

École Publique Rideau Public School

Newsletter

September 2018

Principal's Message - Mr. Seiveright

"Work hard, be kind, and amazing things will happen." – Conan O'Brien

Welcome Back!!

In spite of the heat, we were off and running last week, and it was great to see all the smiles and hear the laughter re-fill the halls after a lovely summer. If you are new to Rideau, we hope that you found your way to class and are settling in, and if you are a returning family, we are so happy to have you back. It is a joy and a privilege to get to work with your children every day and watch them learn and grow.

This year, Rideau has become the first and only single-track French Immersion k-6 school. We are excited by the opportunities this brings. Already last week we have seen some of the possibilities in action, with more French announcements, and a predominantly French welcome assembly. We look forward to more school-wide French language events and opportunities throughout the year, increasing student exposure to and appreciation of French language and culture.

In this newsletter, you will see that we are trying a couple of new ways to communicate with families this year. As technology continues to advance and the Board's available tools improve, we want to be responsive and reach our community in meaningful ways. Parents play a critical role in a child's education; students need to see a strong link between the home and school. Positive, regular communication between school and home is key to maintaining a positive relationship and to supporting our children's success.

We welcome all feedback; please share any concerns or questions you might have –phone us at 546-5901 or send us an email at ridea@limestone.on.ca . Follow us on Twitter @RideauPS_LDSB , and check out our website at: <http://rideaupublicschool.limestone.on.ca>

Allergen Awareness

Please refrain from sending products that contain or have come in contact with **peanuts, tree nuts or sesame**, due to several life-threatening anaphylactic allergies throughout the school. This includes peanut, almond or cashew butter, and products such as hummus that contain tahini (sesame). Please label alternate 'look alike' spreads so that we know they are safe. Teachers with other specific allergies in their class will send home reminder notices. Please inform the office if your child has an allergy or other medical condition, and if you have not already been contacted by Mrs. Marshall.

Upcoming School Council Meetings

Thursday, September 13, 6:30-7:30pm

– Family Information Night / Meet and Greet for Parent Advisory Council. Everyone is welcome to attend. Childcare is provided. Held in the RPS Staff Room.

Wednesday, September 19, 6:30-8:00pm

– Annual General Meeting (selection of new council for this school year, all positions open). Everyone is welcome to attend. Childcare is provided. Held in the RPS Staff Room.



Staffing update

Last week we were happy to see that our projected enrolment from June was virtually the same as our actual enrolment. We found out from the Board Staffing Committee on Friday that this means we will not be adding or losing classes this year, and will not have to reorganize class lists. This is great news for students, staff and families. It is great to have stable classes one week into the year – students can settle into their classes, and educators can continue with diagnostic assessment and other baseline tasks knowing that their class will not change.

Kindergarten recess

Last year we received a lot of feedback from staff yard supervisors and parents that our kindergarten yard was too crowded. Although our kindergarten numbers are down a bit from last year, we have decided to try something new to address this problem. Starting last week, two of our classes eat first, while the other three are out for recess. These classes then switch places, so that three classes are eating while the other two are outside. In the afternoon it is reversed, so that the classes who eat first in the morning are outside first in the afternoon. We will trial this new recess plan through September, and then decide on a plan for the rest of the year. If you have any feedback on our new kindergarten recess, please let Mr. Seiveright or Mrs. Marshall know.

OPEN HOUSE

Thurs. Sept. 27

5:00 – 6:00

Come and meet your child's teachers and see their classrooms

PA Day

Fri. Sept. 28, 2017

No school for students

Communication

This year we are committed to continuing to improve how we communicate with families. We appreciate feedback we have received from families, and want to reach out in ways that work.

Classroom staff will continue to use agendas and phone calls

to connect with parents. Some may also use Google Classroom, email, or other Web applications.

At the school level, Twitter continues to be the best way to see what is happening day-to-day. We Tweet reminders about special events, Snow Days, and re-tweet important or interesting posts from some of our partners. We will also continue to share monthly newsletters, although these will now be done through Smore. You will still be able to receive these by email, and the format is much friendlier for a mobile device. Our website has also been updated to be more mobile-friendly, and contains lots of information including a school calendar.

Finally, the Board has launched a new Limestone App. Available for iOS, Google, and Android platforms, it can deliver Board and School news right to your mobile device. You can select your schools, so if you have students at Rideau and Vanier, for instance, you can stay connected with both schools through one app. You can choose to receive Push Notifications, so that you are notified when your schools or the Board post new News

items. The app also has our calendar and will, in the future, be used for reporting student absences. Please see below for more details.

Stay Connected

Download our new mobile app

Stay in touch with Limestone District School Board and our schools by downloading our new mobile app! Download on your mobile device today and select YES to receive push notifications with the latest news and updates from the district and your student's school.



Late Arrival/Early Dismissal

School begins at 9:05. Supervision in the yard begins at 8:50. It is very important to have your children at school on time; teachers begin instruction right away, and being late by as little as 10 minutes can have a huge impact on learning. Our day ends at 3:35. Please try to schedule appointments outside of school hours when possible, however when you need to pick a child up early, **please arrive before 3:20. After that time we can not call students down to the office, as classes are getting ready for dismissal and there is more commotion and noise in the school than usual.** All late arrivals and early pick-ups must sign in and out at the main office.

