

## **RCFI Weekly Memo to Families from Administration Sept 20 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: J. Moodie      Superintendent: D. Wright  
Admin. Assistant: T. Kormendi/A. Law      Trustees: Barb Yeoman, Graham Hart

**That's another great week under our belts!** Thank you to staff and families for your continued support in building routines with our students. There have been many moments throughout the first two weeks where I have caught myself smiling, watching the staff and students engage in different activities, all so excited to be back onsite together. Picture Monsieur Duplain (6 feet + in height, demonstrating a PE tag game with one of his grade 2 students (much less than 6ft tall) ~ absolutely adorable, I wished I had had my camera out). We recognize the challenges that come along with the ever changing COVID protocols, but with a little flexibility, and lots of deep breaths, we will get through this together.

### **News:**

Again this year, there are two days of recognition that are scheduled on Sept 30th, Orange Shirt Day and Rowan's Law Day. In an effort to focus our attention and provide activities that acknowledge each of these significant events, we are choosing to recognize Orange Shirt Day on Thursday September 30th, and Rowan's Law Day Wednesday October 6th. Also this week Roch Carrier will be celebrating Franco-Ontarien day as proud francophiles! Since it falls on Saturday, September 26th, we will be celebrating all week long.

#### **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](http://orangeshirtday.org) to learn more about the history of Orange Shirt Day and hear stories from residential school survivors.

#### **Yearbook 2019 - 2020**

If your Raptor was enrolled in full remote learning last year and you did not pick up their yearbook from the school, they will receive it next week. These yearbooks were purchased by the Roch Carrier Home and School Association in 2020 as a gift for all students who were enrolled at RCFI during the 2019-2020 school year. If you have not yet received one and your child doesn't bring one home by the end of next week, please email Mme Alyea at [m.alyea@tvdsb.ca](mailto:m.alyea@tvdsb.ca) to request a copy.

#### **From the Main Office**

Don't forget that TVDSB has asked that parents complete the school forms in their Parent Portal by September 20th. If you are having trouble navigating the Portal, please contact the main office for support.

**IPOCs:** For those students with a prevalent medical condition (i.e. Anaphylactic Allergies, Epilepsy, Asthma, Diabetes), please ensure that you have reviewed your child's Individualized Plan of Care through the Parent Portal and made the necessary changes prior to submitting it to the school. You can also generate a new IPOC if your child has a new diagnosis or if you are new to TVDSB. These documents follow students between schools in Thames Valley, so if you are new to Roch Carrier, but were at a TVDSB school last year, it should still be accessible through the parent portal. Also, please remember that if your child requires medicine to be administered at school you must have a Doctor sign off on a PRN form that can be found through the Parent Portal as well. This form must be completed yearly.

#### **Birthday Treats/Special Occasions**

Just a reminder that at this time we will continue to follow our protocol from last year (until we hear differently) that any treats that are being brought into the school for distribution to students must be:

- \* Individually packaged
- \* Received 48 hours in advance for them to sit prior to distribution
- \* Comply with prohibited allergens.

#### **Code Red Drill**

All Thames Valley schools are required to perform a lockdown drill in the fall and the spring. The lockdown drill will take place on **Wednesday, September 22**. This practice is necessary to help ensure that our students and staff will be able to quickly respond should it ever be necessary to “lock down” our school. In most circumstances, a lockdown would simply mean that the hallways, gymnasium, and washrooms would be cleared, classroom doors are locked and drapes drawn, door windows covered and lights off. A lockdown would only be declared if there was a potentially dangerous situation in the neighborhood, or in our school. Students will remain with their teacher until the police give the “all-clear”, or the school administration is satisfied that the problem has been rectified, and the school is safe.

The safety of our students is our number one priority. This drill will help us prepare for an emergency situation. However, as with a fire drill, it is most important that the children remain calm and feel safe. The lockdown drill will not be a simulation activity, but simply a few minutes where students remain with their teacher in their classroom, continue with their studies and then return to normal day once the “all clear” is given. We need your help to ensure that the children understand the purpose for such a drill, so we ask that you please help us prepare them. Help them to understand that if the police were dealing with a situation in our neighborhood, or if a stranger refused to leave our school, their teachers would keep them safe in their classrooms until the issue can be looked after. For our youngest children, it might be best to perform a lockdown drill at your home. They should understand that if the police were handling a dangerous situation on your street, you would keep them inside, lock the doors and keep everyone away from the windows.

Thank you for assisting us in preparing the children for these drills.

**School Council/HSA**

The first School Council and Home and School Association meetings of the year was held virtually on Thursday September 16th. Thank you to all who participated. The next RC Home and School Association meeting will be Thursday Oct 14th at 6:30 via ZOOM.

**WAAR (Woodstock Attendance Area Review)**

As per the communication sent by TVDSB this past week, communities were able to submit delegations to the Trustees until September 17th at 9:00am. These delegations are being received/reviewed by the Board of Trustees the evening of 2021 September 21 and if necessary, 2021 September 22. Please stay tuned for more information. The final vote on the Woodstock Attendance Area review will be at the September 28th TVDSB Board Meeting (held virtually).

**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. See image for zones.

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.

We do ask that parents wear a mask when on-site picking up students at the end of the day, unless they have a medical exemption. Thank you for modeling this behaviour for our students.

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

Your devoted Administrators,  
 Mme Maddox and Mme Moodie  
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