

Happy Saturday RPPS families,

The school office will re-opens tomorrow (30 August); office staff will be available from 08:00 - 16:00 daily. You may contact us at [rockcliffeparkps@ocdsb.ca](mailto:rockcliffeparkps@ocdsb.ca) or via phone at 613-749-6357. Educators are back at school on 3 September (PA day). Here are some key updates as we bring together our school start-up plans:

**September school routines.** Our priority is to keep students and staff in the school; this means we will start with tighter protocols, especially in September. We want to avoid the back-and-forth of class or school closures. We will be cautious. We know how important sports, extracurriculars, singing indoors, and volunteers are within school and student life; these will not return in September until we are able to re-assess. Students will remain in cohorts during their school day, and assemblies will continue to be virtual. Other routines such as staggered recess, recess zones, local walking field trips only, and essential personnel only in the school will also be in place. There will be recess equipment! Watch for more in the How to Train your Dragon Guide, once we receive more detail from Ottawa Public Health and the OCDSB.

**School supplies.** Those who are looking for guidance on school supplies, the information is found on our school website under [Parent Resources](#). You may also look on the [OCDSB website school supplies](#) page for further information.

**Dragon Tales:** [Click here to see Mme. Mace read Thelma the Unicorn](#). This week's installment of Dragon Tales is about being yourself. Sometimes we have little worries inside our heads telling us that we need to be better, different, stronger, or otherwise; it's important to remember that you are amazing the way you are and to help your friends feel the same way too! You can find all the Dragon Tales [on our school website](#).

**Vaccinations:** If you received a vaccination outside of Ontario, Ottawa Public Health (OPH) encourages you to [complete this form to confirm your vaccinations](#). Anyone who has not yet received a first dose can now walk-in to any City-run [community clinic](#) between 10 am and 7 pm or [pop-up clinic](#) (while supplies last). No appointment needed. The list of locations will be updated daily on [OttawaPublicHealth.ca](#) and on the City's [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#) pages.

**Mask wearing:** Gr 1 - 6 students will be wearing masks while indoors; they may remove them while out at recess. Take time to start talking with your child about wearing a mask. This [tip sheet offers tips for improving mask tolerance](#). Check it out for how to talk with your child and strategies for mask wearing, along with YouTube clips to help with mask wearing.

After dropping my daughter off at university (Acadia) in Nova Scotia, this week's jokes are about sailing in honour the 100th birthday of the [Bluenose II sailing vessel](#): 1) What did the ship's captain give to a sailor who felt ill? ... *vitamin sea*, 2) What happened when the blue sailboat hit the red sailboat during a regatta?... *they got marooned*, and 3) How do you know when it's time to paint a pirate ship?... *when its timbers be shivering*.

Once again, plan to review the updated “How to train your dragon” student guide over the Labour Day weekend to help your child get ready for school and to understand our start-up routines. Check out our Buddy Bench and Everyone Child is Welcome Here benches on our yard.

Madame Mace, Melting-like-a-popsicle Summer Principal

### **Key dates for parents**

- 3 September, 7- 8 September - PA days for staff
  - Our 3 days will focus on Setting the Conditions for Learning, including anti-bullying, equity, and support & intervention tools, Literacy and Numeracy, Assessment and Evaluation, and Health and Safety.
- 9 September - First day of class for gr 1 - 6 students
  - Homeroom teachers will be in contact the week of 7 September
- 9 - 10 September - Kindergarten intake days
  - You will receive an email later this week with your child's intake time
  - The recommendation is for virtual intakes, where possible.
- 13 September - First day of class for all kindergarten students

### **Registration needs**

- Contact our school office if your address or contact information have changed
- The [OCDSB School Locator function](#) helps check which school is connected with an address