



Gledhill News

December 2019

Principal Cathy McAleese
Vice-Principal Janet Bambrick
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From the office...

Happy December everyone! It has been a very busy and productive first term at Gledhill. While students are actively involved with their lessons, teachers have also been busy engaging in Professional Development in the areas of Writing, Mathematics, Equity and Well-Being.

December is a focus on the character trait of Kindness and Caring. Teachers teach character traits in the classroom which culminate in our monthly assemblies. Other programs at Gledhill that further develop kindness and empathy skills include the Roots of Empathy program, Friendship Lunches and in the New Year we will be introducing the PALS program.

We would like to welcome Madame Andreea Bacara to Gledhill as our Grade 4 French Immersion teacher for the students in Room 14. We would like to congratulate Monsieur Barron, who is now in retirement, and thank him for his service at Gledhill. Madame Bacara will be the LTO for room 14 until the end of June. She is looking forward to getting to know our Gledhill community.

Our Winter Concerts are fast approaching. We have scheduled two concerts both on **Thursday December 12th**. The first concert will begin for Grades 1-5 at **9:30 am** (please check classes that will be performing further down in the newsletter). The Kindergarten concert will begin at **1:00 pm**. We look forward to your family's presence at these annual events.

On behalf of the staff, we want to wish you all **HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND SAFE NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS!** We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday, January 6, 2020.

Cathy McAleese and Janet Bambrick

KINDNESS AND CARING is December's Character Trait. When children are kind and compassionate, they are more tolerant and more aware of the suffering of others, and they are better-able to rejoice in other people's successes. To develop kindness and caring you can encourage your child to do the following:

- Help out with tasks at home like cleaning up or setting the table for dinner
- Have your child help family members such as their siblings or grandparents
- Take your child with you to volunteer activities
- Have your child reflect on their day and share times when someone was kind to them

Taken From: <https://www.parenttoolkit.com/social-and-emotional-development/advice/social-awareness/developing-kindness-in-early-childhood>

"A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees. The greatest work that kindness does to others is that it makes them kind themselves." Amelia Earhart

Character traits are an important part of learning, supporting students to achieve success in school.



WINTER CONCERT REMINDERS

The Gledhill winter concerts are quickly approaching! Our dress rehearsal will be held on Wednesday, December 11th at 12:45 PM in the gymnasium. The grade 1 - 5 concert (**rooms 6, 8, 18, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28 performing as well as the Primary Choir**) will take place at 9:30 AM on December 12th, and the kindergarten concert will take place at 1 PM the same day. Families are invited to attend. The gym will be open 30 minutes prior to each performance.

Primary choir members are asked to wear a white collared shirt and black on the bottom. We will be loaning the students a gold bowtie for their performance.

A reminder that raffle tickets for the first row will be sold for the grade 1 to 5 concert, with all proceeds going towards the music program at Gledhill. Tickets are 1 for \$1 and 10 for \$5 dollars. We kindly ask that families who attend the concert please bring non-perishable food items or a new unwrapped toy. All donations will be sent to Centre 55

LOST AND FOUND Please make sure you check the Lost and Found located in the basement of the school. There are many lost items that need to be claimed! Please remember to label your child's clothing with their name so that items that are misplaced may be returned.



FSL –APPLICATIONS FOR JUNIOR EXTENDED FRENCH Information for Junior Extended French (Grade 4 entry) is **January 6, 2020** and the deadline is **January 31 2020**. Applications must be completed online applications only: www.tdsb.on.ca/pars . For more information about French as a Second Language programs and information evenings visit: www.tdsb.on.ca/french.

WINTER WEATHER AND STUDENT TRANSPORTATION On rare occasions, severe weather makes it necessary to close schools, administrative offices or sites or cancel transportation. This decision is not taken lightly. When schools remain open on days with inclement weather, parents/guardians make the final decision on whether to send their children to school and they can keep children home from school if they so choose. Should a cancellation or closure be necessary, information will be posted on the TDSB website, TDSB social media and provided to local media by 6 a.m. For more information, please see the TDSB's Procedure for Severe Weather: <http://www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/Detail/docId/242>

PARENT REMINDER Students enter the school in the morning at 8:40 am. If your child's line has already entered the building please come to the main entrance. Children who are late need admittance slip before going to class and in order to avoid call outs to parents. Parents, please do not walk your child to class. All adults must report to the office . Thank you.

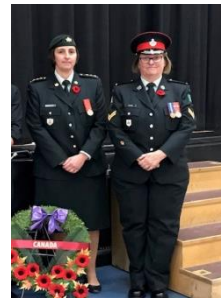


PARENT COUNCIL As we ease into the holiday season, the Gledhill School Council wants to express a special thanks to all our event volunteers and council participants who continue help make Gledhill the Great Place To Be that it is! Wondering if there is a role you can play? There is! Find great opportunities to get involved by visiting our blog at <https://gledhillguardian.com/opportunities/>. You can also find the minutes from our last (and any previous) meeting on the blog too!

We'll be taking a break from formal meetings until the new year. Our next meeting will be on January 23rd. As always, all parents and guardians are welcome to attend. Child care and pizza are provided unless otherwise notified. Stay tuned for information on our next Coffee Social coming soon!

