

# Ramer Wood Public School

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## From the Office

October 2019

Dear Ramer Wood Families:

The Ramer Wood community strives to bring forth a vision that every child matters! We continue to work together as partners developing a learning community that sustains our vision of fostering a positive school culture and improving student achievement. For each student we work towards a focus on critical thinking in literacy, safe and supportive schools, and numeracy with real life applications. This is the work we are committed to each day.

It is with great pleasure that we acknowledge the care and commitment of our entire staff: our teachers who have set up their classrooms to be inviting, child-centred and caring places to learn and grow; our office staff who complete many tasks that may go unnoticed but are critical to safe arrival, attending to sick children, registering for school or transitioning to high school; our Educational Assistants and DECEs who work as partners with teachers to support student learning in a variety of settings, both in and out of the classroom; our lunchtime School Assistants who assist a great deal with supervision over the lunch hour and help enforce our school policies around school visitors and lunch routines; and last, but not least, our caretaking team who work to ensure that classrooms, lockers, carpets, washrooms, the library, gymnasium and playground areas are safe and ready to meet students and families each day. At this time we wish Ms. Leone and Ms. Chung the best as they begin their maternity leave; as well, we welcome Ms. Ghadirian and Ms. Mark as they continue the Ontario Curriculum and instructional practice in the Gr. 4/5 and Gr. 6/7 classes. We also welcome Ms. Rajasegaram, who will be teaching French to the Junior and Intermediate classes this year.

Our school results for EQAO have been reported. The following results indicate the percentage of participating students achieving at or above the provincial standards: It is important to note that the school scores provided are for all students. These scores include the students who did not participate in the assessment for various reasons (absent, Special Education or Stage One English Language Learner). The scores for participating students (all those that participated in the assessment) are as follows:  
At or above Provincial Standard-Grade 3: Reading 100%, Writing 76%, Math 60%  
At or above Provincial Standard-Grade 6: Reading 90%, Writing 95%, Math 57%  
To view samples of student work and to understand what work at each level looks like, visit the EQAO Web site, [www.eqao.com](http://www.eqao.com).

Our staff is closely examining our assessment data, particularly EQAO results from the spring and classroom reporting data gathered. We are delighted to see how we have maintained our Literacy scores in Reading and Writing at level 3 and 4. We have identified and are determined that Mathematical Literacy will continue to be a strong focus for this year. Our Math Night with School Council last spring was very successful which supported our daily work. Current math teaching strategies and teacher professional development will continue this year, to meet our goals set out in our school improvement plan to improve student achievement in mathematics.

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**Thanksgiving Holiday**  
**Monday, October 14, 2019**

**Picture Day**  
**Thursday October 17, 2019**

**P.A. Day**  
**Monday, October 21, 2019**

As you know, life at Ramer Wood Public School is not just about reading, writing and arithmetic; we pride ourselves on offering programs that encourage our students to think for themselves and to prepare for life beyond the classroom walls. Student participation is one of the ways we accomplish this goal. Our Terry Fox School Walk/Run last month, was also a great success as everyone enjoyed time outside together while listening to messages organized by Mr. Morrison with snacks from our snack program and School Council. This year we reached our goal of raising \$2,200.00 for the Terry Fox Foundation and would like to thank you for your generosity and support to the Terry Fox Foundation! We look forward to offering our students several learning experiences, special presentations, trips, Spirit days, sports etc..., allowing our students to experience the world at our door step!

Please know that our staff welcomes your questions and feedback. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you wish to share a concern, a question or a compliment. Our doors are always open.

Thank you for a wonderful start to the school year!

Kind regards,

Mrs. C. Pink  
Principal



## EQAO 2019 Information (1<sup>st</sup> Term)

### EQAO Results

This month, parents and guardians will receive their child's Individual Student Report (ISR). This report contains their child's results from the Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics, Primary and Junior Divisions, administered in spring 2019. These results did not impact students' report cards last year.

EQAO results offer an independent snapshot that shows whether students are meeting literacy and math expectations from *The Ontario Curriculum*. In receiving the ISR, there is an opportunity for parents and guardians to have discussions about their child's achievement within their family or with a teacher (e.g., parent/guardian-teacher interview).

EQAO data should be considered alongside other information—such as in-class assessment results, report-card grades and teacher observations—so parents and guardians can build a fuller understanding of their child's learning.

Parents and guardians can learn more about assessment results through EQAO's website ([www.eqao.com](http://www.eqao.com)) or by clicking the following links:

[Parents: Grade 3, Primary Division](#)

[Parents, Grade 6, Junior Division](#)

## A Message from School Council.... Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year!

The School Council is made up of parent/guardian volunteers who meet usually once a month.

School Council members have the opportunity to help lend a voice by developing a continued partnership between teachers, parents, students and the community at large. On September 26<sup>th</sup> we had our first meeting to vote on the new School Council Executive and start the planning of events and fundraising opportunities. We had 16 new and returning parents who attended the meeting.

