

GATOR NEWS

Chris Popofski, Principal | Linda Ellis, Office Coordinator

Balanced School Day

Start of Day - 8:35

8:35-10:15 Instructional Time

10:15-10:35 Nutrition Break

10:35-11:00 Outdoor Recess

11:00-12:40 Instructional Time

12:40-1:00 Nutrition Break

1:00-1:25 Outdoor Recess

1:25-3:05 Instructional Time

End of Day - 3:05

Important Dates:

Feb 6 - Winter Walk To School Day

Feb 7 - National Sweater Day

Feb 8 - Term 2 Milk/Pizza Starts

Feb 15 - Valentines Dance

Feb 18 - Family Day

Feb 20 - Report Cards Go Home

Feb 20 - Parent Council
6:30pm

Feb 22 - Grad & Siblings Photo Day

Feb 22 - Family Skate Night
- University of Guelph (Red Rink) - 7pm



Principal's Message:

At Gateway Drive PS, February will be a very busy month indeed. First term report cards go home with students on February 20th. Please take the time to discuss this report with your son or daughter, celebrating the successes they have had and their goals for further growth. Ask your child what they are most proud of, what they are surprised by, and where they feel that they may need some extra help. Share your own stories of school with your child. It is often helpful for children to know how little, or how much, may have changed. Research shows that academic goals set collaboratively between students and their parents, and supported by the school are one of the best predictors of school achievement. I'm very proud of the hard work most of our students have put into their school work this term and the learning we see happening in our school every day. Well done.



Thanks

Chris Popofski

Telephone # (519) 824-4300

School Council News:

Valentines Dance:

- Will be on Friday February 15th in the afternoon
- Students are encouraged to bring a two dollar donation

Family Skate Night:

- Friday February 22, 7pm - University Guelph Red Rink

Next meeting is **Wednesday February 20, 2019** at **6:30pm** in the school library. We would love to see you there!

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook

Winter Walk to School Day!

We are looking forward to getting the New Year off to an active start with Winter Walk Day on February 6th.



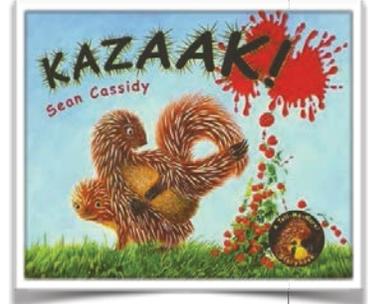
Follow us on Twitter:



@GatewayDrivePS

Sean Cassidy visits Gateway:

On Thursday, January 24th, all primary gators were treated to a visit by Author and Illustrator Sean Cassidy for Literacy Day. Mr. Cassidy captured the interests and imaginations of students throughout the day. Through his illustrations and stories, he inspired our students to draw, read and persevere.



After School Care At Gateway:

YMCA-YWCA of Guelph

Starting February 4, 2019 The YMCA-YWCA of Guelph will be operating an after school program with spaces available for children enrolled in JK/SK up to Grade 3. The program will run from 3pm-6pm, Monday – Friday on instructional school days.

We are very excited about becoming a part of the Gateway Drive Public School community and look forward to meeting the children and families that we will be serving.

If you require further information or would like to add your child to the enrollment/ wait list please contact Vanessa Wiatr-Fraser, Child Care Supervisor of Before and After School Programs at 519-824-5150 ext.256,

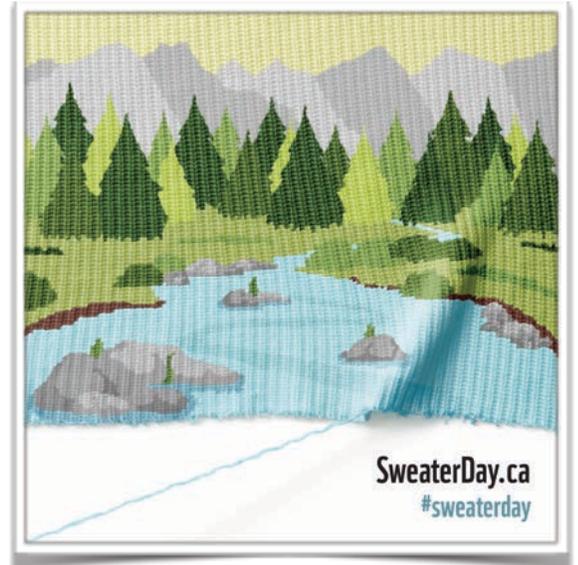


Celebrate International Sweater Day on February 7th!

