

Happy Monday RPPS families,

The countdown to the holidays is here! We wish all our RPPS families a restful and rejuvenating holiday break and we look forward to continuing learning together in January. Here are some key RPPS highlights for what is happening at our school and community:

- **RPPS related items**

- **School Council meeting (14 Dec).** [Click here](#) to be added to the Google Meet at the December Council meeting. Contact School Council: [sc-rockcliffeparkps@ocdsb.ca](mailto:sc-rockcliffeparkps@ocdsb.ca).
- **Keep in touch - School Directory for families.** Each year School Council creates a parent school directory to help parents and students contact other children in your child's class. If you would like your name or information appear in this directory, [click here to complete the form](#) by 13 Dec.
- **Parent talk - Save the date (27 Jan).** RPPS will hosting a virtual talk for parents on strategies to support your child with anxiety. Our school social worker, Joshua Hulley-Carroll, focuses on anxiety in his work with children. In his talk, he will be working through strategies parents can use with their children to help them navigate their emotions and their days. Watch for more information about the talk in January.
- **School photos.** We have a tentative date of 4 March for RPPS school photos. Students will be able to take for individual photos only; class photos and group photos are not permitted at this time.

- **Covid related items**

- **Rapid Antigen Testing Kits for Students.** We have received the rapid testing kits, and our student helpers are organizing them into homeroom groupings for distribution. This Thursday (16 Dec), each student will receive a box which includes 5 rapid testing kits for student use over the school holidays. The use of these kits will be voluntary. If you do not wish to receive these kits, please let your child's teacher know.
- **Daily Self-assessment Confirmation for students.** When we return in January, you will be required to confirm that your child's daily assessment has been completed before school each day. We will be using the same electronic reporting system as we did in September. Here is [the link to the form](#) for your reference in January. Please note, there may be differences between the OPH and the provincial screening tools
- **International Travel - Keep RPPS safe and healthy.** Families planning for international travel during the holidays should check current [federal protocols](#) that exist for travelers. International travel rules do change. For daily assessment, OPH strongly recommends using the OPH tool as this reflects the current Federal direction. Individuals must follow the direction of the Federal Government, as their advice overrules the advice in the screening tool.
- **Vaccinations for children.** Our public health nurse has shared COVID-19 Vaccine Info Sheet for Kids 5-11 [English version](#) or [French version](#). You may also visit the [OPH website for schedules and information](#) about booking your child's vaccine; OPH will be using RPPS for a vaccination clinic on 20 December.

- **Community items**

- **Red Cross virtual courses:** Help keep children safe with [online Red Cross courses](#) (\$70 per course - use promo code HHFIRSTAID to save 10%):
  - Stay Safe (Home Alone) Course: Age 9 and Up - 29 Dec (Tues) - 09:00 - 14:00 (1 hour lunch)
  - Babysitter Course: Age 11 and Up - 30 Dec (Wed) - 09:00 - 15:00 (1 hour lunch)

This week's jokes were inspired by holiday baking this past week: 1) What did the doctor ask the gingerbread man when he hurt his ankle? ... *have you tried icing it?* , 2) What do gingerbread men

use to make their beds?... *cookie sheets*, and 3) What did the clock do when it was hungry after dinner?... *she went back "four seconds"...in a timely manner....with both hands.*

Madame Mace, Corny Principal ready for daily holiday naps

### **Key dates for parents**

- 14 December - School Council - virtual (7:00 pm)
- 16 December - Rapid antigen tests available for RPPS students
- 17 December - Last day of classes for students
- 20 - 31 December - Winter holidays (school closed)
- 3 January, 2022 - Back to class for students
- 4 March - RPPS school photos

### **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](#)