



HUMBERCREST PS

Family Communication

October 13, 2023

Dear Humbercrest Families,

It was wonderful seeing many parents in person and online at the first School Advisory Council meeting of the year. Some great initiatives were discussed along with a variety of items important to our school. We look forward to continuing our strong partnership with our School Council. If you were not able to attend, the minutes and more information about our School Council can be found on their website: [Humbercrest Council](#)

Marlene Calligan and Debra Marshall-MacLeod

Early French Immersion

The Toronto District School Board (TDSB) would like to share some information with you and your families about Early French Immersion. The entry point to Early French Immersion for September 2024/25 school year is [Junior Kindergarten](#).

The application to the Early French Immersion program will remain an online process managed by the Central French Department and applications must be completed online between November 6 and December 1, 2023. An offer of placement in the program (not a specific school) is guaranteed to all on-time applicants. Families with an older sibling currently in an Early French Immersion program are still required to complete an online application for the new student. Interested families can apply via the [Application Link](#).

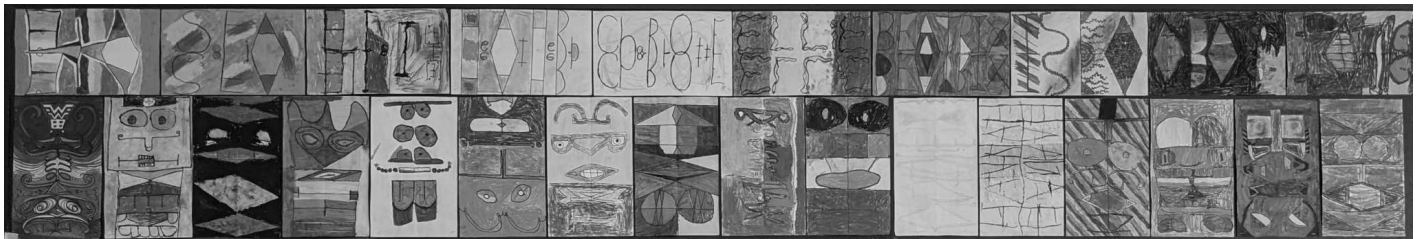
Information sessions will be available in November.

At any time, please visit www.tdsb.on.ca/french to view a [video](#) that provides information about the TDSB French Language programs as well as the application and placement process in the Early French Immersion and the Middle French Immersion programs. More information about the Early Immersion Program is available in [22 languages](#), or visit the [Information Sessions](#) website for related links to join a live Zoom webinar about the application process.

Humbercrest Highlights



Grade 7 and 8 students create art to show the connectedness of their learning journey.



Students integrate math and art to create symmetrical name designs.

Fire Drill and Lockdown Procedures

All TDSB schools are expected to hold 2 lockdown drills each school year. In the coming weeks, we will hold our first lockdown drill. All students will be given advance notice about this drill during announcements.

During a lockdown, a 'Lockdown' sign will be placed on the front door. Parents will not be allowed to enter the building.

If there is a real lockdown, the school Superintendent, in conjunction with the Board's Communications, Media & Public Relations Department, will determine the most appropriate method to communicate to parents/guardians/caregivers and the community that a lockdown response is in effect at the school. A lockdown signifies that there may be a threat inside the building. Parents should refrain from contacting the school to allow phone lines to remain open. We are also subjected to Hold and Secures when there is a threat in the community. It would be advised that parents leave the vicinity of the school to seek shelter at their own residence or if it is safe to do so, be invited into the school.

We are also required to have 3 Fire Drills in the Fall and 3 Fire Drills in the Spring. We have already had 2 Fire Drills this Fall.

Practising these drills gives us an opportunity to see if there are any changes that need to be made to our Emergency Procedures.

School Advisory Committee

Fall Schoolyard Cleanup – Saturday October 28th, 10am-noon

Join the Parent Council Environment and Sustainability Committee for a fall community cleanup. Refreshments and Halloween activities. Drop-in anytime and get to know your Humbercrest Community. Meet at the main entrance to the school.

X Movement

The most extraordinary children's wellness experience.

X Movement will be visiting Humbercrest next week and working with all of the classes. X Movement's goal is to give every child the tools, resources and support to reach their extraordinary potential. They have a holistic whole-health approach. Their activities are fun, engaging and sustainable for schools.

On November 2, there will be a Family Event with X Movement at Humbercrest from 6:30 - 7:30 pm. For more information, click here for their [Community Flyer](#).

