



September 2013

KEY EVENTS IN SEPTEMBER

- First Day of School, Tuesday, September 3rd
- Meet the Teacher Night, Thursday, September 12th, 5:30 to 7:00
- School Council, Monday, September 30th, 6:30 Library

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

WELCOME BACK

On behalf of our whole staff, by extending a warm welcome back from the Summer holidays!

We are excited to begin another school year at Gatestone!

CHANGES AT GATESTONE

A new year brings a number of new faces to Gatestone. We welcome a number of new teachers to the school:

- Mrs. Sweeting as Vice Principal
- Ms. Lo in Comprehensive Intellectual and Library
- Mrs. Radonicich in Grade Five
- Ms. Vandooren in ESL

We also have a number of long-term occasional teachers in place of our regular staff:

- Ms. Molon in JK/SK
- Ms. Cetnik in Grade Two
- Ms. Rozon in Grade Seven

MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT

Our annual Meet the Teacher Night will be held on **Thursday, Sept. 12th from 5:30 to 7:00.**

Classrooms will be open for visits and we will kick off in the Front Foyer at 5:30.

An order form for dinner from M&M Meats is attached to the newsletter and needs to be returned to school by Monday Sept 9th, 2013.

A NEW VISION FOR SCHOOL COUNCIL

Please consider joining School Council this year. Our first meeting will be Monday September 30th at 6:30 in the Library.

The goal of this first meeting is to elect an executive and develop a vision for the year based on **School Effectiveness Framework Indicator 6.1: The School Council has a meaningful role in supporting learning and achievement for students.** Please fill in and return the School Council Nomination Form if you are interested in attending.

A MESSAGE FROM MRS. SWEETING, VICE-PRINCIPAL

Greetings to all students and families!

I am so excited to be placed as the new Vice-principal at Gatestone school this year. In the spring I had the opportunity to assist in the Student Voice Forum and witnessed first-hand the amazing school culture at Gatestone and 21st Century learning in action. I am so pleased to be apart of this wonderful community and I look forward to meeting many families at Meet the Teacher night on Sept 12th. Best of luck to all students in the upcoming school year.

Sincerely,
Mrs. K. Sweeting

FINAL WORDS

I look forward to seeing all of you in the weeks ahead; it is with your support and partnership that we make Gatestone a great school.

All the best,
Bill Torrens, OCT

HOME-SCHOOL COMMUNICATIONS IN THE YEAR AHEAD

Strong relationships and open lines of communications between the school and the community it serves is one of the basis of a successful school like Gatestone.

To provide the big picture of what is happening at Gatestone, on the first school day of every month, a

newsletter will be published and distributed electronically via the school website, the Gatestone Email List and the Principal's Blog. Paper copies of the newsletter will be available in the Office and on request.

On an on-going basis, the Gatestone Email List and website will be used to deliver key school

information directly into parents' in-boxes. Our website, schools.hwdsb.on.ca/gatestone/, contains a school calendar, key information, links to teacher websites and our Parent Handbook. You can also follow Gatestone on Twitter @GatestoneSchool and read our Principal's Blog at gatestone.commonswdsb.on.ca/category/principals-



STUDENT AGENDAS (\$5.00)

Once again, students from grades 1 to 8 will be using a "Student Agenda".

Please take the time to read over the Student Agenda. It contains important information about our school, our procedures and our rules.

As well, the Agenda is a very important part of your child's program for a number of reasons:

- To assist students in developing strong organizational skills;
- To track daily homework, due dates for assignments,

upcoming test dates and special events;

- To send home forms or letters to parents/guardians;
- To support ongoing home and school communication.

To sign up for the Gatestone Email List, please complete the form in the package of forms sent home on the first day of school.

BACK FIELD

Our back field has been closed for health and safety reasons since last September.

To ensure that this situation does not occur again, HWDSB Facilities Management (FM) has contracted the field to be re-engineered with improved drainage

and an irrigation system designed to maintain the field in the long-term.

Although the work has just begun, we hope to have use of our field in the months ahead, if not weeks.

Please watch our website for updates.



SAFE WELCOME PROGRAM

HWDSB is initiating a Safe Welcome Program.

Effective September 3rd, our front exterior school doors will be locked during the instructional day, and visitors will access the school during school hours via the main entrance.

You will notice that our main entrance is now equipped with a video/intercom access system and signage.

This access system allows staff to see and talk with any visitors requesting entry into the school. The system also allows school office staff to

electronically release the lock on the door. Visitors will be asked to continue to report to the office for sign-in.



ENTRY AND EXIT

Upon arrival at school, all students in grades 1 to 8 are to go to the back playground unless otherwise directed.

The back playground is open 15 minutes before the beginning of the school day and 15 minutes after the school day is completed. Teach-

ers will be there to monitor students at these times only.

We ask that students do not enter through the front doors of the school for safety reasons.

Parents and volunteers are asked to sign in at the

office and obtain a visitors pass prior to visiting any teachers or classrooms.



