

Hello RPPS families,

The school is now closed for winter holidays and we will re-open on 3 January (8:00 am). Watch for communications from the school on 31 December any additional information for our January return. On behalf of the staff at RPPS, we'd like to wish everyone a safe and happy winter break. Here are some key RPPS highlights for what is happening at our school and community:

- **RPPS related items**

- **Door Decorating Contest.** [Click here](#) for a glimpse of the wonderful holiday doors created by students at RPPS this past week:
- **Kindness goals.** In a world where you can be anything, be kind. No acts of kindness are ever wasted. Ask your child about the different ways students have decided to make RPPS and our world a better place through the classroom kindness commitments.
- **Parent resources for the holidays.** While winter holidays allow us to spend time with family, a change of routine can be difficult for students (and parents) as a transition between school and home. Here are some resources which may help with some strategies at your house:
 - [Mentally Healthy Return to School After the Holidays](#)
 - [Holidays Tips for students with ASD](#)
 - [Successful Transition Tips for students with ASD](#)
- **Parent talk - Strategies to support your child deal with anxiety (27 Jan).** Josh Hulley-Carroll, our school social worker, RPPS will be hosting a virtual talk for parents on strategies to support your child with anxiety. Childhood anxiety is a focus 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. [Click here](#) to be added to the list of participants.

- **Covid related items**

- **Daily Self-assessment Confirmation for students.** Plan ahead for the completion of your child's daily assessment before school each day via [the electronic reporting system](#) as we used in September. Keep this link handy for January.
- **Vaccinations for children.** A reminder once again that there is an OPH vaccination clinic at RPPS on Monday. Visit the [OPH website for schedules and information](#) about booking your child's vaccine.
- **Rapid Testing Kits.** All the rapid testing kits received at RPPS have been given out. A reminder that Any remaining kits at 3:00 pm Friday were offered to our staff. A reminder about the kits:
 - They are only to be used when a child is **asymptomatic** (i.e. does not have any symptoms of COVID-19 and has not had any exposure to a confirmed case of COVID-19).
 - Anyone with symptoms or who is identified as a close contact of a case should still get PCR testing. Rapid antigen screening tests should not be used as a substitute for PCR tests for people with symptoms or for people who are close contacts of cases.
 - it is recommended students conduct the rapid antigen tests every 3-4 days over the holiday break (every Monday and Thursday) until tests are used up

This week's jokes are inspired to keep your holiday brain working with the "play-on-words" in them: 1) What is made of leather and sounds like a sneeze? ... *a shoe*, 2) What did Santa say when he stepped in a big puddle?... *it must have reindeer*, and 3) What do Santa's helpers learn at school?... *the alphabet*.

Madame Mace, Holiday Nap Bound Principal

Key dates for parents

- 20 - 31 December - Winter holidays (school closed)
- 3 January - Back to class for students
- 18 January - School Council - virtual (7:00 pm) - DATE TBC
- 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

- [RPPS Daily Confirmation of Self-assessment](#)
- [Federal protocols](#) for those travelling outside of Canada
- [OPH Daily self-assessment for students](#)
- [OPH Out-of-province confirmation of vaccination](#)
- [City of Ottawa vaccination clinics](#)

- https://drive.google.com/file/d/1imM2Bp_p8uGTWgXUAgepvgoqYqK1L8WP/view?ts=61ba3611
- <https://youtu.be/O9UByLyOjBM>