



HUMBERCREST PS

Family Communication

September 22, 2023

We wish to share the following update. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us and your child(ren)'s teachers.

Take care,
Marlene and Debra

Class Reorganization

Each spring the planning department provides the school with projections for the coming school year. In the fall, schools and the staffing department review class sizes and determine if it is necessary for schools to reorganize when classes are too large or too small. This year, our two English Kindergartens were below projected so we will be going down to one class, and we were given a teacher for J/I French Immersion to reduce class sizes. We are working with our staffing department to reorganize the French Immersion classes to create lower class sizes. We are expecting to be able to provide information to students and families about changes next week. During this time, it is extremely important to be supportive and to trust your children to be able to adjust to new learning situations.

Curriculum Night

Curriculum Night will be held in-person on Wednesday, October 4th from 6:00-7:30 pm. Curriculum Night is an opportunity for families to connect with the teachers and staff here at Humbercrest. Curriculum Night offers a chance to learn about the programming that is in place to support students as well as an opportunity to build connections between staff and families.

Families are encouraged to reach out to staff throughout the school year as the home-school connection is vital for the ongoing success of students. More specific information will be shared next week.

Student Assemblies

On Thursday, we had divisional assemblies with our students encouraging them to be leaders in our school. It was reinforced that all students represent the Humbercrest community both during the day and after school hours, and that we all have a duty of care towards students, staff and community members. Based on some of our observations and conversations with students, we wanted to provide a few important reminders about creating a safe environment for all. Here are some of the points we raised:

- Keep hands and feet to yourself at all times
- No rough play during sports or games
- Respecting the personal space of peers
- After school, using the field appropriately, and be aware of your surroundings when engaging with peers (e.g., no running on the roads, using respectful language)

We are hoping for your support to continue this messaging at home; the home and school partnership is critical to ensuring the safety and success of all Humbercrest students.

Photo Day

Photo day is coming up on Monday, October 2nd. If your child is absent, there is a retake day scheduled for Thursday, November 9th. This will be for individual photos only. Class photos will be scheduled later in the school year.

Orange Shirt Day

September 30th is Orange Shirt Day, it also marks National Day of Truth and Reconciliation. Established in 2013, Orange Shirt Day was inspired by Phyllis Webstad, who was excited to wear her new orange shirt to her first day of school in 1973. However, when she arrived at St. Joseph Mission Residential School, her shirt was taken and never returned. From that day forward, the colour orange, for Phyllis, reminded her of that moment, how her feelings didn't matter, how she felt like she wasn't worth anything and that no one cared for the children who were crying about it that day.

Now, on this day, we recognize the legacy and impact of the residential schools system on First Nations, Métis and Inuit families and communities.



We acknowledge the legacy of residential schools in Canada by wearing orange and we honour the survivors. We remember the thousands of children who were murdered and buried in unmarked graves. With September 30th falling on a Saturday, **the TDSB will wear orange on Friday, September 29th.**

Cross Country

Cross-country season is here! It is a great opportunity for all athletes in all sports to develop their fitness through running. Permission forms will be sent out via EMA Monday after school.

Meet Dates:

West Qualifiers- October 5, Grades 1-8

West Finals- October 17, Grades 3-8

City Finals- October 25, Grades 4-8

Training is taking place in gym classes and is encouraged on weekends.

Distances: Grades 1-2 (1 km), Grade 3 (1.5 km), Grades 4-6 (2 km), Grades 7-8 (3 km)

Contact sarah.drynan@tdsb.on.ca with questions.



Terry Fox Run & Walk

Humbercrest Public School will proudly participate in this year's Terry Fox School Run between September 25-27th. If you wish to donate, please visit: <https://schools.terryfox.ca/HumbercrestPSToronto>

Cell Phones/Smart Watches

Thank you for your ongoing support with our cell policy at Humbercrest. With a few reminders, we are seeing students following the expectations of powering off and not using them during the instructional day or at recess or lunch.

This is just a reminder to parents to not reach out to their child(ren) through these devices in order for the office to monitor early dismissals, unwell students or after school routines. If they are expecting a message from home, it is hard to manage our new policy.

Construction

Starting on Monday, September 25th, a new gas main will be installed along St. Marks Road from Humbercrest Blvd to Underwood Ave. This will not have any impact on our school, however, local traffic will be maintained with the assistance of Toronto Police Services as an extra precaution.

Choir

Students who enjoy singing, please join Choir at Humbercrest!

Ms. Warson is starting a Primary and Junior Choir next week. The practices begin September 26th and 27th at the following times:

- Primary Choir (Grades 1-3)- Tuesdays at lunch.
- Junior Choir (Grades 4-6)- Wednesdays at lunch.

Students who are interested in joining, please come to the Music Room at 11:40, where they will eat lunch followed by a half hour practice.

Boys' Soccer (Grades $\frac{5}{6}$)

Tryouts for the Boys Grade 5/6 soccer team will take place next week on: **Monday** Sept. 25th at **8 am**, **Tuesday** Sept. 26th at **3:20 pm**, and **Wednesday** Sept 27th at **8 am**. Students who have not already signed up should speak with Mme. Rutledge if they would like to try out. Looking forward to a great season!

Upcoming Dates

Grade 7 Trip to Wahanowiiin September 27 -29
National Day for Truth and Reconciliation September 29
Photo Day October 2
Curriculum Night October 4
PA Day October 6
Thanksgiving October 9
SAC Meeting October 11

Days of Significance

Sept 23 International Day of Sign Language
Sept 25 Yom Kippur
Sept 27 Mawlid-al-Nabi – Prophet's Birthday (Islam)
Sept 30 National Day for Truth & Reconciliation

School Website

[Humbercrest Public School](#)

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Contact Information

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