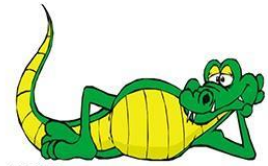




GATEWAY DRIVE P. S.

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

We hope April brings us warmer weather so you can get outdoors with your children. **Please remember that we are not at school on Friday April 15th and Monday April 18th** for our Easter break.

Despite the month of March passing by quickly it was filled with many enriching experiences. Some of our classes had virtual visits and were able to run some fun intramurals and no longer require cohorts outside.

I am happy to announce that we have partnered with ParksKreation Inc. to re-design our outdoor kindergarten space and that work will start over the summer.

Thank you everyone for your cooperation and support as we continue to follow our school COVID protocols. Your efforts are very much appreciated and recognized by us all.

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 on **Wednesday, April 20th**. If you have never attended a School Council meeting before, we would love to have you. We love seeing new faces.

Ramadan Mubarak to all of those observing!

April 2nd marks the beginning of Ramadan. Many students, families and staff in the UGDSB and worldwide are observing Ramadan, during this 9th month of the Islamic calendar.

- o A multifaith prayer space is available in Gateway Dr School.
- o Prayer spaces will be equipped with carpets to aid in comfort
- o *Use of this space will NOT be enforced or denied*

As a reminder **students and families who require religious or creed-based accommodations as supported by the Ontario Human Rights Code can make those requests by contacting Mr. Reay at 519-824-4300**

- [Creed Accommodations, UGDSB - Policy 504](#)
- [Accommodating Students During Ramadan](#) downloadable poster
- [Ontario Human Rights - Duty to Accommodate](#)

SPIRIT WEAR

Spirit wear should arrive around April 14th. You will be contacted once it's in.

MOVING IN? MOVING OUT?

If you are planning a move this summer, or know of someone moving into our school area for the 2021-2022 school year, please notify the office as soon as possible.

GRADE 8 GRADUATION

More information will be shared with Gr. 8 students and parents directly from Mrs. McGrath.

Wellness Works: April 2022 Authenticity

“In order for connection to happen, we have to allow ourselves to be seen, really seen.” BRENÉ BROWN

Authenticity is so important, but not always easy! Learning to be authentic means:

- **Speaking your truth in an honest and respectful way while remembering to also value that others have different opinions and that is okay**

- **Making decisions that align with your values and beliefs and lived experience while also being respectful and aware that your values, beliefs and lived experiences may not be the same as those around you**

- **Pursuing your passions**

- **Listening to the inner voice guiding you forward**

- **Allowing yourself to be vulnerable and open-hearted when it is safe to do so**

- **Speaking up for yourself and others with courage and kindness in a way that is safe for all. Sometimes one person's truth can be another person's ally.**

Did you know that studies have linked authenticity with increased levels of happiness, personal growth, improved self esteem and better relationships!? So, where do you start? Here are some ideas:

Value your child's voice/opinion: A child that feels valued and heard is more likely to feel confident and safe in expressing their true self. You can encourage your child to share their opinion by providing options and choices whenever possible, for example “Do you prefer milk or water with dinner?”. Another tip is to remember that you can respect your child's opinions and feelings and not agree with them!

Celebrate differences. Likely your child/ren will have some things they do or like that are different from your own likes and preferences. Make sure to celebrate the individualism of your child like that creative arts project or the chosen outfit for photo day. These are expressions of self and by celebrating and acknowledging, you are

accepting and also teaching acceptance of others.

Live authentically yourself. Remember to model your own authenticity for your child/ren. This can be a powerful way to show your child/ren that it is okay to be your authentic self.

Make a list: Have everyone in the family/house make a list of their unique traits and qualities, likes and wishes. Share with each other. Acknowledging our own list can be a great start!