



REVIEW



Dec. 1, 2023

Message From Administration

Hello Rouge Park Families,

It has been an eventful week at RPPS. With the change in weather came some changes in playground behaviour. We have had to remind students often that we are a "hands off" school. Please remind your children that they should not be touching other students and that if they are frustrated or angry with someone else, they need to ask for help from an adult. We are here to provide a quiet space to cool down or to help mediate a disagreement. Mistakes are normal as children grow up and we remind them often that if they tell the truth and own their part, then it is much easier to solve problems.

There are many new teams starting at RPPS, with our Junior students having the opportunity to play competitive volleyball and our intermediate students moving into the basketball season. We also have a brand new, "Saving Mother Earth" club that has been started by a grade 5 student along with the dance club, beading club and art club! Our music program continues to thrive with different opportunities for all age groups. Please encourage your children to get involved in available activities outside of the classroom.

It's hard to believe we are already in December with winter break just a few weeks away. Our kindergarten classes will be hosting a concert for the rest of the school and for their own families during the last week of school before the holidays. Our older students will host a spring concert later in the year.

Next week is spirit week at RPPS. Please look at the themes for each day on the calendar and poster below. This week of fun was initiated and planned by Ms. Maggiras's grade 4 class. They are very excited to lead this event.

Thank you for all of your support and partnership! As always, reach out if you need us for anything. We are here to help.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Lindsey Maclean
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Lily Leung
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Upcoming Events:

Date	Day	What's Happening at School?
Dec. 4	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Spirit Week! Today is Matching Monday - dress like a friend or group of friends ● Junior Girls Volleyball @ 7:30 a.m. ● Tour for Humanity Bus Grades 7-8 ● First day of pasta lunch for those who ordered ● Intermediate Boys Basketball @ 12:20 ● Intermediate Girls Basketball @ 2:40
Dec. 5	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Spirit Week - Tech Tuesday! ● Breakfast Club from 7:30-7:50 in the multi-purpose room ● Kid's Kitchen for those who ordered ● Intermediate Boys Basketball @ 9:50 ● Staff vs. student volleyball match at lunch ● Primary choir and primary recorder club @ 12:15 ● Saving Mother Earth Club @ 12:30
Dec. 6	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Spirit week - Everything But A Backpack Day! ● Beading club @ 9:50 ● Dance Club @ 9:50 ● Snack shack at morning recess - \$2 per snack ● Junior/intermediate choir and intermediate band @ 12:20 ● Lunch Lady for those who ordered ● Intermediate Girls Basketball @ 2:45 ● After school math/language tutoring sessions begin for those signed up
Dec. 7	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Spirit Week - Traditional Thursday (dress in colours or clothing that represents your culture) ● Breakfast Club from 7:30-7:50 in the multipurpose room ● Intermediate Boys Basketball @ 9:50 ● SPACE team meeting @ 9:50 ● Pizza day for those who ordered ● MSA meeting @ 12:15 ● Pop band/Strings club (alternate each week) @ 12:20
Dec. 8	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Spirit Day - Movie and Pajamas! ● Holiday Concert at Bill Hogarth for all grade 8's and grade 7's who are in the band 8:30-11:00 ● Dance Club @ 9:50 ● Intermediate Girls Basketball @ 12:20
Upcoming:		

December 19 - Kindergarten dress rehearsal for the rest of the school

December 20 - Kindergarten concert @ 1:15 pm - tickets can be purchased on School Cash Online

December 21 - School Council Glow Dance Party (games party offered as an alternative)

December 23 - January 7 - Winter Break (School Closed)

January 16 - School Council Meeting @ 6:30 pm

January 19 - PA Day

January 30 - Graduation photos

June 26 - Grade 8 Graduation

School Council:

Our next School Council meeting will be on Tuesday, January 16th at 6:30 pm in the staffroom. All are welcome to attend.

Donations to Rouge Park

Thank you to everyone who has been donating to our breakfast program. We are seeing a lot of happy faces as students gather to enjoy a warm meal together!

Attachments for this week:

GoGoSqueez - Accepted Waste Poster

Message-from-our-Trustee-Dec2023-Trustee-MChen.pdf

Arts@BaythornFlyer.pdf

Extreme Cold Weather and Inclement Weather Days

An **extreme cold weather day** is declared when roads are clear but extreme cold temperatures make it difficult for buses to operate reliably, posing a safety risk to students.

An **inclement weather day** is declared when road or weather conditions make it impossible to operate a school bus safely.

When extreme cold or inclement weather days are called, school transportation, including buses and taxis, are cancelled in the morning and afternoon. Schools will remain open.

Please note: there may be rare occasions when emergency weather conditions occur and we may need to close all schools and Board locations. Please ensure that you take the time to make plans in the event of an emergency school closure.

The decision to declare an extreme cold or inclement weather day and to cancel transportation is made by 6:00 a.m. For more information, including how to check if buses are cancelled, please visit the [School Transportation webpage](#).

