



# Dundana Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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## Halloween At Dundana

Dundana staff have planned some activities for Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup> for our students. Here is an outline of the school-wide plans and guidelines. Individual educators and/or classes may follow up with class-specific information to families as well.

### **Costume Parade**

Students who wish to participate in the costume parade are asked to wear their costumes to school on the 31<sup>st</sup>. We will begin a parade featuring our K to 5 classes at 9:30 a.m. Parents, guardians or family members who wish to view the parade are asked to wait on the back playground at 9:30, weather permitting. An alternative space will be provided in the case of inclement weather.

Family members who do view the parade are reminded that photos or videos of other students should not be taken or posted without the permission of those parents/guardians.

Students are not required to wear a costume. If not wearing a costume, students are invited to wear black or orange, or their everyday clothing.

### **Costume Guidelines**

For student safety and well being, students are reminded to wear costumes that meet the following guidelines:

- Costumes should permit easy movement in the school, including on stairs (e.g. no dragging hemlines to trip on, proper footwear, can sit comfortably)
- Do not include full face masks. This includes full face masks with eye holes
- Do not include weapons of any kind
- Comply with board dress code conditions of not promoting or symbolizing drugs, alcohol, illegal activity, hate or discrimination, profanity, pornography, inciting violence or harassment
- Educators cannot be responsible for helping students maintain organization of costume pieces. As such, families are encouraged to keep smaller or valuable costume accessories at home to keep them safe for the big night
- Adhere to cultural appropriate guidelines. Cultural appropriation means taking or borrowing a look or trait from a culture that is not your own. Consider these questions to help you determine if a costume is appropriate for school.



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- Is my costume making fun of a group of people, their culture, religion and/or belief systems?
- Does my costume reinforce jokes and stereotypes about certain groups, cultures, religions and/or belief systems?
- Am I altering my skin colour, facial/body features to make it like a particular race, ethnicity or cultural group?
- Am I dressing up as a culture or borrowing from a religion that is not my own or is not part of my background?

## Other Activities in the Day

Classes will also participate in a number of other activities during the day, including a pumpkin stroll, dancing and movement and mural drawing. Depending on your child and their costume, he/she may feel more comfortable participating in the remainder of the day in their everyday clothing. It is a good idea to send a change of clothes with your child, for their comfort.

## Treats

In order to best support all of our students, **the sharing or distributing of treats between students will not be permitted.**

Individual educators or classes may establish a suggestion for a child to bring a treat he/she can enjoy during the day, but students will not be permitted to share those treats, including pre-packaged items. As is also our usual policy, Dundana is a nut-safe school meaning no items should be brought to school containing nuts at any time.