

# GATOR NEWS

Chris Popofski, Principal | Linda Ellis, Office Coordinator

## Important Dates:

**November 9 - Remembrance Day Assembly - 11:40am**

**November 14 - Take Your Kids To Work Day**

**November 16 - Colour House Activity - Jersey Day**

**November 20 - Progress Reports Go Home**

**November 21 - Parent Council - 6:30pm**

**November 29 - Parent Teacher Interview Night**

**November 30 - PD Day & Parent Interviews Continue**

## Safe Arrival

During the school day your child's safety is of the utmost importance to us. Please remember to contact the school before 8:30 a.m. If your child is going to be late or absent in the morning and before 1:30 p.m. in the afternoon. If your child is arriving late to school, he/she must sign in at the office. For your convenience we have an answering machine which allows you to contact the school at any time during the night, over the weekend and early in the morning. The number is **519-824-4300**.



## Principal's Message:

The fall seems to be flying by...does this mean snow is around the corner? Although we have enjoyed a nice fall, please remember that students are outside twice every day for twenty-five minutes. Unless it is bitterly cold or pouring rain, students will be expected to dress appropriately for the weather and go outside at each break. This includes a warm jacket, hat, mitts and waterproof footwear. Being outdoors allows them to get rid of excess energy, enjoy some fresh air and have some time away from the classroom.

A reminder that November 30th is a PA day set aside to come in for interviews with your child's teacher(s). The school-home connection is very important to us as we work together to make your child's year a successful one. Teachers feel that meeting with you shortly after the progress reports go home will give you the opportunity to implement strategies to increase your child's success while it is still early in the year. We always appreciate your insight, so please do not hesitate to call if you have a concern or positive feedback to share.

Sincerely,

Chris Popofski



## School Council News:

- **A BIG Thank You to all the parents and teachers who helped with our annual Halloween Dance-a-Thon and to all the students that did such a great job fundraising!**
- **Parents are invited to join the Greening Committee on Nov 7th at 6:30pm to discuss phase 3 of our greening plan, as well as our monthly School Council meeting Nov 21st at 6:30pm. We hope to see you there!**

## Dance A Thon - Record Broken!:

Congratulations Gateway Gators - our 5<sup>th</sup> annual Halloween Dance-A-Thon was an enormous success! Together we raised **\$6,626!!!** This money will support school initiatives such as the purchase of Chrome Books and iPads, funding for science programming, the breakfast club & healthy snack programs, and funding for class field trips. Thank you so much to all students and their sponsors for their tremendous support. Also, we would like to send a big thank you to: Champion's Choice Trophies, Simply Wonderful Toys, Holly Hughes Dance Academy, Mastermind Toys, Deadmau5, Giant Tiger, University of Guelph Hospitality Services, Lids, and Lush, as well as many individual community members for their prize donations to the event.



A very special thank you to Toys R Us for sponsoring our top fundraiser in each grade. Did you know that Toys R Us Canada is proud to be opening the Toys R US Toybox in Stone Road Mall on November 14<sup>th</sup> (above the food court) come visit to UNWRAP "WOW" this holiday!!!

## Follow us on Twitter:

@GatewayDrivePS

## Your Future, Your Choice - Career event on November 14th, 2018

On November 14th, 2018 the Career Education Council is hosting their annual education, career and community resources fair at Centennial CVI.

Everyone is welcome and UGDSB students and their families are encouraged to



mark your calendars with plans to attend between 6-8pm. Exhibitors representing high school programs, community resources, future career opportunities and volunteer possibilities will be on hand to speak directly to students and their families. This event is geared to students in grades 8-12.

## November 23rd is BUY NOTHING Day:

Don't buy, give. "No one has ever become poor by giving", Anne Frank

**Buy Nothing Day** is an awareness day highlighting society's habit of buying too many things. It is a day for society to examine the issue of over-consumption and is held on 'Black Friday', which is one of the busiest shopping days in the United States. <https://en.wikipedia.org>



"We are also consuming and trashing clothing at a far higher rate than our planet can handle. Today's trends are tomorrow's trash. The only solution is to reduce our levels of consumption." *Dr Kirsten Brodde of*

Greenpeace Germany- <https://www.telegraph.co.uk>

### **Repair, reduce, re-use, recycle – 4 R's are best!**

It's time for a new kind of materialism, based on an economy of better, not more... that makes things which last and can be repaired many times before being recycled, from furniture to tools, cars, fridges, clothes and food. 'Repair, reduce, re-use, recycle' could be the new model. <https://www.theguardian.com>

### **Some great ideas for your family on Buy Nothing Day!**

- Instead of shopping, enjoy a day in the great outdoors by walking trails or going to the park.
- Recycle school supplies such as binders, workbooks, pens and pencils instead of buying new.
- Donate clothes, books, toys and games your family does not need any more.
- Think of things you can make or do for people as gifts without spending any money.

