



# Humbercrest Happenings



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January 2016

## From the Principal's Desk:

A belated Happy New Year and Welcome back to the Humbercrest school community!

Term 1 Report Cards are being completed and will be sent home on February 10th for students of JK and Gr. 1-8. Students in SK do not receive a written report at this time. Teachers are scheduling interviews for the evening of February 11th and the morning of February 12th.

Parents may also contact their child's teacher to

set up an interview if they have concerns.

We know that children benefit most when parents/guardians and teachers work together as partners in their child's learning.

We have collected a large number of items in our lost and found. Please make a point of visiting the Lost and Found to reclaim lost items. All unclaimed items will be packed up and donated to a local charity before March Break.

Our Kindergarten Open House for incoming JKs will be held on February 18th at 2 pm.

The City of Toronto will be installing NO IDLING signs on the streets bordering the school.

We are starting a School Ambassador program. Students from grade 4-7 are invited to apply for the program. The ambassadors will welcome new students and guests to the school.

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## January = Teamwork

Students in all the divisions met for two assemblies to celebrate their accomplishments focused on the monthly character trait of Teamwork. Student Council provided excellent leadership in helping to run the assembly, which featured videos of students articulating what teamwork meant to them, as well as a powerful student-conceived piece on gender stereotypes. In February we will be celebrating African Heritage Month and the character trait of fairness.



### Dates to Remember:

*Feb 4-18 Dental Screening*

*Feb 5 Jr./IntPublic Speaking Competition*

*Feb 9 Prologue Performance: "Visions of Turtle Island" (Gr 4-6)*

*Feb 10 Report Cards Go Home*

*Feb 11 CARNAVALE/TALENT SHOW*

*Feb. 11 Parent/teacher interviews*

*Feb 12 PA Day Parent/teacher interviews*

*Feb 18 JK Open House—2:15 pm*

*Feb 18 Gr 7/8 Immunization Clinic*



# Classroom News

### 4B at the Food Bank:

Mme Stevens, her students and several parent volunteers travelled to the Daily Bread Food Bank's sorting facility to, lend a hand. An excellent example of citizenship. We all need to look after each other!



### 2B Celebrating Diversity:

Mme Walker's students have been learning about celebrations around the world through trying new food. Here, they are making Tortière, a traditional Québécois dish eaten at Christmas Thanks to parent Ann Nethercott for helping out!

Speaking of food, we now know that Mme Hamara's Kindergartens make great Pizza!



### Budding Artists in JK:

We know where the group of seven are—in Ms. Forte's room!



Ms. Lyte is working on print making with the senior

Kindergarten big thinkers at the AGO!



Parkdale-High Park MPP Cheri Di Novo dropped by to read for Family Literacy Day!



Many of our teachers have been participating in professional learning around Science and Math and Inquiry.



Grade 7/8 Ski Trip to Mt. St. Louis/Moonstone!



## STEM Update:

**Our STEM Showcase is scheduled for late April. This year's showcase will be a drop-in kind of event in individual classrooms.**

**Engineer in Residence: Addie Denison is continuing in that role at Humbercrest and began her work in January. She is focusing on senior grades this year. Typically, she works with three classes. `Water for the World` is one concept being explored by students.**

**Hardware Update: The new iPad mini cart is fully operational. The new technology coincides with the return of our HP laptops to the Board. We have purchased 30 refurbished HP laptops through the Board to begin the process of replenishing our laptop inventory. We have also recently purchased some Chrome books and OSMO units, which are used with iPads for interactive math and literacy applications.**

**We are also looking for new members for our committee. This is critical to ensuring we can continue to have enough support for 2016 initiatives. Please email Mr. Gambacort at [carl.gambacort@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:carl.gambacort@tdsb.on.ca)**

## Sports



The winter sports calendar at Humbercrest is typically busy, with boys basketball, girls volleyball and hockey all well underway. Our senior girls volleyball team showed great resilience in their recent tournament. Both of our hockey teams are participating in their respective schedules. Recently, our junior team (pictured right) took on a visiting team from Beijing in a friendly, won by the visitors, 5-4. Special thanks to Constable Eric Berridge, our Community relations officer, for assisting with the program again this year!





## Parent Council



**Parent Council**, in partnership with Toronto Public health, facilitated an evening workshop for parents called **Connecting With Your Teen**. Led by **Wendy Negrazis**, one of our Public health nurses, The workshop covered several critical area in adolescent development, including, physical, emotional, behavioral and social pressures teens face; facts and myths about substances and how to prevent substance abuse and strategies to promote communication between parents and teens.

**Feedback from the session was overwhelmingly positive. We are now in the planning stages of several other events with the assistance of public health, with topics including being home alone and managing stress. Look for details in the coming weeks. Our Next parent Council Meeting is set for Wednesday, February 17th at 7:00 Pm in the Library. All are welcome!**

## So Fun



## Winter Carnival & Talent Show



Brought to you by: **sofun**



We recently held another successful Family Movie Night! Thanks to everyone who came out and to our fabulous volunteers!

