

Good Afternoon Everyone.

This is a large NewsFlash and so I have created a pre-amble Table of Contents that will provide you an overview of the items.

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1. A Video Message from our Director, John Malloy to our Students

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F64u4loRHOY&feature=youtu.be>

It has been widely distributed – however to ensure full coverage – we include the link here as well.

2. Clarification for Students and Parents on how Students Access our Remote Learning Options

The staff at Ursula Franklin is committed to providing the necessary knowledge and skills to ensure our students are prepared to move forward with their academic goals. Our staff have embraced “Remote Learning” as a means to stay connected with our students and provide them with the support, knowledge and skills they will need to move forward academically. Over the past two weeks we have also taken the opportunity to critique and review how we are implementing “remote learning”. Early next week every student (and parent) will receive a personalized email describing two resources that we hope will further clarify how each of your child’s teachers are supporting remote learning. It will contain:

- 1.** A schedule of live tutorials, organized by grade. This document contains a different table for each grade and may be updated periodically, though the intent is to keep the changes to a minimum.
- 2.** A personalized timetable for your child. This “timetable” indicates how and where students can access course material information.

The email will also contain a contact list that both parents and students may use if any issues and/or concerns arise. We are open to feedback and encourage you to tell us how well it is working for you as well as suggestions on how we might further improve our program.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the work of the sub-committee who put all of this together: Greg, Sheila and Barb as well as the constant feedback all of the staff provided to ensure it met the needs of both our students and staff. What an incredible job, in a short period of time. Thank you all.

David

3. Wednesday Program News (submitted by: **Greg Saylor**)

Hello All!

[The Wednesday Program will continue on Wednesday April 22nd from 1:00-3:15.](#) We are aiming to continue this during all five day weeks, during the same time slot, for the foreseeable future. This program will continue to be voluntary for both teachers and students.

The process for signing up will be as follows; Greg will email a google form to the student body on Sunday evening, students will then be able to make their selections. The selection window will remain open until Tuesday morning at 8am, at which time a set of emails of those students who have signed up will be sent to the host teacher. Host teachers will then contact those interested students to share session specific information.

We hope this serves as a wonderful way to remain connected to the school community, continue enriched learning and to de-stress!

4. Access to Microsoft Office Products for Students (submitted by: **Carolyn Boot**)

I know some of us prefer to use the Microsoft suite of products over the Google suite of products.

Just a reminder that as a TDSB employee or TDSB student you can access a subset of the Microsoft products online or download the full suite on up to 5 devices for both Windows and Mac OS.

To access the Microsoft products:

- 1) go to <http://www.office.com>
- 2) login with your TDSB e-mail and password
- 3) begin using the online version (it doesn't have all the features)
- 4) Click on the install button (top right) to download and install the full suite of products.

5. Virtual UFA Library Access (submitted by: **Mia Kim**)

Sheila and Mia, UFA's librarians, would like to invite all students to join the UFA Library Google Classroom for convenient access to information about learning resources both within the TDSB and our community. The Class join code is: [rn6e7pa](#).

As shared in the Wednesday Guidance Update, the TPL has just announced its temporary digital library card, providing access to a plethora of materials (further details are posted in our Library Google Classroom).

Please email Mia and/or Sheila with any questions, concerns or suggestions regarding the Library Google Classroom or any other library matters.

6. MADD Canada On line Weed out the Risk Session (submitted by: **Heather Strupat**)

MADD Canada was scheduled to come into Health and Physical Education Classes at the end of March to present on Weed Out The Risk. Attached is an invitation to their online education seminar happening this Monday April 20. The flyer is attached:

[Weed Out the Risk - An Anti Crash Course For Canadian Youth \(002\)\[1\].pdf](#)

7. Supporting Mental Health and Well-Being (from: TDSB)

Learn more about supporting your mental health and well-being, visit the [Student Resources](#) website. It provides mental health and well-being resources, including a gratitude exercise for students.

8. UFA Teachers Helping out during the COVID Crisis (submitted by: **Seth Bernstein**)

One of the things that worries TDSB education workers during the pandemic is food security for our students and their families. **UFA teachers have joined a group of others safely delivering free fresh produce to students & homes in need** around the GTA, funded by over \$27,000 in donations from TDSB education workers & school communities. Thanks to Sharleen, Oriana, Seth, Ali, Shafana and Sheila for delivering, and to other UFA staff for donating!

There is still ongoing need for donations! UFA families, if you would benefit from receiving a food box, please contact Seth at seth.bernstein@tdsb.on.ca. If you would like to donate, please go to foodshare.net and you can click "support from education workers" to specifically direct the donation to students & their families (we're working on a "support from school communities" option to better reflect who's donating; also feel free to donate to the general Emergency pool). One \$22.50 donation buys a box of fresh food! Thank you!

(We have photos associated with this item - unfortunately they do not seem to be uploading this evening- Apologies)

Wishing everyone a safe and enjoyable weekend.

David