



Gateway Drive Public School

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Hell/Bonjour and welcome back to a new year. It's hard to believe it's already 2022. I'm sure you are already aware but we will be delaying our **return to school until Jan 5th**. We had a very smooth fall and we hope to continue with the same forward progress this year. **Please continue to complete the daily COVID-19 screening tool from Public Health** - <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening> each morning. We will continue to wear masks, keep 2 meters apart, use proper hand hygiene, and pick up and drop off the same way we have been all year. Thanks for your cooperation in helping to keep the school safe.

From my family to yours, be well!

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 virtually on **Wednesday, January 19**. If you have never attended a School Council meeting before, we would love to have you. We love seeing new faces

INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURES

In case of severe winter weather, with poor driving conditions and bus cancellations and delays, please listen for announcements on radio stations 1460 AM CJOY, 106.1 Magic FM, 900 AM CHML, 107.9 FM CJXY (Y108), Oldies 1090 AM, 105.3 Kool FM, News Talk 570 AM, 96.7 FM CHYM, 1150 AM CKOC, 102.9 FM CKLH, 820 AM CHAM and CKCO-TV. Announcements for John McCrae PS are included in **"South Wellington and the City of Guelph"**.

Please note: *If buses do not operate in the morning, they will not operate in the afternoon. If you elect to drive your student to school, you must make arrangements for them to be picked up at the end of the day (please communicate the arrangement with your student, or leave a note in their agenda, prior to drop-off). Likewise, if you choose to keep your "walking" student at home on an inclement weather day, you must notify the office of the student's absence, otherwise the office will contact you to confirm your student's absence.*

JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION – 2022-2023

We're getting ready to welcome our newest group of little learners to the school! Junior Kindergarten registration for the 2022-2023 school year takes place from January 4-21 at 4:00 pm, 2022

All Junior Kindergarten students new to the UGDSB must pre-register online. Pre-registering online between January 4-21 will save families time by allowing you to fill out important forms and documentation when it's convenient for you. Once pre-registered, you will be contacted about setting up a virtual meeting to verify the registration documents (child's birth certificate, and proof of address). A complete registration will include completion of the online Student Admission Form (online pre-registration), and submission to the school of the child's birth certificate, and proof of address. JK French Immersion registrations will be considered as ON-TIME if all documentation is received by 4:00 p.m. on January 21. Please visit www.ugdsb.ca/kindergarten for more details.

STUDENT ABSENCES

It is very important that you contact the school to let us know when your student will be absent from school. The Ministry mandates that we must account for every child's absence ("Safe Arrival Program"), and if we have not heard from you then we must call all contact numbers until we reach someone who can confirm the absence and subsequent safety of the child. Please help us by leaving a message on the "100" mailbox by 8:30 a.m. to let us know if your student will be absent or late. Your cooperation is much appreciated and will help decrease the number of calls the office has to make every morning.

TIMELY REMINDERS

This is a reminder for the New Year that our school day begins at 8:35 a.m. **All classroom activities begin before the announcements at 8:40 a.m.** and teachers need to have everyone in class promptly. Thank you for your help in having your children arrive on time. This one small detail makes a great deal of difference to starting the day off right!

HELP STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS AND STAY WELL

Wear a mask: Please cover both your nose and mouth to help stop the spread of respiratory droplets.

Wash your hands: There are no vaccines to protect us from the common cold or a stomach virus that is easily spread to others. Teaching children to wash their hands properly can reduce the chances of getting sick. **Everyone** should wash their hands before eating, after using the bathroom, coughing and after blowing their nose. Wash your hands before preparing food. Use hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available.

Cover your cough and sneezes: Teach children to cover their cough and sneezes to stop the spread of different illnesses such as colds and the flu. Use a tissue or arm to cover the mouth and nose.

Stay home when you are sick: *When many people are close together as in schools and classrooms it's easy for illnesses to spread. Children should not be in school with a fever, undiagnosed rashes, vomiting or diarrhea. Children should recover completely before returning to school. When children have vomiting and diarrhea they should stay home at least 24 hours following the end of symptoms.*