Winter Carnival is fast approaching. Our annual event is a fun filled day for students with a variety of activities in the fresh winter air, warmed with some delicious hot chocolate!

The Talent Show auditions are done, now we look forward to seeing our talented students perform on February 11th! Grades 1- 3 perform first followed by the grade 4 - 6's. Prepare to be amazed!.



## Forest of Reading



The forest of reading program is in full swing. Recently, we received a surprise visit from Lorna Schultz-Nicholson, the author of *Fragile Bones*, who dropped by for an impromptu book talk!

## PALS Program Update



Julie Brandsma, our public health nurse, held a workshop on conflict resolution with our PALS leaders. This is part two of their training. They will now assist in peer mediation and lead games for the grade 1 and 2's.

## Library News

### The Geckos are coming. . .The Geckos are Coming!



The library will be hosting two geckos from Reptilia. Several classes will be participating in the project, including Ms. Forte, Mme Heller, Mr. Chiu, Mme Stevens, and Mr. Henderson's classes. They will be welcomed to the school by Dino, our resident Gecko, who lives in Mme Wong's Kindergarten class. He is looking forward to making new friends!

## Lost and Found



We have reorganized the Lost and Found in the basement. Please drop by to check for any items your child may be missing!



## Green Team News



The school's Eco Club members have completed the first step in a school-wide education campaign on recycling. The first stage was the creation of 3-D posters to assist students and staff in identifying recyclable items and organic waste, as well as regular garbage. Individual classroom eco reps will be using these posters to help reinforce the message. Stage two of the process is an ambitious school-wide waste audit. We also this month helped to divert 52 pieces of obsolete electronics from a landfill through the Board's e-waste recycling partner.



## Keep Humbercrest Beautiful Campaign!

Humbercrest has embarked on a major effort to reduce litter around the school. Each class has been given a specific area of the school to maintain. Each class has two Eco Reps who are coordinating maintenance schedules with their classmates. Each area is randomly checked once a week by our senior ECO team and awarded points for cleanliness.

We will award Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze awards for classes, plus other prizes at the end of the year for the top three classes. Here are the leaders as of the end of January:

4B Mme Stevens	22
7D Mme Caine	20
5D Mme Hindoian	18
2D Mme McCowan	18
SK1 Mme Hamara	16
SK2 Mme Wong	16
JK1 Mme Forte	12
2B Mme Walker	12
3E Mme Bacalu	12
8C Mme Panucci	10
6D Mme Raymond	10
1C Mme Kocsis	10





# Community News and Events

**ETOBICOKE PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA**  
**Sabatino Vacca** Music Director  
**Sunday, February 7, Assembly Hall**  
 Southeast corner Kipling and Lake Shore Blvd W, Etobicoke

**2 - 3pm**  
 featuring **Mimico Children's Choir**

**4:30 - 5:30pm**  
 featuring **Etobicoke Suzuki Music**

**FUN FAMILY CONCERT**  
 with a complete performance of **Peter and the Wolf - and more!**  
 Narrated by Bill Anderson from The New Classical 96.3 fm

Tickets: Children \$10, Adults \$20  
 For tickets call 416-239-5665,  
 or order on-line at [www.eporchestra.ca](http://www.eporchestra.ca)

The Etobicoke Outdoor Education Centre in Partnership with the TDSB Aboriginal Education Centre  
 invites First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students to a

## MARCH BREAK EXPERIENCE

**GRADE 5, 6, 7, and 8 TDSB Students!!!**  
**\*Register now and until January 29, 2016\***

The March Break theme is "Zisbaakdoke Giizis" or Sugaring Moon. Students will enjoy experiential learning by preparing to harvest, gather and process maple sap to produce maple syrup, candy and sugar. The experience will encompass pre-contact maple sugar production from a traditional Indigenous Knowledge perspective through Native Language, story and song. Transportation provided for families to celebrate with participants on Friday, March 18. Contact us for more details!

**Dates: March 14 - 18, 2016**

The Etobicoke Outdoor Education Centre is a overnight facility that is owned and operated by the Toronto District School Board. The centre is located just north of Bolton, Ontario, on the Oak Ridges Moraine, and is nestled within the Albion Hills Conservation Area. For more information on the EOEC site, visit The Etobicoke Outdoor Education Centre Website:  
<http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/eoec/Home.aspx>

For more information or to register, please contact—The Aboriginal Education Centre:  
 Jarvis Nahdee : [Jarvis.Nahdee@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:Jarvis.Nahdee@tdsb.on.ca) or Tessa Sill : [Tessa.Sill@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:Tessa.Sill@tdsb.on.ca)  
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