



Community Weekly Update Dec. 19 – Dec. 23

Monday, December 19	Day 2	<b>Cozy Holiday Hat and Sock Day</b>
Tuesday, December 20	Day 3	<b>Red &amp; White or Candy Cane Day</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mrs. Halla (our New Principal effective January 9<sup>th</sup>, visits Gatestone)</li><li>• Lunch Box</li></ul>
Wednesday, December 21	Day 4	<b>WINTER WONDERLAND</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 12PM-1:30PM Holiday Drama Works for Families in our gymnasium. <i>(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 will be available at our visitor sign in table as well. If a visitor is choosing to opt out of wearing a mask, please inform at the sign in table).</i></li></ul>
Thursday, December 22	Day 5	<b>New Year's Eve (Dress to Impress)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pizza Day</li></ul>
Friday, December 23	Day 1	<b>PJ Day</b>

**Winter Break: December 23-January 8**

**School Resumes January 9, 2023.**

*Thank you for your Donations! We appreciate our community support!*

## Gatestone Gives Back



### 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 items suitable for toddlers
- infant cereal
- apple sauce & fruit cups

### 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.

## **STAFF LEARNING THIS WEEK** **RESTORATIVE JOURNEY – INDIGENOUS EDUCATION AND WELLNESS**

**A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO JAXON P, GATESTONE STUDENT, FOR SHARING A LITTLE BIT ABOUT HIS TRADITIONS AND THE 7 GRANDFATHER TEACHINGS AT OUR STAFF MEETING THIS WEEK. WE LOOK FORWARD TO LEARNING MORE.**

*“This is the thing that amazes me constantly, when you look at layers of trauma and the damage done by Canada, that Indigenous Peoples continue to reach out with open hands and open hearts and say let’s build a better country and a better future together.” - Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.*

