

HUMBERWOOD DOWNS JMA

850 Humberwood Blvd., 416-394-4750

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2018

Trustee: Avtar Minhas

Superintendent of Education: Lorraine Linton

Administrative Team: Roula Skordakis, Principal, and Dave Singh, Vice-Principal

School Website: <http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/humberwood/home.aspx>



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome to a new school year! The Humberwood staff (office, teaching, support staff, custodians and the Centre's management team) have worked very hard to prepare our classrooms and building for a new school year. Thank you to everyone for a smooth first week of school. School-wide newsletters will be sent home every two months (September, November, January, March, and May). Please check the school's home page regularly for current news feeds.

TWITTER

HWD has a Twitter account! Want to know and see more about student life at Humberwood Downs Junior Middle Academy? Follow us on twitter @HumberwoodDowns. Get tweets about special events, sports, clubs, and amazing student work.



SCHOOL'S WEBSITE

Our school's website is updated weekly. Dates are being posted for the year and more dates are added weekly. Please refer to it regularly at:

<http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/hu>

[mberwood/Home](http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/humberwood/Home)

Click on the "Calendar" to view all events. The Home Page has the most recent school news.



COMMUNICATION

Thursday is Mailbag

Mail goes home every Thursday from the school. In this way, you will be able to anticipate when mail will be coming home and ask your child for it.



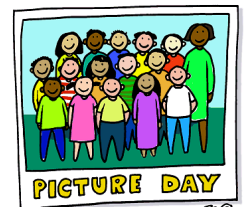
SCHOOL-HOME COMMUNICATION

You can expect your child's teacher(s) to communicate with you regularly. Communication from teachers *may include* newsletters, websites, letters home, meetings, and notes in your child's planner and/or phone calls. We encourage you to use the planner with any questions and/or concerns for your child's teacher(s).

PICTURE DAYS-

October 3&4

Students are expected to be in their uniform.



Wednesday October 3- Grades JK-3

Thursday October 4- Grades 4-8

STUDENT ABSENCES

If your son/daughter is sick and will not be at school kindly **call the school** and report their absence by 8:00am. The attendance line is equipped with voice mail, which allows parents to phone late at night or very early the day of the absence. The telephone number to our Attendance Line is **(416) 394-4757 and PRESS 1**. When leaving a message please say your child's full name, homeroom and reason for absence. *Thank you for your assistance.*





MEET-THE-TEACHER- Wed. Sept. 26th

On Wednesday September 26th at 6:30pm parents/guardians will have the opportunity to meet their child's teachers. This evening is structured with teacher presentations followed by a meet-and-greet. Please join us in the gym at 6:30pm for introductions where we will explain the schedule for the rest of the evening. It's important for all families to be in the gym on time so that we can get the evening started in an organized manner. We look forward to seeing you.

STUDENT LATES

Punctuality is a life skill for all our students to learn. From JK-8, we expect students to be on time. ***Being late for school should be the exception, not the rule.*** A combined effort of the home and the school will be developed to reverse this habit.

Students are to enter the building using their entry door. Students cannot be waiting in the Great Hall until the entry bell rings and then enter the school.

Period 1 begins at 8:15am. Any student NOT in class at this time will be marked late by the homeroom teacher.

Students arriving after 8:35am are to come to the main office to get a late slip as the attendance will have been sent down to the office by this time.



DELIVERY OF LUNCHES

There are **RARE** occasions when parents need to deliver lunch to their child at school. Fast foods do not provide the nutritious lunch children need. Should you have to bring lunch to the school, please note the following:

- Please bring it to the office and mark your child's name and room number on it.
- Please bring it **no later than 11:10 a.m.**

- Parents may not sit outside the office or in the Great Hall to feed their children. Children eat in their classrooms.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

STAFF UPDATES

We welcome the following new contract (permanent) teachers to our school: Ms. Ram (Science PM only), Mr. Umpherson (gr7D), and Ms. Garner (gr8 Incl/Special Education/Drama/Dance).

The following teachers are replacing permanent contract teachers for either part of the year or the full year:

Ms. Singh is in for Ms. Qureshi (gr4A)
Ms. Dekleva is in for Ms. Au (gr1/2)
Mr. Naidoo is in for Ms. DiMira (gr8B)
Ms. Pomeroy is in for Ms. Paul (gr5/6)
Ms. Little is in for Ms. Rampersaud (French)

We have not yet hired a long term occasional teacher for the following classes:

Ms. Najlis (ELL and Prep)
Ms. Zappa (gr1C)
Ms. Young (gr2A)

Mr. Faulknor (1C), Ms. Dulku (2A) and Ms. Hendrickson (ELL/Prep) are here temporarily until we finish hiring long term occasional teachers.

SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Studies indicate that student achievement is improved when parents play an active role in their child's education. You are our **partner in education** and we look forward to learning from and working with you.

