



Web: <http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/humewood/Home.aspx>

Twitter: [https://twitter.com/TDSB\\_Humewood](https://twitter.com/TDSB_Humewood)

J. Whitfield, Principal

A. Mani, Vice-Principal

Friday, April 27, 2018

vendredi, le 27 avril 2018

**IMPORTANT DATES**

[Calendar](#)

- **Thursday, May 3:** Kindergarten Visit/Tour for newly registered students (9:30 – 10:30)
- **Thursday, May 3:** School Play: "Once Upon a Crime", 7:00PM
- **Friday, May 4:** Pizza Lunch
- **Thursday, May 10:** Track and Field, Conference Qualifier
- **May 23-25:** Grade 3 EQAO
- **May 29-31:** Grade 6 EQAO
- **Friday, May 18:** Pizza Lunch
- **Friday, June 1:** Pizza Lunch
- **June 4 – 6:** Grade 8 Trip
- **Thursday, June 21:** Grade 8 Graduation
- **Saturday, September 22:** Humewood's Fall Fair

**Staff Model for 2018-2019**

Believe it or not it is that time of the year when we start to look at next year's staff assignments and student placements. Below please find the approved staffing model for the upcoming school year. Teacher assignments will be published at the end of June in the final newsletter when the staffing process is complete....or at least further along!

<b>French</b>	<b>English</b>
SK	JK
SK	JK
1	JK/SK (no ECE)
1	JK/SK
1 /2	1 /2
1 /2	2 /3
2	3 /4
2 /3	4 /5
3	5 /6
3 /4	6 /7
4	8
5	
5 /6	
6 /7	
6 /7	

**Parent Input into Student Placement:**

We always want to work in partnership with families to support students as best as we can so at this time we ask for any input or ideas you may have with regard to student placement. Please understand that final placement of students is at the discretion of the school – we take into account many factors including balance of gender, learning styles, behaviour and social/emotional considerations. Please do not make specific teacher requests or comments about teachers, notes that include specific teacher names will not be used in the placement meetings.

Finally, sometimes students may not be placed with their preferred friend or with the teacher they "wanted" .....that's actually okay! Students that meet with some disappointment or challenges and manage to work past it are developing skills that will help them be confident, resilient and ultimately more successful. As the adults in their lives our job is to help them meet disappointment with a growth mindset and turn change into opportunity.

The Humewood staff is always ready to support your child and to help them be the best that they can every single day!

Please use this link to for [September 2018 Student Placement Input](#)

## Humewood School Family Fall Fair September 22nd, 2018

### Join in the fun and make a difference!

The Humewood School Family Fall Fair is a fantastic community event that promises great fun for the whole family and is the biggest contributor to the fundraising dollars used each year to support our children's classrooms for many things such as: teacher supplies, field trips, arts enrichment, science enrichment, technology upgrades, musical instruments for our new school band, and much more.

How can you help? Individuals, families, and businesses are invited to sponsor an event at the Fair. Circuit bikes, bake table, book nook, face painting, bouncy castles, and carnival games are just a few of the events in need of sponsors. General donations of funds, event tickets, or gift certificates are also welcome.

To become a sponsor or to make a donation please contact:

Cheryl Batty [cheryl.batty@utoronto.ca](mailto:cheryl.batty@utoronto.ca) 416 530 1707



### Update on Lunch Procedures for Students in Grades 1-6

As of **Monday, April 9**, **ALL** students in Grade 6 and under must **sign out in the office** and provide us with a **written note** of permission to leave school for lunch. Please note that students in Grade 3 and below cannot leave school property without a supervising adult.

Thanks to all who are sending in notes, the students are doing a great job of signing in and out.



### **What is OPAL?**

“OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) is the first program in Canada that aims to make play an integral part of the school day. Children engage in self-directed play with “loose parts” (tools, boxes, spare tires, fabric, etc.), boosting their sense of agency and creating a more inclusive and reciprocal social environment.

OPAL is grounded in the child’s right to play and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, to which Canada is a signatory.

In partnership with the Toronto District School Board (TDSB), the OPAL program will roll out to 42 schools by 2020. Our goal is to bring the program to schools across the country.” (From the Earth Day Canada website)

**For more information on the OPAL program, check out: <https://earthday.ca/earthplay/schoolplay/>**

### **So Far, So FUN!**

Being an OPAL School has changed our outdoor time in a very positive way! Students who may not have been keen to venture outside, are now filled with excitement to create, construct and explore. The overlying questions, “*Is it safe enough for us, the environment and the equipment?*”, “*Is it fun for everybody?*” and “*Is it inclusive?*” have guided our play and the way in which our students interact with each other. Students are working towards being more respectful of each other and the environment, and strengthening their problem-solving skills.



### **We Play in ALL Weather!**

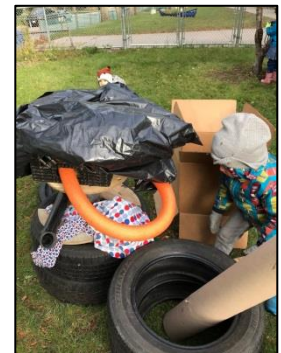
It’s no surprise that the majority of students would rather be outside for recess/outdoor learning time than inside. Cancelling recess is usually met with, “But it’s just raining a little bit!” and a lot of unspent energy. At Humewood, we believe that playing in the rain, snow and sunshine are part of the natural and healthy development of our students. We know that children need to move, explore and play outside EVERY DAY in order to be ready to learn in the classroom. Aside from cases where there is lightning, all students and supervising staff will be going outside during recesses or outdoor learning times. Please check the weather reports each morning and send your child(ren) well-prepared to go outside. This includes: rubber boots, a proper rain jacket, an umbrella, etc. We would like to start building a “clothing library” for students are aren’t prepared for the weather, so if you have any wet-weather gear that is no longer used, we would love the donation!

