



HUMBERCREST PS

Family Communication

January 12, 2024



Dear Humbercrest Families,

Happy New Year! We wish you all a healthy, happy, and peaceful 2024. We are very excited to be back with our staff and students. We hope that you enjoyed your break and are ready to finish Term 1 with enthusiasm and dedication.

Marlene Calligan and Debra Marshall-MacLeod

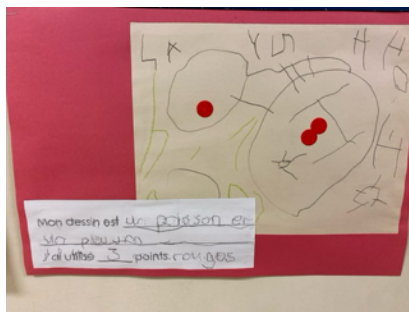
Dress for the Weather!

Winter has arrived and the snow is here! Students are outside for two- 10 minute recesses and a 30 minute lunch recess. Their comfort is dependent upon dressing properly. We know that fresh air and exercise throughout the day improve learning. These breaks also provide opportunities for children to develop essential social skills of cooperative play and conflict resolution.



Please help your child come prepared for this weather by providing them with boots, heavy coats and snow pants, warm mitts, scarves, hats and indoor shoes. It's helpful for children to have an extra pair of socks and mittens in their backpacks. Please label all clothing and ask your child to check the Lost and Found for missing items

Humbercrest Highlights



Strings Ensemble Opportunity for students in Grades 5-8

There will be a meeting on Thursday, January 18th at 3:30 pm in the Music room for students who are interested in joining an after school Strings Ensemble.

No experience is required and possible instruments available are violin, viola, cello and double bass.

The practices will take place every Thursday from 3:30- 4:15 pm in the Music room.

Please come if you'd like to learn more about it!

-Ms. Warson

Tamil Heritage Month at the TDSB - January 2024

Tamil Heritage Month is proudly recognized during the month of January at the Toronto District School Board since January 2016. It has also been marked across the province of Ontario since March 2004 with the implementation of the Tamil Heritage Month Act, 2014 (<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/14t04>). Further, Tamil Heritage Month is also formally recognized nationally since January 2016 by the passing of a motion which reads,

That, in the opinion of the House, the government should recognize the contributions that Tamil-Canadians have made to Canadian society, the richness of the Tamil language and culture, and the importance of educating and reflecting upon Tamil heritage for future generations by declaring January, every year, Tamil Heritage Month.

This year, the theme for Tamil Heritage Month is Our Memories, Our Truths, Our Paths Forward: A Mosaic of Tamil Identity

இந்த ஆண்டின் தமிழ் மரபு மாதத்திற்கான கருப்பொருள், "எங்கள் நினைவுகள், நமது உண்மைகள், நமது முன்னோக்கி செல்ல வேண்டிய பாதைகள்: தமிழர் அடையாளம்".

Memories play an integral role in how we shape our stories and our identities. They are what we tell ourselves about who we are, and they form the basis for how people know us as well as how we perceive and know the world around us. Memories also shape our truths, and it is with our memories and truths in mind that we set goals for ourselves and move forward, individually, and collectively as a group of people.

As a board, the Toronto District School Board is committed to affirming identities, and to teaching and learning about the various stories and viewpoints of all its members. This year's Tamil Heritage Month theme is a reminder to pause and reflect on our memories and narratives, to consider how they shape us individually, and to look at ways that we can come together to honour and celebrate our individuality while moving forward with our collective humanity in mind.

Toronto has the largest Tamil population outside of the South Asian subcontinent with thousands of TDSB students and staff members who identify as Tamil. The importance of building awareness, creating a strong self and collective identities, and understanding one's own roots and rights are important objectives of the Tamil Heritage Month volunteer planning committee.



Salat in Secret: Love and Belonging in Community Spaces

The TDSB Islamic Heritage Month Committee, in partnership with the Equity, Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression Department, is offering families the opportunity to attend the virtual session of *Salat in Secret: Love and Belonging in Community Spaces*.

The session for families/guardians/caregivers will be offered on Monday, January 29, 2024.

The session commemorates the National Day of Remembrance of the Quebec City Mosque Attack and Action Against Islamophobia. Jamilah Thompkins-Bigelow, critically acclaimed author of *Your Name is a Song* and many other celebrated children's books, will engage TDSB students, along with their caregivers and families, in an interactive storytelling session focused on courage, conviction and the importance of prayer spaces. The session is designed for students in Grades K-8 with families and caregivers during the evening.

The community session will take place from 6 to 7 p.m. To register for the community event, please complete this [Google Form](#).

