



HUMBERCREST PS

Family Communication

March 1, 2024

Dear Humbercrest Families,



Honesty is the character trait for March. The Student Council's question of the month is "Why is it important to be honest, even when it's hard?"

We look forward to hearing our student's answers at the March assembly.

Marlene Calligan and Debra Marshall-MacLeod

Humbercrest Highlights



Talent Show

Humbercrest has talent!! On February 27, Humbercrest held 2 Talent Shows. We enjoyed singers, dancers, musicians, magicians, acrobatics and even a puppet show! We thank the parents that organized this wonderful event: Johanna, Shay, Yvonne, Darina, Mitch, and Jessica. Our student tech crew were in charge of sound and transitions between acts, while our MC's introduced the acts and kept the audience quiet. We thank: Teo, Ella K., Ella B., Simon, Avery, Zoe, Clara and Rebekah.

African and Chinese Heritage Month

Ms. Elkerton's class did a big project in groups. They made a "Who am I?" game, a book for younger grades and a poster. The books are out on tour with other classes to educate younger students. The kids chose whether they did Black History or Chinese Heritage. The game is making its way through the Junior division with all classes playing it.



Ms. Caine's class completed work on an Afrofuturism unit.



Mme. Stevens' class visited the Fire Station.





POPCORN Sales are Back

Students in Grades 7 and 8 will be selling bags of popcorn next week - **Monday, Wednesday and Friday**. Bags will be available during lunch for a cost of \$2. Proceeds will support the upcoming Grade 8 Graduation trip. Please see the [link](#) for ingredients and nutritional information.



Student Voice

On February 29, our Student Council once again organized an assembly for the whole school. The Student Council under the direction of Mme. Caine put together an assembly highlighting student work, the character trait for February; Fairness and invited the BSA and the Watermelons to speak. The Watermelons spoke about International Women's Day. Students from the BSA read a poem titled, My Black Joy is ... Here are a few stanzas from that poem.



It's the tightness of my curls
It's how I move with grace
It's the kente in my cloth
The hijab that frames my face

It's history, it's culture,
It's grit, it's pain,
It's courage, it's strength,
It's redemption, it's reign

International Women's Day

On Friday March 8th, International Women's Day will take place. Here at Humbercrest, we have a club who will highlight the day for the whole school. We are the WATERMELONS (**W**omen, **A**spiring, **T**rans-women, **E**mpowering, **R**ising, **M**entally healthy, **E**quitable, **L**eaders, **O**pportunities, **N**on-binary, **S**trong) and we are all about uplifting and empowering each other.

Students in the club have spent 8 lunch hours through February planning: daily announcements, informative posters for the hallways, a detailed book list, and activities for all grades that will be distributed to teachers so they can run an activity in their classroom on March 8th.

All students are invited to wear the colours of IWD on March 8th which are purple, green or white.

Watermelons is a club for grade 6 students and has been in effect since October. Other activities that have happened are crafts, a health info session and discussions about how to handle challenges. Upcoming events include guest speakers and raising funds for women's organizations (one local and one overseas).

A.Elkerton

School Advisory Committee

Thank you to everyone that attended the last SAC meeting. We shared and discussed the numerous proposals brought forth to Council. There were proposals for Scientists in the School, music and physy-ed equipment, sports jerseys, library mindfulness activities, kindergarten resources and whole-school speakers and presentations. Humbercrest is very appreciative for all the fundraising that happens to support these initiatives.

A graphic with the words "Thank You" in a colorful, cursive font. The word "Thank" is in green and yellow, and "You" is in red and orange.

👁️ To keep up to date with SAC events such as pizza day or the upcoming talent show, follow our NEW

Instagram account  @humbercrestparentcouncil

TDSB Parent/Caregiver/Family Opportunities



[TDSB Mathematics for Families](#)

Building Mathematical Minds

[Supporting Your Child in Acquiring Math Skills for Success](#)

Mental Health & Well-Being

At the school level, we ask administrators to continue sharing the [MHWB website](#) in school communications (e.g. emails, newsletters) and also communicate directly with students about how to access mental health toolkits, identity affirming resources, and information about a variety of wellness topics.

Student Accident Insurance Reminder

The Toronto District School Board does not provide accident insurance coverage for student injuries that occur on school premises or during school sponsored activities. We recently noticed an increase in student injuries, in particular, dental injuries which are costly and could extend over several years.

Please distribute the student accident insurance letter electronically to parents/guardians for awareness.

Parents/ guardians are responsible for deciding whether or not to purchase student accident insurance. The insurance program options range from \$17 to \$33 per year.

Letter: [TDSB Student Accident Insurance Letter](#)

Flyer: [Student Accident Plan Flyer](#)

Website: [Student Accident Plan](#)

The student accident insurance flyer can also be included in School newsletters and posted on school notice boards.

