

Rockcliffe PS - Dragon Update - 24 Sept

Hello RPPS Dragons (students) and Dragon handlers (parents and guardians),

Week 2 and we are learning our new normal! Ask your child about our Virtual Assembly this week, which started live from the Dragon's Den. We saw an improvement in good social distancing behaviours, including putting 2 hands up for hand sanitizer, walking on the right of the hallway, and one student per square. Please remind your child at home to stay distant and to keep their hands to themselves.

A few key notes are found below about:

- Managing Covid Symptoms at RPPS
- Open House (29 Sept)
- Orange Shirt Day (30 Sept)
- Terry Fox Run (9 Oct)

Managing Covid and other symptoms

The possible symptoms of COVID-19 are wide-ranging and can include a fever, cough, runny nose, sore throat, nausea or vomiting, unexplained rashes, or unexplained fatigue. Every morning, all families and staff are asked to conduct a [COVID-19 screening](#) to determine if your child should attend school that day. The screening tool is available in multiple languages: [English](#), [French](#), [Swahili](#), [Spanish](#), [Chinese](#), [Arabic](#) and [Somali](#).

As part of the Ministry of Health guidance, RPPS will contact parents or guardians to pick up their child home when they present with COVID-19 symptoms during the school day. As a precaution, siblings are required to go home and self-isolate.

From there, the recommendation is to have your child taken for COVID-19 testing:

- If your child tests **positive for COVID-19**:
 - OPH will receive the results directly from the lab and will contact you to provide further direction and guidance. You do not need to call OPH or the school - OPH will call you.
- If your child tests **negative for COVID-19**:
 - Your child cannot return to school until at least 24 hours after symptoms have resolved without the use of fever-reducing medication, or 48 hours after vomiting or diarrhea has resolved.
 - Siblings can immediately stop self-isolation and return to school if they are symptom-free.
- If your child does **NOT** get tested, your child and close contacts **MUST** stay home and self-isolate for:
 - 14 days AND
 - Not have a fever AND
 - Symptoms have been improving for at least 72 hours, whichever is longer.

RPPS Open House - Virtual edition - 29 Sept (5:00 - 6:20 pm)

RPPS educators would like to virtually introduce families to their classrooms and their programs. At the designated time, click on the School welcome link for introductions to our educators, a review of our Dragon training protocols, and our School Council.

5:00 - 5:20 - [School / Staff / School Council welcome](#) - Google Meet link

5:30 - 5:50 - Class presentations 1

6:00 - 6:20 - Class presentations 2

Your child's homeroom teacher will be sending you a link for the classroom presentation. You may attend presentation 1 or 2, especially if you have other children in our school.

Orange Shirt Day and Rowan's Law Day (30 Sept)

On 30 September, RPPS students are asked to wear a piece of orange clothing. Orange Shirt Day is a solemn day of remembrance. It is an influential movement that is helping to educate our students and communities on the history and legacy of the Indian Residential School system.

Orange Shirt Day was created during the St. Joseph Mission Residential School Commemoration Project in Williams Lake, BC, in May 2013. Former student, Phyllis (Jack) Webstad, told her story of her first day at residential school when her shiny new orange shirt, bought by her grandmother, was taken from her as a six-year old girl, which prompted the realization that many survivors have similar stories.

In 2018, the Ontario Legislature passed legislation designating the last Wednesday of each September as Rowan's Law Day. The day is dedicated to promoting awareness of strategies to prevent, identify, and manage concussions. Rowan Stringer was an OCDSB student. The OCDSB is committed to honouring her memory. RPPS students will focus their learning about concussions so that they can keep themselves and others safe.

RPPS Terry Fox Run (9 October)

Each year, schools across Canada hold a Marathon of Hope, in honour of Terry Fox who dipped his artificial leg into the Atlantic Ocean in St John's, Newfoundland on 12 April, 1980 to begin his odyssey. He ran an average of 42 kilometres a day (26 miles) through six provinces. Last year, RPPS raised over \$10,000 in donations for cancer research.

This year's Terry Fox Run will take on a different format. Mrs. Currie's class is working on details for us. For now, each homeroom has been challenged to set a goal for themselves and for the school. Last year, Mme. Mace ate a snail and wore crazy pyjamas all day as an incentive for the school reaching their goal. What challenge will students suggest this year for both Mme. Mace and Mme. Miller?

And the principal joke of the week, in keeping with talks about healthy eating in our classrooms: What is small and red with a rough voice? ... *a hoarse radish*. Why did the banana go to the doctor?...

because it wasn't peeling well. Thank you for your support at home to reinforce our social distancing practices.

Madame Mace, Proud Mask-wearing Principal

Quick references for parents:

- RPPS Instagram or Twitter: wetherockrpps
- [RPPS office request.](#)
- [COVID-19 Screening Tool for Students.](#)