The members voted Dharmendra Dholakiya in as the School Council Chair, along with Maggie Lu as Treasurer, Heather Patterson as Acting Secretary and Karin Hincks & Vasuki Murphy as Fundraising Co-coordinators for the 2019 – 2020 school year. Thanks to all who supported the vote.

School Council is always looking for parents and guardians to join the School Council and lend your voice and support Ramer Wood Public School.

We are currently looking for parents who can volunteer with our pizza lunch program that starts soon and will run throughout the school year. Volunteering is a very important part of building school community and relationships. Pizza lunch is a big school fundraising opportunity where money raised helps to support Student Achievement and the School Improvement Plan, providing support to various initiatives.

School Council members are available to talk to at any time. Whether its volunteering time to serve pizza at lunchtime and/or taking orders for many Ramer Wood school activities planned each year. They are always available to answer any of your School Council questions.

**Our next School Council meeting, Wednesday, October 30, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Library!**



## ALL PIZZA LUNCH ORDER FORMS Deadline: Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Pizza will be delivered every Tuesday during lunch time.  
**Starting Tuesday, October 29, 2019.**

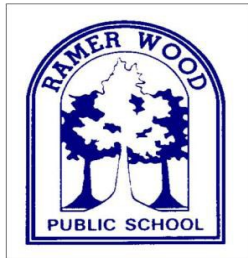
The following Tuesdays are Pizza Days:

November 5, 12, 19, 26  
December 3, 10, 17  
January 7, 14, 21, 28



**Please note that if the student is absent on Pizza Day, arrangements must be made prior to the lunch hour to pick up pre-ordered lunches otherwise they will not be saved.**

**Thank you for supporting this School Council fundraising initiative  
for Ramer Wood Public School.**



## What's Happening at R.W.P.S.?

We will be posting our current information in the future, on what is happening at Ramer Wood Public School, school website: [www.yrdsb.ca/schools/ramerwood.ps](http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/ramerwood.ps).

From the R.W.P.S. home page you will have access to our monthly newsletters, email blasts and School Cash Online.

Please refer to the school's online calendar for the most up-to-date schedule of events. Simply click on the *News & Events* tab, then access the *Calendar* tab.

## Terry Fox School Walk/Run

On Friday, September 20th the students and staff members of Ramer Wood Public School participated in the Terry Fox School Walk/Run.

Thanks to all students who brought in a Toonie for Terry.

This year, we raised \$2,200.00.



Together, we can work to find a cure for cancer!

## Emergency Drills

In order to ensure the safety of everyone in our building, we hold different types of emergency drills over the school year. We keep detailed records of all drills and these are monitored as a part of our annual fire and safety inspections.

During **Safety Week**, in September we conducted two Fire Drills. When a Fire Drill is announced, classrooms and school doors are closed and everyone in the classroom goes outside and lines up with their class. The teacher does a head count and sends one student to the office staff who are also outside to verify EDSBY attendance. On Thursday, September 19, 2019 we had our "surprise" Fire Drill with Markham Fire Department.. The Captain said we followed YRDSB's policies and procedures well. We will continue to have Lockdown and Hold & Secure Practices in the weeks ahead.

More information about these drills and the Board's commitment to creating caring and safe school climates, please refer to YRDSB Policy and Procedure #668.0 - #668.11.



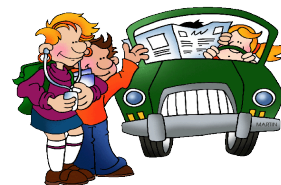
<http://www.yrdsb.ca/boarddocs/Documents/PP-review-safecaringandsupportiveschools-668.pdf>

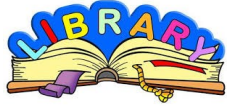
## Student Safety

Student safety and well being is always our first priority and we ask that if you use the Kiss and Ride, please commit to following the steps below in the morning and after school:

- Please do not park and leave your car unattended in the front entry way of the school
- Move all the way up to the front of the line to drop off your child, they will walk from there, so cars are not part way in the driveway and on the street
- Do not ask your child to walk between cars to get to you/ or exit the car and walk between cars to get to the sidewalk
- If you don't see your child waiting, please park in the school parking lot or neighboring street, and meet your child at your child's entry/exit door
- **Please respect staff on duty at all times**

Thank you for your cooperation and commitment to supporting student safety at our school.





## News from the School Library

Good News! Students are borrowing books once again from the Ramer Wood Library.

The pleasure of reading a good book from the library is one that can be enjoyed over and over again by all of our students. To ensure that every child is able to select from the entire collection, we ask that you help us by supporting the following library policies:

- Students are allowed to check out two library books for two weeks. Often students in the primary grades check out one book at their reading level and one book that is their choice.
- If students have books that are overdue, lost, or damaged, they will not be able to sign out any more library books. Overdue books must be returned and lost or damaged books must be paid for before any more books can be signed out to a student.
- Each student has been given a plastic, zip-lock book bag. Please use this bag to bring library books home and back to school. This will help protect the books from damage.

