

S. Philp – Principal

N. Bynoe-Hayles –
Vice-Principal

R. Russo - Superintendent

C. Chan - Trustee

A. Lem - Council Chair
16/17

WELCOME BACK 2017-2018

Welcome back to school! We hope that you and your family had a restful and enjoyable summer. We look forward to working with you this year as we embrace our continued journey, making Richmond Rose the great school it is!!!

A special thank you goes out to our incredible caretaking staff for preparing the school, creating a safe and clean environment for learning. Thank you to our Lead Caretaker, Mr. Makowski, and the rest of the caretaking team.

Thank you to Mrs. James and Mrs. Poppler for organizing and preparing the office for another busy year.

We thank all the teachers, educational assistants, and DECEs (Designated Early Childhood Educators) for working together to prepare for the first day of school! We have the most amazing staff at Richmond Rose and we look forward to a great year learning and working together.

Last but not least, we thank the wonderful Richmond Rose parents and School Council for supporting us as we begin the 2017-2018 school year! Thank you for your trust and collaboration! We look forward to another great collaborative year, focusing on developing an inclusive environment, furthering the many aspects of our school improvement plan.

As always, if you have any questions and/or concerns, please feel free to contact us. We will continue to work with you in the best interest of your children. We are only an email or a phone call away.

Warm regards and best wishes for a successful 2017-2018 school year!

Shannon Philp
Principal

Nicole Bynoe-Hayles
Vice-Principal

Welcome New RRPS Staff + Welcome Back RRPS Staff	
Mrs. Laco Teacher	Mrs. Apperley Teacher
Ms. Sy CYW	Mr. Sandhu Teacher
Mrs. Veljkovic Teacher	Mr. Grove Caretaker
Ms. Prentice EA	Mrs. Biondo Teacher
Ms. Cheung DECE	Mrs. Green Teacher
Mrs. Badal Teacher	Mr. Callon Teacher
Mr. Toong Teacher	We would also like to congratulate Mrs. Zalac on her wedding this summer. She will be going by Mrs. Black from now on.

Welcome all new and returning staff to RRPS!

TENTATIVE ORGANIZATION 2017-2018

FDK	B. Sondhi	DECE	M. Moallemi	French	S. Damji
FDK	A. Odes	DECE	J. Fang	French	R. Badal
FDK	E. Cuda	DECE	C. Cheung	Phys. Ed & Prep	D. Sandiford
1	C. Teplin			Library	D. Ramsey Wu
1/2	C. Granger			Special Education	M. Lee
2	L. McWilliams			Special Education	R. Reid
2/3	M. Black			ELL & Prep	E. Krinsky
2/3	K. Laco			Prep	J. Oberoi & K. Sandhu
3	L. Apperley			Community Class	D. Carson
3/4	J. Bettan			Community Class	R. Lombardi
4	Mr. Toong			Reading Recovery & Special Education	K. Sandiford
4	J. Hafner				
5	H. Snare				
5	I. Iacobellis				
5/6	L. McGeachie				
6	V. Piccattoli & B. Veljkovic				
6	B. Tibando				
7	E. Green				
7	N. Biondo				
8	V. Calleri				
8	E. Mah				
8	J. Callon				
Additional Staff					
Sp. Ed. Asst.	L. Batsre			CYW	T. Schymik
Sp. Ed. Asst.	K. Gosse			ADH	D. Simons
CYW	L. Brown			CYW	D. Tarulli
EA	K. Sy			EA	S. Prentice
EA	S. Gastis				

As you know, the Ministry of Education has required us to have 20 students in each Primary class (1-3). We have organized the school based on the students who are returning and/or those who have registered to date. **The class placements may need to change later in September.** We ask that you are patient with us and trust that we are going to ensure that students will be given the best learning opportunities at RRPS. Please understand that a reorganization of the school is **LIKELY** and that students may be reorganized or have their classes/teachers change later in September.

ALLERGY INFORMATION

The safety of our students and staff is of the utmost importance. We make sure to follow policy and procedure when it comes to notifying students, staff and the community about concerns related to allergies.

As in the past, we also ask families to respect our nut/tree nut practice by not bringing any nut/tree nut products or products that contain nuts/tree nuts to school.

