



HUMBERCREST P.S. NEWSLETTER

Principal's Message:

It may be early in 2014, but the first term is nearing an end at Humbercrest. Teachers are in the process of completing their assessments of students, celebrating individual student progress and accomplishments, and setting goals for the remainder of the school year.

Grades 1 - 8 students will receive a report card that will be sent home with your child on February 13th, 2014. For Kindergarten students, only JK students will receive a report card in February.

Parent teacher interviews will be scheduled following the Family day weekend. For this round of interviews, no day time interviews are available as there is no PD Day designated in February. This means that interviews will be scheduled after school hours and by appointment only. Teachers will request interviews with parents for students, as follows:

A student who is on an Individual Education Plan with modified expectations.

A student for whom placement in a Special Education program or a change in

program is being considered (for example, French Immersion to English).

A student with significant decline in achievement and for whom promotion may be at risk.

Or, parent/guardian request for an interview.

Enclosed with your child's report card will be an Interview Request Form containing more details about the interview process for your specific child.

Thank you for your continued collaboration and partnership in your child's education.

JK Registration:

February is **Kindergarten Registration month at Humbercrest**. We will be holding our Junior Kindergarten Open House on **Friday, February 7th** from 2:00-2:45 pm. in room 14. Please bring your child with you on this day. During the open house you will have the opportunity to see a kindergarten room, hear about the junior kinder-

garten program and speak with our junior kindergarten teachers. You will also receive a registration package that will need to be completed in order to enrol your child in Junior Kindergarten for September 2014. The completed registration package can be brought to the school office, during school hours. Please ensure that you complete your package and return it to us no later than March 6th.

When registering a child for school the following information is necessary:

- Proof of age (i.e. birth certificate, passport, baptismal certificate, etc.)
- Proof of address (i.e. purchase or lease agreement, utility bill with address, etc.)
- Proof of custody (where applicable)
- Proof of Canadian citizenship, permanent resident status or refugee status.

We look forward to seeing you and your child at the Open House.

M. Salvarinas, Principal
C. Gambacort, Vice Principal

February 2014

- Feb. 4-Arts Express "Drama" begins @ lunch
- Feb. 5-Gr. 4&5 presentation (a.m.)-Sr. Gym
- Feb. 5-Gr. 1-3 to Roy Thomson Hall (p.m.)
- Feb. 5-Jr. Boys Basketball @ Rockcliffe
- Feb. 6-Arts Express "Hip Hop" begins @ lunch
- Feb. 6-Gr. 8 Girls Volleyball @ James S. Bell
- Feb. 6-National Sweater Day
- Feb. 7-Winter Olympics Spirit Day -wear red & white
- Feb. 7-JK Open House/Registration @ 2pm
- Feb. 7-Sr. Girls Volleyball @ Portage
- Feb. 10-Wesley King presentation (p.m.)-Gr. 7 & 8
- Feb. 11-13-"We Are Love" buttons on sale-Social Justice Club
- Feb. 11-Forte/Chiu classes-"Snowshoe Day"
- Feb. 12-Jr. Div. Speeches (a.m.)
- Feb. 12-Sr. Div. Speeches (p.m.)
- Feb. 13-Carnaval/Talent Show
- Feb. 13-Report Cards go home
- Feb. 14-Sr. Div. Dance (p.m.)
- Feb. 17-Family Day
- Feb. 18-21-Rm.10-"Imagining my Sustainable City"
- Feb. 19-Gr. 7 Boys Basketball @ John English
- Feb. 20-Rm. 29, 32, 30 & 25 to Cinefranco French Film Festival
- Feb. 25-Gr. 7&8 FI classes to Cinefranco French Film Festival
- Feb. 26-Pizza Day
- Feb. 27-HPV vaccine-gr. 8 girls-pm
- Feb. 27-Centennial Committee Mtg @ 7pm

Due to scheduling conflicts the February Parent Council meeting will be held on
March 26, 2014

RIPLEY'S AQUARIUM

On Thursday January 23, all 5 kindergarten classes plus Mrs. Wasley's students spent the day at Ripley's Aquarium viewing aquatic life. We had 123 students and 59 volunteers join us on this excursion! The sharks, jellyfish and stingrays seem to be the favourites along with the moving sidewalk and the scuba divers. Our next big educational outing is Young Peoples Theatre in March.