Open House

We are delighted to invite parents and guardians to our Open House, which this year will be on Thursday September 27, from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. Classrooms will be open for you to see some of what your children have been working on, to learn about goals for the year, and to meet your child's teacher(s) and other school staff. There is not enough time at this event for 1-1 parent teacher interviews; if you require a meeting with your child's teacher please make an appointment for a different, mutually agreeable time.

Birthday parties

Birthdays are a very special time, and we recognize that you may want to celebrate with your child's class. We want every child to be included, and often run into problems with allergies and other dietary restrictions when parents bring cupcakes or other treats for the class on a birthday. Please consider dollar-store pencils or erasers as an alternative to high-sugar treats which not all children can have. In all cases, please communicate with your child's teacher before sending any food in for the class.

Volunteering at Rideau

We love having volunteers at Rideau. Every day you can see parents and community members reading with students, helping with special events, or working with members of our

School Council on a variety of projects. If you are interested in volunteering, please talk to your child's teacher, the main office, or contact the School Council. Remember, all volunteers, even for a field trip, are required to complete a Criminal Records Check (CPIC) with the police prior to volunteering. If you have completed a CPIC within the last 3 years and a copy is at the office, you may sign an Offence Declaration Form at the office.

School Advisory Council (SAC)

The SAC is a great way for parents and guardians to get involved in the life of Rideau. The SAC advises the Principal on a variety of issues and matters of concern, hosts a variety of special events throughout the year, and plays a critical role in raising funds for playground equipment, new technology, library resources, and other items. Come to a Meet & Greet Thurs. Sept. 13 at 6:30 to find out more about the SAC.

The first SAC meeting of the year will be held on Wed. Sept. 19, at 6:30 p.m. in the Staff Room. Elections for Executive Positions will be held at this meeting. All parents and guardians of the Rideau Community are invited to attend. Nominations can be submitted to the office by September 19, or can be made at the meeting. Child care is available for Rideau students.

Smoke Free Environment



Please remember that Rideau is a smoke free environment. This includes our school yard, front and back, as well as our parking lots. It is prohibited to smoke in vehicles parked on school property.

Hot Lunch and Milk

We will be offering milk and hot lunch to students again this year. More information will be sent home shortly.

AUDITION for YOUNG CHORISTERS LIMESTONE

Who? LDSB students in Grades 3-8

Where? Cataraqui Woods Public School

When? Tuesday, September 11 from 4:00 – 5:30 and Tuesday, September 18 from 5:15 – 5:45

Rehearsals begin Tuesday, Sept. 18 at 4:30

More Information?

youngchoristers@gmail.com

Parking

We realize that parking is at a premium during drop off and pick up times. We would ask, however, that all members of the Rideau Community respect our neighbours, and follow all municipal parking by-laws. Please do not block driveways or park too close to intersections. By-law officers will be patrolling the area to ensure compliance.

Orange Shirt Day

In 2013, September 30 was chosen as Orange Shirt Day to commemorate survivors of the Residential School system in Canada. As part of our commitment to reconciliation, Limestone celebrates Orange Shirt Day, along with the message that 'Every Child Matters'. This year, with Sept. 30 falling on a Sunday, we encourage students to wear an Orange Shirt on Thursday, Sept. 27.

Terry Fox Run

Our annual Terry Fox Run will be held on Sept. 24th, during regular school hours. We look forward to raising awareness for cancer research again this year. More details about this event will be sent home closer to the date.



How Much Sleep Does My Child Need?

Sleep is critical in a child's education. Did you know that on average, school-aged children today are sleeping an hour less per night than they did 30 years ago? This 'lost hour' of sleep can have wide ranging consequences. While each child is different, experts suggest that **children 3-5 years old need 10-13 hours** of sleep each night, and **children 6-13 years old need 9-11 hours**. For more information about this issue, check out:

<http://nurtureshockmoment.blogspot.ca/2010/10/lost-hour.html> and

<https://sleepfoundation.org/excessivesleepiness/content/how-much-sleep-do-babies-and-kids-need>

RIDEAU PUBLIC SCHOOL'S FUNDRAISER OFFERING MAGAZINES AND MORE!

Please help our school raise
money for ongoing technology
purchases and special events!

Browse the catalogue for hundreds of magazine
titles for all ages and interests! Parents who
read, raise children who read, and readers
become leaders! Give a gift that lasts all year
long. New for 2018: Not sure what they like?

Buy them a magazine gift card!

Check out the new products at

@ WWW.QSP.CA

Tervis Tumblers, Jewellery and more.

Shipping charges for Canadian addresses may apply



Sale starts: TODAY!
Sale ends: Oct. 31
Or shop online all year
long!



Shop Online. Spread the Word.



WWW.QSP.CA
Click "SHOP NOW"
ENTER ONLINE ID: 3726080



Register your child, set their goal and upload their Selfie.

Then reach out to as many people as you can to support our campaign.

On behalf of the parents, teachers and staff,
we thank you for your supporting the children of our school.





September/Septembre

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2	3 Labour Day	4 Day 1 First Day of School!	5 Day 2	6 Day 3	7 Day 4	8
9	10 Day 5	11 Day 1	12 Day 2	13 Day 3 School Council Meet & Greet 6:30 – 7:30	14 Day 4	15
16	17 Day 5	18 Day 1	19 Day 2 School Council AGM	20 Day 3	21 Day 4	22
23	24 Day 5 Terry Fox Run	25 Day 1	26 Day 2	27 Day 3 Open House 5-6 p.m. Orange Shirt Day	28 PA Day	29
30						