



École Robert H. Smith School

# The Communiqué

October 13 - 16

## Message from the Administration

A tradition at this time of year is to reflect on ways we are thankful. For the start of the school year, we have so appreciated the kinds words of encouragement and support from parents in the RHS community. Students have restarted school this fall with health measures in place, and they have been cooperative and resilient.

As school leaders, we also want you to know how blessed we feel to have such a hard-working staff, willing to pitch in with ideas and coverage where needs arise. We particularly recognize the efforts of Special mention to our cheerleader-in-chief, Madame Greco, for leading a Friday morning parking lot tail-gate coffee party.

## Message from the Deputy Minister of Education

*Parents, guardians and caregivers,*

*Each of us continue to have a significant role in helping to support public health measures and reduce the spread of COVID-19.*

*As we head into the first holiday long weekend of the school year, I want to encourage you to consider how many people outside your household you have contact with. I hope you will celebrate Thanksgiving responsibly, so that we can limit the spread of the virus in our communities, and by extension, in our schools.*

*Dr. Roussin has encouraged Manitobans, and those visiting from out of province, to focus on the fundamentals to help stop the spread of COVID-19. This includes:*

- *staying home if you're sick, even if your symptoms are only mild;*
- *washing/sanitizing your hands frequently;*
- *covering your cough;*
- *practicing physical distancing when you are with people outside of your household; and*
- *wearing a mask in indoor public spaces in situations where you cannot physically distance, or as required by public health orders.*

*Manitoba Public Health has created a page online with more information on how to gather safely this Thanksgiving and at other fall events that are happening in our communities. This information can be found at: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/updates/holidays.html>.*

*Dana Rudy, Deputy Minister of Education*

## Upcoming Dates

October	
October 21	Grade 6 Immunizations in Gym
October 23	School Closure Day – MTS PD Day
October 30	Halloween Activities in classrooms

## School Patrols

This week **Room 208** is on patrol. Please remember to bring your flag and vest with you each day.

## Mad Science

École Robert H. Smith has had a long tradition of working with Mad Science, an organization that typically provided science enrichment in-person at the school. Now the organization is taking the learning to an online environment. Two classes will be held each day on Monday -Thursday, at 4:30 pm and 6:00 PM, with specific grades each day.



Monday	Grade 1-2
Tuesday	Grade 2-3
Wednesday	Grade 3-4
Thursday	Grade 4-6

Each class will have a maximum of 50 online participants; therefore, registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Future sessions will be held in Winter and Spring of 2021.

The classes will start the week of November 2 and will continue for six consecutive weeks ending the week of December 7. A Zoom link to the class will be emailed each week. Parents are encouraged to take part in the Zoom classes. Forty-five-minute classes will include demonstration/explanation of science ideas and experiments that can be conducted safely at home.

Registration will close on **Monday, October 19**. The fee includes weekly classes, take-home materials, and a weekly printout of required household items. Register at [www.manitoba.madscience.org](http://www.manitoba.madscience.org). The registration fee is as follows:

<b>Six- week program (per child)</b>	<b>\$88 plus GST</b>
<b>Pick up of Take-home materials at our office</b>	<b>NO CHARGE</b>
<b>Delivery of take-home materials</b>	<b>\$6 plus GST</b>

If you have questions, contact Mad Science at [msman@mymts.net](mailto:msman@mymts.net).

## Volunteers



Although we are not able to host volunteers in the building for the next little bit, we want all our amazing volunteers to stay current. Please watch for the renewal forms. They will be coming home in the next week. Please complete the required information and send everything back with your student. If you are able, please scan two pieces of identification and forward them to [tmccallum@wsd1.org](mailto:tmccallum@wsd1.org). If you are new to our school and would like to register to be an RHS Volunteer, let Tara McCallum know and she can send you the forms. We appreciate everything that our volunteers do. We look forward to being back together soon.

## Lost, but Found

Do you recognize any of the following items? Talk to Mrs. McCallum (**204-488-1137**) at the front desk if you do.



## Koats For Kids

<https://unitedwaywinnipeg.ca/koatsforkids/>

According to Rose Passante, manager of Koats for Kids, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, stress among families and individuals continues to be high. There have been job losses by the thousands, and many

Winnipeggers are on the edge of poverty for the first time. So many families and children have been affected. Money that parents may have set aside for the coming winter is simply no longer there. Every year, we see an increase in requests for gently used winter coats, hats, mitts, scarves, ski pants, and boots. This year, we expect the need to be even greater. **Koats for Kids needs your help – now more than ever.**

Winnipeggers are invited to drop off individual donations of children's winter outerwear to any Perth's location or Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Station. Larger donations can be dropped off at AMJ Campbell Van Lines at 12-1333 Niakwa Road. The Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service delivers the donated items, on a regular basis, to the Koats for Kids distribution centre, where they are sorted for repair, cleaning or disposal. Once the coats have been cleaned, they are distributed across Winnipeg. Since 1989 over 100,000 winter outerwear items have been distributed.

If you are a family in need of winter gear from the programme, let Ms. Beer at École Robert H. Smith School know (204-488-1137). Ms. Beer will order all the winter gear in bulk on behalf of families (as opposed to separating orders by family unit).



## Lunch Time Sign Out at the Office

Students that go home for lunch must sign out at the office before they are dismissed (Oak Street doors near the office). If you have paid for the lunch program service, you need to let Safe Arrival know before 9 am that your student will be away from 12:00-12:55 pm. Finally, if a student leaves at 12:00 pm they must stay away for the whole of the lunch break. Please don't return to school before 12:55 pm.