

Happy Wednesday RPPS families,

A mid-week update from RPPS. If your child came home with stories about dinosaurs last week, we have visuals for you! Mme. Mace and Mme. Miller dressed up as dinosaurs and danced the tango. During the day, they sang (badly) the song, Baby Shark, over the PA system. Congratulations RPPS for showing the Terry Fox foundation how much we care (\$10,050 raised!). Check out the video "[The Day the Dinosaurs Learned to Tango](#)" posted on our school's homepage; we also have a few pictures to share:[Picture 1](#), [Picture 2](#), [Picture 3](#).

Here are some key RPPS highlights for what is happening at our school and community:

- **Safe arrival.** A reminder to parents that you should not use the staff parking lot / turning circle for late drop-off (the area is closed from 08:00 - 09:00). We often have classes learning outside in the morning and we reduce vehicle traffic in the area. Please use the library parking lot if you are arriving late. Students should arrive on yard from 8:20 - 8:30.
- **School Zone Safety.** Our Crossing Guards have reported that there are many citizens who are endangering the safety of pedestrians in our school zones. The Ottawa Safety Council [School Zone Safety Campaign](#) helps remind pedestrians and drivers of the importance of traffic rules in school zones. Let's get the word out that school zone safety is everyone's responsibility and we all have a role to play.
- **Bus User Survey.** For our bus list review, we ask that all families complete the [Bus Confirmation Form](#) to indicate how their child uses the bus.
- **Have you washed your mask?** If your child is using cloth masks at school, make sure these are washed regularly.
- **Access to Progress Reports** - OEN needed. On 4 Nov, you will receive an email regarding your child's Progress Report - it will be delivered via Secure Document Delivery (SDD) through School Messenger. You need your child's OEN number to open the progress report. The format should be XXX-XXX-XXX. When entering the OEN, please include the hyphens (dashes). The OEN can be found on previous report cards, or on the top right corner of the Student Verification Registration Form. If you do not have your child's OEN number, please let your child's teacher know before 4 Nov.
- **Maker Space donations.** Do you have toys like Kinex, straws, or Lego that your child(ren) no longer use? Do you know anyone in the community who does? RPPS is looking for "building materials" for our Maker Space which will allow our imaginations to soar. Contact the school office for drop-off details.
- **Learning Commons.** Our space is starting to receive shelves and other materials which will allow us to move back in! We are getting closer! For now, our small gym remains filled with library books and furniture; our large gym has been divided into 2 gym spaces to help us during PE classes.
- **RPPS Halloween.** (repeat) Students may come to school wearing black and/or orange, or they may have a costume. Here are some general guidelines for costumes:
 - A costume should be comfortable and easy to move in
 - The costume should not impede walking, vision or the space of other students
 - Weapons or other larger items should be left at home
 - No face paint or decorative masks - save these for the real Halloween on the weekend
- **Halloween tips from Ottawa Public Health.** Our Public Health Nurse, Louisa, has shared some good tips on Halloween outside of our school day:
 - Be creative and build the face covering into your costume, but know that a costume mask is not a substitute for a face covering, and that a costume mask should not be worn over a non-medical mask or face covering because it can be dangerous if the costume mask makes it hard to breathe.
 - If you choose to collect or give out treats:

- Do not sing or shout for your treats.
 - Keep interactions brief with those giving out treats.
 - Use hand sanitizer often, especially before and after handling your face covering, after touching frequently touched surfaces, when you arrive home from trick-or-treating, and before and after handling or eating treats.
 - There is no need to clean or disinfect pre-packaged treats.
 - Give out only purchased and packaged treats.
- **School Council meeting (9 Nov).** School Council meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month. [Click here](#) to be added to the November meeting Google Meet participant list. If you want to connect with Council, please email sc-rockcliffeparkps@ocdsb.ca.
- **Beyond the bench and the orange shirt.** As part of our ongoing commitment to truth and reconciliation, we encourage our students, staff and community to build our collective capacity to understand Indigenous rights. Several of the 94 [Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action](#) specifically mention Treaties and Treaty relationships. Our homerooms will be extending our learning next week (1 - 5 Nov) for Treaties Recognition Week. The Ministry of Indigenous Affairs is offering an online event on 1 Nov (1:00 pm). Click here for more information about the event: [Treaties and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action](#).

This week's jokes connect to Halloween, costumes, and well, the bathroom humour that our younger students seem to enjoy: 1) Why did the ghost scratch his nose?... *because he had boo-gers*, 2) Mr. Matt (our custodian) dreamt he dressed up as a car muffler...*he woke up exhausted*, and 3) Where do cow "toots" come from? ... *the Dairy Air*.

Madame Mace, "Fish-flop" Wearing Principal (watch for our "Gone Fishing" costume on Friday)

Key dates for parents

- 29 October - Halloween celebrations at RPPS (no face masks, no weapons, no face makeup)
- 4 November - Progress Reports available to parents
- 9 November - School Council - virtual (7:00 pm)
- 11 November - Remembrance Day
- 12 November - PA day (no class for students)

Key links for parents

- School office: 08:00 - 16:00 daily; rockcliffeparkps@ocdsb.ca or 613-749-6357
- Student absence reporting: 613-749-3992 / absenceRPPS@ocdsb.ca
- [School supplies list / OCDSB website school supplies](#)
- [2021-2022 School year calendar](#)
- [Request to change learning model](#) (OCV <-> InPerson)
- [OCDSB School Locator](#)
- [How to Train your Dragon guide](#)

Key Covid links

- [Daily self-assessment for students](#)
- [OPH Out-of-province confirmation of vaccination](#)
- [City of Ottawa vaccination clinics](#)