



GATESTONE MARCH NEWSLETTER

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Gatestone Newsletter

March 2017

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Hello all,

Only 4 months of school left at this point. For our grade 8 students, this represents the last term of their elementary careers. This time will pass by very fast for them. Please stay tuned for graduation information as it will start making its way home soon. For future planning June 20th is graduation day.

It's been a very exciting February. Our Basketball teams have all done well. Our senior girls have excelled once again winning the Saltfleet Invitational Tournament and are currently one win away from earning a berth in the City Championship. The Championship game is on March 2nd at 8:00 pm at Sir Allan Macnab. Our Gatestone Dance team participated in their competition earning praise from everyone who had the opportunity to watch and earning the Perfectly Polished Award. Hopefully we will see an entry from this team in our school talent show later this year. The dynamic duo of Nick and Tyson raised over \$550.00 with their cupcake fundraiser doing their part in helping the great people at McMaster Children's Hospital. As a family that has had experience with McMaster's Children Hospital, I can honestly say they are worthy of support. Congrats to everyone who have enriched Gatestone's character.

Our first pasta day lunch was a huge success. We had over 200 orders. Special thanks to Mrs Graham and Mrs Dyer (parent council members) and the other Mrs Graham (volunteer extraordinaire) for organizing and volunteering that day. Another first is the recognition lunch for our student of the month winners happening March 7 in the gym at 1:00 pm. Big thanks goes to the Positive Action Committee for hosting and organizing. Beginning March 20th the grade eights will be selling CC Swirls every Monday first nutrition break, until the end of April. Cost will be \$2, flavors are: chocolate, vanilla, and swirl. Dates: March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 24. March Break begins March 11th. We look forward to seeing everyone back on March 20th. We hope everyone has a restful time off, for those getting away, safe travels.

We have almost 80% of our families using School Cash online. This is a safe, easy and convenient way to pay for school activities. This program has made the organizing and collecting of money based events far easier than ever before. It virtually eliminates the time wasted collecting and organizing money that was spent during instructional time previously. Students are now getting on with the days lessons sooner. It also drastically reduces the amount of time needed to count and then double count deposits as per standardized business practices. As we continue to implement and support this service we would like to remind everyone of the next step starting September 2017. All trips will be paid for using School cash online.

Please have a look online regarding our Pink Day shirt order form. International Day of Pink is April 12. We are trying to get 85% of our students and staff wearing pink that day. The shirts are high quality and are designed to be used in the future.

Finally, Parent Council would like to recognize the staff here at Gatestone as being outstanding. They would like to pass along to Mrs Vinall, Mr Boutcher, Mrs Nighswander, Mrs Omarra and Mr Midgley an extra shout out as they have heard many comments from parents about how wonderful they are. Congrats.

M.Castellani

MARCH CALENDAR

**GATESTONE
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL**

**MICHAEL
CASTELLANI
PRINCIPAL**

**MARISSA TURNER
VICE-PRINCIPAL**

**127 GATESTONE DR.
STONEY CREEK, ON
L8J 3Z5
(905) 573-7731
905) 573-3127**

**[GATESTONE@
HWDSB.ON.CA](mailto:GATESTONE@HWDSB.ON.CA)**

**[HTTP://HWDSB.
ON.CA/GATESTONE](http://HWDSB.ON.CA/GATESTONE)**

**[HTTPS://
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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Movie Night Wanakita Parent Night 	3 PD Day No School	4
5	6 Immuniza- tions	7 Immuniza- tions Lunch of Champions	8	9 Last Day to Order Pink Day Shirts Online Only 	10	11 March Break Begins
12	13 Off	14 Off	15 Off	16 Off	17 Off	18
19 March Break Ends	20	21	22 	23 	24	25
26	27	28 Pita Pit	29 	30 	31	

Upcoming Dates
 April 12 Day of Pink
 April 14 Good Friday—No School
 April 17 Easter Monday—No School
 April 22 Earth Day