



# Hillmount Public School Newsletter



## March 2022

### Upcoming Events

- March 2: Walking Wednesday
- March 9: Walking Wednesday
- March 14-18: March Break, NO SCHOOL
- March 22: Parent Anti-Racism Workshop 7 pm.
- March 23: Walking Wednesday
- March 25: Earth Hour 2:20-3:20
- March 29: Hillmount Heroes Spirit Day
- March 30: Walking Wednesday
  
- April 5: Parent Council Meeting 7 pm.Zoom
- April 12: Grade 5 Farewell Photos
- April 13: International Day of Pink
- April 15: Good Friday, NO SCHOOL
- April 18: Easter Monday, NO SCHOOL
- April 22: Earth Day
- April 29: Hillmount Heroes Assembly Spirit Day

Will your child be absent from school?  
Call our Safe Arrival Number.  
**416-395-2556**

TDSB 24 Hour Security Call Centre: 416-395-4620

*Welcome to March! The school year is passing by very quickly and lots of things are happening in our classrooms and school! Student report cards went home in February and the second term has begun. Equity and well-being are embedded in all we do here at Hillmount. Be sure to follow us on Twitter @TDSB\_Hillmount to see examples of what is happening in our school and school board. In addition, we will begin to share some examples of student learning each month in our newsletter. Ms. Tam's Grade 2 students start us off in the examples you see below.*

*E. Mankiewicz, Principal*

#### **Hillmount Public School**

245 McNicoll Avenue  
North York, ON, M2H 2C6  
Tel: 416-395-2550  
Fax: 416-395-4483  
Safe Arrival: 416- 395-2556 (call to report all student absences)

**Principal :** Elizabeth Mankiewicz.  
**School Council Chairs:** Jia Li, Sheliza Khan  
**Superintendent:** Marwa Hamid  
**Trustee:** James Li

Remember at Hillmount we...  
**THINK POSITIVE, TALK POSITIVE, FEEL POSITIVE**

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## Important Dates

March 14-18, 2022

March Break , NO SCHOOL

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# Kindergarten Registration 2022

Registration for all TDSB Kindergarten programs began in February. We continue to accept registrations for students living in the Hillmount Public School catchment area. The deadline for Optional Attendance applications has passed.

To attend Junior Kindergarten in September, children must turn four years old by December 31. To register for Senior Kindergarten, children must be five years old by December 31. You must register online.

For more information about the Kindergarten program and registration requirements, please visit: [www.tdsb.on.ca/kindergarten](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/kindergarten)

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## Student Safety! Parking and Pick-Ups

We thank the families that walk to school, which is the best way for students to get to school. There is absolutely no space in our parking lot for parent parking. **Any cars that do not belong to child care staff or school staff will be tagged and/towed. This includes unmarked spots by the garbage bin or in the driveway. If your child is not in Kindergarten, your car should not be coming into the parking lot unless you are waiting in the Kiss and Ride.**

I continue to observe extremely unsafe actions in the parking lot. I implore you, for the safety of the students, to please ensure the following:

- ◆ Students in Grades 1-5 should be dropped off in the Kiss and Ride zone. There is no need for parents to park and walk students to entry doors. There is supervision provided from 8:40-8:55.
- ◆ Kiss and ride zone is located in the circular driveway, in front of the gym. **NO cars should be parked or stopped in that marked area without a driver.**
- ◆ **Do not drop students in the middle of the parking lot and do not walk through the parking lot.**
- ◆ Do not stop in front of the marked pedestrian crossing.
- ◆ Parents of Kindergarten students can park in the limited spaces in the circular driveway ONLY (please see the [Drop off and Pick Up Zones map](#)) -please ensure that your car is pulled over as far as possible so that cars using the Kiss and Ride can get by

**If you choose to use the KISS and RIDE, we appreciate your patience. You may have to wait in line to drop off and pick up your child. If you are in a rush, do not pull your car into the parking lot. Park on the side street and walk to get your child.**

Thank you for your help in keeping our students safe.

Ms. Mankiewicz



## DRESS FOR THE WEATHER

Part of the daily program for all grades at Hillmount is outdoor time. Students are outside at least 3 times a day. Students should come dressed appropriately for the weather. If it is raining, students should have rainboots, a raincoat and umbrella. For cold weather, a warm jacket, hat and mittens, along with boots and snow pants are necessary. Dressing for the weather allows students to be comfortable, dry and warm when they are outside, as part of our regular day.



### Indoor Shoes

Please make sure your child has indoor shoes at school at all times. Students are asked to change their footwear when they enter the school in order to keep their feet dry and warm and to keep the hallways clear of snow and dirt. Indoor shoes should be proper shoes with soles, should be appropriate for gym class and not be slippers for safety purposes.



### EXTRA CLOTHING

When playing outside, students often come in with wet socks, pants or shirts. **We strongly recommend that you leave a full change of clothing in your child's backpack (for all grades JK-Grade 5)**, so that we do not have to call you during the day to bring a change of clothing for your child.



