

RCFI Weekly Memo to Families from Administration Sept 18 edition

MISSION: TO IMPROVE OUR STUDENTS' ORAL PROFICIENCY IN FRENCH

GOAL: TO DEVELOP STUDENTS' UNDERSTANDING AND APPLICATION OF ADDITIVE REASONING

Principal: A. Maddox

Vice Principal: S. Chamberlain

Superintendent: D. Wright

Admin. Assistant: T. Kormendi/A. Law

Trustees: Bill McKinnon, Barb Yeoman

Rowan's Law - Sept 23 Rowan's Law was named for Rowan Stringer, a high school rugby player from Ottawa, who died from a condition known as Second Impact Syndrome (swelling of the brain caused by a subsequent injury that occurred before a previous injury healed). Rowan is believed to have experienced three concussions over six days while playing rugby. She had a concussion but didn't know her brain needed time to heal. Neither did her parents, teachers, or coaches. Rowan's Law and Rowan's Law Day were established to honour her memory and bring awareness to concussions, and concussions safety. Typically Rowan's Law Day is the last Wednesday of September. This year, because that date coincides with another culturally significant day, we have chosen to honour Rowan's Law Day on Wednesday September 23rd.

In order to spread awareness, we are asking students and staff to **wear purple on Wed Sept 23rd**. Also, Mme Boomen is hosting an optional colouring contest for the students. Downloadable copies of the colouring page can be found on Mme Boomen's website <https://sites.google.com/gotvdsb.ca/mmeboomenhpe/home> or printed copies are available in the gymnasium at RCFI.

Orange Shirt Day: Every Child Matters

On September 30th we invite students and staff to wear orange as we recognize "Orange Shirt Day". This is a day we remember the indigenous children who were sent to residential schools from the mid 1800s up to the 1990s. In class, teachers will share age-specific stories to help students understand the reason for this day of recognition. To learn more, search "Orange Shirt Day CBC kids" for a child-friendly resource, or visit orangeshirtday.org to learn more about the history of Orange Shirt Day and hear stories from residential school survivors.

Art Portfolios for students in FRL: If your child is learning remotely and would like their Art Portfolio/Carnet from Mme Ollson, please send her an email to set up a time for pick up (e.ollson@tvdsb.ca). Thank you

Yearbooks\Grad Composites: Details about distribution should be coming out soon! Stay tuned

Parent Council/HSA

The first Parent Council and Home and School Association meetings of the year will be held virtually on Thursday October 8th, beginning at 6pm through ZOOM. We will share the code to access the meeting when it becomes available. Please join us,

Introducing our new LTOs (Long Term Occasional Teachers)

We are very pleased to introduce our new Long Term Occasional (LTO) teachers joining us this year. We welcome M Babb who will be replacing Mme Talbot for the 6/7 class, Mme Madeleine who will be replacing Mme Pilon in the grade 4, and Mme Weiman who will be replacing Mme Hughes in the grade 6.

Mask Exemption policy: Should your child be unable to wear the required cloth mask while at school and on the school bus, please reach out to the school as there is a process that we can work through with you in an effort to get an exemption.

Entry/Dismissal Update and Reminders: Thank you for your support in our new morning routines with dropping children at the gate and allowing them to enter the yard independently. It has made a huge difference in adhering to the social distancing requirements. The Sloane Street morning drop off zone, seems to be working well. **Please remember** that the area is not supervised at afternoon dismissal, and we encourage you to set up pick up locations where supervising staff can see your child connect with you if they are in the primary grades.

When you arrive at the end of the day to pick up your child, and you have already notified the office that you are doing so, you do not need to come to the door and let the office know that you have arrived. We will pair you up with your child once they come up at 3:30.

Also, please remind your child that when being picked up, during the day, or at the end of the day, we need them to come by the office from inside the school so that one of the secretaries can confirm that the student and parent have connected. Thank you

FYI In an effort to double check that the possibility of special consideration to return to FI may exist for families who withdraw from FI during the pandemic...I have discovered that this was a suggestion at a Board meeting but it was not confirmed as to whether or not it will be actioned.

Please note that the current Board policy states that if you withdraw from French Immersion for homeschooling, you are giving up your spot in FI.

Just wanted to make sure that families have the most accurate information in case you are considering this option.

The first week has been a HUGE success! Thank you to our staff for their hard work and determination to make Back to School run smoothly. Thank you also to the parents and families for their continued support as we learn to navigate all of the new protocols and routines. Together we will get through this.

Your devoted Administrators,
Mme Maddox and Mme Chamberlain
(a.maddox@tvdsb.ca, s.chamberlain@tvdsb.ca)