

## Antiracism book list promotion

Council

Good afternoon Rockcliffe Families,

We held a virtual assembly today as part of Bullying Prevention Week. We focused on the words and actions we use every day. Together, we read called "Red: A Crayon's Story" - where a blue crayon mistakenly labeled as "red" suffers an identity crisis. The book is about being true to your inner self and following your own path despite obstacles that may come your way. Students were challenged to follow our Big Five : five things we can do daily to strengthen our learning, our character, and our school community:

1. Think – Try - Do
2. Be creative.
3. Stay active and eat healthy.
4. Be yourself.
5. Take care of others.

When a dragon uses positive words and actions, it's showing its true colours, just like the crayon and its scales turn gold. There are now 3 golden dragons hiding around the school watching over our dragons; students will be searching for their hiding spots and the messages they have left for them to help with our work together.

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

- **Progress reports (20 Nov) and Parent-Teacher interviews (26 Nov - 4:30 - 7:00)).**  
Progress reports will be available online for parents tomorrow. You will also receive a letter from your child's teacher indicating whether they are requesting an interview at this time.
  - If you want to access the report card portal directly, [click here](#).
  - If you need instructions on how to register or how to use the portal, [click here](#).
- **Remembrance Day.** Thanks to those families who us for the Remembrance Day ceremony last week; as well as to Major Salminen for sharing his experiences with us. We appreciated the rock wreath created by the kindergarten students, the Wall of Remembrance created by all our classes, as well as our indoor-outdoor ceremony where we held our moment of silence outside on our field, as the cannon from downtown echoed around us.
- **Physical Education protocols.** Thank you to our teacher team for organizing our PE equipment for use during our learning times; the District has not yet allowed any equipment at recess times. Our next step will be to look at how we can access our gym spaces where needed. Our learning activities will continue to maintain physical distancing, as well as reduce contact points (i.e., balls are not thrown between students, but a ball could be kicked around pylons by an individual student).
- **Stakes in Jubilee Gardens.** A community reminder was sent to RPPS students to leave the snow removal stakes in the ground in Jubilee Gardens. It seems some students removed them on their way to school; this is not safe, nor polite to our community. Please review with your child.
- **Forest School Learning.** Part of our outdoor learning includes a Sit Spot, which is a technique that allows a child to choose a place outdoors that appeals to them. They will visit that spot repeatedly to observe the natural world. [Mr. Nowell has created a video](#) to help us understand Sit Spots.

- **School Council survey.** Watch for an upcoming School Council survey to allow parents to give input on topics for parent evenings and more this year. We are also exploring how to set up an RPPS scavenger hunt for families as a way to get out of the house over the holidays.
- **Buddy Bench Refresh.** Thank you to a group of students and their families for showing leadership to update our Buddy Bench. #everyoneiswelcomehere
- **Safe arrival and dismissal.** If you see unsafe behaviours from motorists or pedestrians at arrival or dismissal time, another strategy for parents other than informing the school is to call By-law at 3-1-1 to allow them to support us during these times.

The Principal joke this week was sparked by grade 3 students after our stake discussions: 1) What is an Englishman's favourite steak?... a tea-bone, 2) What do you call a flying cow?... a high stakes mission, and 3) Why did the astronomer take a steak to the bathroom?... because she wanted a meatier shower. Next week's jokes will be vegetarian and vegan friendly!

Stay safe.

Madame Mace, Proud Principal

**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