



Gateway Drive Public School

Chad Reay - Principal

Whitney DeBoer - Office Coordinator

Website: www.ugdsb.ca/gateway/ Twitter: @GatewayDrivePS 519-824-4300



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

It's hard to believe that it's June already and that we are entering the last month of the school year. I hope everyone is taking care of each other and taking some time to get outside to enjoy this beautiful weather. Although we are still unsure of whether we are returning to in-person learning or not, we will make the best of the situation moving forward to continue our learning. As soon as I have more information in regards to our return to school I will be sure to share it immediately with you.

Thank you to our School Council for all your time, dedication and efforts to advance initiatives at the school this year. It was a pleasure meeting every month to discuss ways to best support our students, families and the community. We know how busy you all are but we truly appreciate what you give to the school either as a volunteer or by supporting your children and by supporting their teachers.

As always, there will be some staff changes next year. We have had some outstanding long-term occasional teachers help out this year but we have to say goodbye to: Lauren Huzar (KB), Crystal McHughan (KB), Morgan Bond (KC), Amanda Gudino (KC), Ashleigh Dodunski (KD), and Whitney DeBoer (Office Coordinator) who will be having her baby soon. You have all been tremendous assets to the school and we would love to have you return.

Welcome to Carrie Nelson and Jordyn Bell who will be joining us in the fall. We look forward to having you as members of our staff.

The staff of Gateway Dr wishes our grade eights good luck as they move to high school. We wish those who are moving schools the best on your new adventure. Stay safe and enjoy time with your families. We will see you in September!

Chad Reay

SCHOOL COUNCIL CORNER

We will not be having our June School Council meeting in June, however we look forward to seeing you in September and on each of the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 6:30 p.m. to 7:45 p.m next year.

GRADE 8 GRADUATION

Grade 8 graduation is scheduled for Thursday, June 24th. The specific details of graduation will be finalized based on the upcoming announcement whether we will be returning to in-person learning. Gr 8 teachers will communicate directly with parents and students as soon as we have finalized the plan. Thanks for your patience.

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

The last day of school for the 2020-2021 school year is Tuesday, June 29th. Students will be dismissed at their regular time on this day.

REPORT CARDS

Report cards will be sent home by email this year. There will be specific information coming out from the school board as to how to sign up so you can receive the report card. They will be available on June 24th.

MOVING IN? MOVING OUT?

If you are planning a move to another school this summer, or know of someone moving into our school area for the 2019-2020

school year, please notify the office as soon as possible. It is especially important that you contact the office if your current JK student is moving away before August 31st in order to give their spot to a student on our waitlist.

STUDENT MEDICATION

If you have medication for your child at school, please contact the school before the end of June to make arrangements to take it home for the summer – we are unable to store medication over the summer. Thank you for your assistance.

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS – WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY – JUNE 5

June 5th is World Environment Day! -<http://worldenvironmentday.global/en>

A Platform for Action- *World Environment Day is the United Nations' most important day for encouraging worldwide awareness and action for the protection of our environment and is widely celebrated in over 100 countries.*

This year's theme – *Ecosystem Restoration!*

Urge governments, industry, communities, and individuals to come together to explore grow trees, green our cities, and clean up rivers and coasts. We are the generation that can make peace with nature.

<https://www.worldenvironmentday.global/>

Ideas for your family to celebrate World Environment Day!

- **Create an event for family, friends and neighbours** -There is no end of ideas that you could take forward for World Environment Day. Surprise yourself! Think about ideas that we can do to help the planet like fixing a problem in your community. It can be as simple as a community clean-up, to a tree planting activity.
- **Get out into nature** - World Environment Day is all about appreciating the beautiful planet we inhabit. Why not spend time in a park, hiking a trail or appreciating a forest walk? Or, have a picnic in the back yard!
- **Inspire others** – A great idea will naturally attract others who will join and make your idea awesome. So, take your idea to reduce single use plastics, or to lug a mug to events or to promote an ecofriendly product and share it! Or ask everyone to make their own personal pledge to change one wasteful or harmful habit for the better. Share what you're doing using the hashtag: #WorldEnvironmentDay
- **Make sure you have fun:** Make your event for World Environment Day fun, inspiring and interesting. Google events happening locally that you can attend with family or friends, or check out Pinterest for fun, recycled crafts ideas

For more information go to: [What can schools do?](#) Or [What can individuals do?](#) Or Google 'World Environment Day activities'

TALKING ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH

What a year it has been. We have all collectively had to manage an ever changing landscape. Pressures on families, children and youth have been significant as we work our way through this global pandemic. We have, together, focused ourselves on wellness skills throughout the year. It seems appropriate that our last month together our Umbrella theme is mastery. Mastery refers to the desire to become competent at a skill. In many ways we have all been working at this skill as we try and find ways to manage during this pandemic.

This month, I invite you to look back at the skills we collectively worked on this year: empathy, mindfulness, gratitude, self-compassion, healthy lifestyle, autonomy and intrinsic motivation. Have you had the opportunity to explore any of these skills? What, if anything, have you been able to add into your routine? If nothing, that is okay. Just the act of learning about new skills is the beginning of building.

How can you support your child with this? Explore the past themes together. Try and encourage your child to persevere when they are frustrated. Helping our children to desire to become competent at a task is what we naturally do much of the time. Consider helping your child learn to ride a bike. There may be falls. There may be scrapes and frustration. But there will also be that celebration when they first pedal away, wobbly at best, but independently. This is one example. There are many. It is important to remember that success is unique to each person's abilities.

Throughout the year, with the Umbrella Project, we were hoping to bring some connectedness, some shared experience, to an otherwise disconnected time. However you participated, thank you for joining the UGDSB staff and students on this wellness journey. We look forward to re-connecting and continuing this work together next year.

Jenny Marino

Mental Health Lead, UGDSB

The Umbrella Project at UGDSB is made possible through a donation from Edge Mutual.