



December 6 – December 10

Gatestone Elementary School 2021-2022

Monday, December 6	Day 2	Kindergarten Spirit Day Countdown to Winter Break begins today! <i>Kindergarten Parents can review your child's Spirit Day Events with your child's homeroom teacher.</i>
Tuesday, December 7	Day 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gatestone Spirit Wear! Wear your Gatestone gear or colours!</li> </ul>
Wednesday, December 8	Day 4	Walking Wednesday for All Classes Today
Thursday, December 9	Day 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Candy Cane Spirit Today for All Grades </li> </ul> <p>Dress in <i>Red and White</i> or in your favourite Candy Cane Colours</p>
Friday, December 10	Day 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tiger-Cat Spirit Day </li> </ul> <p><i>For those Football Fans share some Ti-Cat Spirit!</i> (Dress in yellow and black or Ti-Cat attire)</p>

Dress for Weather Conditions and Field Play

With the damp weather in December, our field area becomes quite wet with several muddy patches. We want to have students outside on our field area as much as possible to allow for appropriate distancing without masks outside. Please pack extra outdoor shoes or rain boots for your child to enjoy the field. Days when we are unable to access the field and need to implement a Blacktop only recess, students will follow an outdoor rotating schedule with their class to ensure appropriate physical distancing and removal of masks can occur. Both nutrition breaks still occur regardless and every class will have one outdoor scheduled time during one of the nutrition breaks. Educators will also plan for another time in their day where students can move around outside on our blacktop areas to receive some fresh air and more outdoor exercise.

Lately, we have endured more blacktop and indoor recesses than usual due to damp weather conditions. Our school will be implementing, Walking Wednesdays, as another opportunity to get outside for more exercise. During the morning, classes will have an assigned time to walk outside around our school pathways and blacktop area. Daily Physical Activity (20minutes) will continue to occur on days students do not have Physical Education as well.

## Grade 7 & 8 Students

Attention Grade 7&8 Students

From your Student Trustees at Gatestone:

Student Trustees would like you to complete the form using the link below to share what you think about the Student Senate or just to get an understanding of what you already know about Student Senate. Students in Grade 7 & 8 would only complete this form. This form will also be shared by your classroom teacher.

[Student Senate Feedback Form](#)

## Hamilton Food Share – Gatestone is Ready to Donate!

GATESTONE'S Food Drive

December 1st to  
December 16th

**One Can** Make  
A Difference!

Please donate non-perishable food items, such as: soup, beans, vegetables, kraft dinner, pasta, pasta sauce, jam, pickles.



## Previous Updates

### Human Rights Policy HWDSB

We are committed to developing a policy that reflect the voices of the communities we serve, especially those that often experience discrimination due to their race, gender, disability, ethnicity, religion, place of origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, family status and other reasons. All HWDSB community members (students, parents, caregivers, guardians, staff, volunteers, community partners and community members) are invited to share their perspectives to inform the human rights policy and procedure.

There are four ways for students, staff, families and community members to get involved:

- Complete the human rights policy survey - open until January 5, 2022
- Share responses to the Human Rights Policy discussion questions by emailing written, audio or video submissions to [humanrights@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:humanrights@hwdsb.on.ca).
- Send responses anonymously through this anonymous form <https://ca.research.net/r/HumanRightsPolicyQuestions2021-2022>
- Participate in a virtual listening session- register to one of the sessions planned between November 24 to December 16, for students, parents/ community members and staff:

Students: register here: [Students Human Rights Policy](#)

Families/community members: register here: [Human Rights Policy](#)

Staff: register here: [Staff Human Rights Policy](#)

## Census Survey

At Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB), we are committed to identifying and removing barriers so we can offer all students supportive, inclusive, and respectful learning environments.

To learn more about our students, we conducted a confidential census in April 2021. *We All Count: HWDSB Student Census 2021* gathered identity-based student data so that we can identify and address systemic barriers by focusing our programming and resources. **The student census has been reintroduced in 2021-22, due to the challenges of conducting it during the remote learning period. The survey opens Monday, November 29<sup>th</sup> in the Parent Portal for students in Kindergarten to Grade 4. Students in Grade 5-8 will complete the survey at school in their homeroom classes. The survey will close by December 16<sup>th</sup>.** Please support this important work and complete the survey in our Parent Portal if your child is in a younger grade.