



# HARBORD COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE

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## December 12, 2022 Newsletter

### Hello Harbord parents/guardians and students:

Time certainly flies when you are having fun — can you believe it's December already? December is always a busy month both at home and at school with lots of celebrations, activities, and gatherings. Lots of "Harbord family-time moments"!

### Here are some reminders and information items that are coming up:

#### FRANCOFOLIES FESTIVAL HAPPENING ALL WEEK

The Languages Department is excited to announce the return of the Francofolies Festival! Francofolies is a week-long celebration of French language and culture, and an opportunity for ALL French students to feel like valued members of our school-wide program. Taking place this year from Monday, December 12th to Friday December 16th, all students currently enrolled in a French course across all three programs (Core, Extended and Immersion) are invited and encouraged to participate in a variety of French cultural activities - both at school and at home. Participation in these activities will earn them points for their classes, and the classes and individuals with the most points in each program win prizes. Among our exciting events are French karaoké and a performance by Cameroonian musician Njacko Backo! We look forward to celebrating French language, culture and students together! Vive le français!

#### HOLIDAY CONCERT

Our music department is thrilled to share that we will be having our **Holiday Concert on Thursday December 15** between **7-8pm** to celebrate the wonderful work of our Harbord music students! Performed in our school auditorium, the concert will include solo and group performances by all grade levels in the concert band, symphonic orchestra and the string orchestra. The students have been working very hard and are super excited for this opportunity to showcase their work. We're looking forward to an evening of joy, music and refreshments after the concert. All Harbord families are invited to attend. Looking forward to seeing you there.

#### SCHOOL COUNCIL MESSAGE

The Parent council for Harbord Collegiate want to hear what is important to parents so they can make the best support decisions for parents and students. Please take a few moments to fill out this short survey about Parent Council planning for the 2022/2023 school year.

The role of the Parent council is multi-faceted and generally responsible to:

- Consult with parents/guardians about activities (fundraisers, parent engagement, etc.);
- Support parents / school community with accomplishing or carrying out of activities
- Communicate with the school Principal, Vice-Principal and other TDSB staff on behalf of parents, students and community;
- Act as a bridge between parents, TDSB and community.

This enclosed survey is in English only. Please contact a family member, friend or neighbour if you require support in completing this survey in English.

The survey should take no more than 5 mins to complete. Thank you in advance for completing this short survey.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7HFCM69>

### **EXAM AND TESTING SUPPORTS**

Recognizing that many of our students have not written formal exams over the last few years due to the pandemic, our Faculty and Department Leaders will be setting up different supports to prepare our students for the upcoming exams at the end of the semester. Supports will include mock exams, exam reviews, and study strategies. Our overall mindset and approach continues to centre on student-learning and success.

In addition to these upcoming supports, our Student Support Services team has organized and provided “Test Anxiety Workshop Sessions”. Many students have taken advantage of these workshops already. Four sessions have been scheduled by our Social Work team and occur during lunch in room 101. They have been extremely successful and helpful. Our last session is on Wednesday, December 14, 2022. Come by and check it out!

### **ALSO FROM GUIDANCE AND STUDENT SERVICES**

Victim Services Toronto and the TDSB are partnering to offer: “A Parents and Prevention - Human Trafficking Webinar” on December 14th. See the attached flyer to the email communication for info and webinar link.

### **Ongoing reminders:**

#### **COVID RAPID ANTIGEN TESTS**

For any student requiring Rapid Antigen Tests, we have a limited supply of testing kits in the Main Office. Please feel free to come by and see our office staff to get one.

#### **NUTRITION PROGRAM (grab and go) AND PANTRY PROGRAM**

Our ‘grab and go’ Nutrition Program has healthy snacks ready for students to pick up in the morning outside of our Main Office. Please come by and grab a healthy snack to start your day..and go!

Our Pantry Program continues to be very successful and students have been coming by to pick up free non-perishable food items for their families. Pickup continues to be on Thursdays after school, from 3:00pm-3:15pm in **room 207**. If your family would like some items, your child can come and collect them after school on Thursdays. During the holiday time, this program opportunity is even more important to many of our families. Thank you to Ms. Mummery and our student volunteers for organizing this.

#### **STUDENT ACTIVITY FEES (SAC FEE)**

We are still collecting Student Activity Fees! As mentioned previously in other communications, our Student Activity Fee collection helps support the clubs, councils, and sports teams at our school to run activities and events for our students.

**This money helps provide our children (student leaders) with additional funds to make our school experience the ABSOLUTE BEST possible!** The school yearbook is also included in the fee as well as your Student Photo ID. This year’s fee is \$60. Parents can pay the fee via School Cash Online. For parents who have trouble signing in, use this link for SAC fee: <https://tdsb.schoolcashionline.com/Fee/Details/135517/153/False/True>

**UPCOMING : December 12 - December 23**

Wednesday, December 14	Late start PLC - classes start at 9:55am
Thursday, December 15	Holiday Music Concert at 7 - 8 pm (auditorium)
Wednesday, December 21	Late start staff meeting - classes start at 9:55am
Friday, December 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Holiday Assembly (schedule TBD)</li><li>● Last day of school before Winter Holidays</li><li>● School resumes on Monday, January 9, 2023</li></ul>

Lastly, THANK YOU to our OSSLT (Literacy Test) team that includes our English teachers, VP Bylykbashi, Mr. Smith, and Assistant Curriculum Leader of our English department - Ms. McNeely for all their work on organizing, executing, and supporting our Semester 1 OSSLT days. Our first semester English students wrote and completed the Literacy Test requirement without major ‘hitches’ recently — and we look forward to seeing their results. Grade 10 students who are taking English in the second semester will write later this school year.

Also, a huge congratulations to our Senior Boys’ Volleyball team as they recently culminated their memorable and successful season by finishing 10th in Ontario. At the AA OFSAA Championship in Huntsville, our Harbord boys proudly represented the TDSB and our school. They certainly will remember the successes of this season including the memories shared on this trip. This team is definitely FUNomenal!!

At **“Harbord, we CARE for each other. TOGETHER. We are ONE!”**

Have a wonderful week all!

Steve and Admin Team!