



HUMBERCREST PS

Family Communication

October 27, 2023

Dear Humbercrest Families,

This week we hosted assemblies for students in grades 1-8 about Allergy Awareness and the Character trait for October, Responsibility. Members from the Allergy Committee shared important information about food allergens and what to do if someone is having an allergic reaction. When discussing this month's Character trait, we discussed the importance of taking responsibility for our belongings, academics and actions. We will be hosting future monthly assemblies focusing on the Character trait for each month.

Marlene Calligan and Debra Marshall-MacLeod

Dress for the weather!

This week's weather has taken us on a roller coaster ride! Please be sure to check the weather forecast each day before heading to school. Our goal is to spend time outdoors each day rain or shine and students should come prepared for whatever the weather might bring. Being outside is part of our mental health and wellbeing and children should become accustomed to being outside in all weather conditions. Dressing in layers at this time of year is very beneficial. Just remember to label all clothing items in case they make it to the lost and found!



Reporting and Responding to Racism and Hate Incidents

The Board is committed to ensuring that every TDSB school is a welcoming, equitable, inclusive and respectful learning environment, free of intolerance, discrimination and hate, where all students, staff and school community members can feel safe and respected. At the school level, staff have the responsibility for addressing any racism and hate incidents. Principals are obligated to report these incidents to their Superintendent and the Human Right Office as set out in policy [PR 728](#).

The TDSB [Human Rights Policy](#) and the Ontario Human Rights Code prohibit harassment and discrimination on the basis on the following protected grounds:

- Age • Ancestry • Citizenship • Colour • Creed (faith) • Disability • Ethnic origin • Family status • Gender • Gender identity • Marital status • Place of origin • Race • Same-sex partnership status • Sexual orientation • Socio-economic status

This week, Ms. Calligan and Ms. Marshall-MacLeod visited all the classes grade 4 -8 to discuss this policy with the students.

We also spoke to the students about respecting the personal space and privacy of others. Specifically, we referred to 'pants'ing incidents. We stressed the seriousness of this action and the resulting consequences.

When these incidents happen, we reach out to the Manager of Social Work and our Caring and Safe Schools Advisor. We highlighted the importance of showing respect for each other and not subjecting peers to shame or embarrassment.

We encourage you to have a discussion with your child about both of these topics.

Hallowe'en 2023

Parade

On Halloween, we will have a primary parade for our families. Weather permitting, kindergarten to Grade 3/4 classes will walk around the track two times starting at 1:00 pm. In case of inclement weather, we will invite families into the school to line the hallway that runs outside of the office and the hallway towards the senior gym. We will have a staff member letting you in through Door 4 (under the overhang).

Treats

Following Hallowe'en, we know that there are many treats to enjoy. We have students with food allergies and the ingredient labeling on the small treats are not always clear. We have also noticed an increase in garbage and littering following Hallowe'en. This year, we ask that Hallowe'en treats be enjoyed at home and **NOT** be brought to school.

Costumes

Each year, Halloween is marked in a variety of ways in school communities across the TDSB. Students can choose whether or not to participate in Halloween related activities.

As TDSB schools prepare for this day, there are often questions and concerns about Halloween costumes. To support safe, welcoming, and dynamic learning spaces, educators are encouraged to engage students in critical conversations about cultural appropriation, stereotypes, and caricature. This includes reminding students that certain costumes are viewed as offensive, inappropriate and/or discriminatory to many different cultures/peoples, and as a result can cause harm to members of that community and the TDSB community. Additionally, school communities are reminded that it is important to be aware of the potential negative and triggering impact violent images and/or scenarios can have on students and families with varying lived experiences and backgrounds.

This year at Humbercrest, students are welcome to wear costumes to school that are appropriate. Please ensure that younger children are able to remove their costume on their own to use the washroom.

- Masks or face coverings of any kind are not allowed.
- Weapons of any kind are not allowed.
- In partnership with the School Council Allergy Committee and in alignment with the Allergy Policy, students are not permitted to bring food/treats to share with classmates for a celebration. Any food given to students for any purpose requires parent/guardian permission from all - we have many students with allergies.

Have Your Say : Caregiver Survey

As part of our ongoing work to give families opportunities to connect with us, and making your voice heard, we ask that you take a few moments to complete the following Google Survey. This survey was developed by our Equity Committee. We value your participation with this survey and will be using the results to help refine our School Improvement Plan.

The Survey Link will close November 3.