Our first meeting will be on **Thursday September 20th at 6:30p.m.** in the conference room (2nd floor) where we will vote on our Parent Council co-chairs for the 2018-19 school year. Parents interested in being considered for this position

must submit a nomination form to the office by Monday September 17th. Nomination forms were sent home earlier this week. Child minding is available for these meetings.



WALK TO SCHOOL WEDNESDAYS

Our first walk-to-school day will be on Wednesday October 3rd.

Families are asked to walk their children to school. Our school is

part of the city of Toronto's Vision Zero project which is why you will see a number of new safety measures on Humberwood Boulevard and in the surrounding streets.

Every first Wednesday of the month will be walk-to-school Wednesdays. This year's walk-to-school Wednesdays will occur on: November 7, December 5, January 9, February 6, March 6, April 3, May 1 and June 5. Please mark these dates on your calendar.

UNIFORM POLICY

It is the responsibility of each parent/guardian to ensure that their child is dressed in full uniform each day.

We continue to be a fully-uniformed school from grades JK-8. Our uniform colours are navy blue and white. All navy vests and shirts with the **embroidered school crest** need to be ordered from **McCarthy Uniforms**.

We expect the following from all students:

SHIRTS:

The school shirt must be a **white collared shirt or white turtleneck under every type of school vest**. The white shirt may NOT be a T-shirt. The **white shirt must be tucked in**. Students are not to wear any type of long sleeved shirt under their **navy golf shirt**. However, students may wear a **WHITE t-shirt underneath** their golf shirt. Students may wear any type of white long-sleeved shirts under the school long-sleeved sweatshirt in order to layer up to keep warm.

PANTS/DRESSES:

Students may wear the uniform skort or dress skirt which is black or navy. Students are to wear black or navy dress pants or dress shorts (knee length shorts).

Jeans, capris, athletic shorts, athletic pants (sweatpants), skinny jeans and leggings are NOT allowed. Legwarmers may be worn underneath pants and are not to be worn over the dress pants.

The uniform policy and expectations are also in your child's planner. Please refer to the planner.

INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGES

Our school will continue to have **Hindi and Punjabi** classes every Saturday 9:30am-12pm. Registration takes place on Saturday September 15th 9:30am. Please come and register your child.

Grade 7&8

VACCINATIONS- Oct 12

The immunization clinic will be here on **Friday October 12th**.

Students will receive the following vaccinations:

Grade 7 (all students)- Hepatitis, HPV and Menactra

Grade 8 (girls only)- HPV

2nd Dosage for grade 7s and gr 8s (girls only) will take place in February/March.

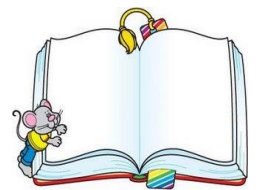


BIRTHDAYS

Parents/guardians are asked **not to send** food and/or treats for their child's birthday. We have many students with allergies, food sensitivities as well as ample food already

offered as part of the daily snack program. Our class time must be focused. Parents/guardians may, but do not have to, donate a new book to their child's classroom.

Classrooms are always in need of new books to add to their library. Please feel free to ask your child's teacher for authors and/or possible titles of books the class enjoys reading.





HAVE A CONCERN?

If you have a concern or question about your child's classroom, program or another student please speak to your child's classroom

teacher first. Parents/guardians are welcome to speak with the school's administration **after** they have spoken with their child's classroom teacher and worked to resolve any concerns.

CASH ONLINE

Throughout the year the school will ask parents/guardians for money to pay for trips, snack program, etc. We are asking families to please register and pay for items using cash online. It's fast, secure and easy and your child doesn't need to carry money to school that can be lost or stolen. Our school's website has a direct link to Cash Online. Our school's website address is on the top of page one of this newsletter. Please bookmark the website for easy future reference.



Online Payment

HOMEWORK POLICY

The TDSB has a homework policy which outlines recommended minutes of homework for each grade.

Although parents/guardians would like a lot of homework sent home, teachers are to **ensure** that they are following our board's policy and that work sent home is both meaningful and age-appropriate. We have posted TDSB's Homework Policy on the Home Page of our school's website.



TERRY FOX RUN- October 11th

Each year our school organizes a run on school property.

Students run around the perimeter of the back field. You will be asked to, once again, donate to this very worthwhile cause. All of us in some way have been affected by cancer and money raised goes towards research that could provide better treatments and prolong the quality of life for those who have cancer. Please do your part and give. We are asking all students to donate at least a toonie (\$2) but please give more if you can. Thank you for your support.



WALKING and BIKING TO SCHOOL

It's healthy...

- Improved physical and mental health
- Improved learning capabilities, better academic outcomes



It's fun...

- Walking to school is a great way to spend time with family and friends
- There are fun activities that can be played on the way to school

It's really not that far to walk...

- A child can walk 1 km in about 15 minutes
- It's only a 5,10, or 15 minute walk from the distance marker signs to the school

It's good for adults too...

- Every kilometer you walk is about 1,250 steps toward the daily recommended 10,000 steps

