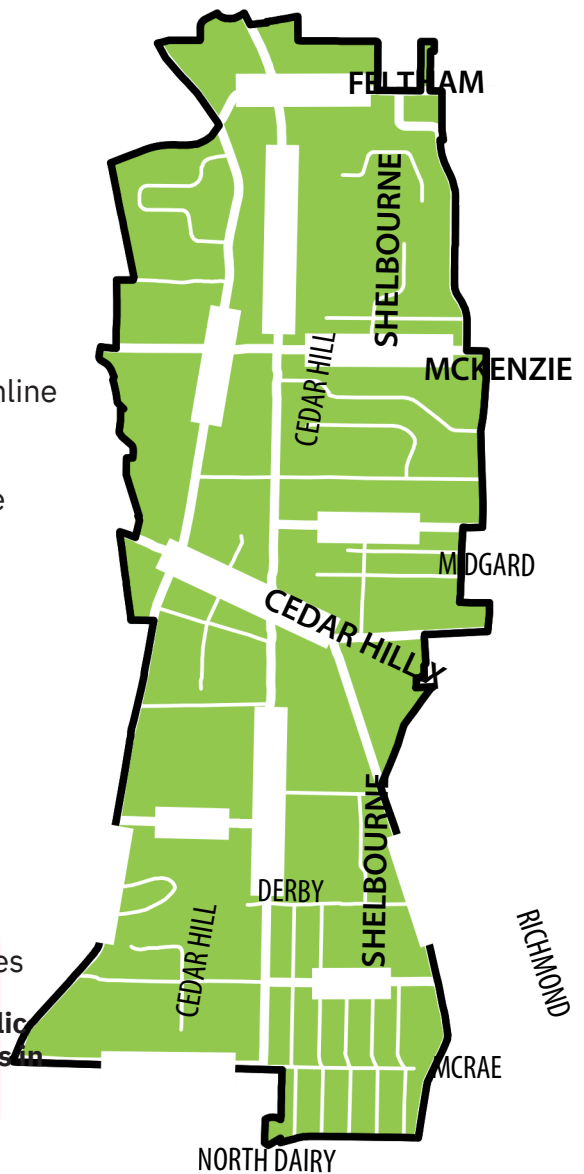
WHERE WHAT WHEN Thurs. Sept. 25, 2025

Webinars	12:00pm - 1:30pm	Thurs. Sept. 25, 2025	Register for webinars online at: saanich.ca/SVP
	7:00pm - 8:30pm		
Open House #1*	Thurs. Oct. 2, 2025		Gordon Head Rec Centre 4100 Lambrick Way
	4:00pm - 8:00pm		
Open House #2*	Sat. Oct. 4, 2025		Cedar Hill Rec Centre 3220 Cedar Hill Road
	12:00pm - 4:00pm		
Online Survey	Sept. 16, 2025 -		Refer to webpage for locations and times at: saanich.ca/SVP
	Oct. 13, 2025		
Pop-up Events			Online at: saanich.ca/SVP

*Refreshments and children's activities provided at open houses

A draft update of the 2017 Shelbourne Valley Plan is out for public review. The plan will guide land use and transportation decisions in the area over the next 20-30 years.

Key updates include: Revised area boundaries, updated land use designations, updated Climate and Environment content, added guidance for specific sites (Special Sites).



LANSDOWNE



Scan QR code for project webpage.

saanich.ca/SVP

Phone: 250-475-5494

Email: svp@saanich.ca





AFTER SCHOOL DROP IN

September 8 - December 19



10 - 17yrs



Gordon Head Rec Centre
- Youth Centre



FREE



Mon-Thur 3:00-5:00pm
Fri *1:30-5:00pm

Get in Touch



250 457 7111



Shannon.Phelps@saanich.ca



Gordon Head Recreation Centre
4100 Lambrick Way
Victoria, BC V8N 5R3



REGISTER NOW



The Youth Centre

at Gordon Head Recreation Centre

10YRS+



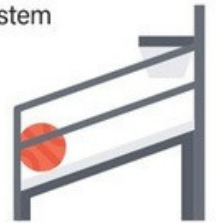
Come join us!

4100 Lambrick Way | 250-475-7100



Amenities

- Kitchen & Dining area
- Pool table
- Outdoor ping pong



- Basketball arcade game
- PS5 gaming system
- 65" TV
- Board Games

Schools and neighbourhood served

- Lambrick Park Secondary School
- Reynolds Secondary School
- Mount Douglas Secondary School
- Gordon Head Middle School
- Cedar Hill Middle School
- Doncaster Elementary School
- Torquay Elementary School
- Braefoot Elementary School
- Campus View Elementary School



Check out our
FAQ's

Funding Support



All Saanich youth programs are inclusive



Gordon Head Recreation Centre Weekly Youth Centre Schedule - Fall

REMINDER
The Youth Centre is **CLOSED**
on Pro D Days and Holidays

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
AFTER SCHOOL DROP-IN 3-5pm FREE	AFTER SCHOOL DROP-IN 3-5pm FREE	AFTER SCHOOL DROP-IN 3-5pm FREE	AFTER SCHOOL DROP-IN 3-5pm FREE	AFTER SCHOOL DROP-IN 1:30-5pm FREE	SPORTS NIGHT @GHMS 4:30-6pm #145076, \$45	BIRTHDAY PARTIES AND ROOM RENTALS
2SLGBTQIA+ SOCIAL 6-8pm #145333 FREE	CRAFTERS & BAKERS 8PM #145054, \$55	GAMES & SWIM 6-8pm #145058, \$45	FitTok THURSDAYS 6-8PM #146754, \$40	FRIDAY NIGHT SOCIAL! 5-9PM	SPORTS NIGHT @GHMS 6:15-7:45pm #145084, \$45	
	ROCK CLIMBING @CARSA 7-8:30pm #146942, \$320					

***Friday Night Social does not run during Fall Special Events**

Looking for a fun way to kick off your weekend? Swing by our supervised Friday Night Social Drop-In at Gordon Head Recreation Centre — a free, casual hangout where you can chill with friends, meet new people, and dive into a variety of awesome activities.

Dinner included!



YOUTH FALL FEST PARTY + PIZZA!
SEPTEMBER 26
\$12



YOUTH HALLOWEEN MOVIE, PJS & PIZZA PARTY
\$15



YOUTH NEON GLOW PARTY & PIZZA!
NOVEMBER 14
\$12



YOUTH UGLY HOLIDAY SWEATER PARTY & PIZZA!
DECEMBER 12
\$12



Interested in more?
View all Saanich
Youth offerings here!

Sports and fitness



Scan me!



Scan me!

Advanced aquatics



Scan me!



FITTOK THURSDAYS - Have fun tackling obstacle courses, team relays, yoga and TikTok like dances—every week brings a new way to get moving, build strength, and boost energy. After the action, we cool down with guided mindfulness exercises, creative journaling, confidence-building discussions, and breathing techniques.
Thursdays, 6-8pm.

#146754, \$40