### **Call-out for LOOSE PARTS!**

As an OPAL school, we provide opportunities to play and learn outside with open-ended materials, called loose parts. Earth Day Canada generously donated collections of materials, but many of these items have succumbed to “too much love” or the environment (cardboard tubes can only survive so long in the rain). We are in need of many more materials to replenish our stock of loose parts. Each month, we will put a call out for different items. Please refrain from sending anything with sharp edges.

For April, if you have any of the following materials, please drop them off in the front foyer:

- Milk crates
- PVC pipes
- Wooden planks
- Dress-up clothing (the fancier, the better!)
- Pots and pans





## Special Education and Section Programs

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April, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians:

We want every student in every school to be welcomed and included within the most enabling learning environment. The TDSB is transitioning towards greater inclusion in Special Education programs. Providing children with special education needs with the instructional support and services they need within the regular program in neighbourhood schools will improve achievement and well-being for all students.

As part of this transition, we have reviewed the Home School Program (HSP), which provides many students in Grades 2 to 8 with a half-day of instruction with a special education teacher. In most schools, this support is provided apart from the regular program. During the last few years, some schools have chosen to support these students in the regular classroom with great success.

We believe we can improve the learning environment for all students in the regular class with appropriate resources. Last September, we started phasing out primary grade placements in HSP. Currently, this program is no longer offered to students in Grade 1.

In the 2018-2019 school year, HSP will only support students in Grades 4 to 8. Teachers and educational assistants will continue supporting students in Grades 1, 2 and 3 in their regular classrooms. Please see questions and answers below for more details.

Transitioning towards inclusion requires collaboration and the creation of positive and welcoming classroom environments that enable all students to succeed.

Sincerely,

Uton Robinson, Ed. D.  
Executive Superintendent  
Special Education and Section 23 Programs  
Toronto District School Board

## **SPECIAL EDUCATION – HOME SCHOOL PROGRAM**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### ***What is the Home School Program (HSP)?***

Students placed in HSP may spend part of their day learning in a regular classroom and part separately with the HSP teacher. Sometimes, they may receive support individually while other times, it may take place in small groups. Some students currently assisted in a withdrawal setting may instead receive support in their regular grade classrooms with the special education teacher. It will vary from student to student, based on their learning needs. This program is currently offered to students in Grades 2 to 8. Starting September 2018, it will only support students in Grades 4 to 8.

#### ***If my child is entering Grade 1, 2 or 3 in September 2018 and has special education needs, what can I expect in terms of support?***

On a regular basis, regular classroom teachers make adjustments to their teaching and assessment methods to meet a wide variety of student learning needs in the classroom. Grades 1, 2 and 3 students, who may have previously been placed in HSP for special education instruction, will instead receive support in their regular classroom. They may also be withdrawn for small group instruction for less than half of the instructional day. Close collaboration between the classroom teacher, school-based special education staff and special education consultants will assist teachers in planning and delivering this “differentiated instruction”. Children who are currently in Grade 1 will continue receiving support in their regular classroom or in a withdrawal setting.

#### ***How will the effectiveness of changes to HSP delivery be evaluated?***

On an on-going basis, teachers are required to evaluate, monitor and report on the success of their students in meeting the Ministry of Education curriculum objectives identified in students’ Individual Education Plans (IEP). Achievement data is also used as part of annual school improvement planning. Each school must address the three pillars of equity, achievement and well-being, using school-based measures and staff feedback to identify what is working well and areas that require attention. School superintendents can review school achievement data for the schools in their Learning Network and assist their school administrators in addressing identified needs. At the system level, the TDSB follows the progress of all students and of students with special education needs as a subset, through on-going analysis of achievement data in provincial report cards, progress reports and the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) assessments.

#### ***If I have questions or concerns, who can I contact?***

As we make changes to the delivery of special education programs and services, we continue to value active and meaningful collaboration with parents/guardians and stakeholders. If you have additional questions, we invite you to visit our website at [www.tdsb.on.ca/specialeducation](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/specialeducation). You can also contact your child’s school principal for more information about HSP. If you have additional questions or concerns, the principal can help you connect with the appropriate school superintendent.

Dr. Barbara Yaffe  
Acting Medical Officer of Health

Toronto Public Health  
Dental and Oral Health Services

Toronto, ON.  
Tel:

Dear Parent/Guardian:

School Year

Toronto Public Health (T.P.H.) provides dental programs to children from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8.

To identify children with oral health problems, a screening program is offered to students in accordance with the Ontario Ministry of Health requirements for mandatory health programs. The screening is an assessment by a dental hygienist using sterilized instruments. The dental hygienist will assess the need for topical fluoride, scaling, sealant and any other obvious dental needs.

As a follow up to the screening, only parents whose children are identified as requiring dental services will be notified. A note to that effect will be sent home with your child/ren for your information and action. You may also receive a phone call from T.P.H. dental staff to assist you in accessing care.

Please be advised that this screening assessment does not replace the dental examination done by a licensed dentist.

If you do not wish your child/ren to be screened, please inform the school.

For additional information, please contact us at the phone number listed above or visit us at [http://www.toronto.ca/health/dental/children\\_youth.htm](http://www.toronto.ca/health/dental/children_youth.htm).

**Dr. Hazel Stewart**  
Director  
Dental and Oral Health Services

**\*\*Humewood C.S. is having dental screening  
May 17, 18, 22, 24, 25, 28. Thank you.\*\***