



HUMBERCREST PS

Family Communication

March 22, 2024

Dear Humbercrest Families,

Welcome back from March Break. I hope that you had a restful yet fun-filled break. This week we officially welcomed Spring and everywhere we look we are starting to see the signs of Spring. However, the weather has been unpredictable with winter temperatures one day followed by spring temperatures the next. Please ensure that you are sending your child to school with the appropriate clothing for the weather.



As always, if you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to reach out.

Marlene Calligan and Debra Marshall-MacLeod

After School Concerns

Increasingly, we are experiencing occurrences of students gathering after school on school property and engaging in unsafe behaviour and using loud inappropriate language. Humbercrest Staff are supervising until 3:30 pm and if we see any of this behaviour, we immediately address it with the students, and ask them to leave. We would appreciate parent/guardian support in engaging in these conversations at home about displaying appropriate behaviour as student representatives as Humbercrest. This is just a reminder that the playground and field of Humbercrest PS is used by the YMCA. We value this partnership and they have allowed students not in their programs to share the playground space.

We were also contacted by the Senior Manager of Metro Links who had video footage of older students playing on their tracks. Although we don't know who these students are, they were reaching out to neighbouring schools so that we can remind everyone of dangerous behaviours related to train tracks. We will be organizing for them to come in to do a presentation with some of our older students in the near future.

The other thing we have been made aware of is "ding donging" houses in the evenings and we have identified that it is our students who are being targeted. Although this is happening not during the school day, if it impacts our students, there may be consequences for these actions.

We know that the students of Humbercrest can conduct themselves in a way that makes them contributing members of our community. We are hoping that with the support of our families, we will reduce/eliminate these types of behaviours.

REMINDER: Last chance to complete the parent feedback survey from the English French Committee, survey closes this Sunday! [CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE.](#)

- All materials and supplies are provided and the cost is \$170
- Students will create a new piece of art each week
- Please go here to [REGISTER FOR MONDAY](#)

- Please go here to [REGISTER FOR TUESDAY](#)

We hope to see you soon!

[Art in Action](#)



POPCORN Sales - Thank you!!



We appreciate your support for this school fundraiser. Due to the huge popularity of this fundraiser, we will be continuing to sell popcorn through the month of April.

Students 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

Student Council Message

Dear parents and guardians of the Humbercrest community,

We as the Student Council want to make sure that your children's year is exceptional, and one way to make sure of that is to make sure that ringmasters of Humbercrest's kids are in the loop. So far, we hope that all of our Spirit Week activities were fun (and non-stressful for you!) and that your kids have enjoyed the assemblies we have planned.

At this time, we have something quite exciting to share. For the first time in Humbercrest history, the Student Council has a website! This website will be a safe space for the student body to share pieces of writing and art, play weekly council-created online games, and find out about new and fun activities that we are planning at school. We would also like to invite all parents to have access to our website. This is a great way to make sure that you guys know all the exciting things we have planned!

Once our website is approved by our amazing Principals, it will be fully managed by the Student Council, and we will make sure that it's properly updated and that it is a welcoming online environment for all of the student body.

Thanks for reading and we hope you check us out online!

- Isadora Riquelme

Health Curriculum

TDSB acknowledges the importance of a child's understanding of human development and sexual health and that students are best served when schools and parents work together to support learning about healthy living. Education related to Human Development and Sexual Health will be taught in a developmentally appropriate manner and delivered to meet the learning needs of students at different ages.

The goal of this learning is to help students build the skills they need to develop personal responsibility for lifelong health, contribute to an inclusive school culture and make responsible choices that protect themselves from potential harms. In August 2019, the Policy/Program Memorandum entitled - Exemption from Instruction Related to the Human Development and Sexual Health Expectations in the Ontario Curriculum: Health and Physical Education, Grades 1 to 8 was released, and Procedure 727 was created based on the specific requirements outlined in PPM 162.

[PR727](#) provides a specific process with forms, letters and checklists attached to be followed by staff and parents which allows for students to be exempted at the request of a parent/guardian from all of the expectations related to the Human Development and Sexual Health found in Strand D of The Ontario Curriculum: Health and Physical Education.

Parent/guardians must be given a minimum of 20 (school) days notice prior to the teaching of any of the Human Development and Sexual Health expectations. **Humbercrest teachers will be connecting with families and sending home the letters prior the unit being taught.**

Parent/guardians have until 5 days prior to the first day of teaching Human Development and Sexual Health to request an exemption. The 3 options that can be selected are the following:

Option 1: remain in the classroom without taking part in instructional activities related to Human Development and Sexual Health. (I understand that my child's activities unrelated to Human Development and Sexual Health during the exemption period will be at the discretion of the teacher.)

