



Halbert News Online # 16

December 16, 2019

<http://www.updateallday.com/org/h/halbert/display.php>

Appreciation

A big thank you to all of our families for your support of the Not So Silent Night Winter Concert last week! Thank you for stopping by the Sweet and Bake Sale table!

A big thank you to our school's Parent Council for their leadership in engaging our families and our students!

A big thank you to the Facility Team for completing the school-wide painting in one week!

School Hours

Friday, December 20, 2019

Last Day of School Before the Holiday Break

Regular Dismissal at 3:00 PM (FDK) and 3:10 PM (Grades 1 - 6)

Monday, December 23, 2019 - Friday, January 3, 2020

School and the Main Office is Closed

Monday, January 6, 2020

First Day of School

Heart Beatz Childcare

Heart Beatz Child Care will be operating during the Holiday Winter Break on the following dates:

December 23, 24, 27, 30, 31, 2019

January 2, 3, 2020



HA Halbert is a Nut - Aware / Allergy Aware School



Please **do not** send **peanuts** or **tree nuts** (e.g., almonds, cashews, hazelnuts, etc.) shellfish or any products **made with** or **made of** sesame, peanuts or tree nuts (e.g., chocolate almonds, chocolate bars with nuts, nutella, etc.) or shellfish for lunch or as a snack.

Upcoming Dates

Dec 16 - 20 - Lost and Found on Display

Dec 18 - Halbert Earth Hour

Dec 20 - Sing-A-Long and Pie in Ms. McMichael, Ms. Prince and Mr. Cabrera's Faces

Dec 20 - Student of the Month Assembly

Dec 20 - Last Day of School

Jan 6 - First Day Back for 2020

Jan 13 - SAC Meeting (5:30 PM in the Library)

Jan 17 - PA Day

Grade 4 Extended French

Extended French programs are designed for students who do not speak French at home. The Junior Extended French program begins at the grade 4 level. Students in this program spend 50% of their day in French instruction from grade 4-8 at the Extended French school. The subjects taught in French are French Language Arts, Social Studies and The Arts. English Language Arts, Mathematics and Science are taught in English. Designated school pathways exist to ensure that students have a continuation of program from the grade 4 entry to the end of grade 12.

The application process for admission to Junior Extended French begins in January. It is an online application process. It is not a first-come, first-served process. Learn more about the [application process and deadlines](#). All late applicants will be placed on a wait list.

Kindergarten Registration

Students born in 2016 are eligible to register for JK with the first day of school being September 2020!

If you have a child, grandchild or neighbour born in 2016, please let them know that Kindergarten Registration packages will be available at HA Halbert mid-January!

Kindergarten Registration will take place at HA Halbert from February 18 - 21, 2020!

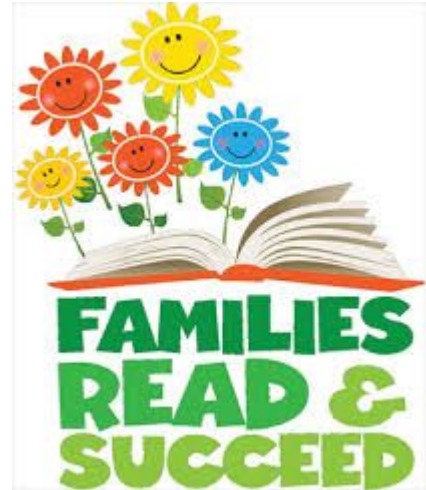


Family Literacy Day (actually it's everyday!)

Though January 27 is marked as Family Literacy Day we believe that it actually is celebrated daily!

That being said, to bring heightened awareness to developing positive literacy behaviours, Halbert will be sponsoring different activities in January.

Please stay tuned and please join in!



Monday, January 20, 2020 - Halbert at the ROM

Please mark your calendars - we have spaces for 46 family members to join us as TD Bank hosts 3rd Monday at the ROM!

A school bus will pick up families from Halbert after school for an afternoon and evening of exploration at the ROM. The bus returns to school at 8:30 PM.

All children attending **must** be accompanied by an adult!

If you are free that afternoon/evening, consider joining us. Forms to register will be available soon!



Interested in volunteering?

During the Not So Silent Night Holiday concert, one of our Parent Council members invited families to volunteer at HA Halbert. If you are interested, please connect with Mrs. Khan or Mr. Cabrera to pick up a Vulnerable Sector Screening form. We are in need of:

- family members to listen to children read (mornings);
- family members to help in the Library (afternoons); and,
- family members to help the Snack program.





School Improvement Planning @ Halbert

Reading Comprehension



Over the past couple of weeks we have been sharing information about the reading process. The focus of the posts were on decoding.

This week we move into comprehension. Phonemic awareness, sight words and decoding are all in service of reading to understand or comprehension.

Reading at home should focus on both decoding and comprehension. As children become more fluent readers, school and home focus should be on how a reader comprehends and connects what they have read to themselves and to other contexts.

Reading Comprehension

School
Improvement Plan

To say that reading comprehension takes place **only after** decoding skills have been mastered is false. In fact, reading comprehension happens right away. Babies, infants, children make connections to symbols that we give meaning to.

Most children will know what this symbol means. They know what happens there and what they can get from there. This is the reading, making meaning from symbols.



