



Gatestone Community Update

***First Day of School September 8th for Grades 1-8
September 9th All Kindergarten Students Start***

Dear Gatestone Families,

Welcome back to a new school year! I understand families are anxious to learn more about Gatestone's COVID-19 protocols for the 2021-2022 school year. Administrators will be meeting on Monday, August 30th to receive training regarding any public health measures in schools. All the information families will need to know will be shared after August 30th. Many of our safety measures will remain the same as last year, however there will be slight changes to nutrition breaks and extra curricular activities.

Please feel free to access Ministry Public Health Guidelines and our the HWDSB website for further details until school specific information is shared next week.

<https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/about/covid19/>

<https://www.ontario.ca/document/covid-19-health-safety-and-operational-guidance-schools-2021-2022>

First Day of School

Our First Day back to school begins on Wednesday, September 8, 2021 for our Grade 1-8 students and Thursday, September 9th for our Kindergarten students. Students that attended in-person classes last year will have received information regarding their class placement for September 2021 on their June Report Card. Families of students registered in remote last year may contact our school by

phone or office e-mail the week of August 30 to September 3rd during the hours of 9AM-3PM to inquire about their child's class placement.

Junior Kindergarten or New to Senior Kindergarten Transition Visits September 8

Our Junior Kindergarten and new to Senior Kindergarten students will be receiving an invite from their classroom teacher regarding a time for their transition visit at Gatestone. Classroom teachers will be communicating through e-mail or phone to share the visit time. Visits will take place on **September 8th**. We are asking that only one parent attend the visit with their child. Please make sure to wear masks. If a mask exemption is required, please notify the office. Parent and child will sign in at the main office to review our COVID-19 screener prior to attending the visit in the classroom.

Class Assignments for September 2021

Families had the opportunity in May of 2021 to share any information regarding a specific learning environment for September 2021. Class placements are complete. **Due to class size caps and adhering to Public Health Measures, we are not able to make changes to class placements.** Our staff is always prepared to support learners that may feel anxious or worried about moving to a new grade, class or working with new peers or teachers. As a school community we recognize transitions can be challenging for some of our students. Staff are trained to support in these transitions and ready to help problem solve and guide when necessary. Please do not request changes to the office for class placements for September 2021 as we are not able to honour changes at this time for the start up. HWDSB will monitor our school enrolment numbers in September and determine whether a reorganization at the end of September is necessary. All schools follow the same process yearly.

Thank you to our Caretaking Team!

A special thank you to our dynamite caretaking team at Gatestone! Our team has worked extra hard this summer and will continue with these efforts next week to prepare for our school re-opening September 8th!

Gatestone Staff Information

2021-2022 School Year

Staff Name	Assignment
Steve McCormack	JSA
Sharon Pauls	DECE JSA
Roseanna Cino	JSB
Krysta Tortola	DECE JSB
Kylie Schmidt	JSC
Aleksandra Rego	DECE JSC
Amanda Zona (previously Ms. Flis)	JSD
Judith Feaver	DECE JSD
Katie Benedict	Grade 1A
Jennifer Nighswander	Grade 1B
Andrea Brown	Grade 2A
Corene O'Marra	Grade 2B
Penny Johnson	Grade 3B
Andrew Macnab	Grade 3B
Melissa Kuczerepa	Grade 4A
David Pidberezny	Grade 4B
Michele Wunsche	Jr/Int Comprehensive Program
Melissa Bartlett	Grade 5A
Colleen Nash	Grade 5B
Jessica Whittle	Grade 5/6A
Jennifer Taylor/Alyssa Stewart	Grade 6A
Brenda Gould	Grade 6/7A
Devan Sorman	Grade 6/7B
Tammy Caco	Grade 7A
Laura Lamarre	Grade 7/8A
Suzy Graham	Grade 8A
Jessica Penner	Grade 8B
Leeanne Smith	Learning Commons & Coverage
Lisa Dunstall	Resource Support LRT/Pr.Coverage
Marlo Moore	Resource Support LRT/Pr. Coverage
Jamie Lamarre	Intermediate Core French
Amanda Verbeek	Junior Core French
Dan Lane	Physical Education
Cassandra Muraca	Instrumental Music Junior/Intermediate
Evan Haskell-Cowan	Grade 8 Remote Teacher
Sarah Coburn	JK/SK Remote Teacher

Staff Name	Assignment
Humaira Naz	JK/SK Remote DECE
0.6 LTO TBD	Remote/In-Person
Educational Assistants:	
Marion Blake-Foster LTO(Alana Gaudin)	Educational Assistant
Katie Kersley	Educational Assistant
Petina Barnett	Educational Assistant
Cindy Kennedy	Educational Assistant
Linda Rezo	Educational Assistant
Custodial Staff:	
Leon Plevel (Daytime Caretaker)	Caretaking Team
Lorna McQueen (Daytime Caretaker)	Caretaking Team
Rosa Palmieri (Evening Caretaker)	Caretaking Team
Nada Hrastov (Evening Caretaker)	Caretaking Team
Malgorazata Frak (Evening Caretaker)	Caretaking Team
Office Staff:	
Karen Ashton: Office Administrator	Office
Katy Mason: Office Administrator	Office
Kelly Reilly-Scott: Principal	Office
Melissa Biederman: Vice-Principal	Office

Umbrella Child Care

Before and After care is available at Gatestone's site. Umbrella Child Care is organized through Umbrella Care only. Our main office does not manage registrations with Umbrella. Please review the link to contact Umbrella Care if you are seeking child care before and after school.

<https://www.umbrellafamily.com/home/centres/gatestone/>

Bell Time Changes 2021-2022 School Year

A friendly reminder our school bell times have changed this school year to accommodate busing at various schools in the community.

Gatestone Bell Times 2021-2022

Entry 9:00 – 9:15	School Grounds Open
AM	
9:15 – 9:55	Period 1
9:55 – 10:35	Period 2
10:35 – 11:15	Period 3
11:15 – 11:35	Grade 5-8, Outside Nutrition Break Grade 1-4, Inside Nutrition Break
11:35 – 11:55	Grade 1-4, Outside Nutrition Break Grade 5-8, Inside Nutrition Break
11:55 – 12:25	Period 4
PM	
12:25 – 12:55	Period 5
12:55 – 1:35	Period 6
1:35 – 1:55	Grade 5-8 Outside Nutrition Break Grade 1-4 Inside Nutrition Break
1:55 – 2:15	Grade 1-4 Outside Nutrition Break Grade 5-8 Inside Nutrition Break
2:15 – 2:55	Period 7
2:55 – 3:35	Period 8
3:35 – 3:55	Dismissal
3:55	School Grounds Close

Remote Learning Transitions

HWDSB is providing an opportunity for elementary students to transition between in-person and Remote Learning later this fall.

Starting Friday, September 3, families who want a change for their child/ren between learning models can make their choice in the Parent Portal. The survey will close one week later, Friday, September 10, and students will make their transition between learning models in early October.

Families requesting a transition between remote and in-person learning this September are reminded that students will begin the school year in their original selection and will not complete their transition until a later date. Students who did not previously select the Remote Learning option in the June 2021 survey are considered in-person learners by default.

Join the [Elementary Remote Learning Parent Information Session on September 1 from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.](#) for more information.

Gatestone Community Updates

Community Updates are sent out weekly on our Gatestone website. Please subscribe to our website to receive the updates to your e-mail.

Looking forward to seeing everyone soon! More information will be sent later next week regarding COVID-19 protocols and important September information.

Kelly Reilly-Scott
Principal
Gatestone Elementary