Remember, the best way to stay up to date with what is happening at Gledhill is to register for emails from the blog (gledhillguardian.com) - you'll get daily announcement updates and posts about upcoming events and volunteer opportunities. In partnership,
Your School Council

REMEMBRANCE DAY Thank-you to Mrs. Baily and Mrs. Chitayat for their organization of our Remembrance Day assembly. We were especially lucky to have guest speaker Corporal Moira Taylor who talked about her experiences in the armed forces. Students recited poems, performed songs and laid wreaths to commemorate the importance of the day.



LEARNING IN THE KINDIE ROOM Parent Jessica Pagonis visited Room 1 to teach us how to stay safe around dogs.





“IN THE MUSIC ROOM” From: Mrs. Bailey

The grade 4, 5 and 4/5 music classes submitted musical entries to this year’s CBC “Music in the classroom”

contest. It was a first for us and a very exciting process, with the students voting on choosing the song their class prepared. The top 10 list for each category, from entries from across the country, will be unveiled by CBC on December 10th and the winners will be announced on December 17th! You can view the submissions on the CBC Music in the classroom YouTube channel. Gledhill is entered under the “elementary vocal” category. Stay tuned for more information! We will have carolling in the gymnasium on December 17th, period 1 and December 19th, period 3. A reminder that students require indoor shoes for the music room, library and gym. Thank you!

FROM PHYS.ED. The boys’ grade 4 and 5 volleyball team will play at Diefenbaker PS on November 29th. This is a skills development division (morning portion) followed by games in the afternoon. In December and January the girls’ grade 4 and 5 volleyball team will be formed, this too is a skills development division and all are welcome!

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY Our Book Fair was a HUGE success! Thank you to all parents, students and staff who volunteered, shopped and supported this great event. The winner of this year’s draw was Evelynn from Ms Theofanidis’s class (room 3). Evelynn won \$25.00 worth of books for herself and \$25.00 for her classroom. A special shout out to all parent volunteers who stepped in and helped out with the sales and smooth running of the book fair. We couldn’t do it without you! With money raised through the Scholastic book fair we will be able to support and expand our library collection and classroom resources.



SEVERE WEATHER In the event of severe or rapidly deteriorating weather conditions, please keep children at home, if possible. The decision to close schools is made by the Director of Education. Listen to the radio or television for school closures and cancellation of transportation services before the opening of school – cancellations will be announced from 6:30 a.m. onward. Should schools close during the school day; announcements will be made on radio stations by noon and posted on the TDSB website.

WE SCARE HUNGER FOOD DRIVE Thank-you the students in Rooms 24, 25, 29 and 30 for organizing the We Scare Hunger Food Drive. Thank-you as well to our families who were so generous with their donations.



THE HOUR OF CODE Every December communities around the world join the Hour of Code movement to participate in web-based coding activities and learn about computer science. At Gledhill, we use the language of code to tell stories with Scratch Jr and to program Dash and Dot and WeDo robots. Kindergarten students use Code-a-Pillars to learn basic concepts of coding. In December, we will be joining the Hour of Code movement once again. Students will be completing a coding activity during library classes.

For more information or to try coding at home visit one of the websites below:

- <https://code.org/learn>
- <https://santatracker.google.com/codelab.html>
- <https://scratch.mit.edu/>

There are also many easy to use apps for students of all ages. At school, we use Scratch Jr to tell stories and create interactive games. Check out this link to learn more Scratch Jr and download it on your tablets if you wish -

<https://www.scratchjr.org/> .

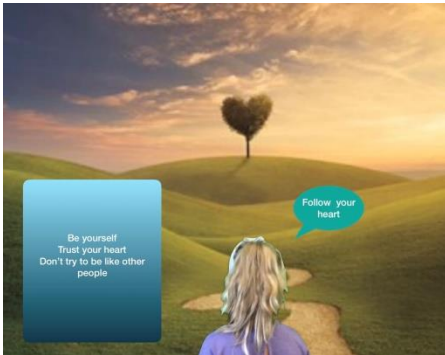
THE FLU AND YOU TPH suggests the following to avoid the flu: • Wash or sanitize your hands frequently and thoroughly. • Cough or sneeze into your sleeve or a tissue, not your hand. • Stay home if you are ill so that others don’t get sick (let the school know the reason for your child’s absence).



MAKERSPACE CLUB In the first term we offered the Makerspace club to our grade 4 and 5 students. The grade 4 and 5 sessions will be coming to an end before the holidays and we will be inviting our grade 2 and 3 makers to join us for an 8 week session in January. Stay tuned for details! Once again, Kapla blocks, Lego, coding with Scratch and creating with Minecraft were the preferred activities.



FOREST OF READING Over the years, students have had a chance to explore and learn with various technologies. At the end of last school year, we started using green screen technologies to create messages and short videos (see below). We used an app called Green Screen by Do Ink and Keynote to capture images and express ideas. We currently have two green screens (one green and one blue) and are looking for a few more. If you happen to have and are willing to donate a dark green or dark blue table cloth or a large piece of fabric, please let Ms Kopka know.



COMING EVENTS

Please mark these dates in your calendar:

December 6	Elementary P.A. Day
December 11	Spirit Day: Fun and Festive Wear
December 12	Kindies' Winter Concert **New Time** 1 PM
December 12	Winter Concert- rooms 6, 8, 18, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28 performing as well as the Primary Choir at 9:30 AM
December 13	Pizza Lunch
December 17	Character Education Assembly: 9 am
December 20	Spirit Day: Pajama Day
December 23- January 3	Winter Break
January 6, 2020	First day of school after the winter break
January 17	Elementary P.A. Day
January 24	Pizza Lunch

CONTACT US

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School Website: <https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/gledhill>

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