

# HUMBERWOOD DOWNS JMA

850 Humberwood Blvd., 416-394-4750

## SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2019

Trustee: Harpreet Gill      Superintendent of Education: Lorraine Linton

Administrative Team: R. Skordakis, Principal, and T. Gentile & D. Singh, Vice-Principals

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 start to a new school year. 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 (website address above).

### 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](#)

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

### SCHOOL 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.



### CLASS-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, emails, apps, and/or 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).

### TERRY FOX RUN- Friday September 27<sup>th</sup>

**Our goal was to raise \$3,000.**

Each year our school organizes a run and our students run around the Humberwood Centre property. Cancer touches the lives of all families either directly or indirectly. Money raised goes towards research that could provide better treatments and prolong the quality of life for those who have cancer.

***Under the careful guidance, leadership and hard work of Mr. Gentile, vice-principal, we raised \$6,010!*** Mr. Gentile worked tirelessly with our intermediate students to organize a smooth and safe run and inspire all of our students with daily inspirational messages. **Thank you to all of our Humberwood families for their very generous donations!**



## 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.*



## 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 folder 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 former Humberwood staff back to our school: Ms. Najlis (8C), Ms. Sihota (3B), Ms. McLuskie (FDK2), and Ms. Sutherland (1C).

The following teachers are here on an interim basis and they are replacing the following permanent contract teachers:

Ms. Singh is in for Ms. Qureshi (gr4A)  
Ms. Pomeroy Ms. Au (gr4/5)  
Mr. Nain is in for Ms. DiMira until Sept 30 (gr8A)  
Mr. DeBello is in for Ms. Phillips (gr2/3)  
Ms. Dulku is in for Ms. Dean (gr1)  
Ms. Hansra is in for Ms. Young (gr5)  
Ms. Little is in for Ms. Rampersaud (French)  
Mr. Roti was hired for the new gr7 class

## 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 meeting will be on

**Wednesday October 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30p.m.**, in the conference room (2<sup>nd</sup> floor) where we will vote on our Parent Council chair, secretary and parent reps for the 2019-20 school year. Parents interested in being considered for a position must submit a nomination form to the office by Wednesday October 9<sup>th</sup>. Nomination forms were sent home on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Child minding is available for these meetings.



## WALK TO SCHOOL WEDNESDAYS

Families are asked to walk their children to school as often as possible. Our school is part of the city of Toronto's Vision Zero project which is why you 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 6, December 4, January 8, February 5, March 4, April 1, May 6 and June 3. 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.

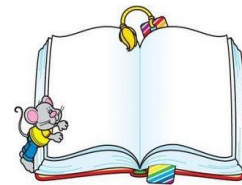
### PANTS/DRESSES:

Students may wear the uniform skirt 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.

## BIRTHDAYS

Parents/guardians are **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.

## RESPECTFUL INTERACTIONS

We have had several incidents where parents have entered the school and wandered the hallways. When these visitors have been approached by staff and asked if they can be of assistance, they have been met with aggression, and at times, raised voices. **Visitors to the school must begin their visit in the office, sign in and receive a visitor's pass**. Parents/guardians cannot walk hallways without following our school's safety procedure. It is never acceptable for a parent/guardian to yell or scream at a staff member who is trying to do their job. Workplace harassment is not tolerated in any work place.



## CASH ONLINE



Online Payment

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.

## 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.

## CUPE WORK SANCTIONS

If you have questions about the work sanctions by CUPE staff (educational assistants, special needs assistants, lunchroom supervisors and/or office secretaries), please visit the TDSB's home page for latest news at: [www.tdsb.on.ca](http://www.tdsb.on.ca) and click on Labour Negotiations.

## Grade 7 VACCINATIONS- Oct 3

The immunization clinic will be here on **Thursday October 12th**. Students will receive the following vaccinations:



Grade 7 (all students)- Hepatitis B, HPV and Meningococcal

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Dosage will take place in February/March.

## 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

## UPCOMING DATES

Friday October 11- PA DAY- no school

Monday October 14- Thanksgiving-School closed

Wed. October 16- Parent Council meeting 6:30pm

Thursday October 31- High 5 assembly

Wednesday November 6- Walk to School Day

Sun. November 3- Daylight Savings time- turn

back clocks.



Mon. November 11- Remembrance Day assembly