17th Annual Parent Involvement Advisory Committee (PIAC) Conference

The 17th Annual PIAC Conference is on Saturday, February 3, 2024 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Earl Haig Secondary School. The PIAC Conference is a unique opportunity to deepen understanding of the educational landscape, connect with fellow parents/guardians/caregivers and staff, and contribute to the continued success of our community. More information: www.torontopiac.com/whats-happening/conferences and review our [conference flyer](#).

Out-of-Area Admissions

The online applications for Elementary and Secondary Out-of-Area Admissions are now open.

- Students have the opportunity to access schools outside of the school that is designated to serve their residential address.
- Acceptance at these schools is subject to space availability.
- Transportation is the responsibility of the applicant.

Interested applicants can learn more about a school's status from the main [Out-of-Area Admissions website](#) and the Out-of-Area Admissions priorities from the [Out-of-Area Admissions Random Selection Priorities website](#).

[Elementary Out-of-Area Admissions Website](#)

[Secondary Out-of-Area Admissions Website](#)

Application Window: January 8 - 31, 2024

Application Window: January 8 - 26, 2024

Offers Made: February 26 and March 1, 2024

Offers Made: February 7, 14 and 21, 2024

Trustee Debbie King Newsletter

Please sign up to receive the [newsletter](#) from Debbie King.

School Advisory Committee

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 27, 2024

Follow us on Instagram: [Humbercrestparentcouncil](#)

msheathersinclair@hotmail.com

kristengrace@gmail.com

Middle French Immersion (Grade 4 Entry) Application Information and Timelines

Middle French Immersion (Grade 4 entry) Application Deadline - For families interested in the Toronto District School Board's system-wide French Immersion Program, we offer an online process to apply for Middle French Immersion (begins in Grade 4). To apply to the Middle French Immersion Program for September 2024, applications must be completed online between January 8 and February 2, 2024. Families with an older sibling currently in a Middle French Immersion program are still required to complete an online application for the new student. For more information, please visit: [Middle French Immersion](#) or the [Application Process](#). Interested families can apply via the [Application Link](#).

At any time, please visit the [TDSB French website](#) to view a [video](#) that provides information about the TDSB French Language programs as well as the application and placement process in the Early French Immersion and the Middle French Immersion programs. More information about the Middle French Immersion Program is available in [22 languages](#), or visit the [Information Sessions](#) website for related links to join a live zoom webinar about the application process.

Elementary Alternative Schools Online Application Process

The TDSB has a wide range of [elementary alternative schools](#) available to students. The application process is managed centrally and includes an online application form. Information about the online application process will be available on the [Alternative Schools website](#) on December 11, 2023.

The online application for admission for September 2024 will be open from Monday, January 8, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. to Wednesday, January 31, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

Elementary alternative schools will hold information sessions and/or open houses for students and parents/guardians/caregivers in December 2023 and January 2024. More information is available on the [Elementary School Open Houses and Information Nights](#) web page.

Extra-Curricular

Junior Boys Basketball Try-Outs

On Wednesday, January 17 there will be a Junior boys Basketball Tyr-Outs at 8 AM.



The Watermelons	Thursdays at Lunch
Eco Club	Day 3 - Lunch - Library
Minecraft Club	Thursday Lunch (room 22)
Pokemon Club (gr. 4-8)	2 Mondays per month - Lunch (library)
Mila's Book Club (Grade 5)	Every 2nd Wednesday in the library at Lunch
Primary Choir	Thursdays at Lunch
Junior Choir	Wednesdays at Lunch
BSA	Lunch
Jr./Sr. Hockey	AM practices
Student Council	Lunch
Coding Club	Lunch
Senior Boys basketball	Lunch Practices

**COMING
SOON!**

Co-ed Volleyball

Primary run, jump & throw

Rubix Cube Club

Upcoming Dates

Lunch Lady (every Tues & Thurs)	January 16 and 18
Junior boys basketball Tryouts	January 17 - 8:00 AM
PA Day	January 19
Report Cards go home	February 14
Parent/Guardian Interviews	February 15 PM February 16 (AM)
PA Day	February 16

Days of Significance

Lohri	January 13
Maghi	January 13
Orthodox New Year's Day	January 14
Makara Sankranti	January 15
Thai Pongal	January 15-18

After Hours School Safety

If you see any suspicious activity or vandalism at the school after hours, but feel it is not a call to police, you can call **The 24-hour TDSB security number: 416-395-4620**

School Website

[Humbercrest Public School](#)

Contact Information

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Debbie King, School Trustee Ward 7, debbieking@tdsb.on.ca