

GORDON PRICE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

11 Guildwood Drive

Phone: 905-574-6336

September 2018

Gordon Price is a diverse school community filled with kindness, acceptance, potential and hope. Learning Together. We help using our kind words, helpful hands and caring hearts to make a difference.



From the Principal's Office

We hope everyone had a safe and happy summer break! September marks the beginning of a new school year with new learning ahead. As students return for this school year, it is our hope they will set goals and always try their best in attaining them. As adults (staff and parents) our job is to support them in their learning journey. Take time to sit down with your child and plan for success. A good starting

point would be establishing routines for nightly reading practice, homework completion, and sharing their agendas.

New beginnings mean new staff members to welcome. At Gordon Price, we are thrilled to welcome Ms. R. Bennett (Kindergarten Teacher (K2)), Ms. A. Daigneault (Educational Assistant), Ms. A. Beaulne (Reading Specialist), Ms. T. Casta (Educational Assistant), Ms. Garcia (Educational Assistant) and Ms. S. Croke (Primary Prep Coverage).

We would like to extend congratulations to: Mrs. Fisher, Mrs. Crook and Mrs. Bujan on the birth of their children.

The floors are gleaming and lights are extra bright! We would like to thank our caretaking staff for all of their hard work in preparing our school to be a safe and clean learning environment.

Please mark your calendars for September 13th as it is our Meet the Staff evening. From 5:00 to 6:30 pm, you will have an opportunity to visit classrooms and meet our staff.

We are looking forward to an excellent year!

Mr. Patton

IMPORTANT DATES

Date	Event	Date	Event
September 4	First day of school	January 25	PA Day
13	Meet the Staff Night 5:00-6:30 pm	February 18	Family Day Holiday
21	PA Day	March 1	PA Day
October 2	School Council Meeting 6:30 Library	March 11-15	March Break
October 8	Thanksgiving	April 19-22	Easter Break
October 16	Photo Day	May 20	Victoria Day Holiday
November 2	PA Day	June 7	PA Day
December 7	PA Day	June 27	Last Day of School
December 22	To January 6 Christmas Break	June 28	PA Day

Principal:
Mr. B. Patton

Office Administrators:

Mrs. Sherriff
Mrs. Erben

Superintendent:
Mrs. L. Romano

Trustee:
Mr. W. Hicks

Special points of interest:

- Important Dates
- Volunteer Information
- Safe Arrival
- Daily Schedule
- Updated Staffing
- Transportation

Agendas

Agendas are very important tools for students. They provide students opportunities to set goals, organize their time and assignments and develop their responsibility skills by transporting to and from school. An agenda provides a space for parents and educators to communicate information to each other. Each student in grade 1-8 will be provided an agenda.

September Information Packages

All students will receive a package of forms to be completed. These forms should be returned as soon as possible.

Calling All Volunteers!



Volunteers are essential members of the Gordon Price. Volunteers make so many "extras" possible. Our team of volunteers enrich the educational experience of our students– Nutrition Program, athletics, classroom help and field trips. If you are interested in volunteering , please follow the procedures detailed below. If you are required to obtain a police check, it is best to do so first thing in September as it takes up to 8 weeks for the police department to process the paperwork.

New volunteers -

· If you have never volunteered in a HWDSB school, then you will need to complete a Volunteer Application package and obtain a "Vulnerable Sector Screening Criminal Reference Check (CRC) " from Hamilton Police Services. Drop by the office and ask Mrs. Sherriff or Mrs. Erben for the necessary forms.

Returning volunteers -

-All other volunteers must complete a volunteer application package and sign an annual offence declaration and should begin updating their CRC's every 3 years.

Students and Medication

For the safety of all of our students, we ask that students not carry any medication on their person or in their locker unless it is an Epi-pen for emergency treatment. The office must be made aware of any student that may require emergency treatment.

Other medications are over-the-counter medication, such as cough syrup and pain relievers. These should **not** be brought to school by students of elementary school age, or stored at school, as some students may have adverse reactions to improper usage and other students may inadvertently obtain these medications.

All other medication must be kept in the office. Prescription medication requires signed authorization of a parent or guardian and signed direction by the prescribing doctor before it can be administered by school personnel. These forms are available at the office.

Website and Twitter Account!

Please visit and subscribe to our school website and receive notifications of updates.

Follow us on Twitter: @GP_HWDSB



SAFE AND TIMELY ARRIVAL



For the safety of our students and for our priority on instructional time, you are asked to observe the following:

- Parking in front of the school is prohibited. This is a school bus/no stopping zone. This year, there will be 4 buses at the beginning and end of the school day. By-law officers may ticket violators.
- Do not drop off your student in the staff parking lot. This is a congested high traffic area not suitable for pedestrians. If you need to park, please use street parking.
- Watch carefully at the cross-walks. Remind your son/daughter to observe safety rules.
- All students enter from the playground doors only. Students are not to enter or exit via the front doors.
- Instructional time begins at 8:30 am and 1:30 pm. Students should arrive 5 minutes in advance so they can enter with the bell.
- Punctuality is a life skill our students need to learn, teach them to set an alarm clock to arrive on time in the morning.
- School ends at 2:50 pm, all walking students exit via the playground doors only. Bus students will use the front doors. Staff supervises the playground until 3:05 pm.
- Students leaving school for lunch (with permission only), must return on time for 1:30 pm afternoon entry.

ABSENTS or LATES

Please remember to call the school office if your child will be late or absent. Leave your child's name, their class number and the reason for their late/absence. If you forget to call, you will receive a call from our School Messenger System to confirm that your child is at home or at an appointment.

