



Community Weekly Update Dec. 12 – Dec. 16

Monday, December 12	Day 2	<p>Carter's Cookies for Sale last week \$2.00</p> <p>GIVING TREE DAY (Dress up in green, be colourful or give someone an appreciation)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photo Re-take day (Class 7/8A photo as well)
Tuesday, December 13	Day 3	<p>Winter Animal Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lunch Box
Wednesday, December 14	Day 4	<p>GRINCH DAY</p>
Thursday, December 15	Day 5	<p>Mad about Plaid</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pizza Day
Friday, December 16	Day 1	<p>SWEATER WEATHER (favourite sweater)</p>

Upcoming Dates:

- *Intermediate Classes Excursion this week – see homeroom teacher schedule*
- *Winter Break Drama Works Presentation – Gatestone Families invited, Wednesday, Dec. 21st at 12:00 - 1:30PM*
- *Our SPICE (students promoting inclusivity, community, and equity) voted on a countdown celebration to the winter break. Students selected themes students believed would brighten a cool December month and promote positivity in the school community.*

Countdown



Gatestone Gives Back – December 5-16

Gatestone is collecting donations for the following;

- Items for toddlers (baby items)
- Items for our furry friends (animal shelter)
- Hats and Mittens



Essential Aid

Hamilton's Infant & Toddler Food Bank

Help feed the babies!



Donate your non-perishable baby items to Essential Aid
...because no child should have to go without!

Needed Items include:

- infant formula
- baby wipes
- granola bars & fruit snacks
- diapers (size 3-6)
- infant hygiene products
- cereal & oatmeal
- baby food
- breast feeding supplies
- other non-perishable food
- infant cereal
- apple sauce & fruit cups
- items suitable for toddlers

HELP SUPPORT OUR FURRY FRIENDS

Things to donate:

Wet and dry cat food

Dog Food

Puppy Pads

Litter

Stainless steel water bowls

Freeze zip lock bags

Cat litter scoops

Cat and Dog Toys

Waste Bags

Treats for cat and dogs

Leashes and collars



Pizza Orders - December

Families, please make sure to **pre-order your pizza** for Thursday Pizza Days if you have not completed this process through cash online for the remainder of December. You can pre-order your child's pizza by phoning in to our main office or picking up a form at our main office during regular school hours.

We are not able to guarantee pizza for your child at lunch if it is not pre-ordered.

January orders can be completed through school cash online.

Masking

MESSAGE: On December 5, 2022, the Board of Trustees passed a new motion (see below) for HWDSB schools.

- Students, staff and visitors are required to wear masks while at school until the first Board meeting in January when the motion will be revisited. Masks may be cloth or medical masks. Masks are not required on school busses or outside.

Mask Availability

Medical masks will continue to be made *readily available* in school offices and in classrooms for staff and students.

Opting Out Process for Students and Staff

Students and staff have unrestricted access to the opt-out process.

- **Students:** A parent, guardian, or caregiver may complete the *Mask Opt-Out form* in the Parent Portal on behalf of their child/ren. A paper copy can be made available at the school.
- **Visitors:** Visitors or childcare staff may indicate verbally that they are opting out of wearing a mask.

Updated Screening Tool

The [School and Child Care Screening Tool](#) has been updated to align with recent recommendations from the Chief Medical Officer of Health.

Child Care and Visitors

The universal mask requirement applies to anyone in HWDSB schools. This includes visitors, childcare staff and school-aged students in childcare programs.

Supportive Health Measures

We ask that individuals take personal measures to prevent the spread of illness. Please screen daily, practice good hand hygiene and proper cough and sneeze etiquette. Stay home if you are sick.

Healthy Reminders

- Frequent hand washing
- Cough and sneeze into your elbow or a tissue – wash your hands afterwards
- Refrain from touching your face
- Keep up to date with vaccinations (e.g., influenza, COVID-19)
- Make sure the face covering fits well, covering your mouth, nose and chin. The mask should fit your face, leaving no gaps on the sides.
 - Make sure your face covering or mask is secured to your head with ties or ear loops without the need to adjust frequently.

- Avoid moving the face covering or mask around or touching the covering while using it.
- Do not share your face covering or mask with others, even within your own household.
- Do not leave your face covering or mask tucked under your chin, hanging from your ear, or on your forehead.
- Replace the face covering or mask as soon as it becomes damp, dirty, damaged or if it has shrunk after washing and drying. Immediately wash your hands before putting the face covering or mask on, before adjusting it, before taking it off and after taking it off. Use soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer to wash your hands.

GATESTONE CORE VALUES

RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ARE EMBEDDED WITHIN OUR VALUES



RESPECT - REGARD AND CONSIDERATION FOR THE FEELINGS, BELIEFS, AND TRADITIONS OF OTHERS. BEING KIND TO OTHERS.

ENGAGEMENT - TRULY CARE ABOUT OUR LEARNING. FOCUSED IN THE LEARNING.

SAFE & SUPPORTED - SEEK TO UNDERSTAND ONE ANOTHER. CHOOSE TO CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER.

POSITIVITY - OPTIMISTIC OUTLOOK. POSITIVE INTENTIONS.

COMMUNITY - GATESTONE FAMILIES AND STAFF WORKING TOGETHER TO IMPROVE AND MEET THE NEEDS OF GATESTONE SCHOOL. STUDENT, STAFF, AND COMMUNITY VOICE VALUED.

TEAMWORK - WORKING TOGETHER IN EFFECTIVE WAYS TO ACHIEVE A COMMON GOAL.

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Equity