



Community Week at a Glance

Feb. 4, 2019 – Feb. 8, 2019

Monday, February 4	Day 5	
Tuesday, February 5	Day 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3:35PM Brixology Lab • 3:35PM Vex Robotics Club
Wednesday, February 6	Day 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WEAR YELLOW – WALK TO SCHOOL DAY
Thursday, February 7	Day 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11:20AM Shelter in Place Drill
Friday, February 8	Day 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10:00AM Lockdown Practice



Our Gatestone Senior Girls Basketball stars sure are a force to be reckoned with. Congratulations on an undefeated season so far and taking the win at the Senior Lynx & The Tide Tournament this past week.

CANDY GRAMS

We have **limited** amounts of Candy Grams ready to sell this week for \$1.00. Our Student Action Team will be donating the proceeds to the SPCA.



ABSENCES

Please make sure to report to the school if your child will be absent as per our safe school protocol. The school number is 905-573-7731. If the school does not receive confirmation of a student's absence from a parent/guardian our system will begin to call families. In the event that we are unable to get in contact with a parent/guardian, the school will then need to connect with emergency contacts. Please help avoid this process by reporting your child's absence.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES - SECURE SCHOOLS

At Gatestone, we will be practicing our "**Secure Schools Procedure**" with Constable Masters on Friday, February 8 and a Shelter in Place drill on February 7. A Lockdown is used when there is a potential risk of harm to people within, or outside the school setting. Although one can never predict when a violent or potentially harmful situation may arise, schools can prepare for responding to such an incident through intentional, scheduled practices, much like what we do with Fire Drills or Emergency Evacuation Drills. The goal of the practice is to minimize the risk for staff and students during a time of crisis. In the event of a "real" lockdown, the Hamilton Police Services will be responding to the situation.

A Hold and Secure practice, Shelter in Place practice and Bomb Threat - Emergency Evacuation practice, occur at least once each year as well. Gatestone has already practiced three Fire Drills, one Lockdown, and one Hold and Secure drill this year.

All staff, students and volunteers who are regularly in the school buildings are required to know the emergency procedures. The students will have emergency procedures explained to them ahead of time.

The following terms and language will be used to ensure everyone is using the proper terminology.

HOLD AND SECURE

- is used when the school is secured due to an ongoing situation outside and not related to the school that requires all persons to remain in the building (e.g. bank robbery near a school)

- the school continues to function normally, with the exterior doors locked until the situation is resolved
- a staff member posted near each entrance to ensure no one leaves the building
- all movement in and out of the school is restricted
- exterior facing windows should be covered or blinds drawn, lights dimmed, where possible
- police will notify the school when it can come out of 'Hold and Secure'

SHELTER IN PLACE

- is used for an environmental, or weather related situation, where it is necessary to keep all occupants within the school to protect them (e.g., may include chemical spills, blackouts, explosions or extreme weather conditions)
- people enter and remain in a building with the doors and windows closed fans, including heating and air conditioning units, should be turned off to prevent outside air from entering the building
- normal operations may continue within the building.

LOCKDOWN

- is used only when there is a major incident or threat of serious violence within the school, or in relation to the school
- the threat is inside the school, or is on school property, and poses an immediate threat to the students and staff
- all movement within the school and into and out of the school is restricted
- doors remain open to permit police immediate entry
- Police will notify the school when Lockdown is ended

· The "Safe Location" for our school is St. Mark Elementary School

The above terminology is used to ensure consistency across the province. Common language across the province allows for easy integration when staff, students and other emergency service personnel are transferred from one jurisdiction to another.

Along with this information being presented at school, we encourage parents to talk with their children about the need to always be safe and well prepared for an emergency situation.

BOMB THREAT

- students will evacuate the school if there is a report or discovery of an explosive device. St. Mark Elementary is our evacuation site.

COMMUNICATION TO FAMILIES IN SECURE SCHOOL SITUATIONS:

HWDSB will post safety updates on its website www.hwdsb.on.ca and Twitter @HWDSB.

Where appropriate... Phone messages will be sent to the parent/guardian's contact phone number provided to the school. HWDSB will be in contact with local media outlets. Monitor broadcast and print outlets.

During such events, cellphone use between parents and student is restricted.

Phone lines must be free for emergency services.