2018-2019 DAILY SCHEDULE

TIME	EVENT
8:15 am	Playground Supervision Begins (Please do not arrive before 8:15 am)
8:30	Entry & Period 1
9:10	Period 2
9:50	Period 3
10:30-10:50	Outdoor Break Gr 1-4 Inside Break: Gr 5-8
10:50-11:10	Outdoor Break: Gr 5-8 Inside Break Gr 1-4
11:10	Period 4
12:10	Period 5
12:50-1:10	Outdoor Break Gr 1-4 Inside Break: Gr 5-8
1:10-1:30	Outdoor Break: Gr 5-8 Inside Break Gr 1-4
1:30	Period 6
2:10	Period 7
2:50	End of Day Dismissal
3:05	Playground Supervision Ends (unsupervised after 3:05 pm)

Newsletters
Our monthly newsletters are posted online each month.

Subscribe to our school website and receive an email notification of an update.

Pizza Days-Wednesday

Beginning in the month of October, we will be having Pizza Days . Please sign up for School Cash Online as it is an easy way to pay for your child's pizza, <https://hwdsb.schoolcashonline.com/>.

School Council News.....

WELCOME BACK, PARENTS!

The Gordon Price School Council invites all parents to join our organization. School Councils provide advice to Principals regarding programs and student life.

First Meeting October 2nd, 2018
School Library
6:30 pm

ALLERGY ALERT

Within our school community there are students and staff who have a potential life-threatening allergy (anaphylaxis) to foods, predominantly nuts. Others suffer from allergic reactions to perfumes, spray colognes and body sprays (e.g. AXE). We respectfully ask for the co-operation of the parents/guardians within the school community to avoid sending nuts of any kind or wearing perfume/ colognes to school.

STUDENT FEES

Every year schools in HWDSB are required to publish any fees students are required to pay.

These fees may include:

- Lost books \$5-10
- School trips \$20

More information to follow!

PICTURES!

Edge Photography will continue to be responsible for our school photos.



We have scheduled the following photos dates:
On October 16th, it will be individual student and class photo day. Re-take photos will take place in November.

*****School Office*****

Parents, it is very helpful that you make arrangements with your child for pick up or alternate dismissal plans. It is not always possible to transmit a message to students at the end of the day.

Thanks for your assistance!

Attendance Matters ... (<https://thelearningexchange.ca/attendance-matters/>)

Student attendance matters a lot. Regular attendance predicts student success. Schools can have a significant impact on attendance by assessing their practices and working with parents and the community. Parents can support by reading to their children at a young age, setting high expectations and talking about those expectations and supporting regular attendance. Regular communication and collaboration can support students with attendance.

Visit school website: www.hwdsb.on.ca/gordonprice or Follow Twitter: @GP_HWDSB

2018 Gordon Price Staff Organization

JK/SK: Mrs. Couto and Ms. Corbeau (LTO for Ms. Cartagena)
 JK/SK: Ms. Bennett (LTO for Mrs. Bujan)
 JK/SK: Ms. Arndt and Mrs. Blair

Gr 1: Mrs. Falla
 Gr 1/2: Mrs. Miles-Wilson
 Grade 1/2: Mrs. Robillard
 Grade 2/3: Mrs. Kybartas
 Grade 3: Mrs. Gidge
 Grade 3/4: Ms. Koruna
 Grade 4: Mr. Johnson
 Grade 4/5: Ms. McLaughlin
 Grade 5/6: Mrs. A. Scott
 Grade 6: Miss. E. Scott
 Grade 7: Mrs. Stuart
 Grade 7/8: Mr. Ireland
 Grade 8: Mrs. Adames

Core French: Ms. Tratch
 Music: Ms. McManus
 Primary Phys Ed (PM): Mr. McAvella
 Library (AM): Mrs. DiTommaso
 Primary Prep Coverage: Ms. Croke
 Learning Resource Teacher: Mrs. Palcik
 Learning Resource Teacher: Ms. Schooley
 Reading Specialist: Ms. Beaulne
 ELL Student Support: Mrs. Principato

Educational Assistants:
 Ms. Babineau
 Ms. Daigneault
 Ms. Casta (LTO)
 Ms. Garcia (0.5 LTO)
 Mrs. McCormack (0.5)
 Mrs. McDonald
 Mrs. Whitmore

TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

At HWDSB, student transportation is provided by the consortium Hamilton-Wentworth Student Transportation Services (HWSTS). HWSTS provides safe, effective and efficient transportation services to eligible students at HWDSB as well as Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board. This may take the form of traditional yellow-and-black school buses, school purpose vans or Hamilton Street Railway transit.

Delays in 2018-19

HWSTS has advised Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board (HWCDSB) and Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB) that a bus driver shortage may impact local school bus routes. HWSTS is working with the local bus companies to try to minimize the impact on students. Families are encouraged to sign up for email notifications of delays and cancellations on the HWSTS website www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca.

Courtesy Transportation

If you are interested in applying for courtesy seat on one of our buses, you must submit an application to the school. The Principal will review the application, consult with HWSTS regarding bus loading and routing information as necessary and will reach a decision regarding approval. If the application is approved, the school will contact the family and provide the stop location, stop times, bus route info and effective start date. All approved forms are sent to HWSTS where the new rider information will be recorded into our routing software. Students will not appear on the bus ridership lists until HWSTS has recorded approved application rider information into the routing software.

NOTE: Approved courtesy seat applications will not be processed by HWSTS staff during the fall start-up period annually until after eligible student ridership has been stabilized. Typically HWSTS will commence the courtesy seat process in late September - early October but final approvals / notifications may not be issued until November.