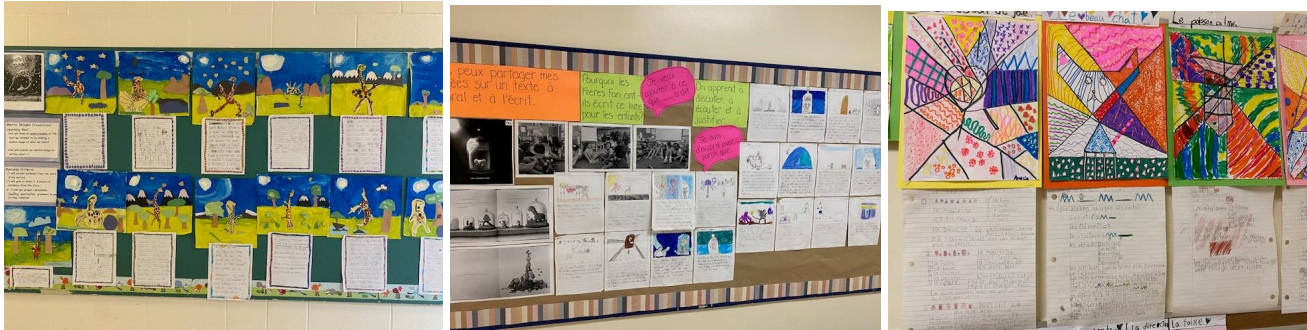
[Caregiver Survey](#)



Photo Retake

Photo Retake Day is scheduled for **November 9**. Please inform your child's teacher if a retake is requested, and ensure they come to school wearing the outfit you would like them to be photographed in. We will also use this day to take class photos.

Humbercrest Highlights



Displays of student work integrating reading, writing, mathematics and artistic techniques.

November Food Drive

Humbercrest will be hosting a Food Drive in support of the [Fort York Food Bank](#) from November 6-17. Currently, the items in most need are canned beans and tuna. More information will be shared next week.

Drop Zone

This is just a reminder that we have a School Drop Zone which is supervised by a staff member starting at 8:45 am. Please use this area on Watson Avenue if you are dropping off your child as we are noticing some of our students being dropped off on St. Mark's. This is a very busy street where cars are travelling both east and west, but it is also used for our school bus. Both parents and staff have observed very close calls with cars not seeing students crossing and we want to prevent any type of accident.

Lunch - Off Property

Students who are given permission to leave school property at lunch must not be around the perimeter. We are having challenges with garbage being left behind, students chasing each other onto the street and or riding scooters at the entrance of the staff parking lot. We appreciate that students like to take advantage of being off school property so we ask that they choose places that are not visible to staff.

School Advisory Committee

Pizza Day - NEW START DATE

Due to unforeseen circumstances, pizza day will need to be delayed until November 8th. We know the students are excited, so we are working hard to get things organized for our first pizza day. So Fun will send out information next week so parents/guardians can place their orders. Thank you for your understanding



and patience.

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 anytime between 10:00-12:00 pm.

School Council: So Fun Meeting

Thank you to those who were able to join our first Parent Council meeting on October 11 - either in person or virtually. As mentioned in the meeting, one of the committees — So Fun committee, will be meeting the first week of November.

Please join us on: Thursday November 7 at 7 pm at The Cat Pub & Eatery 3513 Dundas St W

We will discuss this year's social and fundraising activities. We would love to see you there! If you're interested in learning more about our SAC sub-committees, please visit our website.

[Humbercrest Parent Council](#)

Equity and Inclusion Meeting

Would you like to participate in Equity and Inclusion at Humbercrest? All voices are welcome.

Please join us virtually, Thursday November 9th from 6:30-7:30pm.

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/fxo-sags-nio>

Or dial: (US) +1 573-343-8044 PIN: 404 137 358#

X Movement

X Movement visited Humbercrest last week and worked with all of the classes. X Movement's goal is to give every child the tools, resources and support to reach their extraordinary potential.

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](#).

Heather Sinclair

Kristen Juschkewitsch

Council Co-Chair

Council Co-Chair

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Trustee Debbie King Newsletter

Please sign up to receive the [newsletter](#) from Debbie King.

Community Coaching Meeting

Parent/Guardians and/or community members (non-TDSB teaching staff) who are interested in assisting with coaching school sports this late fall season, must attend a Community Coaches' session in order to receive a TDESAA Community Coach card. The purpose of this meeting is to become familiar with the TDESAA code of conduct for coaches and the TDESAA's philosophy of sport. Please see the upcoming virtual meeting details below and review the eligibility criteria within the [Community Coaches page](#) on the TDESAA website.

Wednesday November 1st @ 12PM

Presenter: Kevin Dunn – HPE Co-Curricular Lead Teacher

[Microsoft Teams Meeting Link](#)

Upcoming Dates

Lunch Lady (every Tues & Thurs)	October 31 and November 2
X Movement Family Event	November 2
School Advisory Council - So Fun Meeting	November 7
Food Drive	November 6-17
Pizza Day	November 8
Photo Retake Day Parent Equity Meeting	November 9
Progress Reports Distribution	November 15
Parent/Guardian-Teacher Interviews	November 16 - evening
Parent/Guardian-Teacher Interviews	November 17 - morning

November: Indigenous Education Month

November is Indigenous Education Month at the Toronto District School Board. Throughout the month, students, staff, and community members honour a number of important days to deepen knowledge, to learn from our shared histories, and to strengthen relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Peoples.

Days of Significance

Kathina	October 28
All Saints Day	November 1
Karva Chauth	November 1
Samhain	November 1

Day of the Dead	November 1-2
Crowning of Emperor Haile Selassie I	November 2
Descending Day of Lord Buddha	November 4

School Website

[Humbercrest Public School](#)

Contact Information

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