

February 2016



Hodge Huskies

Agnes G. Hodge School News

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Please visit our website:

www.granderie.ca/agneshodge/home



Principal's / Vice-Principal's Message:

Well, winter has finally arrived! With the arrival of cold temperatures and snow, a quick reminder about proper cold weather clothing. Also, students are asked to have indoor shoes at the school at all times. This is to avoid slippery classrooms and the chance of falls.

New PA Day on February 26, 2016

The 2015-16 school year calendar has been modified to include a new Professional Activity (PA) Day on February 26, 2016 for elementary and secondary schools in Grand Erie.

The PA day was added as a result of the recent round of teacher and school board negotiations. The PA Day applies to both elementary and secondary schools and families are asked to plan alternate arrangements for their children on that day.

To view the revised 2015-16 School Calendars, please visit the Calendar section in the Schools tab at www.granderie.ca or <http://bit.ly/1KuvBPw>.

~~Don't forget to check our website for announcements and upcoming events. All newsletters will be available on the site and we have recently added a Twitter page so you can learn about what's going on here at Hodge!~~

<http://www.granderie.ca/agneshodge/>

What's Your Mindset?

Part of the school's improvement plan is to embrace a growth mindset. This means that students are encouraged to persevere through challenging tasks, have the confidence to know they can learn anything, and be inspired through the efforts of others. Look for our Growth Mindset bulletin board in the main hall to see examples of students with a growth mindset.



I can learn anything I want to.
When I'm frustrated, I persevere.
I want to challenge myself.
When I fail, I learn.
Tell me I try hard.
If you succeed, I'm inspired.
My effort and attitude determine everything.

Achievement

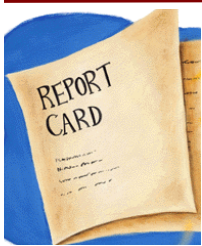
Helping Children Learn—Tips Parents Can Use to Help Their Children Do Better In School

Boost cooperation and improve behavior with teacher-proven tips

It isn't always easy to get children to behave, pay attention, get organized and respond to requests. But it's worth the effort. Students who learn to behave well and follow rules at home are more likely to do the same at school. Teachers face these challenges with 20 or more students each day. Here's what they suggest:

- Teach your child what you want him to do. Focus on the tasks that you want to be routine. For example, he can pack the backpack the night before and leave it by the door.
- Post a schedule of your child's regular daily activities. He will know what to do and when to do it. And he will feel more independent.
- Avoid abrupt transitions. Kids can get really absorbed in an activity. To help your child switch gears, give him a transition alert. Let him know how many minutes he has left before he needs to do something else.
- Make ordinary tasks fun. For example, challenge your child to put away his clean laundry in time with the beat of his favorite music.
- Use silent signals. Gently touch your child on the shoulder to get his attention. Flick the lights on and off to give a five-minute warning.
- Provide meaningful things for your child to do. He'll be less likely to misbehave if he's occupied. Keep books that interest him around the house. Keep craft supplies handy so he can use them at any time. In the grocery store, put your child in charge of coupons.

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Report cards will be sent home on Thursday, February 11th. Please take time to review the report with your child and make comments on the last page. Pay particular attention to the Learning Skills and help your child set a realistic goal to improve in a Learning Skill for second term. As a school, we are focusing on giving feedback to students on their work and having them use that feedback to improve their next piece of work. The Kindergarten will be receiving their reports in June.

~~100th Day – February 10, 2016~~

The Primary Division will be celebrating 100th Day with various activities. Please encourage your child to participate in the activities that their class will be doing to mark the 100th school day this year.

Environment



Leader of the Pack:

This month's character education trait is **Trustworthiness**. We look forward to being introduced to and learning more about **Trustworthiness** from Mrs. Crane's and Mrs. Gagne's classes. The Leader of the Pack Assembly where we will celebrate those students who have demonstrated '**Fairness**' will be held on **February 5th at 9:10 am**. All parents are welcome!

Trustworthiness is:

- taking responsibility for one's behaviour and responsibilities
- being worthy of trust
- someone able to be relied on as honest or truthful

Pink Shirt Day-February 24th

What is pink shirt day? In September 2007, a grade nine student in Nova Scotia was bullied on his first day of high school for wearing a pink polo. Two grade twelve students, David Shepherd and Travis Price, heard about the bullying and decided to take action. They went to a nearby discount store and bought 50 pink shirts, including tank tops, to wear to school the next day. After e-mailing fellow classmates and bringing them on board with their anti-bullying cause, it was dubbed the "sea of pink" campaign. Hundreds of students showed up to school wearing their own pink clothes, and support began pouring in from around the world, as people took notice of the students' activism.

JOIN US in the anti-bullying campaign. Wear pink – February 24th



Hat Days

Students in Ms. Miedema's class having been raising money for the Brantford Food Bank. Students pay to be able to wear hats on every other Friday through January and February. Thanks to Emma Muise

Agnes G. Hodge is located in ZONE 4.

In the event of bus delays, cancellations or school closures:

- visit: www.stsbhn.ca
- Visit: GEDSB website
- Listen to CKPC 1380 radio after 6:30



Environment cont.

A Note From Your School's Public Health Nurse...

Warm Up to Winter with Active Fun for the Whole Family

Winter is officially here! Although it's cold outside, there is no need to hibernate indoors. Instead, go outside with the whole family and enjoy playing old games or trying out some new ones.

Building a snowman, tobogganing, playing a game of hockey, going skating or participating in a winter treasure hunt are all great activities that will get the whole family moving.

Before heading outdoors, keep these tips in mind:

Dress warm and layer clothing. Don't forget a warm hat, mittens and boots!

Stay away from ponds and rivers. They may look frozen, but the ice may not be thick enough to support your body weight. Play it safe!

Pack a lunch and something to drink. It's easy to forget that in the cold air you can still get hungry and thirsty.

Wear Sunscreen. You can get sunburn even in the winter!

Watch for frostbite. Kids get frostbite faster than adults. Signs of frostbite include a prickly or itchy feeling in the skin, numbness and/ or discoloration on the face, ears hands or feet. Stay protected, stay warm.

Good minds stand up for those around
them.

Good minds stand up and tell bullies to
stop.

Good minds stand up when no one
else will.

Good minds stand up and refuse to
react to anger.

Good minds stand up for those who
can't for themselves.

#goodmindsstandup

Engagement cont.

February Fundraiser for Valentine's Day

For Valentine's Day we will be selling the remaining chocolate bars from our fundraiser. Bring in \$2.00 during the week of February 8th to 12th to buy a chocolate bar for yourself or send one to your Valentine. The Valentine's will be handed out on February 12th.



Extra-Curriculars at Hodge

February is a busy month at Hodge for clubs, sports teams, and intramurals. Thanks you staff for all the time you put into running these events. Here is a list of the amazing activities that are available to students:

Girls' Basketball

Junior Basketball

Crochet Club

Safety Patrol

Okie Ball Intramural

Choir

Drumming Club

Primary Pinball Soccer

Boys' Basketball

Zentangle art club

Dates to Remember:

February 1	Black History Month
February 3	Pizza Lunch
February 5	Leader of the Pack Assembly
February 8	Chinese New Year
February 10	Pita Lunch
	Ash Wednesday
February 11	Reports Home
February 12	Jump Rope for Heart
	Valentine's Dance
February 14	Valentine's Day
February 14-20	Random Acts of Kindness Week
February 15	Family Day
February 22	Boy's Basketball—Hodge
February 24	Pita Lunch
	Pink Shirt Day
	School Council
February 26	PD Day