



# Gledhill News

December 2020

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Vice-Principal Janet Bambrick  
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## From the office...

Happy December everyone! It has been a very busy first term at Gledhill. While students are actively involved with their lessons, teachers have also been busy engaging in professional learning and equity work focused on anti-racism, student achievement, and well-being in the classroom.

December is a focus on the character trait of Kindness and Caring. Character traits are taught in the classroom through curriculum lessons. Character traits are also a focus of our daily announcements with students pre-recording messages that are played each morning. For this month's theme students have also selected "Kindness and Caring" songs that will be played on the PA system in the morning. More ideas for supporting character traits at home have been shared below in the newsletter.

As we go through the winter months, we will continue to be going outside for learning. Please make sure that your child comes to school, dressed in layers and prepared for the weather. A change of clothes that is kept at school, especially for our youngest learners, is also recommended. Finally, a reminder that our school day begins at 8:40 and we are asking parents to quickly drop-off their children and refrain from congregating on school property. Thanks very much as we all continue to practice social distancing during COVID.

On behalf of the staff, we want to wish you all HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND A SAFE NEW YEAR! We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday, January 4, 2021.

**Cathy McAleese and Janet Bambrick**



Having fun in the snow!! November 23, 2020

## FSL –APPLICATIONS FOR JUNIOR EXTENDED FRENCH

Information for Junior Extended French (Grade 4 entry) is **January 4, 2021** and the deadline is **January 29, 2021**. Applications must be completed online applications only: [www.tdsb.on.ca/pars](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/pars). For more information about French as a Second Language programs and information evenings visit: [www.tdsb.on.ca/french](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/french).



### GLEDHILL HAS SPIRIT!!

This year we are so grateful for what we have - a STRONG community, enthusiastic students and our support for each other. Thank you again to Stephen Watson and the Beach Lions Club for the generous donation of a Holiday Tree.

### Friday December 4: Team Spirit Day!

What team do you cheer for?  
Show some team spirit with your favourite team-wear or colours!



### Friday December 11: Festive Fun Day!

Celebrate the winter with sparkles, snowflakes, snowmen or other holiday wear!



### Friday December 18: Pajama Day!

Warm and cozy but no stuffies this time!



### In the Spirit of Gledhill Giving...

Once again, we are supporting Centre 55 and The Toronto Daily Bread Food Bank. Due to COVID restrictions, we are collecting donations differently... **Centre 55**



Community Centre 55

This year our focus is on gift cards for seniors and teens. Your child can bring your gift card donation to the office donation box.



**FIGHTING TO END  
HUNGER IN OUR  
COMMUNITIES**

### **Daily Bread Food Bank**

We are limiting donations to 1 donated item per child. Your child will place the item in the food box in their classroom.

## 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

**REMEMBRANCE DAY** Thank-you to Mrs. Bailey and Mrs. Chitayat for their organization of our Remembrance Day event. Students were recorded reciting poetry and telling stories of Remembrance which was played in a service over the announcements. The "Last Post", a moment of silence and the "Reveille" were observed, and at precisely 11 am, we heard the Canadian Air Force fly-over. This was a well coordinated event and we thank all our teachers for making Remembrance Day meaningful through classroom activities focused on Peace.



## **MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING-from TPH**

Many people may feel sad, stressed, anxious, confused, scared or angry during the COVID-19 pandemic. These are normal and common responses to unexpected or stressful situations.

Support is available. The City of Toronto has partnered with ten organizations to help connect residents to free telephone, text and online mental health support during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Through this partnership, the [City's mental health support plan](#) responds to the needs of children and youth, seniors, frontline workers, as well as those with intersectional identities, such as Indigenous, Black, persons with disabilities and LGBTQ2S, who are struggling with isolation, stress and anxiety exacerbated by COVID-19 measures.

Our partners provide free mental health supports to diverse communities across Toronto. Learn about the range of available resources to help support mental health at:

<https://www.toronto.ca/home/covid-19/covid-19-protect-yourself-others/covid-19-mental-health-resources/>



### **"ON THE MUSIC CART"**

**From: Mrs. Bailey**

1. Grade 1-5 classes have been studying composers, building our knowledge of rhythm, and using different instruments to demonstrate

our ability to create music with minimal use of our voices. While it's unfortunate that we won't be able to show you these musical acts at our annual winter concert this year, that hasn't stopped us from putting together a little something special for our Gledhill families to enjoy at home! During the week prior to our holiday break, I will post a video of your child's class on their Google or Brightspace classroom for you to enjoy and hopefully get you in the spirit of the season!

Gledhill's kindergarten teachers will also be posting videos showcasing some of the activities they've been doing in their classes! We hope you enjoy these performances and wish you all a very happy holiday!

2. As we can not have our annual food drive at the Winter Concert, we kindly ask that you make donations to your local food bank when visiting the grocery store. Thank you!!!

3. Room 26 will begin ukuleles in December for the next ukulele block.

4. Please use the following Google classroom password to access the music room posts! **wqi23oy** There are videos on how to tune your ukulele at home, recorder and ukulele music sheet music, in addition to many other musical items of interest! Check it out!

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

**PARENT COUNCIL** The next Gledhill School Council meeting is on Tuesday, Dec 1st at 6:30pm. Join us as we welcome a speaker from Toronto Public Health! For Zoom link and meeting agenda go to [www.gledhillguardian.com](http://www.gledhillguardian.com) Did you know you can sign up to receive council activity updates directly to your email? Just visit our website (same as above) and enter your email address on the right-hand side. Wishing all our Gledhill families a safe, happy, and healthy holiday season.

**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.

### **COMING EVENTS**

*Please mark these dates in your calendar:*

Dec. 1	Parent Council Virtual Meeting- 6:30-8:00pm
Dec. 3-10	"Bricks and Mortar" CCAT 7 testing for Grade 3
Dec. 4	Spirit Day: Team Spirit
Dec. 11	Spirit Day: Festive Fun Day
Dec. 18	Grade 1-5 music class videos posted to Google Classroom.
Dec. 18	Spirit Day: Pajama Day
Dec. 21- Jan. 1	Winter Break
Jan. 4, 2021	First day of school after the winter break
Jan. 15	PA Day-No School
Jan. 15	Virtual School Students only-CCAT 7 testing for Grade 3

### **CONTACT US**

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

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Marisa Silver, School Council Chair

Nadira Persaud, Superintendent of Education (LN24)

Michelle Aarts, Trustee (Ward 16)