

Happy chilly Sunday RPPS families,

We are pleased to welcome our students back into the school tomorrow. The [How to Train your Dragon guide](#) has been updated to help us guide us. Take some time to review it with your child. We expect it will take a few days to settle back to being in school together.

With the help of School Council, the bird feeder kits are ready. Each kit contains instructions for [how to make the bird feeder](#) and [tips for bird watching in our neighbourhood](#). To request a kit, [complete the following form](#). As we are returning to school, we will send them home in your child's backpack.

Key Covid routines (see the [How to Train your Dragon guide](#) for more detail)

- **Masks** - masks are now compulsory for gr 1 - 3 students; kindergarten students will continue to be encouraged but will not be required to wear masks.
 - Masks will also now be worn at recess and outdoor learning times.
 - If you are in need of support to get masks for your child, you may call 3-1-1 or email the Human Needs Task Force at HNTF@ottawa.ca to find out how to get one.
- **Student daily screening.** Students should complete [daily Covid self-assessment](#) prior to arriving at school each day.
- **OSTA.** Parents should check the [OSTA website](#) to check that their child's bus route is operating. A reminder that students should be wearing masks at all times on buses.
- **Safe arrival and departure.** Parents and students are reminded that they should arrive directly to school and go into their homeroom line up. At the end of the day, students and parents should proceed directly home. We kindly ask that parents not congregate after the school day in the park areas, as well as to be mindful to wear masks at these times.

Upcoming dates:

- 4 February (6:30 pm) - [RPPS Kindergarten Information Evening](#) (livestream)
- 9 February (7:00 pm) - Virtual RPPS School Council ([click here to be added to the meeting invite list](#))
- 11 February – Report cards available on the [parent portal](#)
- 11 February (5:00 pm) - [Grade 4 Middle French Immersion Information](#) - Queen Elizabeth PS
- 11 February (6:00 pm) - Grade 6 Parent-Student Information Session - Queen Elizabeth PS
- 12 February - PD day - No classes for students

Around RPPS in February

- **February is Black History Month.** RPPS will be focusing on the lived experiences of Black people past and present. Wednesday is ReadAloud Day and our students will be taking part in a shared reading to start off this month. Visit the OCDSB website to learn more about [Black History Month](#).
- **RPPS Kindergarten Parent Information Night - 6:30 pm - 4 February.** For those starting kindergarten in September at RPPS, our [Kindergarten Information Evening](#) is being held via livestream;) - questions may be [submitted using this form](#) before and during the presentation.

- **PD day (12 February).** Our staff will be learning together throughout the day on topics of Equity and workplace safety.
- **Terry Fox appreciation.** The Terry Fox Foundation has sent us a very special shout-out. In the midst of a very difficult year, our school community came together and raised \$8360.35 for cancer research. The foundation's words "*We are blown away by your school's generosity and ongoing commitment to fundraising for our foundation. Terry Fox once said, "I want to try the impossible and show it can be done."* Rockcliffe Park Public School certainly tried like Terry this year and we could not be more proud of your community's fantastic efforts."
- **2021-2022 Requests / Plan.** A reminder for the [2021-2022 Student Program / Request](#) form to be completed by Friday, 12 February.

School Council

- The next School Council meeting is scheduled for 9 February (7:00 pm). If you would like to attend the next School Council meeting, [please complete this form](#) and you will receive a meeting invitation
- The agenda will include 100th anniversary updates, grade 6 updates, including a presentation from Queen Elizabeth PS staff on their programs
- Click here to see the RPPS [January School Council newsletter](#); it includes updates on 100th anniversary, volunteers, bird feeders, and more.

This week's jokes reflect our bird feeder project : 1) What did the little bird get in trouble at school?... *It was caught tweeting on a test.* 2) What do you call a parrot that flew away?... *a polygon*; and 3) What do you get when you cross ducks with fireworks?... *firequackers.*

Madame Mace, Proud to be returning In-Person Principal

Quick references for parents:

- *Admissions*
 - [Kindergarten Information Evening](#) (4 February, 6:30 pm) - [Questions form](#)
 - [Request to change between InPerson and Virtual learning model](#)
 - [OCDSB School Locator](#)
 - [Online registration at the OCDSB](#)
 - [2021-2022 RPPS Student Program / Requests](#)
- *School day*
 - RPPS attendance email: absencerpps@ocdsb.ca
 - [OSTA website for bus cancellations and delays](#)
 - [Daily Covid student self-assessment](#)
- *Support / Covid references*
 - OPH Parent Line: 613-580-6744
 - Family and Mental Health Support in our Community
 - [OCDSB - Mental Health and Community Supports](#)
 - [Kids Help Phone](#)