School Council Innovation Grant

Do you have a creative idea that engages Parent Council's capacity around:

- Anti-Black racism
- Anti-Indigenous racism
- Anti-racism
- Equity/anti-oppression
- Food sovereignty
- Human Rights
- Mental health and well-being
- Creating safe spaces of belonging (tackling bullying and violence)
- Engaging parents/caregivers in early literacy and numeracy

We want to request funding to support your initiative, the TDSB deadline is fast approaching! Please submit ideas to Darina Larga by Wednesday October 18th

Darina_larga@hotmail.com

Lunch Lady

After receiving some feedback from parents, the council decided to organize an optional lunch program that will run twice a week using the catering company, The Lunch Lady. The Lunch Lady uses its own online ordering platform so it's easy to select dates or change lunch days. It also doesn't require parent volunteers. The program will start October 17th and runs every Tuesday and Thursday. Please click on [The Lunch Lady](#) to place your order. Every order helps fundraise for the school so we appreciate your support. Parents are reminded that the TSDB has a boomerang lunch policy so leftover food and lunch bags will still go home at the end of the day and students are asked to bring their own utensils.

[Humbercrest Lunch Lady Flyer](#)

Fundraising Opportunity

If you haven't been to Bellona Restaurant on Jane south of Annette then October is the month to check it out. If you have been and enjoyed it, make sure you return this October. To help build community and reinforce their passion for education, Bellona has created a school give back program. 10% of your final bill will be donated to Humbercrest P.S. during the month of OCTOBER. Just make sure you mention that you want to support Humbercrest when you sit down to lunch or dinner. You don't need to be a staff member or have a child at Humbercrest PS to participate so share this great program with friends and neighbours. Just ask them to mention Humbercrest during their next meal out.

Heather Sinclair

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Preparing for High School Information Sessions for Grade 8 Families

To support our Grade 8 students and families, the TDSB will be hosting a series of Preparing for High School Information Sessions. The series includes:

- Grade 8 to 9 Transitions Information Session - November 1, 2023
- Student Interest Programs Information Session - November 2, 2023
- Virtual Secondary Alternative Schools Fair - January 10, 2023

More information, including the instructions to register and request interpreter services, will be shared in the coming weeks. Please visit the TDSB website [**beyond 8**](#) for more information.

Runnymede CI	November 21	6:30-8:30 pm
Western Tech.	November 15	6:30-8:30 pm
Parkdale CI	November 14	7:00-8:30 pm
Humberside CI	December 12	6:00-8:00 pm

Humbercrest will also host an online session for our parents on Thursday, October 26th. More details will be shared.

Hallowe'en

The tradition of Halloween is one that many students look forward to each year. We invite students to dress up if they would like on Tuesday, October 31st.

We remind students and families that weapons, including replicas, or masks that fully cover a face that may be a part of a costume must not be brought to school. Also, a reminder that another culture should not be used as a costume. Costumes that stereotype, misrepresent, and disrespect Indigenous peoples and other cultural heritages should be avoided so that all members of our community feel valued and respected.

In partnership with the School Council Allergy Committee and in alignment with the Allergy Policy, students are

not to bring in food items (e.g., candy, food etc.) to share with their classmates.

International Language Program

Thank you to everyone who expressed interest in Humbercrest hosting an International Language Program. For this program to move forward, we would have needed 4 full classrooms with a minimum of 23 students in each. Unfortunately, there was not enough interest in this program at this time. During the next school year, this can be revisited if there is a greater interest.

Upcoming Dates

IEP Distribution	October 17
Cross-Country West Finals	October 17
Lunch Lady begins (every Tues & Thurs)	October 17
Cross-Country City Finals	October 25
Pizza Day	October 25
X Movement Family Event	November 2
School Advisory Council - So Fun Meeting	November 7
Photo Retake Day	November 9
Progress Reports Distribution	November 15
Parent/Guardian-Teacher Interviews	November 16 - evening
Parent/Guardian-Teacher Interviews	November 17 - morning

October Heritage Month

Somali - Educate. Elevate. Excel.

Islamic - Salaam: Joy, Excellence, Belonging.

Days of Significance

Navratri	October 15-24
Birth of the Ba'b	October 16
Birth of Bahá'u'lláh	October 17
Gurgadi of the Holy Scriptures of Guru Granth Sahib Ji <u>as Guru</u>	October 20

School Website

Humbercrest Public School

Contact Information

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Erin Altosaar, Superintendent, erin.altosaar@tdsb.on.ca

Debbie King, School Trustee Ward 7, debbieking@tdsb.on.ca