

[Return to in-person learning at school - Parent Letter - Feb 8 \(003\).pdf](#)

[Staff Email List.pdf](#)

Hello Harbord parents/guardians and students:

For our families celebrating Lunar New Year, Gung Hei Fat Choy! Wishing everyone good health, prosperity, peace, and love in this Year of the Ox.

It's the end of the first week of Quadmester 3 and we have our Family Day holiday on Monday! Please enjoy the weekend and take that extra day, Family Day, to do something fun and different with your household family members. Go enjoy a walk outside with family, play a family board game, or microwave that popcorn and watch a movie together as a family in the comforts of your home --- it's so important to enjoy the little things and the little moments with each other. For most of our Harbord families, we will be returning to 'bricks-and-mortar', face-to-face, learning on Tuesday, February 16. A **BIG THANK YOU** to all of our Harbord staff and students for adjusting so well to 'Remote Learning 2.0' and giving your best efforts to continue the Harbord learning! I know that our staff and students are looking forward to the in-person connections again as well as continuing our support for students in our virtual learning environments. Remember, our classes start back on Tuesday! And students: SAC has planned a spirit week for the 16th-19th of February. The assigned days are as follows: Tuesday is Pyjama day, Wednesday is Jersey Day, Thursday is Harbord Apparel day and Friday is Crazy Hat/Hair day. Let's show our spirit Harbord!

Also, as we approach the end of February and are in the 'thick' of "Course Selection Season", a huge thank you to our Guidance department for all their work with "course selection grade sessions". They happened this week and the sessions were extremely helpful, informative, and successful. If students have course selection questions, please reach out to their Guidance Counsellors. If students have specific course material/content questions and would like to learn more about a specific course for the upcoming school year, please reach out to teachers in that department or the Assistant Curriculum Leader of that department. Our Guidance and Student Support Services team always does an incredible job supporting our students ---- even during crazy, busy times like we have now (end of Quadmester scheduling and Course Selection time for next year). To all of our wonderful Guidance team members: **Merci beaucoup!**

Some important information for next week:

- As we are returning to new 'bricks-and-mortar' classes in Quadmester 3 with new room locations, here are the door locations that students should be entering: (Remember: we highly recommend that students arrive at 8:30am to start the screening verification --- classes start at 8:45am. Please refer to your timetable to see where your morning classroom is for that day as this will determine what door you enter.)
 - Northeast and Southwest entrance – classes on the 3rd floor
 - Northwest entrance – classes on the 2nd floor
 - Southeast entrance – classes in the basement or on the 1st floor
- Each of the four entry doors will remain open until 8:50am. All entry doors will close at that time except for the Northeast entrance door (tennis courts). This is part of the TDSB's safety protocols (schools are to only have one door open during the school day). We will have our staff

'greeters' at this entry door for our students who are late. At 8:50am, we will begin our day with our Land Acknowledgement, O'Canada, and our 'health and safety' reminder messages:

- i. **Wear your mask at school;**
 - ii. **Practice physical distancing of 2 metres;**
 - iii. **Healthy hand hygiene (washing hands for 20 seconds or using hand sanitizer);**
 - iv. **Stay home if you are ill or not feeling well.**
- Students will be marked late if they are not in class before these opening procedures. Remember, please have your child use the **Health Screening NOW mobile App!!!** You can also access this through a web browser at [TDSB Health Screening App](#) and click on the Health Screening App 'box'. If this is not possible, please have your child print off, sign, date, and use the [TDSB updated Student Health Pass](#) (hard copy). Again, students **NEED to complete the Screening App or NOW mobile App prior to getting to school and it is recommended that you do so when you wake up in the morning to avoid Screening App loading issues.**
 - More detailed information was sent on Thursday to parent emails from the TDSB regarding health and safety measures at all TDSB schools — both those that are already in place and those that will be implemented starting Feb. 16. Please refer to the email and to the TDSB website for that information
 - As part of the updated Toronto Public Health protocols, please see this link for information: **(Please pay close attention to page 2 of this document as it provides directives on what to do if "my child has 1 or more symptoms of COVID-19" – please read carefully)** <https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/94e5-Survey-poster-Schools.pdf>.
 - As a reminder, students who requested Harbord's Virtual Learning Option by the January 11th deadline, will see "***VIRTUALQ3**" at the top of the timetable next to "HOMEROOM." **Instructions have been provided by your teacher as to how to log on to your virtual learning courses** (ie. Meeting codes/links). The virtual learning classes will either be complete virtual learning classes/cohorts or 'simultaneous learning' classes/cohorts. Your teacher has provided you with information as to how the instruction of that class will be delivered. The majority of the virtual learning classes will be 'simultaneous learning' classes. The time structure of the classes will remain the same for all Harbord students. All period 1 morning classes (including classes for virtual learning) start at 8:45am and finish at 12:30pm, and all period 2 synchronous virtual learning classes start at 2pm and finish at 3:15pm.
 - Students who do not have a 'period 1' class on that day but do have a **'period 1a' class at 8:46am, have an Asynchronous Learning period** where assigned curricular work is to be completed at home independently (not needing direct teacher instruction). The student is not required to come into school that morning. This time is not necessarily 'just homework'. Homework (which is a consolidation of learning) can be a component of this time; however, this work that is posted/assigned is intended to further the learning in the course. As a reminder, this work and time is integral to the learning and success of a student and thus **the 'asynchronous period' attendance (engagement in the learning) is recorded. Students will be provided with information and instructions by their teachers as to how they acknowledge the learning posted during the 'asynchronous learning period'.**
 - **Quad 2 Term 1 Civics/Careers Final Report Cards, and Quad 2 Final Report Cards** will be delivered electronically (via email) the week of **February 15th**. A secure password must be

entered to retrieve it; the password is the birthdate of your child. The format must be MM/DD/YYYY including the forward slashes (example – 05/03/2004 for birthdate May 3, 2004).

- I have attached a file with teacher names and emails. **Please email the teacher directly if there are issues with the virtual meeting codes/links or access to the virtual learning platforms.**
- If you haven't heard the news, the Minister of Education announced yesterday afternoon that **March Break** — originally scheduled for March 15 to 19, 2021 — has now been **delayed by approximately a month** in hopes of reducing community transmission of COVID-19. On the advice of public health officials, the break is now scheduled for **April 12 – 16, 2021.**

Lastly, Toronto Public Health has asked schools to remind students to limit contact to the people you live with. Outside of travelling to and from school (morning class), students should be going home directly after school and should not be congregating with other students after school. Students should always have their masks on when they are within 2 metres of others regardless of whether they are inside or outside. The new COVID-19 variant droplets are more easily transmissible so we all need to be more vigilant. We need everyone to do their part if we want to continue our in-person learning. We are in this TOGETHER and we need everyone follow!

Looking forward to the week ahead and seeing our students again in-person learning together. Thank you for your ongoing support --- and as I will say again to our students everyday on the PA: **“At Harbord, we CARE for EACH OTHER. TOGETHER. We are ONE!”**

Thank you and have a FUNomenal Family Day weekend!