

HUMBERWOOD DOWNS JMA

850 Humberwood Blvd., M9W 7A6, Tel. 416-394-4750

NOVEMBER 2017

Trustee: Avtar Minhas Superintendent of Education: Lorraine Linton

Admin Team: Roula Skordakis (Principal) Matt Dodds & Dave Singh (Vice-Principals)

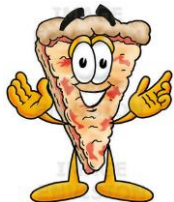
School Website: <http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/humberwood/home.aspx> Twitter: @HumberwoodDowns



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

It has been a very busy two months of school as staff and students settled into their routines and are now well on their way with program development and learning. We strive to improve and we welcome feedback from our parents, guardians and community. Thank you for your many suggestions and observations. Keep them coming!

PIZZA DAYS- no more cash orders



November will be the last month that we will be accepting cash for pizza orders. As of December 2017, all pizza orders must be done online. The online link may be accessed from our school's website for your convenience at

<http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/humberwood/Home>

If you do not have internet at home please see Ms. Upward and she will assist you to sign up online. The Humberwood Toronto Public Library has computers and internet access for free that you can also use. We will also have staff available to assist you to sign up using Cash Online during our Parent/teacher conferences on November 16th 4pm-7pm and Friday November 17th 9am-11:30am outside the main office area.

All money for school trips and/or performances will also be done online as of December.

Our school's website is *updated weekly*. Dates have been posted for the year and more dates are added weekly. Please refer to it regularly. Thank you for your continued support.

PARENT/GUARDIAN MATH SERIES- New!

Mathematics instruction has changed in the last several decades. Students need to be prepared to enter the 21st century work force with strong problem-solving skills and strength in literacy, mathematics and science. These math workshops are intended to show parents

and guardians how mathematics has changed and what they can do to support their child's learning. Endless worksheets and recalling math facts are considered low level mathematics skills and although students should know their addition, subtraction, division and multiplication facts, they should not be spending all of their time doing this. Please complete the math workshop forms that we sent home last week as each sessions will only accept the fits 40 people. Come join us out and let's learn how today's students should be learning mathematics.

JK-Grade 3: Tues. November 7th @6:30pm
Grades 4-6: Tues. November 14th @6:30pm
Grades 7,8: Tues. November 21st @6:30pm

Sessions will be held in the Conference Room. Child minding will be available. These sessions are intended for adults only. Parents/guardians must have completed the invitation form in order to attend these sessions as space is limited.

Trevor Brown will also be working with our teachers this month to improve their skills in teaching mathematics.



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PARENT COUNCIL 2017-18

On Thursday October 26th we had our second council meeting. Congratulations to Mr. Rakesh Brahmabatt and Ms. Rodale Dwyer-Hamilton who are now our new co-chairs! Our remaining meeting dates for this year are:

Thursday November 30@6:30pm

Thursday January 25@6:30pm

Thursday March 22@6:30pm

Thursday May 31@6:30pm

All parents and guardians are encouraged and welcome to attend. Child minding is always available.

OUR SCHOOL'S 3 FOCI

Every school in the TDSB must identify a focus and need in the following three areas: Achievement, Equity and Well-being. Based on our school's data (EQAO, census, academic achievement etc) our school's foci for the next 3 years will be the following:

Achievement in Mathematics

Our math scores have been decreasing for the last 5 years. We have noticed that when our students are working on harder math problems and questions, they often will try a problem and then give up and/or they will not try solving the problem at all because they find that it's too challenging. Our math focus is to increase our students' math stamina by providing them with strategies that will allow them to tackle complex math problems and equations.

Well-being- MindUp Curriculum

On Friday October 6th our staff was trained on the MindUp curriculum which is a brain-based research approach to helping students understand how their brains work, understand and identify their feelings as well as self-monitor and regulate their emotions so that they are better able to focus on learning.

Equity- Inclusion of Special Education students

This year we have eliminated a separate HSP class for grades 6,7 and 8 students. Students are now integrated in a regular classroom and these

classrooms now have two teachers in the morning co-planning and co-teaching. Each of these classrooms has integrated technology throughout the day so that students can demonstrate their learning using various platforms. Next year we will be integrating all other HSP students in the regular program.

STUDENT ATHLETIC COUNCIL- New!



This year we have created a new student council. The council will support school spirit by organizing various

events throughout the year as well as involve itself with our sporting activities. The council's mandate will be to fundraise and to support local charities and community organizations. Students interested in running for elected positions have gone through the application process and speeches to the student body will take place this Friday November 3rd. After the students' speeches, students in grades 6-8 will vote for the following executive positions: president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer and media relations officer. This council will provide opportunities for our students to provide input, initiative and feedback.

TERRY FOX RUN

On Thursday October 12th our school had our annual Terry Fox Run. Staff and students wore red and white in support of cancer research. Thank you to our Terry Fox committee for organizing this event from start to finish. Our school raised \$1,565.75.

PROGRESS REPORTS

Teachers are busy completing progress reports. These reports are based on your child's progress from September 5th to November 14th. Report cards, along with your conference date/time appointment, will be sent home with your child on Tuesday November 14th. Please ask your child for it and/or look in your child's backpack.

