



Hillmount Public School Newsletter



November 2021

Upcoming Events

- November 10: Parent Council meeting 7:00 pm - virtual using Zoom
- November 11: Remembrance Day-Virtual Recognition in individual classrooms
- November 13: Community Walk 10:30
- November 15: Walk and Roll Rodeo for Grades 1-5
- November 16: Progress Reports Go Home
- November 18-19: Parent Teacher Interviews
- November 19: PA Day-Parent Teacher Interviews
- November 26: Spirit Day-Pajama Day
Hillmount Heroes Assembly
- December 17: Spirit Day -Holiday Hat or Sweater Day
- December 18-
January 2: Winter Break

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

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

From the Principal...

This past month, in addition to an ongoing focus on safety, hygiene and physical distancing, our staff and students are focused on teaching and learning, with academics, well-being and equity at the forefront. This month, you will learn more about how your child is doing through progress reports and parent-teacher interviews. We thank you for supporting your child's learning in this modified learning environment due to Covid 19.

E. Mankiewicz

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 and Feel Positive!



Important Dates

Professional Activity Day: Friday November 19 *No School for Students*

Report Cards and Parent-Teacher Interviews:

On November 16, Grades 1-5 students will receive Progress Reports and Kindergarten students will receive the Kindergarten Communication of Learning. Parents/guardians will be contacted by the classroom teacher to arrange a virtual meeting or phone call to discuss progress to date. These meetings will take place during the week of November 16th and on the morning of Friday, November 19. There is no school scheduled for students on Friday November 19 as it is a professional day for all schools in the TDSB.



Early French Immersion Program - Application Information

The entry point to Early French Immersion is changing to Junior Kindergarten. For entry to Early French Immersion for September 2022 **only**, the entry group will include Junior and Senior Kindergarten students. Families of children born in both 2017 and 2018 may apply in November 2021 to begin the program in September 2022.

It is an entirely online process. All communication will be sent via the email address you provide. Please check your email regularly, including junk mail folders.

Please visit the application site www.tdsb.on.ca/pars.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Application process opens: **November 1, 2021**

Deadline for applications: **November 26, 2021**

Hillmount's Mural

You may have noticed that the mural on the front of our building was removed last week. The wooden mural, which was created by Hillmount students and mounted when Hillmount first open, had become unsafe. To keep our students, staff and families safe, it had to be removed. We hope that in the future, we can replace it with another mural or piece of art that reflects our school and community.

November is Hindu Heritage Month in TDSB

The Toronto District School Board (TDSB) is proud to recognize Hindu Heritage Month during the month of November as the Board of Trustees voted to pass a motion in April 2018 to mark this time. On December 8th, 2016, the Province of Ontario passed the Hindu Heritage Month Act by declaring that the month of November in each year is proclaimed as Hindu Heritage Month.

The [Hindu Heritage Month Act](#) states, *Ontario is home to a large and vibrant Hindu community. Since the first Hindu immigrants arrived in Canada at the beginning of the 20th century, Hindu Canadians from across Ontario have made significant contributions across all fields: science, education, medicine, law, politics, business, culture and sports. Hindu Canadians have helped build Ontario into the multicultural success story that it is and have helped to build this province into the best place to live, work and raise families. They continue to help foster growth, prosperity and innovation throughout Ontario.* Hinduism is one of the oldest living religions which have flourished for over 10,000 years. It is an occasion to recognize and celebrate the rich tapestry of traditions, teachings and values that are integral to Hinduism and practiced by millions around the world today. November is an opportunity to celebrate the Hindu way of life, examine its impact and contributions to the world culture, and recognize values which promote compassion, tolerance, and inclusion.

Indigenous Education Month in the Toronto District School Board

November is Indigenous Education Month at the Toronto District School Board. It is important to centre First Nations, Métis and Inuit histories, contemporary realities, and voices. For classrooms across the TDSB, this is an opportunity to learn from Indigenous perspectives on treaties, Indigenous leadership, achievements, resistance and creativity.

Truth and Reconciliation is a guiding principle at the TDSB. Throughout November, students, staff and community members will engage in meaningful opportunities to learn together about our shared histories and to build stronger relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Peoples.

Please look for celebrations of student learning about these Heritage months on our Twitter Account @TDSB_Hillmount

OPTIONAL ATTENDANCE:

Students who reside within the City of Toronto have the right to attend a school which is designated to serve their residential address. The "[Find Your School!](#)" section of the TDSB website identifies the designated schools for each residential address.

