

ÉCOLE ROBERT H. SMITH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

September/Septembre 2021



Well, it's hard to believe we are winding up the second week of school already. We are starting to feel at home, as part of the RHS family, and continue to get all our systems in place.

Newsletters will be coming home monthly with a short, weekly "Week at a Glance" message, sent on Fridays, for the following week. We are in the process of meeting with all teachers to learn more about what is happening in classrooms. From there, we will set up learning goals as a staff. We look forward to getting to know the students better as the year progresses.

Aside from a new Administration Team, we welcome a few other new faces to our staff. RHS welcomes Mian Bosson (Grade 5/6 French Immersion until Mme Jennifer Major returns from leave at the end of October), Sarah Bacon (Grade 1/2 English), Hope Aaron (Grade 1 French Immersion to cover for Mme Graff during her absence), Mykaila Solomon (Grade 5/6 English), Myriah Tollenaar (Grade 4 French Immersion until Mme Ashley Edgar returns from leave in the spring), June Chau (Inclusive Education Resource Teacher), Joseph Caliguiri (Educational Assistant) as well as Mme Mary-Anne Thomson (Educational Assistant) who has returned after a year's absence.

Mr. Adam Dyck Principal/Directeur
and Mme Sarah Arnold, Directrice-Adjointe/Vice Principal



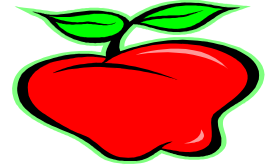
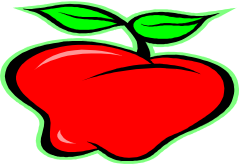
National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

September 30, 2021

No Classes

As you are all aware, the government has declared September 30th as the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation and schools will be closed. This means that Orange Shirt Day will take place on September 29th.

To recognize the harm done to Indigenous people from Canada's policy of Residential Schools, students are encouraged to wear orange on that day. A committee is currently organizing how students will acknowledge the importance of this day. This effort is part of the school's ongoing commitment to infuse Indigenous perspectives and continue to move toward reconciliation.



École Robert H. Smith School Teacher Assignments 2021 - 2022

Principal

Mr. A. Dyck

Vice Principal

Mme S. Arnold

Room 128 AM	Nursery & Kindergarten English	Mrs. T. Daniels
Room 128 PM	Nursery & Kindergarten English	Mrs. T. Daniels
Room 123 AM	Kindergarten French Immersion	Mme O. Copetti
Room 123 PM	Kindergarten French Immersion	Mme O. Copetti
Room P1	Grades 3/4 English	Ms. J. Mignone
Room P2	Grades 1/2 English	Ms. S. Bacon
Room P5	Grade 1 French Immersion	Mme L. Mondor
Room P6	Grade 1 French Immersion	Mme H. Aaron
Room P3	Grade 2 French Immersion	Mme F. Greco
Room P4	Grade 2 French Immersion	Mme R. Saunders
Room 113	Grade 3 French Immersion	Mme H. Tucker
Room 114	Grade 3 French Immersion	Mme B. Brumel
Room 117	Grade 4 French Immersion	Mme S. Carstens
Room 120	Grade 4 French Immersion	Mme M. Tollenaar (Mme A. Edgar)
Room 210	Grade s 5/6 English	Ms. M. Solomon
Room 212	Grade 5/6 English	TBA
Room 201	Grade 5/6 French Immersion	M M. Bosson (Mme J. Major)
Room 202	Grade 5/6 French Immersion	Mme M. Champagne
Room 203	Grade 5/6 French Immersion	Mme K. Bishop-Malapad

Support Staff:

Inclusive Education Resource Teacher

Ms. J. Chau

Performing Arts

Mr. J. Ossachuk

Physical Education Teacher

Mr. C. Donato

Language Monitor

We are happy to announce that our "monitrice de langue", Mme Mariam Sidibe, will be returning again this year.

Her first day is Tuesday, September 21st. She will be supporting French language development in our French Immersion classrooms.

Picture Day

École Robert H Smith will be hosting school picture day on **Monday, October 4th**. Don't forget to bring your best smile that day!

However, class group photos have been suspended again this year.

Be **SUPPORTIVE**
Be **CAREFUL**
Be **ALERT**
Be **KIND**

COVID Screening

Thank you to those parents who continue to pre-screen their children before sending them off to school. We kindly request that during drop-off and pick-up times that you respect the 2-metre distance between other parents and children and that you come wearing a mask.

https://www.gov.mb.ca/asset_library/en/coronavirus/covid19_screening_checklist.pdf

IMPORTANT REMINDERS TO PARENTS & GUARDIANS

We do encourage students to ride their bikes or skateboard to school; always being careful of themselves and others. All Children under the age of 18 must wear a helmet. Skateboards are permitted, but only in the designated area. (North West corner of the track).

Bicycles and scooters are not permitted on the school grounds until after 4:00 p.m.



Following Winnipeg School Division Policy:

Cell phones and video games are not permitted at school.