## DOGS

Many of us love our furry friends, however, for some of our students, dogs can be a source of anxiety and discomfort. In addition, when our neighbours bring them onto school property and do not pick up after them, we have problems. For the safety and well-being of all of our Hillmount students and staff, we ask that you obey the signage on the property (and local by-laws) by not bringing your dog to school. If you must walk your dog to pick-up and drop-off your child, please leave your dog off of the school property when coming to collect your children.

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# Greek Heritage Month



The Toronto District School Board is proud to recognize Greek Heritage Month (GHM) during the month of March.

During the month of March, several activities will be shared to mark GHM.

The theme for this year is based on healthy living:

*“Harmony of Life - Healthy Mind, Healthy Body”*

*“Αρμονια της Ζωης - Νους υγιης εν σωματι υγιοι”*



## FOLLOW US ON TWITTER!

We showcase our learning and provide information about what is happening in our school and our board. Follow us at: [@TDSB\\_Hillmount](https://twitter.com/TDSB_Hillmount)

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### Grade 5 Farewell

We continue to wait for direction from TDSB about Graduation and Farewell ceremonies, normally held in-person during the month of June. Due to Covid-19, our Grade 5 Farewell has taken place online for the past two years. We have reserved Tuesday, June 28<sup>th</sup> at for this event. Once we have direction from TDSB, we will provide further information about whether or not the event will be in-person or online and what it will involve.

Thank you for your patience.

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Gr 2 Mosaic Tigers for Lunar New Year:



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## International Languages Elementary & African Heritage Programs

International Languages Elementary & African Heritage Program is an enriching learning experience for K-8 students to learn a new language and discover other cultures. Open to all TDSB and non-TDSB students, programs are currently offered online and there is no language background necessary. Registration is ongoing and can be done online by visiting [www.ileprograms.ca](http://www.ileprograms.ca).

### Learn4Life – Spring Registration Opens February 23, 2022

Have you ever wanted to learn how to line dance or make some delicious Cuban dishes? Do you want to learn the latest computer programs in an interactive setting? Learn4Life provides a wide array of general interest courses for adults 18+ and seniors who want to take up a new hobby or learn a new skill.

New courses for spring include:

- Hola Cuba! - Online
- Indigenous Awareness and Practices – Online
- Online Sewing Fashion Accessories
- Online Spring Cleaning Our Bodies and How to Boost the Immune System

Both online and in-person classes available. Spring registration opens February 23, 2022. For more information and to register, visit [www.learn4life.ca](http://www.learn4life.ca).

### Adult ESL – Online and In-person

The Adult ESL program in the Continuing Education Department is offering free\* English language instruction to qualified adults 18 years of age and over. Part-time and full-time classes are offered at various times during the day, evening and Saturdays at all language levels.

- High-quality instruction
- Flexible schedules: part-time, full-time, evening and Saturday classes
- Enrol anytime
- All levels and specialty classes

Starting in February, we anticipate a gradual opening of classes for in-person learning at several locations across the city, subject to Toronto Public Health Guidelines. Masking and social distancing protocols will be implemented. Online classes will continue to be available as an option for learners.

For more information, please visit: [www.ESLToronto.ca](http://www.ESLToronto.ca) or call 416-338-4300.

\* Free for eligible learners, please check our website for more information. Funded by the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services.

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### COVID-19 Testing:

The Ministry of Education has provided our school with additional Rapid Antigen Tests. These tests are to be used for students and staff members who are experiencing symptoms of Covid-19. At Hillmount, we have had 5 reported positive cases of Covid-19 in students. These students have been in two cohorts. As a result, many of the students in the cohorts may have used the 2 rapid tests that were

distributed to all students in January. Every student in the Grade 4/5 cohort and Kindergarten cohort have received 2 additional rapid tests. All other tests will be held in the school office and will be distributed by request as needed. If your child is experiencing symptoms of Covid-19 and you require an additional rapid test, please contact the office and we can make arrangements to get the test to you.

We also have over 100 Saliva PCR tests associated with Sick Kids. If you require a PCR test, please contact the office. Sick Kids is no longer collecting the PCR tests at our school. All samples can be dropped off at collections sites listed below.

Thank you for continuing to work together to keep everyone healthy and safe.

#### Central Toronto

Roselands Junior Public School - 990 Jane St, M6N 4E2

#### Etobicoke

Parkfield Junior School - 31 Redgrave Dr, M9R 3H2

Nativity of Our Lord Catholic School – 35 Saffron Cres, M9C3T8

#### Scarborough

St. Rose of Lima Catholic School - 3220 Lawrence Ave E, M1H 1A4

#### East York

Bloorview School Authority/Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital - 150 Kilgour Rd, M4G 1R8

#### North Toronto

St Robert Catholic School - 70 Bainbridge Avenue, M3H 2K2

St Jude Catholic School - 3251 Weston Rd, M9M 2T9

