

# The Humewood Howler

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

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J. Whitfield, Principal

R. Najman, Vice-Principal



## Important Dates

### Calendar

- **November 1:**  
Pizza Lunch
- **November 3:**  
Daylight Saving Time Ends
- **November 11:**  
Remembrance Day  
Progress Report Cards Go Home
- **November 12:**  
Picture Retake Day  
School Council Meeting (7-9 pm)
- **November 14:**  
Parent/Teacher Conferences (Evening)
- **November 15:**  
PA DAY – Parent/Teacher Conferences (Morning)
- **November 17:**  
Marlies Game
- **November 22:**  
Pizza Lunch
- **November 27:**  
Sight and Sound Clinic

## This Month's Character Trait is: **EMPATHY**

Each month, the TDSB celebrates character traits. Character development at the TDSB is about helping students learn and practice positive character attributes. When we build good character, we build strong communities. In the school community, character development is woven into programs and practices it becomes a way of life. **Empathy** is an important characteristic and a key component of character education. Teaching children to recognize and understand the feelings and viewpoints of others makes for a better community and society, as a whole. It also helps children to develop into compassionate and understanding human beings. The focus this month will be to help students understand that to be empathetic they must treat people with kindness and generosity and to help people in need. The children will learn to be sensitive to people's feelings and not to be mean and hurtful. Students will take time to reflect on how their actions will affect others and to understand that they must learn to feel as other people feel and see life through their eyes.

## SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

The Humewood CS Scholastic Book Fair will be happening November 11 – 15, 2019. It runs from 8:15 - 8:45 each morning and from 3:05 - 4:00 after school.

On Thursday, November 14, we are open until 7:30 during parent-teacher interviews.

Each student will be given a flyer for the book fair and in the flyer is a raffle ticket to be entered for a draw for FREE BOOKS. All entries must be received no later than **noon on Thursday, November 14th.**

Parent volunteers are needed Monday - Thursday after school. If you are able to assist, please contact Mr. McNamara directly at:

[todd.mcnamara@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:todd.mcnamara@tdsb.on.ca) or 416 394 2383 ext. 20020

## GET YOUR MARLIES TICKETS TODAY!

# ATHLETICS UPDATES

## Intermediate Girls' Soccer

With the Opal Spirit in our soul, the cold rain did not get us down! Despite weather conditions, and back to back games, Humewood's Intermediate Soccer Team, led by Ms. Acheampong, won their first game against Brock and lost the second one against Rawlinson. Each team in the South Division 2 Grade 8 Pool C, won a game and lost a game. It came down to goal differential. Unfortunately, our team didn't have enough goals to advance. With that said, the players had a fun experience on the pitch – Go Huskies Go!

## Cross Country Season

A huge congratulations to our 16 Humewood runners who competed at Ashbridge's Bay in the South Conference Finals. It was another cold and windy day, but our students maintained a positive attitude, and ran their hardest. A big shout-out to Yael Rottman for placing 2nd, Dante Mark for placing 16th, Shae Mark for placing 19th, and Noa Lassman for placing 21st. City Finals took place on Thursday, October 24th at Centennial Park, and our students once again, ran their hardest. Congratulations on a fantastic Cross Country season. We look forward to training with you next year.

## Intermediate Girls' Football and Junior and Intermediate Boys' Soccer

The Grade 6, 7, 8 Girls' Football team competed and won one game in their tournament at Regent Park Athletic Grounds. The Boys' Grade 4, 5, 6 Soccer Team played demonstrated skill and grit as they finished in second place in their tournament at Cedarvale Park. Congratulations to the Grade 7 and 8 Boys' Soccer team came in second place in their tournament at JR Wilcox. They defeated Lord Dufferin the Quarter Final and Annette in the Conference Semi-Final. They lost a hard fought game to Dovercourt in the Conference Final at Central Tech but still brought home our first Boys Soccer Finalist banner. GO HUSKIES GO!



## 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/>



## Humewood's Play Prompts

Is it safe enough for us, the environment and the equipment?

Is it fun for everybody?

Is it inclusive?

**SAFE WORD: Respect.**

## 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.

We believe it is our responsibility to safeguard and support all children’s right to play.



## **SCHOOL SAFE ARRIVAL PROGRAM**

A reminder to call school if your child will be late or absent. One measure of keeping our students safe is to ensure we can account for any absences or reasons for being late to school. We would like to remind you that if your child is going to be absent or late for any reason, we ask that you contact the school immediately and report the reason for the absence. If we are not informed about the absence, we will make attempts to contact you through our automated call-out system to determine the reason for the absence. Please let the office know by calling the school if your contact information, including phone number, changes at any time throughout the school year. Thank you for your continued cooperation to keep your children safe and accounted for.

