



***October 25 – October 29***

## **Gatestone Elementary School 2021-2022**

Monday, October 25	Day 3	
Tuesday, October 26	Day 4	
Wednesday, October 27	Day 5	
Thursday, October 28	Day 1	
Friday, October 29	Day 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>10:00AM Virtual Assembly for Students who want to share their costume!</b></li><li>• 12PM Name that Tune (School Wide Fun Fridays are Back!)</li></ul>

### **Halloween - For Students and Families wishing to Celebrate**

Students may celebrate Halloween on Friday, October 29. We ask that parents do not send in any treats for the class. Students may bring in their own special treat in their lunch for a classroom celebration, however sharing of food is not permitted.

### **Costume Update and HWDSB Protocols for Halloween Fun**

- Students can wear costumes to school as per prior years practice (e.g., no cultural appropriation, no offensive and insensitive costumes, no weapons, no costume masks that might impede vision, no inappropriate images, etc.)

- Students choosing to wear a costume should come to the school already wearing the costume and keep the costume on for the duration of the day.
- Student costumes must be able to accommodate a face covering as per COVID requirements. A costume mask is not a substitute for a face covering. A costume mask should not be worn over a non-medical mask or face covering because it can be dangerous if the costume mask makes it hard to breathe.
- Activities will take place within student cohorts. Students will continue to maintain safe practices including physical distancing and hand hygiene.
- Students who choose not to participate in Halloween activities, their choice will be respected and the activities that are planned in their class will not interfere with their schooling.

Costumes that are based on people's culture are offensive, harmful and insensitive. The following are suggested questions may help when choosing a costume to avoid being disrespectful or offensive.

- *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?*

**Let's have a HAPPY HALLOWEEN GATESTONE!**

### **Media Consent Forms**

Printed copies of the 2021-2022 Media Consent Forms have been sent home to families. Parents/guardians please complete the media consent form. This is helpful information for the school when sharing student participation in school events.

## School Photo Dates

Wednesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 – School Photo Day

Wednesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – School Retake Photo Day

Friday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – Grade 8 Graduation Photos

## Dress for Cooler Weather

With the cooler weather fast approaching, students are reminded to dress in more layers of clothing to suit the weather conditions. Warmer jackets, coats, hats, mittens, and boots (rain or snow) will be needed to stay warm during our colder days to enjoy outdoor nutrition breaks and Daily Physical Activity outside. Our students use field areas during nutrition break. In the next few months our field will be damp throughout the day. We want to have students outside on the field as much as possible in their classroom cohorts, so please pack a pair of rain boots or outdoor shoes for your child to enjoy the field. Days when we are unable to access the field, staff will find other times in the day where students can move around on our blacktop areas to receive some fresh air and outdoor exercise.

Lockers and Cubbies will re-open for students in November to help with the storage of clothing and boots. Students must bring all of their belongings home each day from school. Students should not leave boots or other clothing items at school as this interferes with evening cleaning of the halls and classrooms. Thank you for your support here!