Students are not to bring nut/tree nut products/items containing nuts/tree nuts to school.

If your child has a specific allergy that the office is not aware of, please speak to Mrs. Poppler in the office as soon as possible.

We no longer have a citrus allergy at Richmond Rose. Families should feel free to send citrus based foods/products to school.

SAFE ARRIVAL PROGRAM

All School Boards are to implement a safe arrival program in their schools. The safe arrival program at Richmond Rose depends on parents to notify the office in the event of their child's late arrival or absence. All families are reminded to please call the school, each day, if their child is going to be absent or late, and leave a voice message with your child's name, teacher's name and the reason for the absence.

If a student is not in school and the school office has not received notification from the parents, the school will take the following steps:

Step One:

Call the student's home. If there is no answer the school will,

Step Two:

Call the parents at work and/or any other provided phone numbers. If there is no response the school will,

Step Three:

Call the emergency contact person. If the contact person cannot be reached and/or does not know where the student is then,

Step Four:

The school will notify the York Regional Police that a child is missing.

Please remember to call the school if your child will be late or absent.

SCHOOL START UP PACKAGE

Each student will receive a school start up package with important information for parents and students to review. Included in the package are forms that need to be returned to your child(s) homeroom teacher. Packages will be distributed the first week of school. Teachers will review with students the forms that need to be returned to the school.

TRANSITIONING BACK TO SCHOOL

START THE YEAR ON THE RIGHT FOOT! Have your child(ren) walk to and from school if possible. This will go a long way to alleviating the inevitable traffic congestion.

BE ON TIME! Yard supervision begins at 8:20 a.m. Students are not to be left at school alone before the 8:20 supervision start time.

COME PREPARED TO LEARN AND WORK HARD! Ensure your child(ren) get at least 8 hours of sleep, eat a good breakfast and bring a nutritious snack for the morning recess. All intermediate students and some junior classes will be assigned lockers on the first week of school. Primary students and some junior classes will have access to coat hooks and shelving. Students should refrain from bringing expensive toys to school.

The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

STUDENT PICK UP AND DROP OFF

In order for students to safely leave the building, students are to exit from the same doors they use in the morning during entry. No students should be leaving from the front of the school or the side door closest to the kindergarten yard. Students who try to use these doors will be asked to go back to their entry doors.

We ask that parents are respectful in the parking lot and take their time if they are picking someone up. No cars should be blocking other cars in.

Please do not make three-point turns in the parking lot, as this is a safety hazard.

No car should be left unattended while in the parking lot.

No cars should be using the front entry loop for drop off or pick up, including at lunch time.

At 8:35 a.m., the bell rings indicating entry. Students are to line up and enter as follows:

Grade 1, 2, 3, – Primary Doors, South West Doors
Grade 3/4, 4, 5, 6 – Junior Entrance Doors, South East Doors
Grade 7 / 8 – Intermediate Doors/Ramp

Kindergarten – inside the kindergarten fenced play area

The same entry and exit procedures are in effect for morning and lunch recesses. At the end of the day, **parents are asked that you please pick up your child from their appropriate entry/dismissal door.**

For the safety of all, parents/guardians are respectfully asked not to wait inside the school or go directly to classrooms when picking up or dropping off their child or children.

PROTECTING STUDENT PRIVACY UNDER THE MUNICIPAL FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

At times throughout the school year, your child's first name and last initial, image or other information may be shared beyond the classroom and the school. This may happen, for example, during special events that attract media attention. Class and school newsletters, website, tweets, and displays for events, such as assemblies and seasonal celebrations are other occasions. **Parents, if you wish to exclude your child, please contact Mr. Philp immediately in writing so that alternate arrangements can be made.**

SAFE SCHOOLS

Richmond Rose is a welcoming school where we value the importance of a safe learning environment. Over the last few years, there has been an increasing need in society to be alert within our schools. The following are some of the procedures that are in place to ensure the safety and security of the students, staff and visitors in our school.

- All visitors must enter the school through the front door, after they have rung the office buzzer and been allowed in.
- All visitors and volunteers (including parents), must sign in at the office at the beginning of their visit.