Many thank to all of our volunteers.

R. Forte and the Kindergarten Team

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Our Trip to Ripley's Aquarium:

On Thursday January 23rd, our class went to the Ripley's Aquarium at the bottom of the CN Tower. We took a yellow bus to the aquarium with the kindergarten students.

We saw big sharks in the aquarium which were swimming with lots of little fish.

The moving sidewalk pushed us around and it was the best! It was so cool because it was so fast and we could see everything!

One of our favourite parts was when we all went into the tunnel and there were sharks and all kinds of other fish swimming around us. As well, being able to touch the stingrays and other small sharks was great. The stingrays could be touched because their stingers were cut off. Every 90 days they have to do it again, because they grow back.

Another favourite part was when we got to see the baby sharks in their eggs. How you saw their eggs was because there was a small light behind the sharks.

A scuba diver was feeding the fish vegetables. All the fish swam right to her!

The sawfish are really long and they swam right on top of the cave and you could see them from the bottom.

We all brought our lunches and we ate on the bench in the middle of the aquarium. There were 6 of us and it was so packed, but we got to see everything and even went on the moving sidewalk 4 times because we loved it so much!



By: Mikayla Watts, Charlie Farquhar, Julia Ciofi, Gregory Jones, Parker Silcox-Childs, Cheldon Pennant-Reid

Mrs. Wasley

Mrs. DeFrancesco

School Partners:

You may have noticed the many co-op students from Runnymede Collegiate, teacher candidates from both York and Queens Universities or nursing students we have at Humbercrest. We have been fortunate to share our expertise with many community schools and faculties of education. Thank you to all students, teachers and parents for your support of these programs.

Winter Weather Reminder

The winter wind, snow and temperatures will continue in the month of February and quite likely into March. Please take the time to ensure that students are dressed warmly with mitts, hats, coats and boots.



SECONDARY SCHOOL COURSE SELECTION SHEETS!

Attention: Grade 8 Parents and Students

Just a reminder that course selection sheets for secondary school are due to Mrs. Militano by **February 21st, 2014.**

"We Are Love! Pin your love on your sleeve!"

Beginning Tuesday, February 11th and continuing until Thursday, February 13th, the Social Justice Club will be selling "love buttons" each day at lunch hour outside of the office. Each button is \$2.00 and all proceeds will go to Free The Children. Buttons say "Love is Learning", "Love is Opportunity", "Love is Pure", "Love is a Cure", "Love is Growing", and "Love is Here". Students and parents will have the opportunity to purchase and send the buttons to other students or purchase them for themselves.

"Why Love?"

Because Love is a cure for one billion people around the world without access to health care. Because Love is learning for 121 million children worldwide who are not in school. Because Love is opportunity for three billion people around the world living on less than \$2 a day. Because Love is pure for one billion people without access to fresh drinking water. Because Love is growing for 925 million people worldwide who are undernourished. Because this Valentine's Day, you can make a difference.

Launched in 2012, "We are Love" is a

Free The Children fundraising campaign. People will have the opportunity to raise money with our *Love is...* button and card collection, for a meaningful take on Valentine's Day - all to support "Adopt a Village communities around the world."

This is the second year we have participated in this endeavor.

**Rebecca Forte and
Social Justice Club**

This month Mme. Hindoian's Grade 7 class is learning about some important world issues

1. We recently finished reading "The Boy in the Striped Pajamas" by John Boyne. This is a powerful story about a boy, Bruno, whose family moves to a home just outside of Auschwitz. Bruno makes friends with a boy his age on the other side of the fence, which alters the lives of all the characters in the book.
2. In geography we are looking at how location, environment, region, interaction and movement are affected by an event such as Typhoon Haiyan and putting it to practical use by creating an action plan to help the victims. A Filipino community member will be visiting the class to help decide which campaign we carry out.
3. This week we will be starting "Long Walk to Freedom" by Nelson Mandela. This is a timely choice, with Nelson Mandela's recent passing and with African Heritage Month in February.
4. Our classroom will be tracking Norway in the upcoming Sochi Olympics. We are planning fun activities and looking forward to learning a little bit about the Norwegian culture.

