

Issue # 6

February 2020



**Gordon B. Atterley P.S.**

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## Where Learning Takes Flight

### Message From the Office

At GBA, we teach habits that allow "Learning to Take Flight" and one of the most important habits to instill is to be at school for the bell and to begin classes on time. Late arrival means missed instruction, lack of awareness of school teams and events which lead to feeling disconnected as well as disrupting the learning of others. We appreciate parents/guardians' assistance in getting children to school on time to hear about the activities at school through announcements and helping them feel part of the school community as they learn alongside of their classmates. Families, we invite you to meet with your child's teacher on a regular basis to discuss strategies for improving progress and attendance as well as how to best support your child's success.

We will launch our February Kindness Campaign at school on Wednesday Feb. 5th. Students will be challenged to display random acts of kindness to demonstrate how we care for each other at GBA. Activities will culminate in Pink T-Shirt Day on Feb. 26th! We look forward to seeing how the students support each other and show kindness to one another.

We have many safety procedures and protocols at GBA to ensure students feel safe and secure while learning. We remind parents/guardians that you must check in at the office upon your arrival at school. We ask that you wait for your children either in the office or outside on the playground. Please refrain from going directly to classrooms to meet students. We will call students to the office to meet with you if you need to pick them up early or to speak with them. Beginning Monday Feb. 3, the front doors of the school will be locked at all times. Many students are coming in through the doors before 8:55 am and wandering the halls where there is no supervision for them. All students should make their way to the appropriate supervised yard upon arrival to school. We thank you for your support in ensuring GBA is a safe place for all.

**Principal: Ms. S. Spencer**

**Vice-Principal: Mrs. M. Levy**

**Administrative Assistant: Mrs. P. Pearson**

**Chief Custodian: Mr. D. Ferguson**

**Superintendent of Education– Jamila Maliha**

**Trustees: Michael Barrett 905-725-2980**

**E-mail address: michael.barrett@ddsb.ca**

**Darlene Forbes**

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**Ashley Noble**

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## Welcome to Mrs. Levy our new VP

As the “new kid on the block” I look forward to meeting you, getting to know you and working collaboratively with you. My name is Margeaux Levy and I am a highly organized and flexible team-player who is dedicated to improving the achievement levels of all students.

In my last assignment as Vice Principal I gained valuable experiences working with students with developmental disabilities, and made it my mission to learn about the special needs of the children by accessing resources through our Special Education consultant. I value and work collaboratively with all stakeholders. I consider myself to be a lifelong learner, and continually seek opportunities to upgrade my skills. I contribute to school-based professional development and seek opportunities at the Family of School level and beyond.

I am an enthusiastic individual who holds a great passion and dedication towards teaching. I also see the importance of creating an excellent relationship with students, staff and the community.

I look forward to joining and being a part of the GBA team!



## Follow us on Twitter!

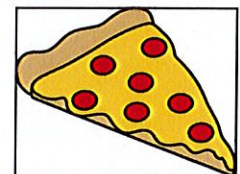
GBA has a Twitter feed. Regular announcements will be posted regarding important school information and dates. Check us out at the following [@SchoolAttersley](https://twitter.com/SchoolAttersley)



## PIZZA DAY CHANGE

In anticipation of potential job action closing DDSB schools on Thursday February 6th, we are moving Pizza Day to Friday February 7th. All students who have ordered pizza will receive it on Friday. Please remember to send a lunch to school for Thursday as we accommodate for this change.

Thank you for your understanding.



## Pancake Breakfast Winners



In December, we challenged our classes to Food Bank Donation Challenge. All food items were donated to Oshawa Settlement House. The four classes who brought in the most food items during the challenge would be rewarded with a Pancake Breakfast. Congratulations to Mrs. Byers-Slemon and Mrs. D'Souza's class, Mrs. McKinlay's class, Ms. O'Reilly's class and Mrs. Petre's class. Many people in the Oshawa community will benefit from GBA's charity.



## DANCE-A-THON IS COMING!

**Students need to be ready to dance the day away on Feb. 14. This is an SCC sponsored fundraising event. Pledge forms will be sent home this week.**



As the event fall on Valentine's Day this year, the theme will be Love and wearing Red and White. So have some fun and get creative with your outfit for the day.

There will be prizes that day and all students who collect pledges will be eligible to win bigger prizes. Grand prize winners will be announced after all pledges have been collected and counted.

Students will have the chance to purchase a grab bag that has snacks and a drink for \$5 that day. They will not be available to purchase on-line this year.

Thank you to the SCC for organizing a fun day for us all here at GBA!

## EQAO Parent Information Night

For the parents/guardians of Grade 3 and 6 students

Date: Wednesday February 12, 2020

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: School Library

Please join us for about an hour to learn about the 2019 EQAO Assessment Process. There are some changes to the process this year and we will share details about this with you.

Door Prizes for lucky attendees!



### Dates To for February

Feb. 5	Grade 8 grad photos
Feb. 7	Mathletes Pizza Day (moved from Thursday)
Feb. 12	Hot Dog Day EQAO Parent Information Night
Feb. 13	Pizza Day
Feb. 14	Dance-a-thon school fundraiser
Feb. 17	Family Day Holiday– school is closed
Feb. 20	Pizza Day
Feb. 26	Pink T-shirt Day– stand up against bullying Hot Dog Day
Feb. 27	Pizza Day



IT'S TIME TO TALK ABOUT  
**BULLYING**  
**HOMOPHOBIA**  
**TRANSPHOBIA**

FEBRUARY 26  
**PINK**  
**SHIRT DAY**



### Healthy Sleep Routines for your Family

It is important for your child to get enough sleep. Getting enough sleep helps to better prepare your child to tackle their day and learn at school.

A great way to help your child get the sleep needed is to establish a bedtime routine. A happy bedtime routine combines what both you and your child need.

Here are some tips for a happy bedtime routine:

- It is important for a child's bedroom to be an enjoyable place to spend time and not a place for discipline (e.g. try not to use bedtime as a punishment or threat).
- Some foods or drinks may make it more difficult for your child to sleep, such as those high in sugar and caffeine.
- Try to give some notice of when bedtime is coming up; this will help your child to get ready for what is coming next.
- Try to use the time before bed to do a calming activity (e.g. bath, read a story). Activities such as watching TV or video games are stimulating and might excite your child more.
- Try to put your child to bed when sleepy but not yet asleep. This will help your child to learn to fall asleep on their own.
- Tucking your child into bed helps give a sense of security.

**How much sleep does your child or youth need every night?**

- Children aged 3-5 need 10-12 hours of sleep.
- Children aged 5-13 need 9-11 hours of sleep.
- Youth aged 14-17 need 8-10 hours of sleep.



For more information on sleep and bedtime routines for your children, contact Durham Health Connection Line at 1-800-841-2729.



[durham.ca](http://durham.ca)



If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.

"All you need is love but a little chocolate now and then doesn't hurt." Charles M/ Schulz