



Important Dates

Calendar

- **December 3-10:**
Hanukkah
- **December 5:**
SAC (7-9pm)
- **December 6:**
Intermediate Dance
- **December 7:**
PA Day
- **December 11:**
Build-a-Bear
- **December 12:**
Hack-a-thon
(Hackergal)
- **December 13:**
Dance-a-thon
- **December 14:**
Pizza Lunch
- **December 21:**
Last Day of Classes
- **December 22 –
January 6:**
Winter Break
- **December 25:**
Christmas
- **December 31:**
New Year's Eve
- **December 26 –
January 1:**
Kwanzaa
- **January 7:**
Classes Resume;
Orthodox Christmas
- **January 11:**
Pizza Lunch
- **January 18:**
PA Day

Thursday, November 29, 2018

jeudi, le 29 novembre 2018

The Humewood Howler

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

Twitter: https://twitter.com/TDSB_Humewood

J. Whitfield, Principal

A. Mani, Vice-Principal

"Responsibility" Certificates



All-Weather Play

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
- a change of clothes



Musical Instruments

Did your child forget their musical instrument at home? If you are dropping it off in the office, please know that it is your child's responsibility to check and pick it up!



Morning Drop-off

There has been an increase in the number of cars stopping along Cherrywood Avenue to drop off students in the morning. In some cases, the illegally-parked cars are blocking the regular flow of traffic and causing jams from Valewood to Maplewood Avenues. On the other side of our school, illegally-parked cars are lined up along Humewood Drive and often block crosswalks that our students and families use.

Please note that parking is only permitted along the west side (southbound) of Cherrywood Ave. and the east (northbound) side of Humewood Dr. Please do not park your car in the way of a crosswalk/intersection.



Lunch Drop-off

Lunches can be dropped off for your child at our main office. Please ensure it is clearly labelled with your child's name. Remember that we are an Eco-School, so Boomerang/litterless lunches are encouraged.

Humewood Schedule

Morning Entry: 8:45am

Lunch: 11:35am - 12:40pm (1-8)
11:25am-12:40pm (K)

Dismissal: 3:25pm (1-8)
3:05pm (K)

Early...

If you are picking up your child(ren) before dismissal, please arrive early to sign them out and wait for your child(ren) to come to the office.

...and Late

If your child arrives **after** the morning or lunch bell, they must go to the office for a late slip.

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.



Humewood Danceathon!

December 13, 2018

please make your pledges at www.humewoodcouncil.com



doing good at
HUMEWOOD
www.humewoodcouncil.com

Help us raise money to support the many council funded programs at Humewood, including arts enrichment and technology.

Sponsor our students as they dance their hearts out to raise money to support initiatives that enrich their school.

Donations can be made through the Humewood Online Store or with cash at the main office.

Thank you for your support!



Arriving on Time!

We have noticed that a significant number of kindergarten students are arriving late for class. It is important that your child be on time for school – it is hard to break the late habit once established. Even arriving a couple of minutes late can be disruptive to the class and can make it harder for your child to begin the day positively. We want to spend every minute we can with your young ones!

Humewood Sports Update



The Grade 5/6 and 7/8 Girls Football Teams coached by Mr. Herman both competed in tournaments and demonstrated a great effort and had a lot of fun. The Grade 5/6 Girls Basketball Team finished in third place at their tournament at Brown PS. The Grade 7/8 Girls Basketball Team will compete this Friday in their tournament at Ryerson PS. The Grade 5/6 Boys coaches by Mme Castonguay are preparing for their upcoming Volleyball tournament. The Grade 4/5/6 Boys will have a Hockey Tryout at Phil White Arena on Tuesday, Dec. 11 at 4 pm. There will be a Co-Ed Ball Hockey Team coming soon coached by Mr. Yanchyshyn.

Parent Concern Protocol and Ministry Consultation

The TDSB Parent Concern Protocol is essential for parents to be aware of in order for situations to be resolved at the school level whenever possible.

PARENT CONCERN PROTOCOL

The Ministry of Education is inviting everyone – parents, students, educators and interested individuals or organizations – to provide feedback on the education system in Ontario.

The goal is to prepare Ontario students for success, improve their academic achievement and equip them with the tools needed to enter the working world.

Information about the consultation can be found at: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/for-the-parents>

Consultation closing date: December 15, 2018



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.

Call-out for LOOSE PARTS!

- Bins, bowls, containers
- Milk crates
- Brooms, mops
- Refrigerator/Large appliance boxes

Streetproofing Tips

Streetproofing is an essential skill for all students. Although it is often taught at the elementary level, it is also important for older students to remain vigilant as they travel to and from school on their own. Through practical knowledge and training, schools and parents can be prepared to deal with the various situations that students may encounter.

What's streetproofing all about? It's about helping kids identify and react to situations that are uncomfortable, unwelcome or even dangerous. Streetproofing skills help students become more aware of their surroundings and those in it.

Schools, parents and guardians can help make personal safety second nature to students' daily activities. We can't follow our children around everywhere, but we can teach them to trust their own instincts and "keep their radars up."

Middle school students should be reminded to:

- Travel with at least one other person whenever possible;
- Avoid taking shortcuts through parks and fields;
- Walk in well-lit and well-travelled areas;
- Keep valuables such as cell phones, expensive jewellery, laptops and personal music devices (ipod, M3P players, CD players) out of sight as much as possible when in public places;
- Be aware of suspicious behaviour and try to remember what the person or car looked like so it can be reported to school staff, parents or the police if necessary (plate numbers can be written in the dirt or snow if nothing else is available);
- Keep money hidden;
- Always carry identification.

Parents and/or guardians can help to keep children safe by:

- Keeping school contact information up-to-date including cell and business numbers. The school needs to know who to contact in cases of emergencies;
- Making a point of knowing your child's friends. Keep a list of their telephone numbers (cell and home), where they live and get to know their parents;
- Keeping an up-to-date colour photograph of their children;
- Knowing your child's approximate weight and height;
- Keeping a medical and dental history of children's blood type, medical problems, scars, broken bones, pulled teeth, braces, glasses, medication allergies, fingerprints etc;

From The Ontario Principals' Council with contributions from Toronto Police Services

