



# Tapleystown Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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## Halloween

Students are permitted to bring treats to share. They must be store bought with ingredients on the packaging. All treats must be nut free and free of any specific allergens in your class. Many of our students do not eat **gelatin**, please carefully check ingredients for this. We are a nut free building.

**For student who choose to wear a costume on Halloween, students must arrive to school in their costume and wear it for the day. A school costume should allow for the student to participate in all activities at school (recess, gym, music etc). Masks are not permitted at school, nor are any costume weapons.**

## Halloween and Cultural Appropriation

Cultural appropriation means taking or borrowing a look or trait from a culture that is not your own. Costumes that are based on people's culture are offensive, harmful and insensitive. The following are suggested questions to reflect on when choosing a costume to avoid being disrespectful or offensive:

- Is my costume making fun of a group of people, their culture, religion and/or belief systems?
- Does my costume reinforce jokes and stereotypes about certain groups, cultures, religions and/or belief systems?
- Am I altering my skin color, facial/body features to make it like a particular race, ethnicity, or cultural group?
- Am I dressing up as a culture or borrowing from a religion that is not my own or is not part of my background?

Please have these discussions with your students/child.

## **Alternative Plan**

Some students may not participate for religious or cultural reasons, Tapleystown will plan for an inclusive day to allow all students to participate in the school day.