

Hello RPPS Families!

A bright sunny day to lift our spirits: February learning continues with Black History Month, Kindness, and Toonie Tuesday (22 Feb). Ask your child what they have been learning in these areas.

A few key details for our week ahead:

### **Covid-related Items**

Students continue to follow our Covid routines, including mask wearing and lunchtime quiet eating, to help keep our school safe. Our daily absences have decreased as more students return to school.

- **Daily Covid screening confirmation continues.** Thank you to those who have been confirming daily Covid screening. The screening and reporting continues this week; a daily reminder will be sent out to help you locate links easily:
  - Complete the [Covid-19 School and Childcare screening](#)
  - Complete the [RPPS Form](#).
  - Repeat for each child who attends RPPS.
- **Voluntary positive case reporting:**
  - Student positive cases may be reported [via this link](#).
  - OCDSB dashboard: [General dashboard](#) / [Case collection data by school](#)

### **RPPS information - non-Covid items**

- **RPPS Spirit Days.** To help lift our spirits, our staff have organized Spirit Days every Wednesday between now and March Break. Your child is invited to dress according to the theme on these days:
  - 16 Feb - Comfy clothes or Pyjama Day
  - 23 Feb - Pink Shirt Day
  - 2 March - Pattern Day (stripes, alternating colours, and more)
  - 9 March - Outrageous Fashion Day (will you go fancy, sequins or wacky? Let's get creative!)
- **Toonie Tuesday (22-02-2022).** In support of the Education Foundation, every student and staff is challenged to donate a toonie. Let's share how much RPPS cares for all students in our city. [Click here](#) with Education Foundation's Executive Director, Clarissa Arthur, to watch an interview to find out more about Toonie Tuesday. A link will be shared later this week electronically through SchoolCashOnline to donate, or you may send a toonie with your child on 22 Feb.
- **Black History Month at RPPS.** *February and Forever: Celebrating Black History today and every day.* This year's theme reminds us to recognize the tremendous contributions of Black Canadians: Dr. Alexandra Bastiany is a cardiologist at Thunder Bay Regional Health Centre. Dr. Bastiany is fluent in English, French, and Haitian Creole. She was born and raised in Montreal, QC of Haitian parents and developed a strong interest in community work amongst visible minorities. Combining her expertise in cardiovascular disease and her passion for community work, Dr. Bastiany is actively working to decrease the race and gender biases leading to differences in standard of care and clinical outcomes. Dr. Bastiany is among many tremendous Black Canadians who have contributed to their communities. Visit the Government of Canada's official [Black History Month website](#) for more information and resources.
- **Planning for September 2022.** Our 2022-2023 school year planning continues. To help with enrolment projections and class list considerations, all parents are asked to [complete the RPPS 2022-2023 survey](#) before 28 February. The survey collects information about program

choice, schools, and class placements. Complete one form per child, and please consult with your child's teacher if you have questions.

- *Grade 1 options:* If your child is entering grade 1 in Sept 2022, they have 2 program options: [English with Core French](#), or [Early French Immersion \(EFI\)](#)
- *Middle French Immersion (registration 7 - 11 Feb):* If your child will complete grade 3 English/Core French Program in June, they can choose to enter [Middle French Immersion](#).
- *Grade 7 destinations:* If your child is entering grade 7 in Sept 2022, we encourage you to use the [OCDSB school locator](#) to identify the homeschool for your child. You must [register your child online](#) at the receiving school.
- *OCV option:* Although we expect most students will return to in-person learning in September, the OCDSB will continue to offer OCV next year. Families who want their child to attend an OCV school for the 2022-2023 school year, can follow this process for registration:
  - Register - Complete the [Registration Form](#) by February 22, 2022.
  - Confirm - Families who have registered by February 22nd will receive an email in early March asking for Confirmation of Registration by March 10, 2022.
- We encourage parents to discuss program decisions with their child's teacher; if your child is working with a tutor, their recommendations may differ from our school staff. Take time to connect with your child's teacher to share these differences.
- **Report Cards (16 Feb):** Watch for the report card email via School Messenger this Wednesday. To access the report card:
- Click on the access link
  - Enter your child's Ontario Education Number (see copies of previous report cards)
  - Note: include dashes when entering the OEN (the entry should look like this: XXX-XXX-XXX)
  - Contact the main office if there is any difficulty [rockcliffeparkps@ocdsb.ca](mailto:rockcliffeparkps@ocdsb.ca) or 613-749-5387
- **RPPS School Council meeting (8 Mar).** [Click here](#) to be added to the Google Meet at the March Council meeting. Contact School Council: [sc-rockcliffeparkps@ocdsb.ca](mailto:sc-rockcliffeparkps@ocdsb.ca). Watch for Book Fair news on Wednesdays!

This week's jokes are a nod to my favourite subject: science: 1) Where do bad rainbows go? .... *To prism... because it was a light sentence*, 2) What is a tornado's favourite game to play? ... *twister*, and 3) How do trees get on the Internet?... *they log in*.



Madame Mace, Principal whose happy January is behind us

*Be Kind, Be Brave... Be a Dragon.*

### Key upcoming dates

- 16 Feb - Report cards home to parents (virtually)
- 18 Feb - PD day (no class for students)
- 8 Mar - School Council

- 14 - 18 March - March Break (no class for students)
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## **Mental health resources and supports**

The OCDSB has compiled a [list of mental health and community supports](#). For more information on taking care of our own mental health as well as that of our families, please visit the [Ottawa Public Health website](#).

- [1Call1Click](#) a simple way to access mental health supports for children, youth and families
- [Counselling Connect](#) free video or phone counselling sessions for children, youth and families
- [Parents Lifeline of Eastern Ontario](#) Family peer support services 613-321-3211
- [Distress Centre](#) Crisis line (24/7) 613-238-3311 in English and [Tel-Aide Outaouais](#) 613-741-6433 in French
- [YSB Crisis Line](#) 613-260-2360 or online chat at [chat.ysb.ca](http://chat.ysb.ca)
- [Hope for Wellness Helpline](#): Available for all Indigenous peoples across Canada, offers experienced and culturally competent counsellors 1-855-242-3310 or chat <https://www.hopeforwellness.ca/>. Phone counselling is also available in Cree, Ojibway, and Inuktitut.