Students also have the opportunity to access schools outside of the school that is designated to serve their residential address by applying on optional attendance. Acceptance at these schools is subject to space availability and program suitability. The procedures, conditions and timelines relating to optional attendance are described in the [Optional Attendance Policy](#) and the [Optional Attendance Operational Procedure](#). Families can access the [Optional Attendance: Application for an Elementary Program at a School Outside the Resident Area](#). Scanned or faxed forms will be accepted.

Each year in November, schools are classified as limited or closed to optional attendance based on the space they have available for the upcoming school year.

A school classified as *limited* can accept students on optional attendance. A limited school is not obliged to accept all students who apply for optional attendance. Acceptance is conditional upon space being available in the appropriate grade and program.

A school classified as *closed* cannot accept any students on optional attendance. Only students residing within the school's attendance area will be accepted.

This year, **Hillmount Public School is classified as Limited to optional attendance for the 2022-2023 school year.** Applications for Optional Attendance are now available and will be accepted until **February 11, 2022.**

2021 PIAC Annual Parent Conference:



Parents, guardians and caregivers are invited to join us for a free, two-day virtual events organized by parents for parents, school councils, students and community members. The event, hosted in partnership by the Parent Involvement Advisory Council (PIAC) and the TDSB is an opportunity to engage with others from across the TDSB as we learn and share best practices, reconnect mentally and socially with ourselves, our schools and our communities. Hear from speakers and participate in workshops focused on bridging gaps in our schools in mental health, parent engagement, curriculum and school councils.

[Registration is now open!](#) Registration closes on November 25, 2021. Participants must register in advance.

See the [Program Agenda](#)

Check out the [Workshops](#)

Problem Solving at Hillmount

At Hillmount we have a **Code of Conduct** to ensure that we provide a safe and nurturing environment for all our learners. To support these, encourage positive behaviour and discourage inappropriate behaviour we use the TDSB and the Ministry Progressive Discipline Process. Progressive Discipline is a policy that is a whole-school approach to student behaviour. It utilizes a continuum of interventions, supports, and consequences to address inappropriate student behaviour and to build upon strategies that promote positive behaviours. When inappropriate behaviour occurs, disciplinary measures are applied within a framework that shifts the focus from one that is solely punitive to a focus that is both corrective and supportive. It is designed to create the expectation that the degree of discipline will be in proportion to the severity of the behaviour. Progressive discipline must take into account the needs of individual students by showing sensitivity to diversity, to cultural needs, and to special education needs. In addition progressive discipline must be in keeping with Ministry of Education and Board policies on antiracism, ethno cultural equity and antidiscrimination education. To support problem solving and encourage positive behaviours we also use the following 3 simple expectations to guide our actions. By following these expectations everyone can have a great day!



When we have a problem... we fix it! We use the Hillmount Problem Solving Sheet below to guide, record and communicate our discussions and problem solving. It is a tool that assists in focusing on strategies for improvement. If a problem solving sheet comes home please discuss the problem and solutions with your child to support their learning and if you have any questions please contact the school.

Hillmount Problem Solving Sheet	
Name:	Date:
Dear Parent/Guardian, Today I was involved in this situation at school. I learned how to solve my problem with the other person. Please review this with me to make sure that I understand how to behave at school. Please RETURN TO SCHOOL. Thanks for your help!	
Parent/Guardian Signature:	
The Story...what happened?	The Plan...what will you do now and later?
<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 60px; width: 100%;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 60px; width: 100%;"></div>

Claude Watson School for the Arts

Claude Watson School for the Arts is a TDSB grades 4—8 school focused on the arts. Claude Watson School for the Arts offers an enriched arts education in music, drama, dance and visual arts. Each day the students divide their time between academic classes and an exceptional arts program that develops their creative potential. Each year Grade 3 students apply for entry into the Grade 4 program. Students interested in placement in grades 5 – 8 are welcome to apply but there are very limited places available. Parents and students who are interested in applying for CWSA are encouraged to attend one of our information sessions.

More information about Claude Watson School for the Arts can be found on our website www.claudewatson.org.

Apply To CWSA

Applications are accepted online. The application system is now open. Please see below the link to apply for the 2022/2023 school year. The application system closes on Friday December 17, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE: Late applications are not accepted.

<https://sprs.tdsb.on.ca/public/Welcome.aspx>



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.

It is also important for all students from JK to Grade 5 to have a change of clothes in their backpack. This will allow students to change if they get wet or have an accident and means we will not have to call you to come to school midday with a change of clothes.