Either way, there's no doubt that going without buying anything for an entire day is quite a challenge in the modern world, and will serve to make you think about what your life is really about! <https://www.daysoftheyear.com/days/buy-nothing-day>

## **Talking About Mental Health November 2018 – Nature and Mental Health:**

Fall is here and so is that pre-winter chill! Getting outside makes such a difference to how we all are doing inside. Spending time in nature improves our mental health and well-being. Being outdoors is a simple way to add some much needed down time from screens. Adding some time in nature is having some much deserved peace and quiet in our busy lives. One study showed that even 5 minutes in nature improves our mood. 5 minutes! We all can take 5 minutes (or more if have it) to go outside and enjoy nature.

### **If you want your family:**

- To be less stressed
- To be happier
- To be more resilient
- To feel better about themselves
- To have increased attention
- To have a better ability to learn



Then **GO OUTSIDE!** Take your kids outside! Enjoy and be part of nature.

### **Try this:**

- Go for a walk
- Head for the woods – make a scavenger hunt
- Go birdwatching – make it a game to find the names of all birds you see
- Go on a bug hunt

Watch the clouds float by  
Make a game of identifying all the sounds you hear outside



If you are not sure where to go, check out the links below for lots of great parks in our area.

<http://guelph.ca/living/recreation/parks/>

<http://www.wellington.ca/en/discover/>

[trailsandforests.asp?hdnContent=](http://www.wellington.ca/en/discover/trailsandforests.asp?hdnContent=)

<https://www.grandriver.ca/en/grand-river-parks.aspx>

<http://headwaters.ca/experience/parks-conservation-areas/>

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/arboretum/>

*Jenny Marino, Mental Health and Addictions Lead for the Upper Grand District School Board*

*Follow me on Instagram #upper\_grand\_mental\_health*

**\*Newsletters from now on will be online. If you require a hard copy they will be found in the office. You can also register on our website to get it emailed to you. A school calendar has also been added to our website to keep you up to date.**

# 'Tis the Season to be Labelled!



**Personalized labels and tags**  
for all your holiday mailing and gifting

mabel's labels  
**FUNDRAISING**

- Go to [campaigns.mabelslabels.com](https://campaigns.mabelslabels.com)
- Choose our organization from the list
- Shop holiday products until December 31st

# Upcoming Events



Parkwood Gardens  
Neighbourhood Group  
pngng96@gmail.com  
519-824-6340



Parkwood Gardens  
Neighbourhood Group

## PARENTS NIGHT OUT!

NOVEMBER 23

6:30-9:30PM

GATEWAY DRIVE PS

\$5 PER CHILD OR \$15 PER FAMILY

REGISTRATION  
IS REQUIRED!

519-824-6340  
PNGNG96@GMAIL.COM

## Gingerbread House Decorating!



Taylor Evans PS

Monday: December 10, 7-8pm,

\$5 or Pay-What-You-Can



Parkwood Gardens  
Neighbourhood Group




# Quarter Auction

Dec 1, 2018 • 1 pm - 3 pm  
College Heights HS



Parkwood Gardens  
Neighbourhood Group

A fundraiser to support our  
emergency food cupboard



Parkwood Gardens  
Neighbourhood Group

**PD DAY  
CAMPI!**

November 2 & 30, 2018

8:30-4:30 pm

Gateway Drive PS

\$25/day, we provide snacks!

GYM TIME, OUTSIDE TIME & CRAFTS

# PD DAY CAMP

Basketball & Robotics

November 2, 2018

Willow Rd PS

GUELPH

\$40

8:30am - 4:00pm

Visit our Website for Info  
[www.activescholars.org](http://www.activescholars.org)



"Where Sports Meets Education"