Learn4Life Adult Community Programs - Spring Registration Now Open!

Spring 2024 registration is now open for Learn4Life's Adult General Interest Program! Open to adults 18 years of age and seniors, the Learn4Life program offers a unique and valuable opportunity for individuals to pursue their interests, expand their knowledge, and engage in lifelong learning with a wide range of courses and activities designed to cater to diverse interests and passions.

Just some of the new courses this term include:

- § Pickleball Power Hour: Smash and Drive Mastery
- § Birdwatching for Beginners – Explore Feathered Gems Right in Our Backyard!
- § Feng Shui
- § Payroll Level II
- § Introduction to Documentary Filmmaking
- § Introduction to Henna Body Art and the Ancient Art of Mehndi
- § Sweet, Savoury, Flaky and Fun!
- § Latin Rhythms: Salsa and Merengue for All
- § Outdoor Soccer
- § Aerobics to the 80's! Let's Get Physical
- § Creating A New Vision for My Life
- § Personal Finance and Investment Basics for Women
- § Arabic Beginner Level II

· AND MUCH MORE

[Visit Learn4Life's program page for more information.](#)

Breaking Down Barriers to Mental Health in Black Communities with Trey Anthony

The Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement will be hosting a session during Black Mental Health Week 2024 with award-winning playwright, actor, and wellness expert [Trey Anthony 'Da Kink in My Hair'](#). Honouring the theme for this year, 'Growth and Reflection,' we invite parents, caregivers, students (Gr. 7-12) and community members to join Trey as she delves into important topics such as the stigma surrounding mental health in Black communities. Drawing from her own personal journey, Trey will shed light on her experience with functional depression and mental health. She will also discuss the importance of seeking help and removing the shame and stigma often associated with mental health struggles.

Date: Thursday, March 7, 2024

Time: 6 – 7:30 p.m.

Location: Synchronous virtual
Audience: Parents/ Caregivers, Community, Students (Gr. 7-12)
Register [here](#) or bit.ly/3ORt7om

Winter Well Being

The [Guide](#) is filled with activities, games, wellness tips, identity affirming resources and community agencies to support wellness for all students, caregivers/guardians, families, and school communities over the winter months. Created by Professional Support Services Staff who are part of the Mental Health and Well-Being Committee, the TDSB Mental Health Leads and the System Leader for Mental Health and Professional Support Services, this Guide provides accessible resources and has been translated into the top 20 TDSB spoken languages. Also from TDSB Psychology please see the December issue of Hearts and Minds: [December Newsletter](#).

Days of Significance

Lent	February 14- March 28
Maha Shivaratri	March 8

Ramadan

Monday, March 11, 2024, marks the first week of Ramadan, one of the holiest months of Islamic calendar. During the month of Ramadan, Muslims worldwide abstain from food and water from sunrise to sunset for 29 or 30 consecutive days - as determined by the lunar calendar. Fasting is one of the five pillars of Islam. Muslims break their fast each evening with a communal dinner called an iftar. During Ramadan, Muslims make every effort to recite the Qur'an, participate in extra prayers, engage in charity, and complete good deeds to reach a higher level of spiritually. Once the month is over, Muslims celebrate Eid al-Fitr, the festival of breaking the fast with family and friends, wearing special clothes and sharing gifts for up to three days.

March is Greek Heritage Month

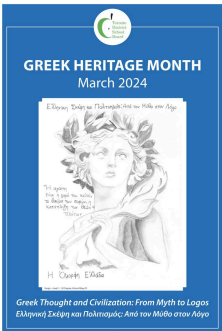
March is a significant month for the Hellenic community and March 25 is celebrated each year as Greek Independence Day. Proclaiming March as Hellenic Heritage Month provides an opportunity to remember, celebrate and educate future generations about the outstanding achievements and contributions of the Hellenic Canadians in the province.

During the month of March, several activities will be shared to mark GHM.


The theme for this year is:

“Greek Thought and Civilization: From Myth to Logos”

«Ελληνική Σκέψη και Πολιτισμός: Από τον Μύθο στον Λόγο»



Upcoming Dates

Lunch Lady (every Tues & Thurs)	March 5 and 7
Grad Photo	March 5
Pizza Day	March 6
March Break	March 11-15
Good Friday	March 29
Easter Monday	April 1
PD Day	April 8 
International Day of Pink	April 10

Extra-Curricular

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)	Last Wednesday of the month in the library at Lunch
Strings	Thursdays after school
BSA	Day 5 - Lunch
Jr./Sr. Hockey	AM practices/Games
Student Council	Lunch
Coding Club	Lunch
Senior Boys basketball	Lunch
Junior Girls Volleyball	AM
Choir	Lunch

Trustee Debbie King Newsletter

[February 2024 Trustee Update](#)

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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Humbercrest PS