

HILLCREST PARENT COUNCIL UPDATE: FEBRUARY 2024

Hillcrest's School Learning Plan:

Focuses on 4 pillars:

- 1) Being a Mentally Healthy School
- 2) Equity, Diversity and CRRP (Culturally Responsive and Relevant Pedagogy)
- 3) Support for destreaming, Literacy and Numeracy
- 4) Student and Community Voice



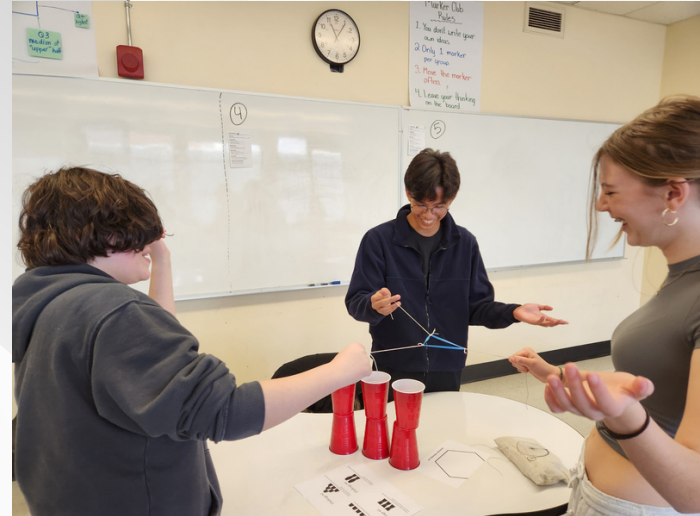
NUMERACY @ Hillcrest

- Updated Hillcrest Math website [here](#)
- New de-streamed grade 9 math curriculum in 2021 - emphasis on real world applications and financial literacy
- Effective strategies for de-streamed classrooms: holding high expectations, building class community, multiple entry points for learning, incorporating activities that are relevant to students, providing multiple ways of learning
- See these effective strategies in practice on page 2...



From the classrooms of our MATH department

-Ms. Sponder's MTH1W class: "In this picture they were challenged to stack the cups in different patterns without touching the cups with their hands. They were provided 3 pieces of string and one elastic per group and no instructions. These students are celebrating after completing one of the hardest stacking patterns as a group. Through these types of activities students learn to work together, take risks, try different ways to solve the problems, and be creative. All these skills are then encouraged and practiced through learning math concepts throughout the semester."



Mr Kennedy's Grade 10 Business (BB120) and Grade 11 Accounting (BAF3M) classes:

"Students have embraced their roles as CEOs and CFOs, partnering up to launch businesses thanks to seed funding from the Ottawa Carleton District School Board. Their creativity knows no bounds, with diverse products and services taking shape: from personalized water bottles and study sets to athleisure wear, hijabs, and even 3D-printed gaming consoles! Each venture is guided by experienced mentors, either recruited from our community or provided by the Board. But it's not just about profit - your children are also gaining valuable financial literacy skills. They're learning about transactions, personal finances, and responsible credit use, ensuring their businesses thrive."

-Mr. Frampton's Grade 9 class: "In my classes we are about mid-way through our first cycle. Students are currently working on simplifying expressions using algebra tiles. Algebra tiles are used to physically represent the more abstract idea of algebraic expressions. Most of our learning is done in random groupings where students get to meet and know all the students in the class while building collaboration and social-emotional skills."

AROUND THE SCHOOL UPDATES:

- Course selection completed
- Staff participated in a range of PD on Feb. 16th
 - HHS Athletics. Sr. Boys BBALL wins city champs!!!
 - Black Excellence Club: Black History Month assembly on the 29th, dance performer on the 15th, Culture Day potluck
 - Girls only Fitness Club- Tuesdays at Lunch
 - Drama production: The Birds by Yvette Nolan
 - Feminist club: beading event a success!
- March Mammal Madness... coming to Science classes and other classes in March :)