

# The Humewood Howler

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

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## Important Dates

### CALENDAR

#### March 6:

- Pizza Lunch

#### March 12:

- SAC Meeting  
(7:00 - 9:00 p.m.)

#### March 16 - 20

- March Break

#### March 27:

- Pizza Lunch

## February's Character Trait is FAIRNESS

In February, TDSB schools and communities celebrate Fairness.

### Your child can show fairness by:

- playing and working fairly with others in the family
- treating family members with respect and without prejudice
- treating others in the family in the way that they would like to be treated

### Questions to discuss with your child:

- What is fairness, and what does it mean to be fair?
- Do you treat others the way you would like to be treated?
- When someone is unfair, how does that make you feel?
- Does equality mean that everyone gets the same, or that everyone gets what they need?

### Projects to do together:

- Watch a television program together. Talk about the various ways in which certain characters acted unfairly toward each other. Discuss how the situation could have been avoided.
- Think about something unfair that is happening at home, at school, or in the community. What might be done about it? What would your role be? Encouraging fairness in your child:
  - Listen to your child if he or she has a concern or request. Engage in fair discussion to resolve the issue.
  - Show that fairness is important, and that it is crucial to treat others with respect and without judgment.
  - Share a situation in which you felt you were treated fairly or unfairly, and describe how that impacted your day.

## Humewood's Play Policy

At Humewood we recognise that all play is at the heart of healthy development for children. Play is self-directed, fluid, flexible and open involving experimentation and imagination. We recognise that in order to learn, children must push the boundaries of what is already known and already easily accomplished and this requires children to experience risks and challenges. We encourage children to understand and challenge their own limits and we provide a supportive environment for risk-taking. We teach and use a risk-benefit approach to manage our duty of care to protect and provide for children's needs. All students are provided with a range of choices and opportunities to play in order to build connections with and to care for their environment and community.

**Parents as Partners  
Conference  
March 28th, 2020**



The Parents as Partners Conference 2020 is planned by parents, for parents and we are so pleased to be able to offer a selection of sessions that cover a broad range of topics to provide parents with useful information and resources to help your child improve their achievement and well-being at school and at home.

Keynote Speaker - **Kim Katrin** is an internationally acclaimed award winning educator, writer, artist and consultant. As an educator, Kim travels around the world talking to people about justice, equity, and human rights. She has shared hundreds of unique resources and presentations on intersectional issues such as race, ability, orientation and gender on mental wellness. Emphasizing these connections allows for an inclusive discussion and a holistic focus on mental wellness and community engagement

Technology micro-sessions are also being offered to help parents develop their computer literacy as well as bring them up to speed on many applications used by TDSB students.

Transportation, food and translators are all provided, as well as free day camp for children ages 4-12 to support participants attending the conference. For registration and more information visit <https://www.parentsaspartners.ca/>.

**When Your Child is Late...**

We are still noticing that several of our students are arriving late for class. It is important that your child be on time for school. Even arriving to school a couple of minutes late can be disruptive to the class and can make it harder for your child to begin the day positively. Morning Entry is at 8:45 a.m. Students are to be lined up outside to meet their teacher.

**Parents, please refrain from entering through the student doors.**

If classes are still coming in, your child may enter the building and go straight to class. There are many staff members around to support your child as they walk to class. Once the doors are closed, please bring your child to the front doors and into the office for a late slip.

**ALL-WEATHER PLAY @  
HUMEWOOD :)**

As an OPAL school, we have all-weather play. Whatever the weather, our students go out to play. Please ensure your child has: all the winter/rain gear they need including hats, gloves, scarf, boots, and snow pants, extra socks, indoor shoes, and a change of clothes.

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

**Humewood's Play Prompts**

- ⇒ Is it safe enough for us, the environment and the equipment?
- ⇒ Is it fun for everybody?
- ⇒ Is it inclusive?



# February Fun @ Humewood

## WINTER WALK DAY & GLOBAL SCHOOL PLAY DAY

On February 5th, TDSB students joined schools across Canada for **Winter Walk Day** - an annual celebration of active transportation! It was the perfect opportunity for parents and kids to get outside together and stretch those legs. Winter Walk Day promotes daily physical activity, a healthier environment, safer streets, making friends and having fun! Walking is the simplest form of exercise and helps kids get the 60 minutes of daily physical activity they need. Also on February 5th, we celebrated **Global School Play Day!** A day to celebrate unstructured play to kids of all ages. Since we are an OPAL school, Humewood students have daily opportunities to engage in unstructured play on their own and/or with their friends. This day was a reminder of the importance of play experienced by children. The first annual Global School Play Day was in February of 2015 for students in schools around the world. This year, 563, 283 students from 75 Nations participated. The goal for next year is to see if we can reach 1, 000, 000 students! It's wonderful that Humewood students were a part of this incredible day to get outside, have fun, and play.

## 100's DAY

On February 11th, students in our Primary division celebrated the 100th day of school! In class, they participated in activities to show various ways of making 100 and they even created artwork showing how they would look at 100 years old and they wrote stories about how they would feel if they were 100 years old. At home, families worked on creative projects to celebrate the number 100. We had students bring in various collections of items and share them in gallery style or mini-presentations in their homeroom classes. We are so proud of them!

## SKILLS ONTARIO

On February 19th, a representative from **Skills Ontario** came to speak to our Intermediate students about career opportunities for the future, with a focus on skill trades. They participated in meaningful discussions, asked rich questions, and watched several videos describing various jobs that interested them. It was an informative morning for our grade 7 and 8 students.

## TORONTO BRASS QUINTET

On February 24th, students in grades 4 through 8 enjoyed a musical morning led by the **Toronto Brass Quintet**. The Toronto Brass Quintet is comprised of five of the city's finest brass players and is committed to presenting innovative and intriguing brass programming by drawing from a variety of genres, from classical to electronic, folk music to newly commissioned works. Members are pushing the boundaries of traditional brass music by arranging folk, world and indie genres for quintet. The musicians discussed each brass instrument they played and showed how music is made from them. Students and teachers enjoyed a concert of songs from various types of music.

## OFFICER MIKE VISIT

On February 25th, **Officer Mike**, our School Engagement Officer visited Mr. Yachyshyn's class to discuss social media and the law. He shared the common social media problems that he has experienced with students, focusing on the most popular apps like TikTok, Instagram, and Snapchat. He engaged in rich meaningful discussions including real-life examples and asked scenario-based questions. The grade 8 students asked several questions as well. There will be other Intermediate students participating in this, however it will have to resume after the new work-to-rule job action that has started on February 26th. Stay tuned.

## SPIRIT DAY - 80's DAY!

We are travelling BACK in time...to a decade of neon colours, acid washed jeans, mesh gloves, high-top sneakers, boomboxes, walkmans, leg warmers, and big hair...that's right...we are going...BACK to the 1980's!!! This Friday, February 28th, Students and staff will be celebrating our next Spirit Day - **80's DAY!** Have your children get dressed up in the fashion styles and trends of the 1980's. Students are encouraged to show school spirit to earn spirit points for their classroom. Look online for inspiration, you might have some items already in your closets at home, or check out local thrift stores to see what you can find! It is going to be "totally" Awesome!