**Gingerbread for Generosity!!**

Hello families and students of A.L. Horton! We are so excited be continuing the ALH tradition of building gingerbread houses! We enjoy being able to bring the spirit of Christmas and generosity to our school and community. The food bank is in desperate need of donations and with the holidays coming thought it would be a terrific time to come together for a great cause!

**The Scoop**

The week of December 13-17 the school will be having a gingerbread making contest. Each class and student will be decorating a gingerbread creation to celebrate Christmas and a chance to be crowned to be A.L. Horton’s Top Gingerbread Decorator! All we ask is that every student who would like to participate (if the family is able) donate an item to the food bank. All donations need to be in no later than FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10th. We are excited for students to enjoy this festive tradition while also keeping the spirit of giving at the heart of this special project!

**What Do I Need to Bring? How will this Work?**

ALH continues to work diligently to ensure we are following all protocols to keep everyone safe! Here is the scoop on how it will work:

1. THERE WILL BE NO EATING OF ANY GINGERBREAD HOUSES/CANDY/ICING ETC. To stay in compliance with the rules these beautiful projects are for our viewing pleasure only!
2. All candy, supplies, donated materials (see below “How Can I Help” for more info) must be in by FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10.
3. Each student will receive the following materials: Gingerbread material, icing and plate.
4. Each student is required to bring in their own candy. Please keep in mind- they are only creating their own house or cookie or tree (about the size of a 10 pack Timbit box) so a medium size bag of candy would be plenty. If you have extra candy you wish to bring or donate for those who don’t have, please label “extra”. We will gladly take this for you!
5. Please ensure all candy brought in is nut free and packaged. Other materials such as goldfish crackers, marshmallows, sprinkles, etc. are also welcome.
6. Students will create and take home their project that same day. Reminding everyone that these are NOT TO BE EATEN - decoration only.
7. The top project from each class will be chosen by the judge and then there will be a voting process where the A.L. Horton Gingerbread Decorating Champion will be crowned.

**How Can I Help?**

* We are collecting sealed boxes of graham crackers. If you can donate a box, that would be greatly appreciated. Please send them with your child to school. We need approximately 5 boxes of graham wafers (regular size) per class.
* We are also looking for families who would like to donate icing sugar. We need approximately 4 bags of icing sugar per class. Again, this is not mandatory, only for those who would like to help.
* If you have extra Halloween candy around the house that you are looking to get rid of, we will also gladly take any for those who aren’t able to bring in.
* Please make sure all supplies are brought in by FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10, as we need to abide by COVID rules.

**Volunteers**

You feeling the Christmas spirit? We are THRILLED parent volunteers are allowed back in the school and looking for some parent volunteers on Monday, December 13 to make the icing and put into piping bags. No experience necessary super easy recipe. If you are interested in helping make icing please contact Mrs. Bortnick at [Kelsey.bortnick@eips.ca](mailto:Kelsey.bortnick@eips.ca) or if you happen to see her on after school supervision you can stop and chat with her too! Vaccination status and mask protocols will apply.

We know this Christmas looks a little different for most of us during these times and really want to bring as much joy and spirit to students as we can, while instilling the true meaning of Christmas. We appreciate your support and cooperation and look forward to this special event!

A dog wearing a hat

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Have a wonderful week!

Sincerely,

A.L. Horton Staff