More Intermediate Division News:

This month, Mme. El-Kassem's grade 7 and 8 History and Geography classes will be delving deeper into examining the voices of those who are sometimes forgotten in History and on the world stage.

In grade 7 history, we are currently engaging in a debate about francophone language rights at the time of the British take-over of New France. We will then be moving on to look at the important role that First Nation's leaders like Pontiac and Tecumseh played in the development of Canada.

In grade 8 geography, students are examining population trends around the world and the different factors that account for differences in population density and distribution. This will help us with our next unit on looking at global inequality.

In grade 8 History, students will be beginning a unit on the unheard voices of Confederation, including First Nations and Women, in order to reflect on who was left out of discussions on the founding of our country.

All of our Intermediate English classes working with Mr. Wobowsk will be watching the movie "Invictus." It's a film made a few years ago starring Morgan Freeman as Nelson Mandela. It tells the story of how he used the World Cup of Rugby to unite South Africa after he became president. The students will also study the poem "Invictus." The kids will be using the structure of the poem, but rewriting it to be about Mandela and his impact on the world.

COMMUNICATIONS: If you haven't been getting our technicolour emails and newsletter, your class parent hasn't got your email address. Please contact your class parent as soon as possible - or email:

humbercrestcommunications@gmail.com

February's Character trait is Fairness. Fairness and a sense of justice is something that we strive to instill in students every day at Humbercrest. Our students learn about social justice issues on a local and global level. We have collected donations of winter coats for students in local schools. At home and at school, we encourage students to play fairly and treat others (friends, family members, etc.) with respect and how they would like to be treated. Ask your child what it means to be fair? Ask them to explain what it feels like when someone is unfair? Discuss what equality means: is it that everyone gets the same, or that everyone gets what they need?

The Humbercrest Lost and Found has moved! A number of labelled bins have been placed on the main floor outside Room 1. Please label your child's clothing, water bottle, lunch container etc. to ensure that labelled items are returned promptly. All unlabelled items will be sorted into the correct bin at the beginning of each school day. Any items there for more than three weeks will be donated to charity at the end of each month. For sanitary reasons lunch/food containers will be thrown away every Monday. Please check the lost and found frequently for missing items. We welcome a few volunteers to help manage the system. Please contact Mme. Barbieri if you have 5 minutes at the beginning of each day to help keep our Lost and Found tidy.

Humbercrest Hoppers - our very own Skipping Stunt Team

By Amanda Elkerton and Sam Christensen

Since October 24th grade 6, 7 and 8 students have met every Monday lunch hour to skip. These students are part of a new stunt team who have been assembled with the purpose of performing April 2nd and 3rd at four assemblies where they will demonstrate their clever skipping tricks in order to inspire the school. These assemblies will kick off a week of raising money for the Heart and Stroke Foundation, Humbercrest's chosen charity this year. The week will end with a school-wide Skiphathon where all students will be given their own jump rope, have a chance to skip and try out some tricks with the help of Humbercrest Hoppers (easily identifiable with their new orange team shirts).

These 24 students have increased their fitness and their skills each week. They have taught themselves some impressive tricks through experimentation and copying other stunt teams on the internet. The performance is currently being choreographed and it is the team themselves who are contributing their own ideas in order to put the show together. As of February, the team will meet twice a week (Monday lunch and Thursdays after school) in order to practice and perfect the show.



SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Thank you to everyone who helped make the Scholastic Book Fair a huge success! We raised over \$10,000—\$6,000 of which will go directly to the Humbercrest Library to buy new books.

Also, thank you to our amazing parent volunteers. Events such as this would not be possible without you!!!



Scientist in the Classroom:

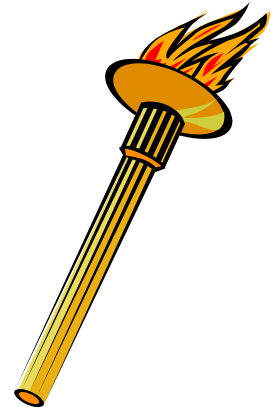
The grade two classes enjoyed participating in a science workshop on "Simple Machines". A good time was had by everyone. Can you identify and find examples of simple machines in your home?