Parents and caregivers are invited to wait for their children's dismissal outside the building.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our first School Council meeting is September 18th. All parents are welcome. Please see the School Start Up package for School Council nomination form.

School Council – Ministry of Education Link

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/elemsec/council/>

“School councils play a vital role in the education system in Ontario. They provide a forum through which parents¹ and other members of school communities can contribute to improving student achievement and school performance.”

STUDENT BUSING ELIGIBILITY

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Re: Student Busing Eligibility

Did you know that students' busing eligibility changes throughout their school career? Your son/daughter's eligibility to ride the school bus may change according to their grade and distance from home to school. Below are the provisions for eligibility identified in the Board's Transportation Policy #680:

- All YRDSB students in Grades JK-3 who live within 1.2 km of their school are not eligible for transportation
- All YRDSB students in Grades 4-8 who live within 1.6 km of their school are not eligible for transportation
- All YRDSB students in Grades 9-12 who live within a transit served area are not eligible for transportation.

To view Board Policy #680 Student Transportation, please visit www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca. For more information about bus transportation and to determine your son/daughter's eligibility please visit www.schoolbuscity.com.

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

This year Richmond Rose will continue to use our online payment program called *School Cash Online*. This program allows families to pay for a variety of different items electronically, using a secure site, by debit or credit card.

LUNCH PROCEDURES

We encourage students to pack their lunches and snacks the night before or the morning of school. Foods brought to school in insulated bags and/or thermoses will definitely keep food hot and fresh until lunch begins.

If parents and guardians are dropping off lunches, please place them in the grade specific locations on the shelving unit, located in the front foyer. Grades are labeled at the top of each shelf. Kindergarten lunches are to be put on the top of the shelving unit.

Parents and guardians are welcome to wait in the front foyer, on the left side of the hallway, and pass lunches to students. In order to make sure students are safe, all students picking up lunches will line up outside of the conference room (fish bowl) and wait for direction from an adult to proceed.



ELECTRONIC DEVICES & TECHNOLOGY AT RRPS

During instructional time, individual teachers will have individual rules pertaining to the use of personal technology, such as iPods, iPads, iPhones, cell phones, etc. to be used for educational purposes during class time. Please check with your child's teacher as to the rules pertaining to his/her class.

Please don't send your child to school with expensive electronic equipment without first checking with your child's teacher and signing appropriate technology agreements found in the School Start Up package.

For safety and supervision purposes, students are not permitted to have MP3 players, iPods, cell phones, etc. during recesses or during lunch eating time. The school will not assume any responsibility for these valuable items.

September 2017 Trustee Greetings for school newsletters

Message from our Trustee, Carol Chan

As we begin the 2017-2018 school year, I want to take this opportunity to welcome all of our new and returning students and families. This is an exciting time of year and I hope you are starting this new school year as trustees are - with optimism and a commitment to working together to continue advancing student achievement and well-being.

An important part of that commitment is working together with staff members, families and communities to ensure our schools provide an environment that is safe, welcoming and inclusive. This takes on increasing importance given recent local and global events. We take pride in the diversity of our communities and will continue striving to uphold the values of equity and inclusivity in our system.

Trustees have had a busy summer, welcoming our [new Human Rights Commissioner](#) and beginning the [process for selecting a new Director of Education](#) as we continue to move forward implementing the [Minister's Directions](#).

An important part of the director selection process includes collecting input from students, staff, families and community members - input that will be used to shape the job description, interview questions and more. I encourage everyone to share their thoughts through the [survey](#) available in September. We will continue to keep you updated as this work progresses.

Our schools are stronger when we work in collaboration with families and communities. Partnerships with parents and families are essential to achieving the goals we have for our students, and I hope that you will find opportunities to get engaged with the school and your child's learning this year.

I wish you all the best for the upcoming school year.



Richmond Rose – TOUCHSTONE

**At Richmond Rose, we take responsibility for our work, words and actions.
We put in our best efforts, enjoy our successes, and learn from our mistakes.**

We embrace each other's differences and care for each other's feelings.

We think before we speak and use words that are appropriate for school.

Our community is a safe community; a place where we treat people with kindness, respect and dignity.

No one is afraid at our school.

At Richmond Rose, we are free to succeed!