



# The Communiqué

June 21 - 25, 2021



## Message from the Admin Team

There are telltale signs around the school that we are weeks away from summer holidays. As we enter our final week of live remote learning there need to be “bouquets” shared with all of you. We have heard how difficult it has been to adjust to your new “work-mates” at home. We watch students here at school plugging away through lists and choice-boards. Our teachers continue to work from home or school hosting live meetings, providing feedback and looking for ways to nurture engagement with the learning tasks provided. We are almost there, folks. Your efforts must be congratulated.

Thanks to our PAG for the lunch treats this week. Staff were able to choose from a variety of empanadas and enjoyed special RHS themed cookies and sweets. Your messages of support and appreciation have kept us all going through the year.

We prepare to bid a formal farewell to our grade six students this week. Far from the special day and soirée that they would normally anticipate, staff and parents have worked to find alternatives that will help our children remember their time at RHS. Félicitations!

Monday, June 21, 2021	Day 1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Welcome to Kindergarten bags available for pick up; welcome message out to parents of 21-22 N – K students</li></ul>	
Tuesday, June 22, 2021	Day 2
Wednesday, June 23, 2021	Day 3
Thursday, June 24, 2021	Day 4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Live remote learning ends</li><li>Grade 6 Virtual Farewell Celebration</li></ul>	
Friday, June 25, 2021	Day 5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Device return deadline</li><li>Report cards sent electronically, 4 PM</li></ul>	

## RHS Staffing for 2021-2022

We completed our staffing plan for the coming year at the end of day on Friday. As you are likely aware, the WSD has been working with schools to reduce teaching positions. The implication for our school for next year was communicated with staff at dinner time on Friday, confirming that the school will lose one full teaching position. Below you will find the programme, grades and classroom compositions.

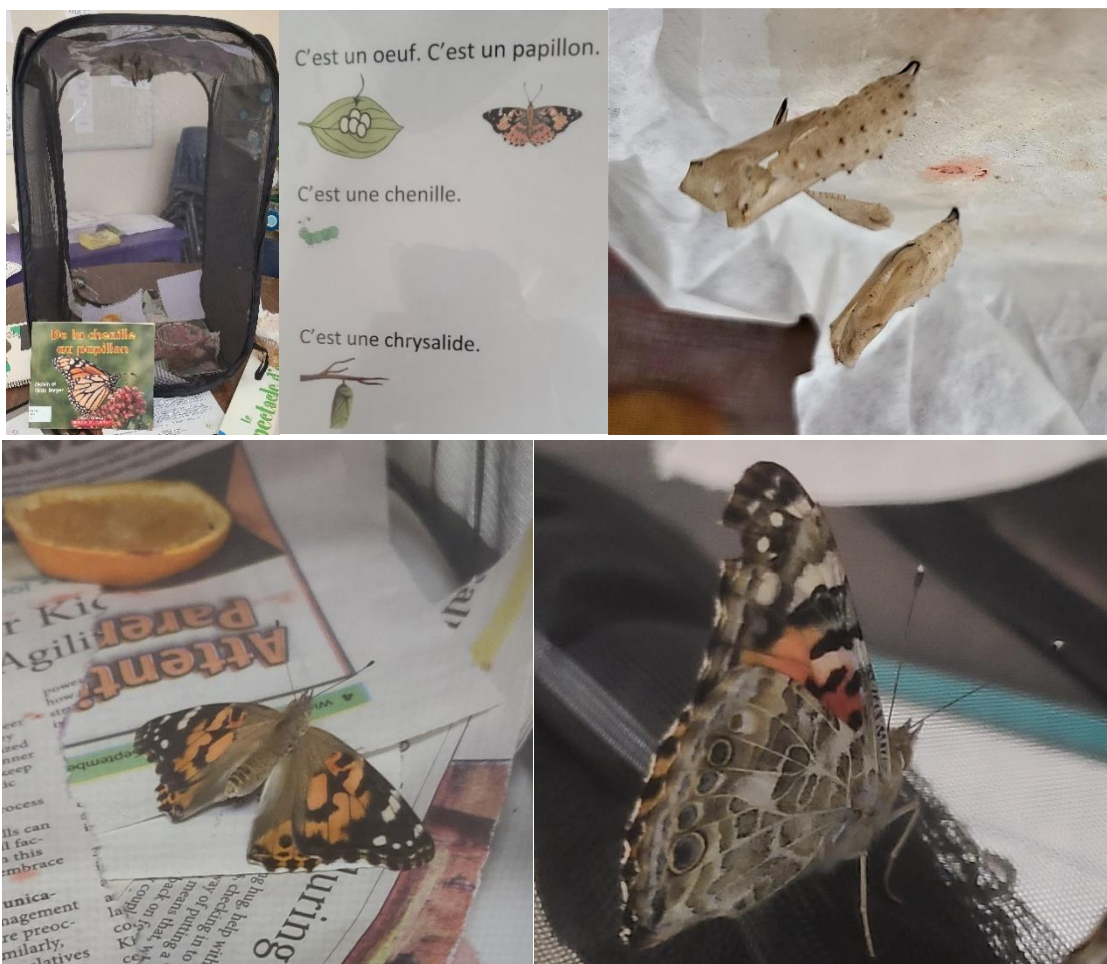
French Immersion Programme		English Programme	
Grade	Number of Classes	Grade	Number of Classes
Kindergarten	2 (AM and PM)	Nursery/Kindergarten	2 (AM and PM)
Grade 1	2	Grade 1/2 Multiage	1
Grade 2	2	Grade 3/4 Multiage	1
Grade 3	2	Grade 5/6 Multiage	2
Grade 4	2		
Grade 5/6 Multiage	3		

