

Hello RPPS families,

I trust that you enjoyed the Victoria Day long weekend - a nice chance to enjoy the wonderful weather (maybe not the mosquitoes) and three days away from screens. Continue to take time outdoors and to find games or activities which do not involve screens.

Today we recognize the anniversary of the murder of George Floyd. At RPPS we remain committed to the work this incident sparked. It's not just about collaborative work and professional learning on our team; it's about how we value, respect, and make space for authentic dialogue, either through our students' or our families' voices. We know this may reveal some uncomfortable truths that may make us question the systemic practices of racism and oppression that have harmed Indigenous, Black and racialized students. I encourage you to find ways to engage your own children in dialogue about world events, age-appropriate of course. The 'facing history' website [resource](#) may help support conversations about the murder of George Floyd.

### **RPPS News and Remote Learning routines:**

- **Planning for September.** We are working on plans for September, including the preparation of class lists and the selection of which classrooms suit which class sizes. We are waiting to hear more from the Ministry of Education. At the same time, the painting in our hallways continues - many of our blue classroom doors have now been painted a sage green to link to our Forest School learning and natural colours.
  - **Changes to learning model - OCV to InPerson or vice versa.** If you have selected either remote learning or InPerson learning for September, and you would like to request a change, please contact the school office (rockcliffeparkps@ocdsb.ca) **prior to 28 May** (this Friday).
- **Term 2 Report cards.** Teachers have started to review assessment data in preparation of June report cards. Term 2 report card will include InPerson data from February - April and Remote Learning data in April and May. We don't know yet what June will hold. A reminder that 4 June is a PA day designation to report card writing with no classes for students.
  - **Know your OEN.** In order to access report cards for June 2021, you need to know your child's Ontario Education Number (OEN). This can be found on previous report cards. Take time now to have it written down where you can find it.
- **School website** - Did you know that there is a school calendar [on the main page of our website](#)? You can check there for key school dates, in case you forget. The [weekly principal updates](#) are also posted regularly on our website.
- **Black Student and Family Advocate (SFA),** Centre for Resilience & Social Development (CRSD). Funded under the Ontario Black Youth Action Plan (BYAP) Student and Family Advocates Initiative (SFA), the SFA offers supports, tailored to the needs of Black students and families in Ottawa. The aim is to provide a collaborative approach to student and family advocacy by empowering Black parents and students through civic engagement and cultural brokering. CRSD's SFA will deliver the services to Black youth between the ages 6-25 and their families who seek interventions to meet their educational and career/life goals. You may contact Sabrina Teklab, Student and Family Advocate- CRSD (C: 613.406-2833 / [sabrina@thecrsd.org](mailto:sabrina@thecrsd.org))
- **Picking up items from school.** We are not able to accommodate requests for InPerson pick-up of forgotten items in the classroom. The District has indicated that pick-up is permitted only

for Chromebooks and technology items. If the school does not re-open before the end of June, we will ensure there is a plan in place to get items home to you. Thank you for your understanding.

- **OSTA and school transportation.** OSTA Staff is working diligently to prepare for a number of transportation scenarios for September 2021. This requires accurate student data from schools and parents; please communicate address changes, home or daycare, to the school as soon as possible. There is also an OSTA form for transportation to two homes for students in joint custody arrangements. We also encourage families to opt out of transportation if it is not required. Watch for all the forms. Here are some key deadlines:
  - 1 June - New/changed applications and schedules for transportation to two homes
  - 30 June - Renewals of transportation to two homes June 30
  - 11 June - Driver Appreciation Day Cards June 11
  - 25 June - Safety Poster and Writing Competition

### **School Council news**

- To join the School Council meeting in June (8 June - 7pm), [click here](#).
- The deadline for SpiritWear orders has passed. Watch for more information about a school pick-up for orders once they arrive.

For the bird watchers, we took videos this past weekend of the robin on its nest. [Take a look](#), what materials do you see? More jokes this week for our RPPS bird watchers: 1) What is the best time to buy a pet bird?... *when they are going cheep*, 2) Why did the crow buy a telephone pole?... *because he wanted to make a long-distance caw*; and 3) What do you call a bird who is crying?... *a bluebird*.

Enjoy the short week.

Madame Mace, Proud Principal

### **Upcoming dates:**

- 4 June (PA Day - no class for students)
- 25 June - Last day of school

### **Quick references for parents:**

- Council Links:
  - [Donate to School Council fundraising](#)
  - [Join the June Council meeting - everyone is welcome](#)
- Admissions
  - [OCDSB School Locator](#)
  - [Online registration at the OCDSB](#)
- School day
  - RPPS attendance email: [absencerpps@ocdsb.ca](mailto:absencerpps@ocdsb.ca) 613-749-3992
  - [OSTA website for bus cancellations and delays](#)
- Community Support / Covid references
  - OPH Parent Line: 613-580-6744

- [Covid Resource for Somali and Arabic speaking families](#) / 1-844-833-1234
- [OCDSB - Mental Health and Community Supports](#)
- [Kids Help Phone](#)