

Ramer Wood Public School
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Administrator's message

November 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Ramer Wood Public School staff is dedicated to their students and continue to provide engaging programs throughout the school day. By now school and home routines like packing backpacks and laying out clothes etc. the night before, are in place to help family members avoid frantic and frustrating mornings. A good start to the day, usually leads to having a good day. We expect students to come to us each day having had a good night's sleep and a healthy breakfast. These things all contribute to student engagement in their classroom program. Our students are fully engaged in their grade programs. There are clear expectations and success criteria for learning in each subject area. Our objective is to enable all students to read, think, apply, communicate and demonstrate understanding in all curriculum areas. Parents and guardians, we continue to seek your partnership in this objective.

At this point of Term 1, students are required to demonstrate their learning through ongoing projects and some summative activities. Each day coupled with the academic curriculum is a focus on your child's learning skills. As parents/guardians, you can assist your child/ren by providing a "homework zone" at home. Set aside an area that is connected to the main living space yet sheltered from distractions.

Taking the time to really be present in your child's conversations, builds your rapport and habit of sharing. Ask questions and pay attention to what your child has to say. Give your child an opportunity to talk about what is important to them and what they are learning. This reinforces their learning. Some guiding questions might be:

"Tell me what you learned today that you did not know yesterday" or
 "What can you do now that you could not do before?"

Specific information about your children's progress to date will be shared with you when you receive the Progress Report Cards on Tuesday November 20th. As in previous years, parents/guardians will be invited to the school for Interviews that will be taking place.

Last week families received information regarding setting up interview appointments with your child(ren)'s teachers. We encourage you to please book a time before November 12th, as appointments quickly fill up.

As partners, your ongoing participation in school events, parent- teacher meetings and communication by phone, agenda or notes is very important. Any questions you may have, please call the school and speak with your child's teacher.

Yours very truly,

Mrs. C. Pink
 Principal

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Progress Reports go Home
Tuesday, November 20, 2018

Parent /Teacher Interviews
November 22nd and 23rd

P.A. Day
Friday, November 23rd, 2018

Growing Success: Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting

All assessment, evaluation and reporting in Ontario schools are based on the policies and practices described in *Growing Success: Assessment, Evaluation, and Reporting in Ontario Schools, First Edition, Covering Grades 1 to 12*. There are three formal reporting periods in elementary schools where teachers share students' information regarding their learning and achievement of their learning skills and work habits and the Ontario curriculum expectations:

Elementary Progress Report Card

- Progress Report Card to be sent home: November 20, 2018
- Parent-Teacher Interviews to be held (Year 2 Kindergarten to Grade 8):
November 22nd, in the evening, and November 23rd, in the morning

Elementary First Term Provincial Report Card

- Provincial Report Card to be sent home: February 13, 2019

Elementary Second Term Provincial Report Card

- Provincial Report Card to be sent home: June 25, 2019



Elementary Progress Report Card (Grade K-8)

The purpose of this report card is to communicate the progress your child has been making since the beginning of the school year in each subject. The progress report also indicates how well your child is demonstrating the various learning skills and work habits and identifies areas in which you may be able to support your child in achieving success this year. This report is not an evaluation or a record of achievement levels. It reflects preliminary observations of your child's learning to date. It is our hope that this report will serve as a central part of rich discussions between home and school.

Initial Observations Report - Year One Kindergarten

Parents will be invited for an in-class Observation Visit during the month of November. The purpose of this visit is to enable you to observe your child in the classroom setting. An *Initial Observations Report* will be sent home on November 20th. The report is an overview of your child's key learning and growth in learning during the fall of the school year, along with information about next steps in learning. In February, you will receive your child's Term 1 report card. The Term 2 report card will be sent home at the end of June. For both Term 1 and Term 2 reports, the teacher will report on your child's achievement based on curriculum expectations from the four learning areas (Belonging and Contributing, Self-Regulation and Well-Being, Demonstrating Literacy and Mathematics Behaviour, and Problem Solving and Innovating).

Communication of Learning Kindergarten

An *Initial Observations Report* will be sent home on November 20th. This report provides early evidence about your child's growth in learning in relation to the Kindergarten program expectations. The comments will be based on the curriculum expectations within and across the four frames in learning (Belonging and Contributing, Self-Regulation and Well-Being, Demonstrating Literacy and Mathematics Behaviour, and Problem Solving and Innovating). A Term 1 report card will be sent home in February as well as a Term 2 report card at the end of June.