National Sweater Day is a way to learn about the importance of saving energy and to inspire you to use less energy all winter. Heating accounts for 80% of residential energy use in Canada. If all Canadians lowered their thermostats by just 2 degrees Celsius this winter, it would reduce greenhouse gas emissions by about 4 megatons – that's equivalent to taking nearly 700,000 cars off the road! http://www.wwf.ca/events/sweater_day/

National Sweater Day is about thinking differently about how we use energy, where our energy comes from and how we can play an important role in fighting climate change by using energy wisely. It is designed to help raise awareness about renewable energy and change behaviours around energy consumption in Canada.

assets.wwf.ca/downloads/nsd_2017_en_school_toolkit.pdf



Ideas for your family to celebrate Sweater Day!

- Turn down your thermostat and wear a sweater!
- Ask your children to brainstorm with you about ways to save energy at home. Make a pledge to implement as many as you can.
- Research the differences between climate and weather. Ask your child to characterize some different climate types (polar, tropical, coastal, etc.).
- Read a children's book on conservation such as: Why Should I Save Energy? by Jen Green. Encourage lots of discussion and questions.
- Valentine's Day is just around the corner - use recycled materials to create your cards this year!

For more ideas and fun things to do on International Sweater Day, please take a look at this pdf supplied by WWF assets.wwf.ca/downloads/nsd_2017_en_school_toolkit.pdf

February is Black History Month:

Every year Canadians are invited to take part in the festivities and events that honour the legacy of black Canadians, past and present, during Black History Month. Black History Month exists to remind us all of the rich contributions within our society from

people of African and Caribbean decent, and of their ongoing struggle for equity and social justice. This is a time to celebrate the many achievements and contributions of black Canadians who, throughout history, have done so much to make Canada the culturally diverse, compassionate and prosperous nation we know today. It is also an opportunity for the majority of Canadians to learn about the experiences of black Canadians in our society, and the vital role this community has played throughout



Engaging Your Child in Science at Home!

As parents we have the wonderful opportunity and responsibility for nurturing our children's growth. Parents play a key role in the physical, emotional, and intellectual development of their child. As parents we can usually find time to read a story to our children, thereby instilling a love of literature, but we are often at a loss as to how to instill a love and appreciation for Science.

Science encourages problem solving skills, curiosity and questioning, creative and critical thinking, observational skills and reinforces both literacy and math skills...and it's FUN! Here are some ideas for fostering Scientific skills in your children.



6 Tips to foster Scientific Thinking at Home

1-See science everywhere. Parents can take opportunities to ask "What would happen if ...?" questions or present brainteasers to encourage children to be curious and seek out answers. Children need to know that science isn't just a subject, but it is a way of understanding the world around us.

2-Lead family discussions on science-related topics. Dinnertime might be an ideal time for your family to have discussions about news stories that are science based, like space shuttle missions, severe weather conditions, or new medical breakthroughs. Over time, children will develop a better understanding of science and how it affects many facets

of our lives. Movies and TV shows with science-related storylines are also great topics for discussion.

3-Encourage girls and boys equally. Many girls are left out of challenging activities simply because of their gender. Be aware that both girls and boys need to be encouraged and exposed to a variety of subjects at a very early age.

4-Do science together. Children, especially elementary-age children, learn better by investigating and experimenting. Simple investigations done together in the home can bolster what your child is learning in the classroom. Check with your child's teacher on what your child is currently learning in class and what activities you can explore at home.

