



Gordon Price Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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Weekly Update for December 16, 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.

It's the last week before Winter Holiday Break! We had Bus Safety Presentations, Immunizations, and a school spirit day for students to support our community!

Labour Updates: Please visit this website, <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/about/labour-update/>, for more information regarding Labour Updates.

Congratulations to Mrs. Whitmore! Mrs. Whitmore is retiring from Gordon Price School this Friday. She has been working with HWDSB for more than 25 years! She is an exceptional educational assistant who has supported many students at Gordon Price! We wish her all the best in her retirement.

Milk Program: We have a very limited number of milk cartons left for sale next week. We will not be ordering any more until January.

Holiday Sing-along Assembly: On December 20th, there will a school-wide assembly beginning at 9 am in our gym. As a whole school, we will be singing carols and songs to celebrate the holiday season.

Family Movie Night was a huge hit this month! More than 110 people attended the movie. Our School Council raised more than \$200 with proceeds supporting the movie license and graduation. Stay tuned for the next movie!

Gordon Price cares for our community day! We would like to express our gratitude for your support on hat and pjama day. We raised \$323 and collected more than 8 boxes of food items. It will definitely make a difference for Neighbour to Neighbour Food Centre.

Weekly Update Feedback: We know communication is important between home and school. Do you follow our weekly updates? Let us know by submitting your feedback. Are they helpful? Can they be improved? Send us your feedback with a note or via email gordonprice@hwdsb.on.ca. Your child will be entered into a draw for a prize! **The draw will take place on Wednesday December 18, 2019.**

Upcoming dates:

December 17th: Kindergarten Winter Wonderland
December 20th: Last day of School, Carol Sing Assembly 9 am.
December 23 – January 3, 2020- Winter Holiday Break
January 6, 2020: First day of School

curiosity.

creativity.

possibility.

HWDSB



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January 7, 2020: School Council Meeting
January 21: Grade 8 Graduation Photos
January 24: PD Day

Severe Weather

During severe winter weather, the difficult decision to remain open or to close is always made with the safety and security of our students and staff in mind. Here are some guidelines to remember:

When bad weather is expected, Hamilton-Wentworth Student Transportation Services (HWSTS) carriers check weather reports, road conditions and road clearing, starting as early as 4 a.m.

Based on this information, the Director of Education makes the decision in conjunction with Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board.

School boards have varied policies on cancellations. The HWDSB Rule is: Severe weather + Bus cancellation = No school. When HWDSB cancels busing due to inclement weather, we have deemed the roads unsafe and this triggers the closure of schools.

In extreme cold, buses may not start or run as expected and HWDSB may need to cancel transportation. But this does not automatically mean that schools will close. The Director (or designate) has discretion to keep schools open when busing is cancelled due to extreme cold.

A school cancellation is a tough decision – and some families may disagree with HWDSB's call. Families can always make the choice they feel is best when it comes to sending their child to school.

For more information, visit <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/about/severe-weather/>

Cold Weather and Outdoor Play: Time spent outdoors is an integral part of the school day. There are great benefits when children experience fresh air, exercise and time spent outside. Outdoor play is also a break from the structure of the classroom.

Depending on the season, preparing for outdoor play in Canada can mean anything from applying sunscreen to wear mittens and a hat. During winter, it's important that children come to school prepared for the cold. Students should wear boots, mittens/gloves and hats and it's a good idea to pack extra mittens, socks, etc. in case they are needed.

Principals can always use their judgment to decide whether to send students outside for recess. However, HWDSB asks Principals to follow the City of Hamilton recommendation that individuals stay



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inside when the temperature is at or below -15C or -20C with wind chill. Questions or concerns regarding winter outdoor play should be directed to the school Principal.

Parents are encouraged to go to hamiltonschoolbus.ca to check for any potential transportation delays.