Option 2: leave the classroom and remain in the school under staff supervision. (I understand that my child's activities during the exemption period will be at the discretion of the teacher or principal. Note: While the school will make every effort to accommodate your request, a school's ability to effectively supervise students may not be operationally feasible.)

Option 3: be released into my care as parent/guardian or the care of my approved designate. Please remember, that option 2 has the following caveat:


While the school will make every effort to accommodate your request, a school's ability to effectively supervise students may not be operationally feasible.

The **Human Development and Sexual Health (HDSH)** application allows parents/guardians to complete an online form to exempt their children/wards from classes that have Human Development and Sexual Health teaching.

The HDSH application supports communication that meets the requirements of [PPM162 \(Exemption from Teaching of Human Development and Sexual Health\)](#).

To access the HDSH application: <https://parent.hdsh.tdsb.on.ca/>

School Advisory Committee

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

TDSB Parent/Caregiver/Family Opportunities

Launch of Parent's Guide to Ontario's Education System

The Ministry of Education is pleased to inform you that the Parent's Guide to Ontario's Education System was launched today.

This new resource will provide parents with helpful information that supports them to have a stronger role and actively participate in their children's education. The guide covers several subjects such as knowing how their child is doing in school, learning about suspension and expulsion processes, attending a school council meeting or parent involvement committee meeting, and knowing about specialized supports to help all children succeed.

This initiative is part of the government's recent efforts to increase transparency and accountability in our school system.

The full guide can be found at www.Ontario.ca/educationguide.

The [attached](#) promotional flyers available in 10 different languages (English, French, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, Punjabi, Tagalog, Arabic, Spanish, Portuguese and Hindi) include a QR code that links to the full guide.

TDSB SUMMER MUSIC & ART CAMPS 2024

We are excited to announce that registration for our summer music camp in Toronto 2024 is now open! Explore your musical talents and creative flair at the TDSB Summer Music and Art Camps! Our camps welcome young artists and musicians of all skill levels, offering diverse programs including band, orchestra, strings, and personalized instruction. It's a chance to develop your skills, build friendships, and celebrate in an exciting final concert.

Join us for a summer of music-making, artistic expression, and endless fun!

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE!](#)



Pride T-shirt Design Contest

Pride Month is just around the corner, and the TDSB Pride Planning Committee is hosting a [t-shirt design contest](#). The winning design will be featured on hundreds of TDSB Pride 2024 t-shirts, proudly worn by all members of the TDSB contingent during the Pride Parade on Sunday, June 30. The contest is open to all ages, and the deadline for submissions is April 10 at 11:59 p.m.

Child and Youth Services Poster Contest: What is on Your Path to Joy?

Children's Mental Health Week is May 6-10, 2024. This year our theme is all about what you do in your everyday life that create moments of joy and joyfulness.

The Child and Youth Services Poster Contest is open to all TDSB students, with prizes to be won in five categories. The winning designs will be announced in May, during Children's Mental Health week, when we visit schools to share the news with students and their communities. We will also feature the posters on Social Media and in some TDSB buildings.

Please see the [attached flyer](#) and instructions for contest details and submission information.

The deadline to submit contest entries is March 28, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

Math Resources



[TDSB Mathematics for Families](#)

Building Mathematical Minds

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

Mental Health & Well-Being

TDSB [MHWB website](#)

Access information about 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.](#)

Ramadan

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 spirituality. 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.

At Humbercrest, we will have a quiet area available during lunch for students that are fasting.

Days of Significance

Lent	February 14- March 28
Ohigan - Spring Festival	March 17-23
Memorial Of Jesus Christ's Death	March 24
Purim	March 24 (Evening Before)
Holi Festival	March 25
Holla Mohalla	March 25-27

Guan Yin Birthday

March 28

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.

The theme for this year is:

“Greek Thought and Civilization: From Myth to Logos”

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

[Click here to learn more about Ancient Greek Technology](#)



Upcoming Dates


Lunch Lady (every Tues & Thurs)	March 26 and 28
Good Friday	March 29
Easter Monday	April 1
Pizza Day	April 3
PD Day	April 8
International Day of Pink	April 10

Trustee Debbie King Newsletter

Visit Ms. King's website for news and updates.

<https://www.debbieking.ca/>

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
Student Council	Lunch
Coding Club	Wednesdays at Lunch
Primary Choir	Thursdays at Lunch
Rubix Cube Club 	Wednesdays at Lunch

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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