Ramer Wood P.S. School Council 2018-2019

Council Chair - Sandra Aldcorn
Treasurer - Jamie Aldcorn
Secretary - Pam Martin
Fund Raising Coordinator - Kay Hira

All School Council meetings are held in the Library. **Our next meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, November 14, 2018 (6:30 p.m.)** and the YRDSB East School Forum is Monday, November 26, at Milliken Mills High School (5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.)

Future meeting dates are as follows:
 Wednesday, January 16, 2019
 Wednesday, February 13, 2019
 Wednesday, April 10, 2019
 Wednesday, May 8, 2019
 Wednesday, June's date TBD

All parents are encouraged and welcome to attend School Council meetings. For further information please contact ramer.wood.ps@sc.yrdsb.ca.



EDSBY

The York District School Board introduced **Edsby last year**, and is an engagement platform tool for our students and families.

Edsby provides many opportunities for you to access information from your child's school.

We will be using **Edsby** at Ramer Wood Public School as we move into the 2019 school year.

In order for families to access **Edsby**, a valid email address is required.

We are very excited about this new opportunity to connect with families.

For more information on **Edsby**, visit the **Edsby** website at www.edsby.com/help/parents.



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.

Students should have a change of clothes (socks, track pants, shirt) at school in case they get wet while outside. It is always a good idea to pack extra clothing too.



Safe Arrival

If a student is absent or late, parents need to notify the school by calling our school office at 905-471-6512 by 8:45 a.m. or sending a note to the teacher. As part of our Safe Arrival Program, we contact parents to confirm unexplained absences, and may contact the police if we are unable to reach parents for a satisfactory explanation.

Regular School Attendance

Regular attendance is crucial for continued academic progress. Getting to class on time and avoiding absences are critical if your child is to get the most out of school. Attending school - every day and on time - is very important. Learning occurs daily, right from the start of class.

In order to be less disruptive to both staff and students during instructional time, please follow the following procedures:

- If your child is going to be late or absent from school, please report the absence before the start of the school day (8:45 a.m.).
- If you must sign out your child from school due to a scheduled appointment, please place a note in your child's agenda/communication bag so that your child's teacher will have time to prepare your child for an early dismissal (i.e. homework, notes). Children will be called down to the office when you arrive. **Please avoid appointments during class time.**
- If you need to pick up your child at the end of the school day tell your child before school and leave a note in their communication bag/agenda to inform the teacher of the change. Please make all attempts NOT to make last minute changes to your child's regular dismissal routine.



Creating Safe and Healthy Schools for Children with Allergies

School staff and parents 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. While we take every step to create a risk-free environment, school staff and parents can take important steps to minimize potentially fatal allergic reactions as there are implications for the whole school, not just individual classrooms. There are children and staff in our building who suffer from life-threatening allergies.

Please do not send the following items to the school:

Item

All Nuts

All Tree Nuts

Seeds

Eggs

Fish

Shellfish

Nutella

Some Examples

Peanuts, Peanut Butter

Almonds, Cashews, Hazelnuts, Walnuts

Sesame Seeds, Sunflower Seeds

Raw or cooked

Tuna, Salmon

Lobster, Shrimp, Crab



It is very important that students understand the seriousness of anaphylaxis and they should never share their own food with a friend. Staff will not share any food items included in the above list. **Please check the ingredients label on the food you send with your child for lunch or snack.** We respectfully ask that children wash their hands thoroughly before arriving to school to ensure that they are not bringing any trace amounts of allergens to the classroom and common areas such as the library, playground and washrooms. We would like to thank you in advance for your full cooperation and appreciate your continued support of our mandate to provide a safe and nurturing environment for all of our students and staff.

We Remember

We invite all members of our Ramer Wood community to share in acts of Remembrance with us. Our service commemorates the lives that were lost in Canadian History. Poems, picture books and songs will be presented to help us reflect on this day. We will be holding one assembly on Friday, November 9th at 11:00 a.m.

You are welcomed to join us. Please sign in at the office before the assembly's start time.

The Royal Canadian Legion provides us with the poppies that we wear as a symbol of Remembrance. **Please send in donations for the Legion's Poppy Fund with students. Any donation is welcome, no matter the size.** When everyone gives, we accomplish more.

