

# École Publique Rideau Public School

## Newsletter

March 2017

### Principal's Message - Mr. Seiveright

"You must be the change you wish to see in the world" – Mahatma Gandhi

March is here, and with it, lots of change. There is the change in the weather, as we slowly begin to see more sunshine, longer days, and warmer temps. There is also the change to second term, as we celebrated our first term reports going home earlier this week. And at Rideau, we are designating March as 'Make Change' month, in our Character Education focus.

'Make Change' can mean different things to different students and their families. Inspired by Hannah Taylor's Ladybug foundation, we want students to look at notions of fairness and social justice on local and global levels. You can learn more about Hannah Taylor's story at <http://www.ladybugfoundation.ca/who-we-are/hannah-taylor-founder/>

'Make Change' can also reflect how students and families respond to feedback and next steps on Report Cards. What can you do with your child to continue the important work developing Learning Skills, Work Habits, and Academics? What small changes can be put in place to ensure a strong second term?

We hope that everyone has a fun, restful March Break, whether it is here in Kingston, or elsewhere. We all know that when we get back, we will be very busy with projects, extra curriculars, and the day-to-day of Spring, so we hope that everyone comes back well rested and ready to go!

Parents and caregivers are a very important partner in public education, and we value your contribution. We welcome all feedback; please share any concerns or questions you might have – simply phone us at 546-5901 or send us an email at [ridea@limestone.on.ca](mailto:ridea@limestone.on.ca). Please follow Rideau on Twitter @RideauPS\_LDSB, and check us out online at <http://rideaupublicschool.limestone.on.ca>.

### Parking and Safety

**Please note that there is no parking on the west side of MacDonnell St. between 8:30 and 4:30. After school, it is very dangerous to have students running out between buses and across the road to get to cars on the far side of the street. We know that parking is limited, but appreciate your support in keeping all of our students safe.**

### Destination Imagination

Throughout the winter a group of grade 5 students, along with students from Central PS, have been engaged in a Destination Imagination club, combining Improv skills with STEM skills (Science, Tech, Engineering and Math). These students, under the leadership of their coach Mrs. Paquin, a Rideau Parent and teacher at Central, will compete against other DI teams from Eastern Ontario in Stittsville on March 4. Good luck!

### Science Fair

Some Grade 4, 5 and 6 students, guided by Mme Salter and Mr. Baker, have been working on Science Fair projects throughout the winter. These students will have their projects on display on March 24 for the rest of the school to see. Some of the Grade 5 and 6 students will then compete at the Frontenac, Lennox, and Addington Science Fair (FLASF) at the end of the month, against other students from across the district. We are so excited to see the enthusiasm and great science that is taking place in these projects!



### School Advisory Council (SAC)

The next School Advisory Council meeting date is **Wed. Mar. 22**. The meeting will be held in the staff room from 6:30-8pm. All parents and guardians of the Rideau Community are invited to attend. Child care is available for Rideau students. Any parents/guardians who would like to volunteer at events are asked to register their email address at: <http://eepurl.com/cpyYsD>

**PA Day**  
Friday, Mar. 3  
**March Break**  
Monday, Mar. 13 –  
Friday, Mar. 17  
**No School For Students**

### Guest Authors

We were thrilled to welcome Rebecca North and Sarah Tsiang, two local authors, to Rideau for our Love of Reading Week in February.



*Rebecca North*



*Sarah Tsiang*

## Play is good for the brain!



**Did you know that the brain is the organ that learns and that play is our brain's favourite way of learning? That makes play a necessity, not a luxury for our growing children!**

*"Play is often talked about as if it was a relief from serious learning, but for children play is serious learning. When children pretend in play, they are using their imagination to move beyond the bounds of reality. A stick can be a magic wand; a sock can be a puppet; a child can be a superhero!"*  
(Fred Rogers)

- **What kind of play does your child seem to enjoy?**
- **Does he/she have enough uninterrupted time to play?**
- **Are there opportunities to play actively outdoors every day?**



