



École Robert H. Smith School

The Communiqué

April 19 - 23, 2021

Message from the Admin Team

It seems we had all seasons of weather in a week. We began with the wet snowy, stormy, winter weather this past Monday, but ended Friday with the pleasant blue skies and melty spring weather.

We would like to recognize the contributions of our Supply teachers and Education Assistants. "Supply" means a full-time employee who is used flexibly, and during the pandemic several staff members joined Robert H. Smith. Janet Alake, Kenny Kolada, Gemmarose Claveria, Travis Dyck, Matthew Csuk, and Patricia Unger, thanks for all that you do. You have worked hard in the midst of upheaval and uncertainty, and we appreciate the work you have done to keep us on an even keel.

Monday, April 19, 2021 Day 1

Tuesday, April 20, 2021 Day 2

Wednesday, April 21, 2021 Day 3

Thursday, April 22, 2021 Day 4

- *Earth Day*

Friday, April 23, 2021 Day 5

Patrols

Patrols on duty this week from Room 115A (Mme Carsten 's classes).

Education for a Sustainable Future

Earth day coming up on Thursday. Parents might like to get a peek at the plants sprouting in the nursery in the library (see pic at right). These plants will be transferred to garden boxes in the outdoor classroom once Mother Nature decides the time is right.



Positive Behaviour

Our week-long conversations about positive behaviour seemed to result in a kinder, more patient, and more tolerant mood in the building this week. A “tree” in the foyer was adorned with examples of students who showed respect for one another. We also had problematic behaviour, but were pleased that students were willing to engage in problem-solving dialogue and take action to reconnect with peers and teachers.



The staff and students of École Robert H. Smith honoured the Day of Pink on April 14, an internationally held anti-bullying awareness campaign that celebrates diversity and takes a stand against bullying. Staff sported pink shirts from an indigenous, Canadian artist.



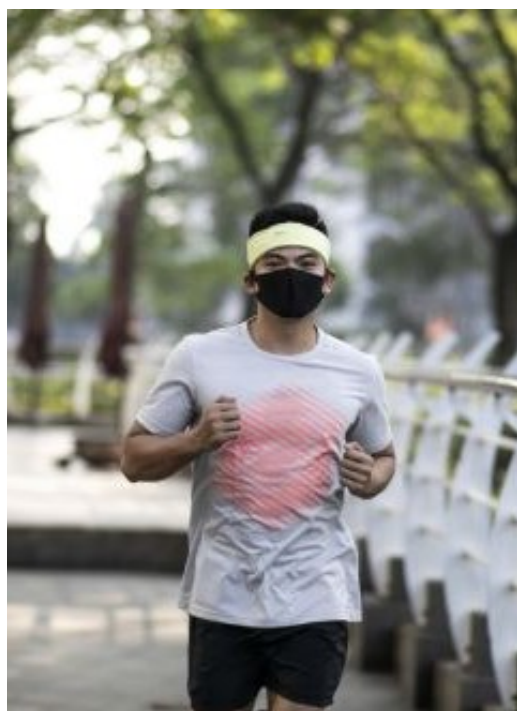
The Nisga’a and Métis artist, Chantelle Trainor-Matties, describes her shirt design this way:

“I believe the world needs a lot more people treating others with love and respect which is why the message on the shirt is “Build Others Up, Don’t Tear Them Down”. Otters love to play with rocks, so in this illustration one otter is sharing their favorite rock with a new friend. My love for my ferret companions inspired this piece, both ferrets and otters are from the same family and are very social creatures that represent unity and friendship. The Nisga’a word for otter is watsx?. I am proud that my artwork is a part of Pink Shirt Day.”

Physical Education

Running Club

Running club is an opportunity for students to be physically active as they run (or walk) prior to the school day. Mr. Donato will be sending parents of grades 4, 5, and 6 students an electronic permission form to participate in the **spring running club**. The club will begin on May 4th and will end June 17th. Students will run for approximately 30 minutes each running club session, after which they will cool-down before lining up to begin the school day.



Spring running club will look different than in the past. Due to current restrictions, not all students can participate in running club at the same time. A [schedule](#) has been created for grades 4, 5, and 6 classes. Only three classes will attend at a time to maintain the cohort system, and classes will run separate routes to maintain distance.

One route will be within the school grounds and the other will run on the sidewalk from Oak, to Grosvenor, to Ash, and back to the school hardtop area (please note that this route crosses three back lanes and the school parking lot entrance). If your child is a patrol they will take attendance with the patrols at 8:30. At this time, masks will be required while participating in running club. A mask break will be permitted when proper distancing can be achieved. Two staff members will supervise each running club morning.

Parent Advisory Group (PAG) Updates

PAG Environment Committee Update

Did you know that RHS is an official Butterfly Way School with the David Suzuki Foundation? The PAG Environment Committee has been working with the David Suzuki Foundation Butterfly Way project to continue to grow our native plant presence on the school grounds.

You can help our initiative too by planting native plants to help pollinators like butterflies, bees and birds. Celebrate Earth Day this year by planning your own pollinator garden. We would love to see photos your plans, your seeds and your growing plants. Send photos to environment@roberthsmithpag.ca so we can share our progress with the David Suzuki

Foundation and inspire other families in our school! For more information on the Butterfly Way project check out <https://davidsuzuki.org/take-action/act-locally/butterflyway/>

In the coming weeks we will put out calls for volunteers to help with some of the outdoor projects at the school. Happy Earth Day everyone!

PAG - Parents Needed

The PAG will have the following positions open for the next school year 2021-22 and will be voted in at our AGM this May:

- **Vice Chair** - 1 year term that would then transition to the role of the Chair for a further 2 year term. This position is part of the Executive Committee for the PAG. Must be able to attend all PAG meetings (5 evenings per year) plus 2 additional meetings per month with the Executive and the School Administration.
- **Secretary** - 2 year term. This position is part of the Executive Committee for the PAG. Must be able to attend all PAG meetings (5 evenings per year) plus 2 additional meetings per month with the Executive and the School Administration.
- **Staff Appreciation** - 1 year term. Looking for 1-2 parents to Chair/Co-Chair this important position. Budget and general plans are already in place for next year.
- **Grade 6 Farewell** - 1 year term. Must be a Grade 5 Parent with a child going into Grade 6 in the fall. Looking for 1-2 parents to Chair/Co-Chair this annual event at the end of June.
- **Grade 6 Babysitting Course** - 1 year term. Must be a Grade 5 Parent with a child going into Grade 6 in the fall. This position does not require you to attend any PAG meetings. Must be able to coordinate/organize this important Spring event.

If you are interested in joining the PAG or finding out further information on any of these positions please email Melanie at: chair@roberthsmithpag.ca. Don't forget to checkout our PAG website: www.roberthsmithpag.weebly.com and our PAG Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/RobertHSmithPAG> (please like and follow us).