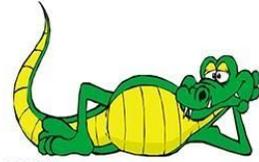




GATEWAY DRIVE P. S.

MR. C. REAY, PRINCIPAL
MS. L. ELLIS, OFFICE CORDINATOR

33 GATEWAY DRIVE, GUELPH, ONT, N1H 6X1 519-824-4300



Website: www.ugdsb.ca/gateway/

Twitter: @GatewayDrivePS

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

It's always exciting when March arrives. Hopefully it means warmer temperatures and less inconsistent weather. I've noticed that lots of students are confused about what to wear to dress appropriately for the weather so please help remind them of how they should dress according to the weather.

Our students had a blast at the Valentine's Day Dance. Thanks to the School Council for supporting this initiative, it was greatly appreciated by everyone here at Gateway Dr.

Spring Break is just two weeks away. Whether you are going away or staying close to home, we hope you keep safe and that you and your family take time to enjoy yourself.

Thanks again,

Chad Reay

SCHOOL COUNCIL CORNER

School Council meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30-7:45 p.m. The next meeting will take place on **Wednesday, April 15th**. If you have never attended a School Council meeting before, we would love to have you. We love seeing new faces.

MARCH BREAK

Please remember that spring break for our students is from Monday, March 16th to Friday, March 20th.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Please remember that we turn our clocks forward one hour on Sunday, March 8th.

GRADE 8 GRAD & SIBLING PHOTOS

Get those smiles ready! Our Grade 8 Grad & sibling photos have been moved to March 26th.

LET'S TALK (NOT TEXT) ABOUT SCREEN TIME

Are screens the new smoking? Parents and students are invited to learn more about the many impacts of screens on our lives and how we might foster a healthier relationship with them. Come and join us Thursday, April 23 from 6:00p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the John F. Ross CVI - E.L. Fox Auditorium, 21 Meyer Drive, Guelph. Admission is free, but tickets do need to be secured in advance by visiting <https://screenagersbyugdsb.eventcombo.com>.

This free event will present two documentary films (SCREENAGERS: Growing Up in the Digital Age and Screenagers and NEXT CHAPTER: Uncovering Skills for Stress Resilience) followed by a discussion moderated by Sylvie Smith, an addictions counselor at Homewood Health Centre.

PUBLIC HEALTH NEWS – IMMUNIZATIONS

In Ontario, the *Immunization of School Pupils Act* requires that all students attending school be fully immunized or have a valid

exemption on file. Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health (WDGPH) has recently mailed immunization notices to elementary students with incomplete vaccine records. To avoid suspension, please update your child's immunization record by **March 6, 2020**.

If the student has already received the immunization(s), report them using one of these methods:

- Online: View and report immunizations at www.immunizewdg.ca. Sign-in using your Ontario Health Card Number or the Ontario Immunization ID (provided on your Immunization Notice if received by mail from WDGPH).
- Email: Send a copy of the record to vaccine.records@wdgpublichealth.ca
- Call: 1-800-265-7293 ext. 4396

If the student needs the immunization(s) do one of the following:

- Make an appointment with student's health care provider, bring the notice from WDGPH with you, and follow up by reporting the immunization(s) to WDGPH.
- Call 1-800-265-7293 ext. 4134 to make an immunization appointment at WDGPH.

If the student is not being immunized for medical or conscience/religious reasons:

- Access the appropriate exemption form at www.wdgpublichealth.ca/your-kids/vaccination

For the Statement of Conscience or Religious Belief Exemptions a parent/guardian must also complete an immunization education session at WDGPH. For an appointment call 1-800-265-7293 ext. 4134.

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS – EARTH HOUR IS MARCH 28

Join the global movement! Celebrate Earth Hour on March 28 at 8:30pm. Earth Hour's mission is uniting people to protect the planet by raising awareness of about climate change and encouraging positive action. Earth Hour was famously started as a lights-off event in Sydney, Australia in 2007. Since then it has grown to engage more than 172 countries and territories worldwide. Earth Hour is more than an event. It is a movement that has achieved massive environmental impact, including legislation changes by harnessing the power of the crowd. Click here to see a short video clip of Earth Hour's story around the world; click here for the Earth Hour 2020 official video.

Earth Hour belongs to you. Celebrate your commitment to the planet with your friends, family, community, or at work - in your own way. A simple event can be just turning off all non-essential lights on March 25th from 8:30-9:30 pm. For one hour, focus on your commitment to our planet. To celebrate, you can:

- prepare a candle lit dinner,
- talk to your neighbours, or invite people over
- stargaze, or go camping in your backyard
- play board games, or charades
- host a concert, or a sing-a-long
- create or join your own community event
- have an Earth Hour every month

The possibilities are endless!