Check out the books by Antoinette Portis 😊

Provided by: **Ontario Early Years Literacy Specialists**

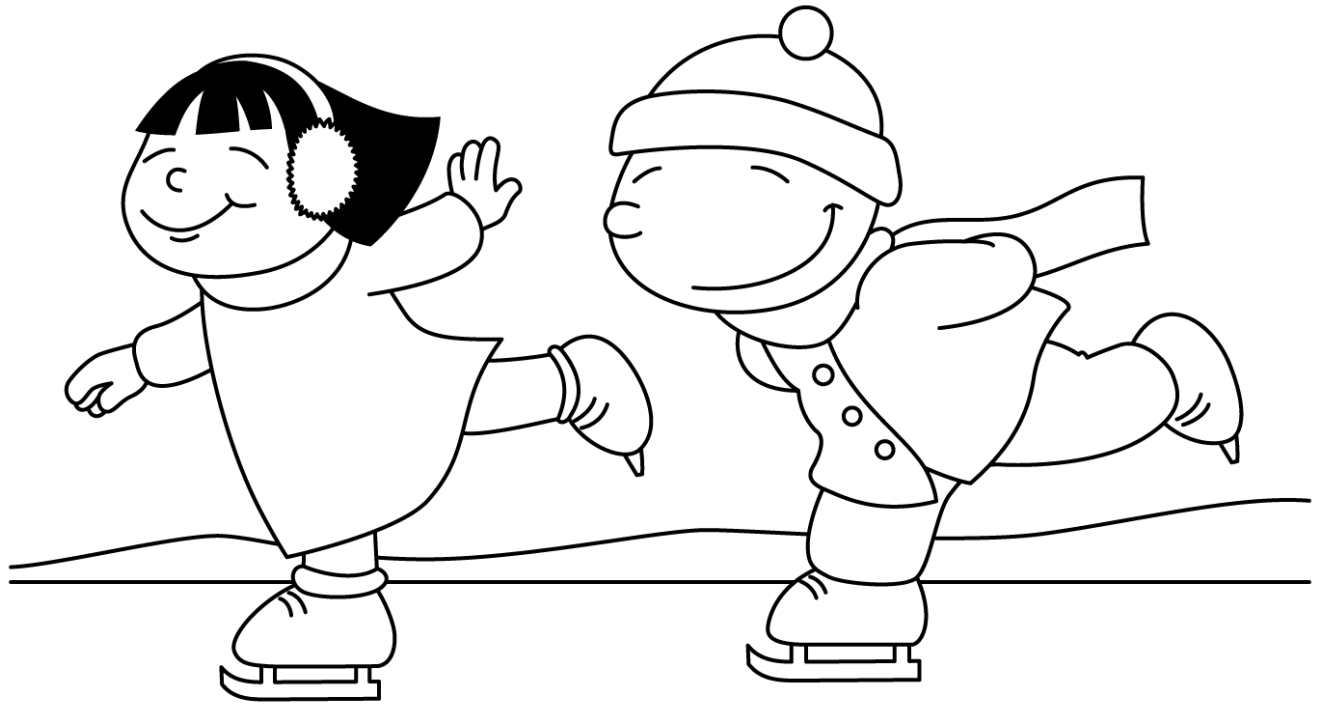
Thank you Queen's Convenience!

Queen's Convenience on MacDonnell St. continues to support our school this year with revenue from Nevada ticket sales. This money helps support Rideau's purchase of technology resources. Thanks!

## Supporting Building Spatial Reasoning At Home

Spatial reasoning is the ability to mentally manipulate shapes and orientate ourselves in everyday environments. It is also a key skill that is essential part of learning math. We can support our children with building their spatial reasoning in a number of ways:

- Use language that describes the spatial world, for example – *big, small, thick, thin, curvy, pointy, circular, cylinder, sphere, triangle, square, corner, up, down, north, south, left right*
- Motivate your kids to think spatially by asking them questions like:
  - *Will the groceries fit in just one bag?*
  - *If we rearranged your room, where would everything fit?*
  - *If we cut this bagel, what will it look like?*
- Play games that encourage movement of pieces and construction, such as: Lego, blocks, Jenga, Tetris, jigsaw puzzles, tangrams, Minecraft
- Have your child look at, explain and draw maps and/or floor plans. Create together a treasure map, or a fire escape route map



## March/Mars 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Day 1	2 Day 2 Pita Lunch	3 PA Day	4
5	6 Day 3	7 Day 4 Pizza Lunch	8 Day 5	9 Day 1 Sub Lunch	10 Day 2	11
12	13 March Break	14 March Break	15 March Break	16 March Break	17 March Break	18
19	20 Day 3	21 Day 4 Pizza Lunch	22 Day 5 SAC Meeting 6:30	23 Day 1 Pita Lunch Gr. 2-4 FI classes to Octave Theatre	24 Day 2 School Science Fair	25
26	27 Day 3	28 Day 4 Pizza Lunch	29 Day 5	30 Day 1 Sub Lunch District Science Fair	31 Day 2 District Science Fair	