



# The Communiqué

**SPRIT WEEK:** December 14-18, 2020

## Theme days:

Monday, Dec. 14 Day 6	<i>"Get a Move on! Day"</i> – wear gym pants, hoodies or other athletic wear
Tuesday, Dec. 15 Day 1	<i>Comfy Cozy Day</i> – wear your PJs or other comfy clothes
Wednesday, Dec. 16 Day 2	<i>Cheer on!</i> - wear a jersey, hat or other sports gear
Thursday, Dec. 17 Day 3	<i>Cool in the Shade Day</i> – put on beach T-shirt and sunglasses :)
Friday, Dec. 18 Day 4	<i>Holiday Fashion</i> – wear an ugly Holiday sweater or Santa hat LAST DAY of SCHOOL before the Holidays



## Message from the Administration

On behalf of École Robert H. Smith School, especially the receiving families, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the small cash contributions to hampers. Over the past few weeks, classrooms collected enough monetary donations to purchase gift cards for each family. We appreciate the generosity. You have opened your hearts to several families in our community: the true meaning of giving.

There will be a very short Communiqué on December 20<sup>th</sup> - likely a photomontage of highlights of the week along with special thanks to our families for the weeks of treats, beautiful cards, and messages of support.

## School Patrols

Patrols from Room 115C (formerly 210) are on duty this week.

## First Two Weeks of January

Thank you to all who have responded to our Permission Click survey that asked whether families were choosing in-school or remote learning in the first two weeks of January. We regret that some families received the email message multiple times – we're looking into why that happened. The deadline for choosing the remote learning option is Monday, December 14. For quick access to the link, here it is: <https://permission.click/MN06N/ca>

The survey results so far reveal that most students will be attending school in-person in January (about 90%). For families that are choosing to remain at home for those two weeks, please know that teachers will design learning for that period so that students will not feel behind when they return. The exact nature of the remote learning will vary by teacher. For example, some remote learning experiences will be delivered by Google Classroom, some by SeeSaw. Staff from the school will check in during the two-week period.

## Parent Advisory Group (PAG) Update

This past week we held our 3rd Thank-A-Teacher Thursday! A HUGE thank you to the families who supplied snacks/baking and the treasured messages to the teachers and staff. As well we were able to have our 3rd Pay-It-Forward Thank-A-Teacher Thursday. We delivered snacks/treats to the 50 Teachers and Staff at Norquay School. Have you seen the picture of the Amazing Vienna Cake on our PAG Facebook page?

This week we are working on organizing a catered lunch for the staff with the money that was generously donated. Hopefully, the lunch will happen on Thank-A-Teacher Thursday - full details will be in the next Newsletter. Please continue to send messages to any or all of the staff in your child's backpack this Thursday. We are considering starting up this initiative again in the new year if there is support from families. Please let us know if you would like to see this continue in the new year.

**Wine Raffle:** We are so excited to announce that we sold a total of 983 Wine Raffle Tickets which raised \$4915! This will allow the school to purchase 9 sound amplification devices (microphone/speaker) for 9 classroom teachers. A BIG Thank you to all the families that purchased tickets and supported this worthwhile Fundraiser. The actual Ticket draw will take place on Monday, December 14th at 9:30am outside the school front doors. This will allow parents to attend in person - however, you do not need to be in attendance to win. All winners will be contacted directly following the draw. We will also announce the winners in the next Newsletter. Good luck to everyone who has a ticket and hope to see some of you at the school on Monday morning for the draw!

Don't forget to checkout our **PAG website:** [www.roberthsmithpag.weebly.com](http://www.roberthsmithpag.weebly.com) and our **PAG Facebook Page:** École Robert H Smith PAG (please like and follow us, we will work at posting each week). As always if you have any questions, concerns or would like more information on our PAG please email Melanie at: [chair@roberthsmithpag.ca](mailto:chair@roberthsmithpag.ca)

## School Closure Day Clarification

On November 12 the Minister of Education announced that three additional non-instructional days would be added to the school calendar for the 2020-2021 school year. In addition to the two previously announced non-instructional days on November 30 and December 7, we will also have a non-instructional day on **Monday, March 8, 2021.**

## Happy News from Madame Major

We are always on the hunt for happy news to share! Many of our students in grade 6 French Immersion will have had Madame Major as a classroom teacher last year. While Madame is away on maternity leave this school year, congratulations go out for the recent addition to her family! Madame Major and her husband welcomed a baby girl, Naomi Audrey Major, into the world this fall. Félicitations!

