



École Robert H. Smith School

The Communiqué

March 15 - 19, 2021

Message from Administration

It's always smart to mark the weekend on the calendar when the clocks spring forward. For many, this change seems like losing an hour of sleep and it throws off their body clocks. Perhaps we could all devote a bit more time to rest and recharging this *fin de semaine*.

Patrols

Patrols on duty this week from Rooms 115C (Mme Malapad's class).

Monday, March 15, 2021 Day 5

- "Beware the Ides of March."
- 12:00 PM deadline to sign up for parent conferences

Tuesday, March 16, 2021 Day 6

- 4:00 PM Report cards sent (digitally) to parents
- 7:00 – 9:00 Parent Advisory Group Meeting

Wednesday, March 17, 2021 Day 1

- St. Patrick's Day. "Sláinte!"



Thursday, March 18, 2021 Day 2

- Student-led Conferences - evening only

Friday, March 19, 2021 Day 3

- No classes - school closure
- Student-led Conferences - all day

Report Cards and Student-led Conferences

A link to your child's report card will be emailed on **Tuesday, March 16**. The link will enable you to access .pdf version of the report card. A signed, paper copy of the report card will be printed out and placed on file.

On Thursday and Friday, RHS will host virtual student-led conferences. Michael Absolum describes student-led conferences the following way:

Not only is the student the best person to tell his or her parents what he or she has learned, but if we believe that students build their knowledge by communicating what

they know, then providing an opportunity for the students to tell their family what they know can significantly assist with that learning ...

What do we mean by a student-led conference? We mean a conversation between the student, parents, and teacher that is focused on recent learning. The meeting setup is managed by the school and teacher, but the conversation is led by the student.

All participants in well-planned and organized student-led conferences have found them to be powerful experiences for students, parents, and teachers. The responsibility undertaken by the students to share and evidence their learning with their parents/caregivers, to show them what they have learned, becomes a key factor in enabling rich communication between all parties and strong motivation for learning. (Clarity in the Classroom: Using Formative Assessment for Building Learning-Focused Relationships, page 205)

During the student-led conferences next week, students will reflect on their strengths, identify areas to strengthen, and talk about goals they have set.

Here are some tips for conference success:

- ✓ Please log on at your appointment time with your child using the link provided in School Appointments.
- ✓ Your child can be on the same device.
- ✓ Multiple devices / logins can be accommodated if desired.
- ✓ If the teacher has sent something home to follow, ensure that your child has it ready.
- ✓ Review the report card in advance of parent conferences and note questions.
- ✓ If you need to set up an additional time to talk one-on-one with the teacher, please set up a separate time to do so.



Parents Advisory Group (PAG) Update

PAG Meeting - ALL Parents Welcome

Our next Virtual PAG meeting will this Tuesday, March 16th at 7pm. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend! For this meeting we will be hearing an update from the School Admin, discussing the results of the Environment Survey and what the next phase of the school grounds should be, fundraising updates, discussing how the virtual dance went and if it should be done again, as well as Open Positions with the PAG for next year. To receive login information to attend the meeting please email Ainsley at: secretary@roberthsmithpag.ca.

PAG - Parents Needed

The PAG is already starting to make plans for the next school year 2021-22 and as always we will need more parents to step forward and fill the roles that will become vacant at the end of this year (June). If you are interested in joining the PAG or finding out further information we would encourage you to attend the PAG meeting and/or contact us directly by email: chair@roberthsmithpag.ca.

Family Dance

A BIG Thank you to all the families that attended our 1st Virtual Family Dance Party on Friday night!

Fundraising

Don't forget to place your order for the Glenlea Plant Sale online at: www.glenleagreenhouses.com. **Remember to choose our school from the dropdown menu so that your order is included in this fundraiser and is delivered to our school.** Deadline for orders is April 15th and Plant Pick up will be at our school on May 17th. We recommend that you place your orders early as many of the popular items will sell out fast! If you have any questions or concerns regarding this fundraiser please email the Fundraising Committee at: fundraising@roberthsmithpag.ca

Grade 6 Babysitting Course

This year the PAG is offering the Grade 6 Babysitting course to all interested students virtually from home. The 8-hour course will run over a 3-day period as follows: Thursday, April 15th from 6pm-8pm. Friday, April 16th from 9am-12pm (Inservice Day, No School). Saturday, April 17th from 9am-12pm. Full details were sent out by email to all Grade 6 Families on Friday. Deadline to register and make payment is Tuesday, April 6th.

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). As always if you have any questions, concerns or would like more information on our PAG please email Melanie at: chair@roberthsmithpag.ca