



Gordon Price Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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Weekly Update for December 14, 2020

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 is the last week of school before the Winter Break. This year has been extraordinary in many ways with school closure and enhanced public health measures. We hope your family is staying healthy and well. If the school can support your family, please contact your child's teacher or the school. There are many resources in the community that provide help or information to families. On behalf of Gordon Price staff, I would like to say "Thank you" for your ongoing support, patience, and kindness for all areas of school life. I wish you all the best over the holiday season and good health and happiness in the new year.

"12 Days of Holiday Cheer" is at Gordon Price! This week, we have another final round of school spirit days! See the list on the last page of this newsletter!

Due to COVID-19 Protocols, we will not be sharing food or snacks or gifts this week. Educators are planning fun activities within their classroom as we are unable to have school-wide assemblies or carol sings this year.

Instead of buying a gift for your child's educator, you can make a donation to a local charity in their name or write a "Thank you" card.

Congratulations: On December 18th, Mrs. Erben will be retiring from Gordon Price. She has been part of the Gordon Price family for the past 15 years. She always provides words of encouragement, a friendly smile and great service to our school community! We wish her all the best!

Not sure if your child should attend school or stay home because of their symptoms? Every parent should continue to use the daily screening tool: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>

COVID-19 Information: Schools and school boards continually receive updates from Hamilton Public Health and Ministry of Education. To stay completely informed, you should follow the School Board website and receive email notifications of new information.

Family Contact Information: If your child's contact information has been changed, please call Mrs. Sherriff and Mrs. Erben so our system can be updated. This contact information is used for

School Messenger too.

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 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.



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12 Days of Holiday Cheer



1 Dec 3	Spirit of the Season: Wear your red and green and Start the holiday countdown!	7 Dec 11	Dream a little dream: School appropriate pajamas and slippers
2 Dec 4	Tree Topper: Dig out your favourite holiday hat, headband or tree topper to wear	8 Dec 14	Deck the Halls: Bring out your favourite holiday accessory! Think necklace, garland or Christmas ties etc or wear your favourite Christmas sweater that makes you HAPPY
3 Dec 7	Christmas Vacation: Hawaiian shirt, hula skirt, sunglasses, etc. No bathing suits please	9 Dec 15	Christmas Character: Dress like your favourite Christmas Character. Cindy Lou, the Grinch, Elves, Kevin (from home alone)
4 Dec 8	Shine Bright like a Light! Light up your wardrobe with holiday lights, glitter, tinsel, light up necklace	10 Dec 16	Baby it's cold outside: Bundle up in your favourite winter scarf and mitts
5 Dec 9	Jingle bells: This is simple - WEAR BELLS! Make sure Santa knows where you are! or wear your Christmas socks	11 Dec 17	New Years Eve Attire: Dress to impress!
6 Dec 10	Frosty the Snowman & Santa is coming to Town: Dress up in all white to be a snowman or dress up like Santa or Mrs. Claus	12 Dec 18	Ugly Sweaters: Break out your ugly sweaters! OR wear your favourite Christmas sweater that makes you HAPPY