

GoGood afternoon Rockcliffe Families,

There were a range of “characters” in our school today. It was a positive and successful day - and one might say, a calmer, more enjoyable Halloween with zero problems! Well done to those students and staff who decorated their masks - 2020, a year when masks are allowed during Halloween! A "dragon sticker prize " was awarded to creative students in each homeroom. Your child may come home talking about the RPPS swim team , bathers, swimmers, sharks and lifeguards . Many of them were trying to find the secret entrance to the RPPS pool where we practice.

I would like to highlight a few key items as we end our week:

- **School Council and sharing pumpkin carvings.** Wishing everyone a safe Halloween! We would love to see all the pumpkins carved by our RPPS families - please message photos of your 2020 pumpkins to our [RPPS Council Facebook page](#) so we can share your creative designs!
- **RPPS Safe arrival.** Parents, you are part of our safe arrival team. Our crossing guards help keep us safe for crossing the streets - please follow their directions (and thank them for helping us). We ask that parents follow the parking signs around the school; there are areas indicated as “no stopping”.
- **A family in need.** A Bell’s Corners PS family suffered a tragedy on 28 Oct when [their house in the Bellwoods Community](#) burned down. The family has lost everything. A family friend has launched a [Go Fund Me Page](#) if your family would like to help out.
- **OSTA - Safe Arrival survey.** OSTA would like to create targeted messaging to increase students' use of active transportation to get to school and reduce traffic issues around your school site. To be effective in this initiative, we need some information about how students and their parents are getting to school and the types of issues they/you have observed. RPPS families are asked to complete the [Student Travel and Traffic Survey](#).
- **Student absence codes (repeat).** Effective Sunday, October 25th, there will be 2 reasons for student absences related to COVID: COVID testing and COVID symptoms. If you are emailing or calling our Attendance Lines, please include these reasons.
- **Veteran’s Week 2020 - Aboriginal Veteran’s Day and Remembrance Day.**
 - Veteran’s Week is observed in Canada the week of 05 - 11 November and honours those who have served, past and present, in times of war, military conflict and peace. Aboriginal Veteran’s Day is observed yearly on 08 November and Remembrance Day is observed on 11 November. The theme this year for Veteran’s Week is the 75th anniversary of the end of the Second World War.
 - Indigenous people in Canada have reason to be proud of their wartime contributions. More than 7,000 First Nations members served in the First and Second World Wars and the Korean War, and an unknown number of Inuit, Métis and other Indigenous people also participated. One Veterans group estimates that 12,000 Indigenous men and women served in the three wars.
 - The RPPS Remembrance Day assembly will be held on 11 November starting at 10:30 am. For students, there are virtual and in-person parts to our ceremony. Parents are welcome to “join” our ceremony via GoogleMeet. Here is the link: meet.google.com/vcc-ownb-qim. You will be “admitted” into the ceremony anytime after 10:15 am.

We wish all our students a safe and happy Halloween, whatever form it takes for your family. The Principal jokes this week's are credited to the grade 2 students: 1) How do you repair a broken pumpkin? ... with a pumpkin patch, and 2) Who went to the Halloween dance?... the boogey man.

Madame Mace, Proud Principal (aka RPPS Swim Team lifeguard)

Quick references for parents:

- [RPPS office request](#).
- **2020 morning routine:** Get up. Eat breakfast. Check the weather. Conduct [Covid-19 screening](#). Go to school. Learn. Repeat.
- RPPS Instagram or Twitter: [@wetherockrpps](#)