SAFE ARRIVAL AND LATES

Please contact the school at 905-573-7731, before 9:00 am, if your child(ren) will be late or absent. All students arriving after O Canada must report to the Office to check in.

If your child is to be excused before the end of the school day, please report to the Office to sign them out, or contact the Office via telephone or a note to provide permission to leave.

Being on-time and ready to learn is fundamental to student success. Students arriving to their class later than 9:10 will be marked late and their agenda will be stamped.

Students late three times in a month's timeframe will receive a detention for their third late and an additional detention for each subsequent late. A problem-solving meeting will

be held with parents of chronically late students to create a plan to support coming to school on-time.

SCHOOL FEES

Ministry of Education and HWDSB policies have directed schools to be more transparent in terms of possible fees that they request from parents. That way, parents and guardians can plan in advance for

Please note that all of the figures below are estimates and as the school year progresses, more information will follow from each class' teacher on the nature of fees.

Below is a list **potential fees** (subject to change) that may be requested from parents in the coming year:

All Students:

- Agenda \$5.00
- Yearbook \$20.00
- TBD Field Trips \$20.00

Athletes:

- Uniform Fees \$30.00

Grades One through Five

- Trips and a curricular activity \$25.00

Grade Six

- Camp Wanakita \$300.00

Grade Seven

- Overnight Trip \$300.00+

Grade Eight

- Overnight Trip \$300.00+



FUNDRAISING 2013-2014

Annually, Gatestone holds a number of fundraisers. Some are for charity and others contribute directly to the school.

For instance, Pizza sales, run by Grades Eight, raises funds that are placed in an "Equity Fund" just to defray costs of trips and school

activities to ensure that all students have an opportunity to participate in the life of the school.

Other funds raised through Pizza sales have been used to purchase Information Technology and other learning materials for the school.

In the year ahead, the School Budget

Committee will create a vision for fundraising in 13-14, which will be shared with School Council. Traditionally, a Fall and Spring fundraiser, as well as a Holiday Gift-shop, is held by School Council, but the new council will decide on their direction later in the Fall.

PARKING LOT SAFETY

Parking space is very limited, and **parents are asked to park on the streets adjacent to the school (where it is unsigned) at all times, except in the case of Kindergarten or Umbrella Child and Family drop off** (these parents may access the school parking lot adjacent to the areas where children go into the school building when there is space to do so).

In the future, we will be assigning parking lots for staff and visitors.

Please do not park or block the school bus loading zone. A by-law officer can issue a ticket to cars blocking this area or the no-parking areas.

Also, please do not drop off your child at the back of the school, which requires a 3 point turn. This is incredibly unsafe for everyone.

GATESTONE STAFF SEPTEMBER 2013

Staff	Assignment
Guyatt, S.	Office Administrator
Aguirre, V.	Office Assistant
Dunstall, L.	Learning Resource Teacher
Konior, M.	Learning Resource Teacher
Benedict, K. (Ms. Molon LTO)	JK/SKA/SKB
Barber, M.	SKB (.5)
Pliura, M.	SKA (.5)
Nighswander, J.	JK/KB
Morrallee, K.	Grade 1
Cino, R.	Grade 1
Budic-Hamilton, S.	Grade 1
Maerz, K.	Grade 1/2
Pearce-Peters, R. (Ms. Cetnik LTO)	Grade 2
Small, D.	Grade 2
Woolvett C.	Grade 3
Flis, A.	Grade 3
Dodgson, H.	Grade 3
Macnab, D.	Grade 3/4
Gould, B.	Grade 4
Bartlett, M.	Grade 4
Radonicich, A.	Grade 5
McCormack, S.	Grade 5
Lane, A.	Grade 5/6
Whittle, J.	Grade 6
Taylor, J.	Grade 6
Doody, K.	Junior French
Kuczerepa, M. (Ms. Rozon LTO)	Grade 7
Lamarre, J.	Grade 7/French
McAnanama, L.	Grade 7/8
Graham, S.	Grade 8
Whitley, L.	Grade 8/Science
Verbeek, A.	French (.8)
Murray, D.	Phys. Ed./Int. Comp.
Lane, D.	Phys. Ed.
Lo, D	Int. Comp./Library
Johnson, P.	Library/Art (.8)
Roberts, M.	Instrumental Music (.4)
Moore, M.	LLI/Prep (.6)
VanDooren, R.	ESL (.2)
Barnett, P.	Educational Assistant
Kersley, K.	Educational Assistant
Lebel, K.	Educational Assistant
McCann, I.	Educational Assistant
Prendergast, K.	Educational Assistant
Sloan, K.	Educational Assistant
Wellwood, T.	Educational Assistant
Koster, R.	Head Caretaker
Minshal, G.	Afternoon Caretaker
Simpson, S.	Assistant Caretaker
Brdar, Z.	Assistant Caretaker