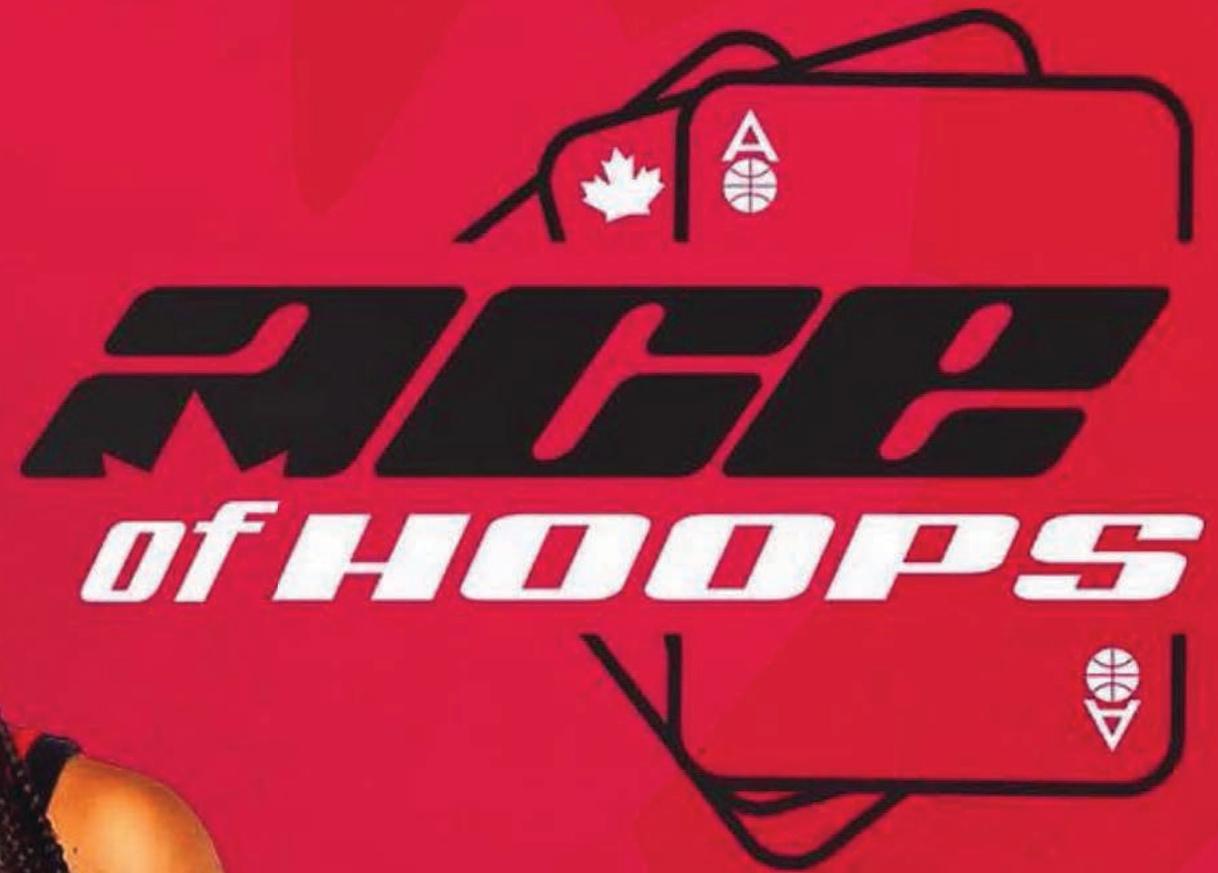
5-Connect science with a family vacation. Family vacations are a great way to explore science. It could be a hiking trip where you explore nature or a discussion on tides during a beach vacation.

6-Show excitement for Science!

Reference:

"NSTA Science Matters: Tips for Busy Parents - National Science" <http://www.nsta.org/sciencematters/tips.aspx>.

NATALIE ACHONWA PRESENTS



BASKETBALL CAMP

University of Guelph, Gryphon Athletic Center

March 8th from 6-9pm

March 9th from 9a-12p & 1-3pm

Age: Grades 4-10

Price: \$100 per camper

Includes: Ace of Hoops T-shirt,
autograph card & photo

 BRING YOUR OWN BASKETBALL 

REGISTER: WWW.NATALIEACHONWA.COM

TITLE DEED

GATEWAY DRIVE

ACTIVE MONOPOLY!



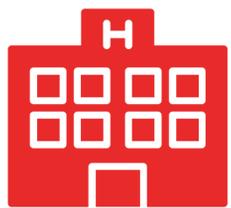
JOIN US ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18 FROM 1-4PM FOR A GIANT-SIZED VERSION OF WEST END- THEMED MONOPOLY!



FAMILIES/ FRIENDS CAN COMPETE AS A TEAM TO WIN THE 1ST EVER PGNG GAMES TROPHY!



THERE WILL ALSO BE THE SKATING RINK, HOT CHOCOLATE, GYM GAMES AND MORE!



CONTACT US TO REGISTER YOUR TEAM