

Welcome back RPPS students and families!

A week away from routines, masks, and more... we hope that your March Break destinations and activities allowed for rest, rejuvenation, and family time.

Upon return, the District will be providing additional guidance regarding the use of classroom spaces, shared learning materials, and common spaces in schools and any necessary adjustments. Our staff will be reviewing what Covid routines are good normal routines, and what routines need to be left behind to take a thoughtful and graduated approach to the resumption of activities..

As we return, [click here](#) to review the updated How to Train your Dragon guide (March 2022). The document has been updated. Here are a few highlights for our return:

- **Continue Covid Screening / Daily confirmation not required.** Continue to monitor your child's well being each morning to follow the [Covid screening](#) directions.
- **Masks.** Masks are no longer required but are strongly encouraged for students and staff at school.
 - [These posters](#) will now replace those in our school.
 - RPPS supports individual choices and the fact that everyone has different needs and comfort levels.
 - For those who have travelled outside of Canada, the [Federal travel requirements](#) indicated a mask requirement in public spaces for 14 days upon return.
 - Please communicate the plan with your child's mask wearing with their teachers
- **Dismissal / arrival / school day.**
 - Parents - drop off or pick up your child at the access points on Springfield, Queen Jubilee garden or Buchan / Fieldhouse
 - Students only on school yard (07:00 - 18:00) - there should be students only on our yard during school day and EDP hours
 - At morning arrival (8:20 - 8:30), students are asked to go directly into their class lines (after 8:20 am)
 - We will continue with playing O'Canada outside before we enter the school
 - Student who arrive after 8:30 must proceed to the main doors of the school
 - At dismissal, students are asked to leave school property (unless remaining with EDP)
- **Nutrition breaks**
 - Students will eat or read silently for the first 10 minutes indoors, followed by 10 minutes of quiet social time before going out for recess or resuming class
- **Recess equipment.** Students may bring equipment to play with at recess
 - Items brought for recess are the responsibility of the student and they should support safe play for all students
- **Recess cohorts.** For the first week back at school, students will remain in zones / cohorts on the yard with alternating indoor / outdoor times
 - We will review the shift to larger play zones / times with adequate supervision
- **RAT tests.** If your child is experiencing symptoms, RAT test kits are available in the office upon request.

RPPS information - non-Covid items

- **School Photos.** RPPS school photos are scheduled for Friday, 8 April. Only individual photos will be taken at this time.
- **RPPS School Council meeting (12 April).** [Click here](#) to be added to the Google Meet at the April Council meeting. Contact School Council: sc-rockcliffeparkps@ocdsb.ca.

- **School Climate Survey.** In April 2022, the OCDSB will be conducting a [School Climate Survey](#) in class for students in grades 4-12. The School Climate Survey gathers feedback from parents and students on what extent the school promotes learning, positive behaviour, and a safe and inclusive environment. Learn more and [take a look at our FAQs](#).
- **Confirm your child's use of transportation (3 April deadline).** OSTA has implemented [a mandatory confirmation process](#) for parents/ guardians to confirm transportation use for every eligible student for 2022-2023:
 - [Click here](#) to visit the OSTA website and FAQs of the confirmation process.
 - [Click here](#) to check your child's eligibility for transportation:
 - 0.8 km or more - Junior and/or Senior Kindergarten
 - 1.6 km or more - Grades 1 to 6
 - [Click here](#) to complete the Transportation Confirmation form.

This week's jokes are connected to March events... 1) Why should you not press a 4-leaf clover? *you wouldn't want to press your luck*, 2) What does a 6-year old ask on picture day? ... *can I press my cape?*, and 3) What is the difference between a camera and a sock?...*a camera takes photos but a sock takes five-toes* (think about it...). Watch for RPPS dragon socks coming soon!



Madame Mace, Rested and Refreshed Principal

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

Key upcoming dates

- 20 March - [International Francophonie Day](#)
- 21 March - [World Down Syndrome Day](#)
- 21 March - [International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination](#)
- 23 March - National School Crossing Guard Appreciation Day
- April - World Autism Awareness Month
- 8 April - RPPS school photos
- 12 April - RPPS School Council

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.