

Happy New Year RPPS families and students,

I would like to say "Welcome back to school" today, but as we've learned through the past 2 years, we have another unexpected turn. RPPS will continue to work and learn through it all, thanks to our staff and students. There will be Ministry announcements and District direction throughout the day, and we will offer a more detailed plan tomorrow. For now, here is what we know based on the Ministry [news release](#) . :

- There will be no in-person or remote learning on 3 January (Monday) or 4 January (Tuesday).
 - Staff are working on updating Google Classroom environments. You will receive an email from your child's teacher once we know more.
- RPPS has not yet received any new shipments of PPE or filters.
 - We have previous medical masks and eye protection for all staff; the OCDSB ordered non fit-tested Health Canada approved masks for all school based staff in December and we are waiting for these to arrive.
 - We are also awaiting information from the Ministry of Education, including confirmation of delivery dates for additional ventilation units and three ply cloth masks for students
- If the Ministry indicates a period of Remote Learning, Chromebooks will be organized to send out to students. You may request a [Chromebook using this form](#).

What can you do for now?

- **Be patient.** This is an anxious time for all of us and it's an added stressor to have children at home, rather than in school! We do not know much more than you do.
- **Vaccinations.** Check for vaccination options for your child.
- **RPPS Word Cloud** - Let's celebrate the positive. [Click here to send us your favourite holiday activity or memory](#) (i.e., walking, hiking, skiing, reading, movie watching) and we will create a word cloud for how we spent our holidays.
- **RPPS Reads** - Students: What is your favourite Book Fair find? What is your current favourite book to read? Send us a copy of the front cover of your book at rockcliffeparkps@ocdsb.ca with the first name and grade of the child who is reading or recommending it and we will feature these on our Instagram feed. You can also send us a picture of your child reading the book. You should include your name, your grade, and what you like about the book / where you got it.

While this week is no laughing matter, a January joke was shared with me that applies to what we have experienced over the past year: What's the most common resolution for 2022?...*To do all the things we said we'd do in 2021.* Let's hope we are able to get to those resolutions soon.

Madame Mace, N95-masking wearing principal