



# Gordon Price Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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## Weekly Update for September 23, 2019

*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.*

This week, we started recognizing our students with Personal Success Awards for being Student of the Week recipients. Students also receive Panther Paws for showing good character!

**Staffing Re-organization:** At this time of the school year, HWDSB reviews school enrollment and ensures the school is compliant with Ministry of Education class sizes. Due to an increase of enrollment, we will be adding another grade 5/6 class to our school. Families will be contacted next week if their child is moving classes. Our Primary classes will have students moved to meet the Ministry cap of 20 students.

**Transportation Update:** All courtesy transportation applications have been reviewed and submitted for approval to the transportation department. Once the applications have been approved and confirmed, families will receive a confirmation phone call.

Just a reminder, the parking lot is very congested in the morning and after school. Parents should park on the street by respecting the street signage.

**Medical Conditions:** Students with medical conditions will receive a letter and package for parents to review Plan of Care. Please contact the school to review the plan of care with Mr. Patton.

**Fresh from Farm Fundraiser:** We will be having our Fresh from the Farm Fundraiser again this year. Forms will be coming home the week of September 30<sup>th</sup>. There will be one order form per family. Families will have an opportunity to order Ontario fruits and vegetables. All proceeds will support our School Nutrition Program.

**Backpacks wanted:** A local organization that supports homeless men is asking for donations of gently used backpacks. If you have a gently used backpack and interested making a donation, please bring to the school. Your kindness will make a difference in our community.

**Volunteer Information:** Did you volunteer with us last year? We are sending Volunteer Information Packages to our past volunteers. Look for it next week and we hope you can support our school again.

**Dogs on School Property:** Just a reminder, dogs are prohibited on school playgrounds and property.

### **Upcoming dates:**

September 26<sup>th</sup>: Terry Fox Walk/Run (Rain date: September 27<sup>th</sup>)



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## **Report an Absence - Safe Arrival**

At HWDSB, one of our greatest priorities is ensuring that all students safely arrive at school every day. To strengthen our procedures for absences, we are using a student absence reporting system that makes it easy for parents/caregivers to report absences. It also allows school staff to respond quickly and thoroughly to all unexplained absences. Our goal is to continue to have all absences explained and all students accounted for each day, knowing that they are safe.

With Safe Arrival, families report a child's absence in one of three ways;

1. Provide your email address to the school. Use the SafeArrival website, [go.schoolmessenger.ca](http://go.schoolmessenger.ca). The first time you use the website, select Sign Up to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence.
2. Provide your email address to the school. Using your mobile device, download and install the SchoolMessenger app from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store (or from links at [go.schoolmessenger.ca](http://go.schoolmessenger.ca)). The first time you use the app, select Sign Up to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence.
3. Call the toll-free number 1-844-506-4350 to report an absence using the automated phone system. Using this method does not require setting up an account.

These options are available 24 hours/ day, seven days a week. You can report a future absence any time. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the school office.

**School Cash Online:** For safety and efficiency reasons, HWDSB would like to reduce the amount of cash and checks received by our schools. Please join the thousands of parents who have already registered and are enjoying the convenience of paying online. It takes less than five minutes to register. Please follow these step-by-step instructions to begin receiving email notifications regarding upcoming events involving your child(ren).

If you have not registered, please go to the School Cash Online at <https://hwdsb.schoolcashionline.com> and select Register. Complete each of the three Registration Steps \*For security reasons your password requires eight characters, one uppercase letter, one lowercase letter and a number.

NOTE: If you require assistance, select the "SUPPORT" option at the top right hand corner of the screen.



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**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. Please contact the school to let us know your child 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.