Important things to note on designated extreme cold and inclement weather days:

- Students will not be penalized for missing school. If you have concerns about how an extreme cold or inclement weather day will affect your coursework, please speak to your school principal or teacher.

- Any lunch service arrangements made by the school, special lunches or special events/field trips will be cancelled. If you have made lunch arrangements directly with a third party provider please check with them directly, otherwise parents should send a lunch with their child.
- If your child does not take the bus, you need to inform the school office if their child will not be attending on extreme cold and inclement weather days, otherwise the school's safe arrival procedure will apply.
- **If transportation is cancelled in the morning, it will also be cancelled in the afternoon.** If students do go to school, families will need to arrange to pick up their children.
- Parents should use their best judgment to decide whether to send their children to school, understanding that if they choose to send their child, that the child should remain at school for the day and must be picked up at the end of the day.

For more information, please review the [Severe Weather Days Policy](#).

Emergency Weather Days

There may be rare occasions when emergency weather conditions occur and we may need to close all schools and Board locations. Closures will be considered when facilities may not be safe for students and staff members to attend school for the full day. This may include events that significantly limit school operations such as a significant snowfall or ice storm that restricts access to the school site, causes widespread or prolonged power failures or down power lines.

In keeping with our current practice, we will continue to keep our schools open as much as possible. **However, it is important that families have alternate child care arrangements planned for the rare occasions when schools may be closed. Before and after care programs will also not operate if schools are closed. Please ensure that you take the time to make plans in the event of an emergency school closure.**

Decisions about [student transportation](#) and school closures will be made as early as possible and no later than 6:00 a.m.

DECEMBER SPIRIT WEEK
December 4-8 2023

<p>MONDAY December 4 Matching Monday</p>	<p>TUESDAY December 5 Tech Tuesday</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY December 6 Anything But A Backpack Day</p>	<p>THURSDAY December 7 Traditional Thursday</p>	<p>FRIDAY December 8 Fun Friday</p>
<p>Match your clothing with a partner or many more!</p>	<p>Use technology with your class!</p>	<p>Come to school without your backpack! Pick something else to bring your things in!</p>	<p>Dress in your cultural clothing or colours!</p>	<p>Wear your PJ's and watch a movie with your class!</p>

Message from Our Trustee

December 2023

I hope everyone has had a good start to the school year and is looking forward to the winter break ahead.

Since the beginning of the school year, I continue to be impressed by the professionalism and dedication of our school staff. I have witnessed their commitment in supporting families and fostering the curiosity, creativity and enthusiasm of our students. As a Board of Trustees, we continue our commitment to delivering a high-quality education, focusing on well-being and academic achievement. It also includes striving to create safe, caring, inclusive and respectful school environments where students feel valued and supported.

I want to thank everyone who attended the CEC East School Council Forum held in Bill Crothers S.S. and helped to make the event such a success. It was a wonderful opportunity to bring together school council members and community partners for an evening of shared learning and discussion. School councils play such an important role in our schools, and we are grateful for all that they do to support students, family engagement and schools. I want to take this opportunity to invite all parents to reach out to your school council members and find out how you can engage and participate.

While we are not yet at the midway point in the school year, many students and families are already looking to the school year ahead, visiting [secondary school open houses](#) and starting to think about course selections for next school year. All our secondary schools offer a variety of courses, programs and opportunities that let students gain skills and experience, explore their interests and begin preparing for the future. Those opportunities are now even easier to explore.

Students can [search from 16 different sectors](#) that interest them, including STEM, Arts, business, manufacturing and many more to discover how they can earn credits, gain experience, skills and certifications in those areas. Visit www2.yrdsb.ca/experience-yrdsb to learn more.

I want to thank our [Special Education Advisory Committee \(SEAC\)](#) for continuing to advocate for student with special education needs. Their role in making recommendations to the Board with respect to any matter affecting the establishment and development of special education programs and services are crucial for the exceptional students at YRDSB. I encourage families to learn more about [SEAC members](#) and their work.

We also offer a variety of [programs for Black students](#) through the Board's Centre for Black Student Excellence. These summer and school-year programs are designed to affirm students' identities and support student achievement and well-being. You can learn more about the programs and how to sign up for the centre's mailing list [on the website](#).

One of our roles as a Board of Trustees is to regularly review Board policies to ensure they are relevant, reflect our mission and values as an organization, and meet the needs of our students. An important part of that process is collecting feedback from the community. [Learn more on the Board website](#) about how you can share your input and see what policies are currently being reviewed.

Additionally, I want to take this opportunity to thank families for their patience while we work to restore services following [network outages](#) as a result of a cyber incident, and to acknowledge the work of our staff who continue to deliver high quality public education and to restore services.

Finally, as we head into December, I also want to wish all of you a safe and enjoyable winter break. There are many significant dates for different faiths and cultures during this time of year, and to all those celebrating, I wish you a happy and joyous celebration. I hope everyone has an opportunity to relax, recharge and enjoy time with family and friends. We look forward to welcoming you back in January.

Michael Chen

Trustee, Markham Wards 5 and 7