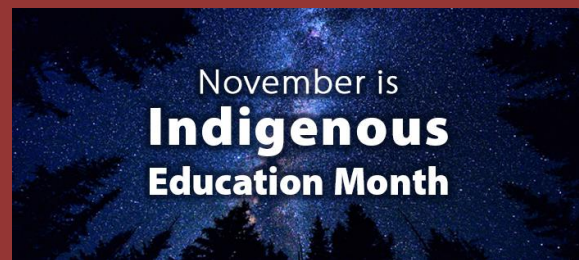
To find out how this automated system works please visit:  
<http://www.tdsb.on.ca/HighSchool/CaringSafeSchools/SafeArrivalProgram.aspx>

## November is... Indigenous Education Month at the TDSB

In November, we honour Indigenous Education Month at the TDSB. This month provides an opportunity to centre First Nations, Métis and Inuit perspectives, histories and contemporary realities. In classrooms across the TDSB, it is an opportunity to learn about treaties, Indigenous leadership, achievements, and resistance.

Over the course of November, students, staff and community members will be recognizing a number of important days to deepen knowledge and build stronger relationships between non-Indigenous and Indigenous peoples in Canada.

This includes Treaty Recognition Week (Nov. 4-8), Inuit Day (Nov. 7), Aboriginal Veterans' Day (Nov. 8), Louis Riel Day (Nov. 16), and an opportunity to Rock Your Mocs (Nov. 9-16). Learn more: [bit.ly/2NuTBvq](http://bit.ly/2NuTBvq).



## **High School Information Nights**

To help you make an informed decision when choosing a high school, TDSB schools host information nights for parents and grade 8 students each year between October and January. Learn everything you need to know about our incredible variety of schools, programs and courses.

The dates and times for all High School Information Nights are available online at <http://www.tdsb.on.ca/High-School/Going-to-High-School/Open-Houses-and-Information-Nights>

# READY! SET! ENGAGE!

Join us for the annual Parent Involvement Advisory Committee conference on  
Saturday, November 16, 2019.

Registration is free and includes bussing, childcare and lunch. This year's focus is on school councils, so whether you're on one, want to be on one or want to learn more about how to get involved, join us for a day of workshops and networking.

Registration is open at

[www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/HowtoGetInvolved/PIAC2019Event](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/HowtoGetInvolved/PIAC2019Event)

## French Programs Application Deadline

For families interested in the Toronto District School Board's French Immersion or Extended French programs, we offer an online process for applying to:

- Early French Immersion (EFI) which begins in Senior Kindergarten;
- Junior Extended French (JEF) which begins in Grade 4

At this time, we guarantee an offer of placement in the program (not a specific school) to all on-time applicants. The timelines for applying for these programs for September 2020 are:

- Applications for Early French Immersion (for a Junior Kindergarten aged child), must be completed online between November 4, 2019 and November 29, 2019.
- Applications for Junior Extended French must be completed online between January 6, 2020 and January 31, 2020.

Offers of placement within your chosen program will be made to all on-time applicants in the weeks following the close of the application window.

Please note: families with an older sibling currently in a French program are still required to complete an online application for the new student.

For further information about French as a Second Language programs, the application process and important dates, please visit [www.tdsb.on.ca/french](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/french).



Team Unbreakable is a running program that focuses on the importance of physical and mental health. Students will learn about wellness issues such as the importance of nutrition, setting smart goals, stress reduction, motivation, improving focus, mindfulness, and mental wellness. Students will be given a running log to make note of their mood changes, based on their efforts (Team Unbreakable School Running Programs). Students meet with their Coaches Mr. Polak and Nils Blondon, the organizer of Team Unbreakable on Mondays and Thursdays after school. The club started, however if students are interested, more are welcome to join. Permission forms are posted on the Athletic Board on the main floor of school. More information is available on the Team Unbreakable website, at [www.teamunbreakable.ca](http://www.teamunbreakable.ca)

## Grade 6 Trip to Sheldon

During the week of October 21-25, our Grade 6 students spent time away from home and school for a fantastic outdoor education experience at Sheldon. Students worked on team-building activities, explored the beautiful grounds through nature hikes, saw farm animals, learned about being a “hopper” and had opportunities to build on their friendships and make new ones. Thank you to our teachers Mr. Polak, Ms. Hoffman, Mr. Velici, Ms. Steele, and Mme Zimmerman for helping to plan, organize, and supervise our students while at Sheldon. The Grade 6 students have memories to last them a lifetime!

## Halloween @ Humewood

Our Halloween festivities were Spooktacular! The weather held up for our student parade in the morning. It was so wonderful to see so many parents/guardians to watch our students showcase their costumes. Lots of school spirit was displayed through the creative costumes seen. Classes had fun with afternoon parties, outdoor play, pumpkin carving, and the various Halloween-themed activities in literacy and math.

## Holiday Give Back

The holidays are approaching and it is a time to be thankful for what we have and to also think about others who are in need, it's a time for giving. Humewood is taking part in a TDSB initiative led by the social worker team to help support Toronto families in need. To brighten up their holidays, families will receive a wallet of gift cards to purchase gifts and necessities. Each grade will be assigned a family, and will learn about their profile. We'll be asking for any monetary donation to help purchase gift cards. There will be more information to follow, so stay tuned.

**SAVE THE DATE – Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 p.m.**

## Learning about Student Mental Health

There will be a presentation at the beginning of our next SAC meeting led by our Nursing Students. This information is vital to share. The objectives of this presentation are the following:

- Identifying trends with 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders in their response to stress and coping
- Defining stress, coping, and resiliency
- How to effectively communicate with your children
- Stress, coping, and anxiety reducing strategies
- Identify available resources

**We hope to see you there!**