

Good afternoon RPPS families,

We hope that you are enjoying the weather this weekend with a family bike ride, a walk, or an outdoor meal to enjoy some of the lockdown limitations lifting. Let's continue to make safe decisions to keep our community safe as we are looking forward to an InPerson return in September.

We have started making preliminary plans for the pick-up / return of student materials, which will likely occur on 24 - 25 June; Grade 6 students will be picking up their special School Leaving packages on the afternoon of 24 June. The plan will include staggered and scheduled times, but we will not be able to offer class gatherings. This is not an easy decision to make, but our focus is on closing the school safely for both staff and students.

From RPPS this week

- **Dragon Tales.** This week's [Dragon Tales is called Interrupting Chicken](#); the reading was filmed on a driveway to remind us to keep physical distancing as restrictions are lifted. We picked the story, wondering whether your bedtime stories get interrupted at home. Make sure you watch to the end - Mme. Mace snuck in a joke!
- **RPPS website.** Did you know that [Dragon Tales and other learning resources](#) are posted on the RPPS website? Check out the virtual book lists for Pride Month and National Indigenous Month posted there.
- **Bird watchers.** The baby birds are growing and they are hungry. Check out the videos of the [babies at 2 weeks old](#), the [babies telling us they are hungry](#) and the [Mommy bird feeding them](#). We hope to catch more footage of them before they "fly" the nest.
- **Library books back please.** Ms. Harrison is packing up our library as we prepare to transform our library into a Learning Commons with a Library and Maker Space. If your dragon has any library books at home please drop them off in the bin outside our front doors so that they can be packed up with their friends and enjoyed by our students next year.
- **Every Child Matters Bench.** Thanks to those who have volunteered to help paint our Every Child Matters bench. We have heard from the District that the bench will be repaired and rebuilt before we paint it. We also plan to keep a can of paint on hand, as we navigate ongoing graffiti moving forward. We are also looking at a plan for updating the Buddy Bench as part of our efforts.
 - Another thank you to those who have already dropped off a pair of shoes to symbolize our support for the 215 children who did not return home from the Kamloops residential school. We will be collecting any further donations until 18 June.
- **Have you got your child's OEN for report cards?** Your child's Ontario Education Number (OEN) can be found on previous report cards. It is needed for you to access the June 2021 report card.

RPPS in September

- **Staff leaving RPPS.** Some of the RPPS staff were "on loan" to us this year as the OCDSB juggled the demands of OCV and InPerson staffing; other staff are moving onto new or different roles. We wish a fond farewell to the following staff members:
 - Ms. Craig (gr 4 / 5 / 6 teacher)

- Mme. Dupuis (grade 1 teacher)
- Mrs. Elliott (grade 1 / 4 teacher)
- Mrs. Harrison (librarian)
- Mr. Nowell (gr 1 / 3 teacher)
- Ms. Moore (gr 6 teacher)
- Mrs. Petrova (office assistant)
- Ms. Kirsten Schwarz (educational assistant)
- Mme. Young (gr 1 teacher)
- **School year calendar - 2021-2022.** A reminder of the first day of class for students will be Thursday, 9 September. There are 3 PA days scheduled from 3 Sept - 8 Sept for staff. A full calendar will be shared once it has been approved by the Ministry.
- **School Council Elections.** Mark your calendar. The annual School Council elections will be held 21 September. Join School Council to help with Book Fair and support activities within your child's school! Watch for more information next week.

And lastly... the weekly jokes as we look ahead to a screen-free, "breaking up with Google" summer:

1) Why do teachers close their eyes during summer vacation?... *because there aren't any pupils to see.* 2) Why are French teachers so tough? ... *they eat pain for breakfast.* 3) What is a math teacher's favourite sum?... *summer.*

Stay safe and be well.

Madame Mace, the report-card reading Principal

Upcoming dates:

- 23 June - Report cards available to parents - do you know your child's OEN?
- 23 June - Grade 6 ceremony
- 24 June - Grade 6 school leaving InPerson package pick-up (PM)
- 25 June - Last day of school

Quick references for parents:

- Council Links:
 - Dreaming of Book Fair - June raffle fundraiser ([click here to see flyer in another tab](#))
 - [CLICK HERE TO BUY YOUR TICKETS](#)
- Admissions
 - [OCDSB School Locator](#)
 - [Online registration at the OCDSB](#)
- School day
 - RPPS attendance email: absencerpps@ocdsb.ca 613-749-3992
 - [OSTA website for bus cancellations and delays](#)
- Community Support / Covid references
 - OPH Parent Line: 613-580-6744
 - [Covid Resource for Somali and Arabic speaking families](#) / 1-844-833-1234
 - [OCDSB - Mental Health and Community Supports](#)
 - [Kids Help Phone](#)