Be sure to check out the York Region District School Board digital library! You can find lots of great books online and you can access them from any device. Go to [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca) click on Student Tools and Resources, then click on Sora. After clicking on York Region District School Board, you will need to enter your child's student number with a zero in front of it.

## Scholastic Book Fair

Thank you so much for supporting the fall book fair! We raised over \$1100 to spend on new library books and makerspace supplies.

## Dressing Appropriately for the Weather

As the weather changes, it becomes very important that children arrive at school dressed appropriately for the weather. Warm hats, mitts, gloves, coats and waterproof boots are the regular dress during the late fall and winter months. If your children walk to school, bright coloured and reflective pieces of clothing help make them visible to motorists and traffic.

Children go outside for morning and lunch recess. When children are dressed for the weather, they are able to enjoy the activities outside during the colder months. Dressing in layers helps students to regulate their temperature. We always monitor the weather and, in extreme conditions (e.g., wind chill), we keep the students indoors or shorten recess breaks.



## Creating Safe and Healthy Schools for Children with Allergies & Medical Conditions

School staff, parents and guardians are responsible for creating safe and healthy environments for students. This is an additional challenge for schools attended by children with allergies, especially life threatening allergies and medical conditions. While it is impossible to create a risk-free environment, school staff, parents and guardians can take important steps to minimize potentially fatal allergic reactions as there are implications for the whole school, not just individual classrooms.

**Please do not send in any food to your child's classrooms. All special event days will be taken care of by our snack program and School Council. We are determined to be respectful of all our students who have allergies and medical conditions. Thank you for working with school staff in creating a safe learning environment.**

Ramer Wood Public School is a nut safe environment. We appreciate your support in working with us towards a safe environment for all of our students in K-8.



# PHOTO DAY IS COMING

Ramer Wood Public School  
Thursday, October 17, 2019

Get photo day reminders and see your proofs as soon as they're ready! **Sign up at [edgeimaging.ca/photoday](http://edgeimaging.ca/photoday)**

**Smile!** School photos are a timeless tradition, treasured by Canadians for decades, and Edge Imaging is excited to be your partner for photos this year. **A group class photo may also be taken on photo day.**

## YOUR SCHOOL IS ON A GREEN SCREEN PROGRAM



**IMPORTANT DO NOT wear any GREEN on Fall Photo Day**



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**Questions? Please call our Customer Care: 1 (888) 416-3343**

**Halloween Celebration at R.W.P.S.  
on Thursday, October 31, 2019  
Primary Parade 9:00 a.m. & LBE Assembly at 9:45 a.m.**



Each year, our students celebrate the long-standing tradition of Halloween.

Students celebrating this occasion in costume at our school must comply with the York Region District School Board's Caring and Safe Schools Policy #668.0. Costume accessories including, but not limited to, toy guns, knives, axes, swords, etc. are not in compliance with this policy.

In addition, we would appreciate your support in ensuring that your child adheres to the following guidelines:





- ◆ Students may not wear masks or fake blood at school – face make-up may be used, but not to depict blood or injuries. Student faces must be visible at all times.
- ◆ Costumes of a political nature or of appropriated cultures are not permissible.
- ◆ Students may not wear any costumes which are meant to intimidate or scare.
- ◆ Students who do not celebrate with the class, will be accommodated/involved in other activities planned in the Library the last hour of the day.
- ◆ **Please do not send in any food to your child's classrooms. All special event days will be taken care of by our snack program and School Council. We are determined to be respectful of all our students who have allergies and medical conditions. Thank you!**

Please note that the YRDSB's Caring and Safe Schools Policy and the guidelines listed above apply to all students at all levels, including Kindergarten.



**October 2019**



| Sun | Mon                               | Tue  | Wed  | Thu  | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|-----|-----|
|     |                                   | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4   | 5   |
| 6   | 7                                 | 8  | 9  | 10   | 11  | 12  |
| 13  | 14<br>Thanksgiving<br>(No School) | 15   | 16<br><br>School Bus<br>Safety Program<br>For All Classes | 17<br><br>GET READY!<br>PHOTO<br>DAY<br>is coming    | 18  | 19  |
| 20  | 21<br>P.A. Day<br>No School       | 22   | 23<br>Curriculum Night<br>6:00 p.m.  | 24   | 25  | 26  |
| 27  | 28                                | 29<br>Pizza starts today<br>and every Tuesday<br> | 30<br>School Council<br>Meeting at<br>6:30 p.m.  | 31<br><br>Halloween<br>LBE Assembly<br>at 9:45 a.m. |     |     |