

Hello RPPS Families!

And yet another weekend where the word 'unprecedented' applies: illegal occupation, police operations, secure areas. I appreciate and understand that protests and even riots in many situations are the languages of the unheard. However, I have struggled as the situation unfolded in Ottawa (and by extension, Canada) and police operations began.

I do not have an update yet for our status Tuesday, but I do see a downtown which has been cleared of many trucks and protesters. I will send out a confirmation later this afternoon.

While we do not have control over what happens outside of the school, we can control what happens inside. You may have noticed that our parking lots remained blocked throughout the day as a preventative measure, and our safe school routines like "secure school" or "shelter in place" are available to us. These routines keep students indoors if we notice safety concerns, whether weather, individuals, or otherwise, outside our school walls. This also means that student learning continues in classrooms while we monitor a situation.

For now, a few key details for our week ahead:

Covid-related Items

- **Yes. Daily Covid screening continues.** 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.
- **OCDSB Covid case data**
 - Student positive cases may be reported [via this link](#).
 - OCDSB dashboard: [General dashboard](#) / [Case collection data by school](#)

RPPS information - non-Covid items

- **Toonie Tuesday (22-02-2022).** Let's share how much RPPS cares for all students in our city. [Click here](#) to donate a toonie or more in support of the Education Foundation. Students may also bring toonies to school to donate in their classrooms.
- **Pink Shirt Day (Wednesday, 23 Feb).** This week's spirit day is [Pink Shirt Day](#). The RPPS Big 5 encourages all students to build positive caring and treat others with kindness; Pink Shirt Day is a day where wearing pink symbolizes that we do not tolerate bullying. We encourage all students to practice kindness daily; not just on one day. Parents are encouraged to check out the [Pink Shirt Day Resources](#) / [What is Pink Shirt Day? | Explore | Awesome Activities & Fun Facts](#).
- **Black History Month at RPPS.** February and Forever: Celebrating Black History today and every day. Have you checked out the RPPS Instagram feed? The gr 6 students have written profiles to help highlight contributions of Black Canadians and more.
 - Sharmarke Dubow arrived in 2012 from Somalia. He is the first Somali-born Canadian elected to a Canadian city council. His extensive experience serving refugee and immigrant populations ranks him among many tremendous Black Canadians who have contributed to their communities. For more, visit the Government of Canada's official [Black History Month website](#).
- **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. Watch for Book Fair news on Wednesdays!

This week's jokes are connected to number and last week's 100th day of school: 1) What do you call 100 rabbits walking backwards? *a receding hairline*, 2) How did the psychic know the student would spend hundreds of dollars on their education? ... *it was mostly in tuition*, and 3) What lies on its back 100 feet in the air?... *a deceased centipede*.



Remember, you miss 100% of the answers if you don't try the question.

Madame Mace, Card-playing Family Day Principal

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

Key upcoming dates

- 28 Feb - Complete the [RPPS 2022-2023 parent survey](#)
- 2 Mar - Pattern Day (stripes, alternating colours, and more)
- 9 Mar - Outrageous Fashion Day (will you go fancy, sequins or wacky? Let's get creative!)
- 8 Mar - School Council
- 14 - 18 March - March Break (no class for students)

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](#)
- [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.

Planning for September 2022 (repeat). 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.

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