

Happy long weekend RPPS families,

Our staff have worked through our PD Day topics today: workplace safety and equity within our school. A reminder that Monday is a holiday, and we'll see all our students back on Tuesday. There was an announcement late Thursday regarding the delay of March Break; please watch for District communications regarding both March Break and the new date for release of report cards.

An allergy alert for those who received the Bird Feeder kits that they are not nut-free. For those who like to request a [request a Bird feeder](#), it's not too late. Looking forward to seeing pictures of the feeders and bird watching!

Covid routines and reminders

- **Check your child's masks.** Take time this weekend to check the fit of your child's masks. Many of our gr 1 - 3 students have masks around their chins as they have slid down.
- **Review physical distancing.** At arrival and at recess, we see many students close together. While our staff works to redirect them, we need students to make responsible decisions too. Take time to review why we stay apart right now, even though it is hard.
- **Hand disinfecting.** Students are doing a good job with hand sanitizer as they enter from recess. Ask your child to show the hand washing routine set to music!

Around RPPS

- **Toonie Tuesday 23 February** - Donate through [SchoolCashOnline](#). This annual event is held by the Education Foundation which helps reduce barriers to ensure ALL students in the OCDSB have the basic necessities they need to learn confidently. The Education Foundation provides appropriate food, clothing, school supplies, healthcare supports, and access to opportunities for students.
 - Many students are in greater need this year. You can donate easily through our [School Cash Online Account](#) or your child can bring \$2 (or more) to school anytime between now and Toonie Tuesday to drop in a Toonie Isolation Bin.
 - If you wish to receive a charitable tax receipt for a donation of \$20 or more go directly to the [Education Foundation](#) link:
 - Let's show how much RPPS cares.
- **Safe arrival.** We encourage our students to walk to school for many reasons. There are many cars around the school from overlapping arrival times with school in our neighbourhood. While cars should not enter our parking lot / turning circle 8:00 - 9:00 and 2:30 - 3:30; there are temporary parking spots at the library / Community police office. If you see unsafe conditions, a report can be made to the [City of Ottawa online](#).
- **Valentine's Day** - no cards please. This year bring a different way to celebrate how we care about each other. This year we have asked parents / students to avoid sending in cards or treats for Valentines; we know our RPPS staff found other ways to show how we care and appreciate each other.
- **Black History Month resource.** Take time to reflect, honour, learn or celebrate important Canada figures using the [Periodic Table of Canadian Black History](#) - a creative resource

organized in the same way as elements of the Periodic Table. The science geek in me celebrates.

- **2021-2022 Form.** A last request for parents to share [2021-2022 Student Program / Attendance plans](#) via our school form. This helps with our enrolment projections. A further survey will be conducted later in the spring when more information is available re: Remote versus InPerson options.

School Council

- School Council. The January School Council minutes were approved, and they are available [here](#). To attend the March meeting, [complete this form](#).
- You may contact School Council via email sc-rockcliffeparkps@ocdsb.ca
- The Big Ask - Volunteers needed. School Council is trying to build a bank of volunteers. Let us know you are a willing volunteer [using this form](#).

This week's jokes reflect our caring Valentine's ways 1) What did the flame say when he found a special friend?... *I found a match*, 2) Why do skunks adore Valentine's Day?... *because they are scent-imental*; and 3) Can February march?... *no, but April may*.

Happy Valentine's Day.

Madame Mace, Proud Principal

Upcoming dates:

- 15 February - Family Day (school closed)
- 17 February - 100th day of school

Quick references for parents:

- *Admissions*
 - [2021-2022 RPPS Student Program / Requests](#)
 - [Request to change between InPerson and Virtual learning model](#)
 - [OCDSB School Locator](#)
 - [Online registration at the OCDSB](#)
- *School day*
 - RPPS attendance email: absencerpps@ocdsb.ca
 - [OSTA website for bus cancellations and delays](#)
 - [Daily Covid self-assessment](#) for students
 - [How to Train your Dragon guide](#)
- *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](#)
- *School Council*
 - [January School Council newsletter](#)
 - [March School Council meeting sign-up form](#)

- [Volunteer sign-up form](#)
- [Bird feeder request form; Bird feeder instructions; Bird watching tips](#)
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