CARNAVAL AT HUMBERCREST

Carnaval will be celebrated at Humbercrest on Thursday, February 13th. All students from JK through Grade 6 will participate in this outdoor games event. We are also incorporating an Olympic component this year to celebrate the Winter Games! Please ask your child or their teacher about their plans. Help us by sending in articles of interest, watching the news for updates, listening to updates on the radio or watching events unfold live.

Please remember to dress your child appropriately as they will be outdoors for one hour. We do require the help of our amazing parents for this event, so if you are available in the morning or afternoon, please e-mail Dawn at dmader@rogers.com

Thank you for your support!!!



NATIONAL SWEATER DAY

February, 2014

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Our school will be taking part in **National Sweater Day** on Thursday, February 6! National Sweater Day is an annual event organized by World Wildlife Fund Canada. On National Sweater Day, WWF asks Canadians to turn down thermostats by two degrees Celsius at home, at school and at work to highlight the role that energy conservation plays in preventing climate change.

Our school buildings will be a little chillier on February 6, so we are asking that all students wear or bring a sweater to school.

In addition to turning down the heat and turning up our sweaters, our class will be participating in a number of activities designed to help students understand how everyday actions affect our planet's future.

We are looking forward to a cozy day in the classroom.

Sincerely,

N. Zupancic

G. Bruinsma-Cajic

Environment Committee

*To learn more about National Sweater Day, please visit **SweaterDay.ca**.*



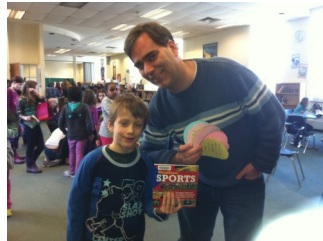
LIBRARY NEWS

New and Exciting @ Humbercrest Library!



Forest of Reading

The Forest is in full swing and the buzz around the library is infectious! This year we have over 120 students signed up and I am thrilled to see children reading and creating crafts around all these great books. In the next two months we will focus on Book Talks for select titles (run by our Grade 8 Forest Leaders) and various Forest of Reading contests.



Titles, Anyone?

We are looking for suggestions on books and materials to supplement the Humbercrest library collection around themes of diversity, equity, and inclusion. We have many non-fiction materials dealing with these subjects, but would like to increase our picture book and novel selections (both French and English) that celebrate the diversity of our school's population. Each month we feature books that reinforce Character Themes and Days of Significance on the Humbercrest calendar.

Do you know any good titles that we could include? Please forward your suggestions to ivana.barbieri@tdsb.on.ca.

Returns & Rewards

We continue to collect \$5 for each lost item in an effort to offset the costs of lost materials to our collection. Each month a printed list of overdue items is generated. Please return or renew books as soon as possible. In keeping with our theme of Responsibility and in an effort to reduce the number of lost/overdue items, we have begun a Returns & Rewards Initiative. Each month the class with the least number of lost/overdue items receives a special incentive to reward their conscientiousness. Congratulations to Mrs. D'Urzo's JK/SK!

Happy Reading!

Ivana Barbieri, Teacher Librarian

Winter Carnival 2014 Talent Show

During the week of January 27th, auditions were held for any student interested in participating in this year's Talent Show. We had over 120 students from grades 1 through 6 who auditioned.

Two shows will be performed on the afternoon of Thursday February 13th. "Show A" features performers in Grades 1-3 (curtain rises at 12:45 pm). "Show B" features performers in Grades 4 through 6 (curtain rises at 2:00 pm). While this is a show performed by kids for kids, we will set up a few chairs in the back of the auditorium for any parents who wish to attend. If you plan on attending the show, please sign in at the main office to receive a visitor badge.

We will also be videotaping each show and selling DVDs. Proceeds will go to SoFun, a parent committee that raises money for the school to buy extra items (such as musical instruments or smartboards) that benefit all Humbercrest students. If you would like to order a DVD of the show, please fill out the form below and send it with your child to the performance, or by Friday February 28th to your child's teacher.

For any child participating in the Talent Show, here are some tips on stage presence:

Stand tall and project your voice so audience can hear you

If you make a mistake, just keep going, no one will know

Smile and remember to look at the audience

At the end of your performance, remember to bow

If you have any questions, please contact Danielle Faulkner @ dfaulkc383@rogers.com or Tracy D' Cruz at tracy.dacruz@sympatico.ca