We will be meeting in teams on Monday to begin the process of placing students into classrooms. Students will learn of their classroom teacher with the final report card, which will be emailed on Friday, June 25<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. We would typically hold “meet your new classroom” sessions for all students in the last week of school. As that is not possible, we will determine how best to have teachers connect with their incoming students prior to the end of the school year. Stay tuned for more. A final staff list with any last updates will be provided in the Communiqué next week.

## Learning about Butterflies with Mme Copetti and Mrs. Daniels

It was an exciting week for some young caterpillars in the Nursery-Kindergarten classrooms: out from their chrysalides and into the world! Both Mme Copetti and Mrs. Daniels have butterfly dens in their classrooms, part of an educational effort to help our youngest students appreciate the beauty and importance of the natural environment and respect animal habitat.

One butterfly came out different than the others. Very different! The little guy’s wings are curled at the edges and one is bigger than the other. According to Mme. Copetti, “The students talked a lot about how it’s O.K. to be different, to look different.”



## Parent Advisory Group (PAG) Updates

### Thank-A-Teacher Thursday

This past week the PAG delivered some special messages and treats for our amazing staff! Every staff member (47 in total) received a personalized Thank you card along with 2 empanadas from La Pampa on Grant Ave and a Thank you imperial cookie from Frenchway Bakery on Lilac St. Frenchway also sent along a tray of assorted mini tarts for the staff to enjoy. Thank you to all the families who made a donation to Thank-A-Teacher in December. It is with the remaining funds that we were able to provide these treats for the staff - a great way to end the year! Thank you also to all the students and families that dropped off Thank you messages/art/crafts/cards to the bin in the front of the school - all have been delivered!



### Bill 64

At our AGM in May we had a lively discussion on Bill 64 "The Education Modernization Act". It was decided that the PAG would help keep parents informed and updated on this proposed Bill by the Provincial Government. We are pleased to announce that we have now added a new section to our PAG website that will be dedicated to Bill 64. Here, parents will find information and many further links to additional information all in one place! We will work hard to keep this spot updated with any new information or updates as they become available - so please check back often. We will also include any events that are open to parents - most likely there won't be any over the summer months but expect there to be some in the fall. The PAG has also decided to add this topic as an agenda item for each of the PAG meetings in the 2021-22 school year - so please consider attending. If you have any additional information, links or events regarding Bill 64 that you would like to see added to this section of our website, please send us an email (see below).

If you are interested in joining the PAG or finding out further information please email Melanie at: [chair@roberthsmithpag.ca](mailto:chair@roberthsmithpag.ca). Don't forget to check out our **PAG website**: [www.roberthsmithpag.weebly.com](http://www.roberthsmithpag.weebly.com) and our **PAG Facebook Page**: <https://www.facebook.com/RobertHSmithPAG> (please like and follow us).