"The living owe it to those who no longer can speak to tell their stories." -- Czeslaw Milosz



Math Corner



10 Tips to help your child with math:

- 1. Connect math to daily life.** Let your kids know the importance of math in day-to-day living. Talk about the ways you use math in your job and around the house. Show them a tax form or how you pay the bills. Ask them how they used math during the day.
- 2. Practise mental math using coins.** For example, show that a certain item costs a certain amount and ask what coins are needed to pay for it.
- 3. Play games together.** Show them math can be fun and exciting. Play family games to add excitement to math activities, like chess or checkers or games in the car such as math bingo or adding licence plate numbers. Lots of board games need math such as *Junior Monopoly*® or play card games such as *Uno*®.
- 4. Cooking can be counting fun!** Get older children involved in helping out at dinner time and let them help measure ingredients for dishes or estimate the number of potatoes that are needed to feed everyone.
- 5. Play the estimating game.** Ask your kids to estimate measurements, distances, time and grocery bills. Be sure to compare the estimate with actual. Or get them to guess how much the apples you are going to buy will weigh and then take them to the scale in the grocery store and find out.
- 6. Perform time calculations.** For example, make up a sentence and ask your child to recite it as many times as possible in 15 seconds. Then ask how many times it could be repeated in 1 minute, 5 minutes, 10 minutes, etc.
- 7. Use common toys to understand math concepts.** Build a tower from blocks. Count the blocks. Then talk about the need for a base of the right size and the stability it creates.
- 8. Sports and math.** There is a lot of math used in sports: batting averages, points per game, save percentages – these are math terms that a sports enthusiast will love. If you watch a game with your child, read the newspaper report together sometime the next day and talk about the math concepts.
- 9. Computers + math = fun.** There are great computer games available for math—ask your librarian or check out your local computer store. Make sure they are "parent approved". There are also super websites that have fun math games, so do an Internet search for sites and bookmark them for future use.
- 10. Measuring made easy.** Estimate and measure the area of different shapes. For example, use small square objects (plastic tiles, dice, etc.) to estimate then measure how many are needed to fill the area of various flat surfaces such as a magazine cover.

FLU SEASON IS HERE

Get the flu shot as early as possible



The first and best step to preventing the flu (or influenza), is to **get the flu shot every year**. The flu spreads quickly and easily from an infected person to others and anyone can get it. Getting the flu shot can protect you, your family and those around you.

Students may be at higher risk of getting the flu as they come together in close public spaces including the classroom, gymnasium, lunch room and library.

The flu shot is especially important for students who have a chronic condition (e.g. asthma, diabetes) or those who live with or have close contact with a pregnant woman, kids less than five years old, or a resident of a nursing home or other chronic care facility since these groups are at higher risk of getting very sick or being hospitalized because of the flu.

Flu shots are **free** and are readily available at:

- Health care provider's offices for people six months of age and older
- Participating pharmacies, for people five years of age and older

In addition to getting the flu shot annually, here are some other health tips that can help prevent the spread of the flu:

- Wash your hands well and often with either soap and water or alcohol based hand rub
- Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze (if you do not have a tissue, cough into your upper sleeve)
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- Stay home when you're sick
- Clean and disinfect surfaces and shared items

It's important to get the flu shot as early as possible as it can take nearly **two weeks** for the influenza vaccine to take full effect.

To learn more about flu and flu vaccine, visit york.ca/flu.

PUBLIC HEALTH

1-877-464-9675
TTY 1-866-512-6228
york.ca/flu



INTERMEDIATE VOLLEYBALL

The intermediate boys and girls volleyball teams have been practicing diligently the past few weeks leading up to their area tournaments. They have shown dedication, effort and hard work.

The girls intermediate volleyball area will be held at E.T. Crowle Public School on Thursday, November 8, 2018.

The Intermediate boys volleyball area tournament will be hosted at Ramer Wood Public School on Monday, November 12, 2018.

Let's wish them good luck!



KINDERGARTEN TEAM NEWS



As we gear up for colder weather, we are reminding parents to send children dressed appropriately for outdoor play. Please take the time to practise how to do up zippers, put on boots and, dare we say it, snow pants! Your assistance with this is greatly appreciated. Please remember we go outside everyday, unless it is raining or we are under a cold weather advisory. Children must come prepared for daily outdoor activity. We also encourage you to keep sending healthy snacks for your child. Fruits, vegetables and milk products are great energy providers and easy finger food.











LOST AND FOUND

We seem to have accumulated a large amount of lost clothing, shoes, lunch bags, etc. While visiting the school over the next few weeks please take a moment to look through our Lost and Found box located between the primary hallway and the caretakers office and see if anything may belong to your child(ren).



November 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Progress Interview Request Forms Sent Home	3
4	5	6 Diwali - Festival of Lights Picture Retake Day 	7	8 	9  Remembrance Day Service at 11:00 am	10
11 	12 Last Day to Return Progress Interview Forms	13 	14 School Council Meeting 6:30 pm — 8:00 pm	15 	16	17
18	19	20 Progress Reports Go Home 	21	22 Progress Interview Evening 	23 P.A. DAY (No School for Students) Progress Interviews (AM)	24
25	26 EAST School Council Forum at Milliken Mills High School	27 	28	29 	30	