Reading Comprehension

Read Naturally Inc. (2019). Comprehension. Retrieved from

<https://www.readnaturally.com/research/5-components-of-reading/comprehension>



We can help students understand what they are reading through:

Using Prior Knowledge/Previewing

When students preview text, they tap into what they already know that will help them to understand the text they are about to read. This provides a framework for any new information they read.

Predicting

When students make predictions about the text they are about to read, it sets up expectations based on their prior knowledge about similar topics. As they read, they may mentally revise their prediction as they gain more information.

Reading Comprehension

Read Naturally Inc. (2019). Comprehension. Retrieved from

<https://www.readnaturally.com/research/5-components-of-reading/comprehension>



Identifying the Main Idea and Summarization

Identifying the main idea and summarizing requires that students determine what is important and then put it in their own words. Implicit in this process is trying to understand the author's purpose in writing the text.

Questioning

Asking and answering questions about text is another strategy that helps students focus on the meaning of text. Teachers can help by modeling both the process of asking good questions and strategies for finding the answers in the text.

Reading Comprehension

Read Naturally Inc. (2019). Comprehension. Retrieved from

<https://www.readnaturally.com/research/5-components-of-reading/comprehension>.



Making Inferences

In order to make inferences about something that is not explicitly stated in the text, students must learn to draw on prior knowledge and recognize clues in the text itself.

Visualizing

Studies have shown that students who visualize while reading have better recall than those who do not (Pressley, 1977). Readers can take advantage of illustrations that are embedded in the text or create their own mental images or drawings when reading text without illustrations.

Reading Comprehension



After reading, we can ask questions to support a reader's comprehension. When reading fiction, one can ask:

1. Describe how you think the main character feels in the beginning of the story.
Describe the main character's feelings at the end of the story.
2. Who, amongst the characters, would you want to be one of your best friends?
Why?
3. If this did not happen (select an even in the text), how could the story change?

Reading Comprehension



Attached to the email is another file that has some questions families can ask their readers at home that support reading comprehension.



At Halbert this past week ...

Last week Halbert Hawks walked across the stage to perform the Not So Silent Night Holiday Winter Concert!

A big thank you to the may staff and students who made the evening a success!

A big thank you to you for joining and celebrating with us!



Students in Ms. Benoit's class are learning about names of shapes as they created their Holiday Shape Tree! They are also learning to write the names of shapes.



This year's Door Challenge was to show 'PEACE.'

Here are some samples of the students' art work!



This year's Door Challenge was to show 'PEACE.'

Here are some samples of the students' art work!



Do you want to build a snowman?



Ms. Cole teaching students about the tool box - the different ways you can help yourself in moments of stress and anxiety.

For all students, it is all about the strategies you use in different moments in the day.

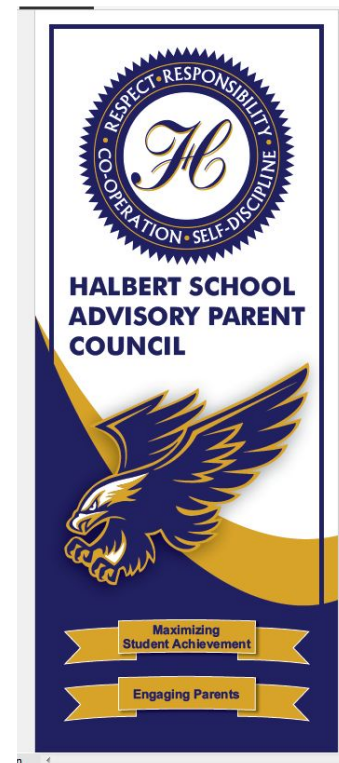


Grade 3s and 4s learning about Biodiversity and Adaptations at the Toronto Urban Studies Centre.



19/20 Halbert School Advisory (Parent) Council

Ms. J. Bergeron, Ms. L. Chung (**Chairperson**),
Ms. C. Guerrero (**Vice-Chairperson**), Ms. N. Ibrahim,
Ms. S. Mitchell, Mr. N. Singh (**Secretary**), Ms. J. Smith,
Ms. M. Tassie (**Treasurer**), Ms. E. Tunney (**Community Outreach**), Ms. H. Tunney



School Advisory (Parent) Council Meeting

Monday, January 13, 2020

5:30 PM

Library

Focus: Mathematics



Heart Beatz Childcare

Heart Beatz Childcare.

Spaces Available for students ages 3.8 to 12 yrs.

Please contact Shiromie at 647-808-1439 for more Information.

Heart Beatz Child Care will be operating during the Holiday Winter Break on the following dates:

December 23, 24, 27, 30, 31, 2019

January 2, 3, 2020



Safe Arrival Routines

A reminder to call school if your child will be late or absent.

One measure of keeping our students safe is to ensure we can account for any absences or reasons for being late to school. If your child is going to be absent or late for any reason, we ask that you contact the school immediately and report the reason for the absence.

416-396-3298

Safe Arrival Phone Number

HA Halbert earlyON

The EarlyON Child and Family Centre is a program for parents and caregivers with children from infants to 6 years of age. This FREE program is located in Room # 9.

Daily activities include family story and music time, art, sand and water play, gym time and a nutritious snack.

Please visit the centre whenever you can and participate in an enjoyable play based program.

Mondays – Thursdays 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