Grade 1 • Important Bag (Dollarama) • Pencil Crayons (sharpened) • Glue Sticks (2) • Child Safety Scissors • Cloth Pencil Case for crayons and pencils (not box) • HB Pencils- 2 or 3 for each month • Erasers • Pencil Sharpener (with receptacle) • Box of Kleenex • Proper Gym Attire (including separate gym shoes to be kept at school) Please do not purchase Binders, Markers, or Gel Pens	Grade 2 • Zippered Home Reading Bag • 1 Thin Binder • Page Dividers for Binder • 1 Vinyl Duo Tang • Colored Duo Tang: red, navy blue, green, black (1 each colour of each from Staples preferred) • Large Glue Sticks (3) • Erasers (4) • HB Pencils (12 pack) • Highlighters (3 different colors) • Pencil Sharpener (with receptacle) • 12 Crayola Twistable Pencil Crayons • Washable Markers (1 pack) • Pencil Case for crayons and pencils • Child Safety Scissors • Box of Kleenex • Gym running shoes (to be kept at school) Please do not purchase	Grade 3 • 6 Duo tangs (red, yellow, light blue, green, orange, black) • Scissors • Pencil Crayons (sharpened) • Glue Sticks (3) • Thin Washable Markers (1 pack) • Gel Pens/Pens • Flexible Pencil Case (not Box) • HB Pencils- 1 pack • 1 pkg Lined, 3-Holed Paper • Erasers • Box of Kleenex • Pencil Sharpener (with receptacle) • High-lighter (3 different colors) • Zippered Home Reading Bag • Proper Gym Attire (including separate gym shoes to be kept at school) Please do not purchase binders	Grade 4 • Pencil Case • Pencils & Erasers • Pencil Sharpener • Ruler (with cm, mm) • Scissors • Pencil Crayons • Markers • Highlighter (3 different colors) • Glue Stick • Calculator • 1 pkg Lined, 3-Holed Paper • Box of Kleenex • One - 1" Binder • Lock (for locker) • 6 duo tangs (different colors) • Recorder for Music (available at dollar stores, Scholar's Choice) • Gym Clothing (see note)
Grade 5 • Pencil Case • Pencils & Erasers • Pencil Sharpener (with receptacle) • Ruler • Scissors • Pencil Crayons and Markers • High-lighter (3 different colors) • Glue Stick • Protractor • Calculator • 1 pkg Lined, 3-Holed Paper • Box of Kleenex • Two - 1" Binders • Dividers (for Binders) • Lock (for locker if not in a portable) • Gym Clothing (see note)	Grade 6 • Pencil Case • Pencils & Erasers • Pencil Sharpener (with receptacle) • Ruler • Scissors • Pencil Crayons and Markers • High-lighter (3 different colors) • Glue Stick • Geometry Set (protractor and compass included) • Calculator (Basic) • 1 pkg Lined, 3-Holed paper • Box of Kleenex • Three - 1" Binders • Dividers (for Binders) • Lock (for locker) • Gym Clothing (see note)	Grade 7 and 8 • Three 1 1/2" -2" Binders • Lined 3-Holed Paper • Dividers • Pencil Case • Pens (blue, black, red) • Pencils & Erasers • Glue Stick • Pencil Crayons and Thin Markers • Ruler (small), Compass & Protractor • High-lighter (3 different colors) • Calculator • Lock (for locker) • Memory Stick (optional) • Box of Kleenex • Gym Clothing (see note)	French (Grade 6-8) • 1 Duo tang • Lined, 3-Holed Paper • Erasers, Pencils, Pens • Pencil Crayons • High-lighters • French/English Dictionary Music (Grade 4-8) • One 1 1/2" Soft Cover Binder Phys-ed Students (grades 4-8) must change for gym class. White or grey t-shirt, blue or black shorts, and running shoes. No sandals, crocs, clogs, flip flops, heels, heelies or boots.

M&M Meats BBQ

Meet the Teacher Night

Thursday Sept 12th, 2013



Please complete one (1) order form per family and return
with your youngest child to his/her teacher by: Monday Sept 9th,
2013

Name of Youngest Child: _____

Teacher and Class: _____

Food	Cost Each	Quantity	Total Cost
Hamburger	\$3.50		\$
Veggie Burger	\$3.50		\$
Hot Dog	\$3.50		\$
Drink	\$1.00		\$
Chips	\$1.00		\$
Total payment enclosed	→		\$

******Parents/Guardians: Your child will receive tickets for your order
on Sept 11th, which will be redeemed for food on the night of the
Open House
between 5:15-6:30 pm. Only
Look forward to seeing you there!**

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2013

LOOKING AHEAD TO OCTOBER

**Professional Activity
Day** (no School)
Friday October 11th

Thanksgiving (No School)
Monday, October 14th

Picture Days
Thursday, October 24th and
Friday October 25th

School Council
Monday, October 28th, 6:30

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Labour Day	3 First Day of School 9:00 AM	4	5	6	7
8	9 M&M BBQ form and \$ due	10	11	12 Open House 5:30 to 7:00	13	14
15	16 Sr. Girls baseball tournament	17 Jr. Girls baseball tournament	18 Sr. Boys baseball tournament	19 Jr. Boys Baseball tournament	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Terry Fox Run	27 Mad Science Assembly	28
29	30 School Council 6:30 Library					