



# GRAHAM BELL-VICTORIA PUBLIC SCHOOL



56 Grand Street,  
Brantford, Ontario  
N3R 4B2  
519-752-4723

[www.granderie.ca/schools/grahambell](http://www.granderie.ca/schools/grahambell)

### Principal

Clara Anderson

### Vice Principal

Jeannette Marry

### Office Coordinator

Christine Rayner

## September 15, 2014 **Message from the Principal**

Congratulations to all students for a successful start to the new year. We have begun the year with a DCM or "The Big 5" assembly and classroom discussions. This has been a terrific start to a great new year! See the Big 5 in this newsletter and ask your child about the rewards and consequences in their classroom.

Watch for upcoming teams including Soccer and Cross Country for Junior students. Joining a team is a great way to get involved and enjoy school! Thanks to the staff for organizing these teams.

This year our School Improvement Plan is focused on problem solving in Math and Writing in response to Reading. There are many opportunities to continue learning at home. Watch for Prodigy, RAZ kids, and a Home Reading program coming soon. Thanks for supporting your child's learning at home!

Don't forget to check out our new website at [www.granderie.ca/schools/grahambell](http://www.granderie.ca/schools/grahambell) Or go to the Grand Erie website at [www.granderie.ca](http://www.granderie.ca) and click on schools, school directory, Graham Bell. There you will find school and classroom newsletters, updated photos and stories of Graham Bell news, and a blog including upcoming events.



Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> Terry Fox Run

\*Pizza day is being moved to October.

Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> Meet the Teacher  
5:30-7:00pm

Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> Fun Friday

Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> PD day

Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> Thanksgiving

### What to Bring to School...

- Headphones
- Indoor Shoes
- \$4 for an agenda
- 2 lunches every day

8:50AM	Yards open
9:10 AM	School begins
11:10-11:30	Outdoor recess
11:30-11:50	Nutrition break
1:30-1:50	Outdoor recess
1:50-2:10	Nutrition break
3:30	Dismissal
*Please be sure to arrive no earlier than 8:50 am when the teachers are on yards. Thanks.	

*Growing Excellence... Inspiring Success*

## Volunteers Needed...

We rely on volunteers to run some of the wonderful programs for our students. Please see the following opportunities and contact the school if you can help out for an hour or more a week. Parents, grandparents, friends are welcome. A police check will be needed. All help is greatly appreciated for the kids. Please call the office for any of these opportunities.

### Breakfast and Snack help:

- Help pack breakfasts into “grab n’ go” lunch bags for our Kindergarten students. 1 hour on Wednesday mornings.
- Help shop and/or prepare breakfast foods for our Wednesday morning breakfast. 1-2 hours on Tuesday afternoon or Wed. morning.
- Help shop for and/or prepare simple snacks for our daily snack program. Eg. Cutting up veggies, packing fruit into bags. 1 hour any day of the week.
- Set up tables and chairs for the breakfast program. 30 minutes on Tuesday afternoon or Wednesday early morning.

### Strong Start Reading Volunteer:

- Help Grade 1 students by playing games with letters, sounds and words. All training is provided. 2 half days of training in October. Volunteer 1 or 2 hours per week.

### Lunchroom or Yard helper

- Help with Kindergarten students on the playground. 1 or more hours per week.

### Classroom Helper

- Help in the classroom. 1 or more hours per week.

## Coming home ...

Watch for important forms that came home last week. Please sign and return all forms so your child can participate in all school activities.

**The permission form** is for community walks, trips to the park, grocery store, etc. Throughout the year, when classes go on local walking trips, this form is their permission.

Please return the **Current Information Sheet** as soon as possible. We use this to contact you in case of emergency and it must be on file in the office. Please let us know whenever you have a change in information such as phone number or contact person. Thanks for completing this form.

## The Launch Pad

The Launch Pad is a program of Kids Can Fly for all children of pre-school age. This community partnership is funded by Bill and Dorothy Campbell, with space provided by the Grand Erie District School Board. It operates during school days from September through June. The Launch Pad is a free, drop in program which is open to all. Parents or caregivers stay with the children during their visits. Early Childhood Educator, Mrs. J. Flinders leads the programming in Room 2 at the school. Drop in Tuesday-Friday from 9-12. All ages welcome from infant to JK age. The room is right next door to the office. See you there! Cab fare is provided.



## The Big 5 Rules

1. All our rules will be fair and reasonable, and they will be democratically decided upon. They will be posted on the wall for everyone to see and they will be enforced.
2. We will not tolerate any disrespectful behaviour
3. Students are not to touch others, or their things, without permission.
4. Students will be allowed to do lots of talking.  
Other than when the teacher is teaching, speaking to someone, or giving directions, students can talk amongst themselves at an appropriate volume (unless instructed otherwise).
5. The principal will be aware of all class rules and will support us for our good behaviour as well as deal with our inappropriate behaviour.

*We have been working on our rules from the Dynamic Classroom Management program. In each classroom, the rules are posted in kid-friendly language. The students have worked together with the teacher to vote on their own rewards and consequences. This is our second year of using the Big 5. We are noticing much improvement in yards and hallway behaviour. In the classroom, students are on-task and showing respect to their teachers and each other. Keep up the terrific work!*

**Peanut Free Ideas!** Here are some suggestions for foods that are free of peanuts and peanut products. They are healthy and taste good too! Always read food labels to be sure.

- Fresh fruit, fruit cups
- Dried fruit (raisins, dried apricots, dried cranberries), 100% fruit leathers
- 100% fruit juices
- Fresh veggies
- Milk and chocolate milk
- Plain low fat cheese
- Low sodium pretzels
- Plain popcorn
- Whole grain crackers
- Homemade trail mix (without peanuts or other nuts)
- Yogurt
- Fruit juice popsicles
- Homemade muffins or baked goods made without peanuts or peanut oil



## Peanut-Free Schools

September 15, 2014

Dear Parents of Graham Bell-Victoria School,

We felt that all parents would like to be aware that there is a child in our school with a severe life-threatening food allergy to peanuts. (anaphylaxis) This includes any food that has peanuts or peanut oil or traces of peanuts in it. This is a medical condition that causes a severe reaction to specific foods and can result in death within minutes.

All of our staff have been made aware of this situation and have been instructed in the correct procedures regarding anaphylactic shock.

Prevention, of course, is the best approach. Although this may or may not affect your child's class directly, we want to inform you so that you may choose to send foods with your child to school that are free from peanuts or peanut products. In a classroom setting, cross-contamination is the greatest risk for this type of allergy. Please see the list of peanut-free foods in the newsletter. More information will be available on Meet the teacher night.

We endeavour to make the school a safe environment for all students. On the previous page of the newsletter are some suggestions for peanut-free foods to send to school. Please contact the school if you would like more information regarding anaphylaxis or peanut-free foods.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Clara Anderson

Principal

