

Happy Wednesday RPPS families,

We'll take the sunshine ahead of the forecast heavy rain tomorrow. A reminder to send your child ready for the weather. We do stay inside when it's pouring, but we try to get out if it's just misty or damp. Umbrellas may be used while walking to or from school, but we do not send them out at recess with students on the yard.

The [March School Council newsletter](#) has been created by our wonderful School Council for our parent community. In this edition, you will find:

- Keep the Lights On Fundraising campaign
- Profiles on School Council Grade 6 Committee Chair and Secretary
- Grade 6 and RPPS 100th Anniversary Committee updates
- Indigenous Learning for parents
- Book Fair News

The next 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.

A few more tidbits for RPPS news:

- **School Photos.** RPPS school photos are this Friday, 8 April. Only individual student photos will be taken.
- **Covid case count increasing** - let's work together. Ottawa Public Health has shared a new message from Dr. Vera Etches about the current COVID-19 situation in Ottawa. Key indicators suggest COVID-19 cases in the community are increasing. Dr. Etches has provided a [number of recommendations](#) for individuals and families, including:
 - Wearing a mask indoors in public spaces;
 - Getting vaccinated;
 - Staying home when sick
- **Rapid Antigen Test Kits.** Let the Main Office (rockcliffeparkps@ocdsb.ca) if you require a RAT kit for your child who is symptomatic and we can leave it in the bin outside the office / send it home in a backpack. This testing option is voluntary for students. If a symptomatic individual chooses not to participate, they are presumed positive and should isolate immediately and follow [updated testing guidance](#).
- **April is World Autism Awareness Month.** This year the theme for the OCDSB is Everyone Belongs; Supporting Inclusion and Well Being. [Click here](#) to hear more from some OCDSB students and Superintendent Symmonds and watch the RPPS instagram feed for daily posts.
 - The OCDSB is hosting two webinars for parents and guardians featuring guest speaker Lauren H. Kerstein. Lauren H. Kerstein, LCSW, is a licensed clinical social worker who specializes in working with children through adults with autism spectrum disorder, anxiety, depression, and relationship skill difficulties. [Click here](#) for more info and links to register for sessions on 7 and 21 April (7:00 - 8:30pm).

As we learn to live with Covid, RPPS will continue a gradual approach to the return of routines and other practices. I am asking families to continue good decisions relative to keeping our school safe by following the guidelines in the [Daily Covid Screening tool](#) relative to staying home / wearing masks after being ill / travel, as directed.

Have a wonderful day.

Madame Mace and RPPS School Council