As well, all adults should turn off their cell phones when they are on school property and/or in the school. This measure is in place for the safety of the children; in the event someone is taking pictures without permission.



By way of reminder, our students are asked not to wear their "wheelie" shoes (*Heelys*) to school during the school day. They scuff the floors, and can be potential hazards on stairs or as children are moving through the building. We thank you for your support with this.

Please be respectful of our procedures to keep all the children safe.

LEGAL CUSTODY/GUARDIANSHIP UPDATE

If there are custody agreement(s), or a restraining order that could provide direction to the school regarding a non-custodial parent's contact with one of our students, please provide our office with a copy.

Without a copy of the legal documents, we must give equal access and information to both parents.

If there are any changes please provide us with current legal documents.



Patrols are now in place, starting with our previously trained grade six students. This crew will support student safety until our new patrol squad is trained and will start their duties on October 4th.

Patrols will be located at the following intersections:

Kingsway & Oak Kingsway & Ash Grosvenor & Oak

Patrols will be on post according to the schedule that follows:

Times for Patrol Duty:

8:40 - 8:50 a.m.

3:25 - 3:40 p.m.

Students should use the routes at which patrols are stationed.

We ask that students do not arrive at school before 8:45 a.m. as there is no supervision prior to that time.

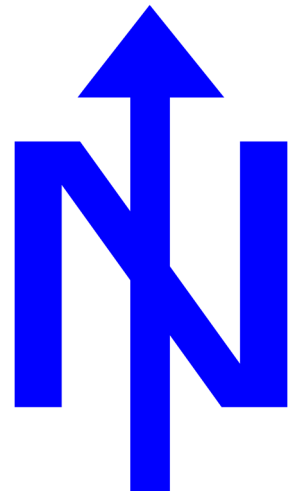
Stop, Drop and Go

We just wanted to let you know that our Stop, Drop and Go sign is up North bound on Ash St.

In order to avoid congestion at that spot, we ask that you drive north on Ash, stop at the sign and have your child exit on the same side as the sidewalk.

At pick-up time, if your child is not ready and waiting for you, please do not stop and wait - continue to drive and come back around.

In order to keep our students safe, please avoid using Oak St. as a drop off. It is a bus drop-off zone.



There are still a few families that have not completed the information required for classroom school supplies.

Please follow this link to access the page.

<https://permission.click/DEJN6/ca>



A primary goal of physical education programming is to allow students to build physical literacy. Physical literacy refers to building the physical confidence to participate in a variety of physical activities by building basic movement skills (run, jump, hop, skip, gallop, overhand throw, underhand throw, kick, dynamic balance, etc.). It involves building knowledge of why physical activity is so important and it involves building motivation to participate in physical activity on a regular basis. During physical education classes, students will have the opportunity to build physical literacy through a variety of movement experiences. These could include sports, gymnastics, dance, fitness activities, yoga, outdoor activities, low-organized games (e.g., tag), etc..

As we begin the 2021/2022 school year and as we continue to deal with the realities of the pandemic, aspects of physical education programming will continue to be adapted to maintain safety. Throughout the month of September most classes will take place outside (weather permitting). A focus on hand hygiene and sanitizing equipment will allow students to continue to use equipment as they work to build a variety of movement skills and play a variety of games throughout the year.

Clothing

Students will not change for physical education until further notice. This is to reduce congestion within the smaller change room area and to maintain the cohort system. On physical education days, students should come to school dressed in clothing which is appropriate and safe for physical activity (will not get caught or impede movement). If possible, jewelry which could be hazardous (dangling, long necklaces, earrings, etc.) should be removed prior to physical education class. *All students will require a pair of non-marking runners for physical education classes.*

Injury and Concussion Protocol

If your child has sustained an injury, please provide a note stating their current limitations. The Winnipeg School Division has developed a concussion protocol which must be followed in schools. This protocol requires medical clearance for a student exhibiting concussion symptoms before they are able to return to activity. Clearance must be provided in writing prior to returning to activity. The Winnipeg School Division protocol can be found [here \(https://www.winnipegsd.ca/page/9746/wsd-concussion-protocol\)](https://www.winnipegsd.ca/page/9746/wsd-concussion-protocol). Your support in creating a safe environment in which all students can be physically active is greatly appreciated.

Extracurricular Physical Education Activities

As the year begins there will be a return to some of the extracurricular activities which existed pre-pandemic. Due to cohorting restrictions, the scale of some of these activities will have to be reduced. Running club will be the first extracurricular activity. Students from grades 4 to 6 are eligible to participate. Due to cohorting, classes will be given separate days to participate to maintain distance. You will receive a permission form for all extracurricular activities throughout the year. Parent permission will be required for a student to participate. Physical education extracurricular activities can be found on the online calendar (<https://goo.gl/Mqd42K>). This calendar will be updated if changes need to occur throughout the year. In addition, activities which are weather dependent will be updated in real time if postponements or cancellations must occur. Please check the calendar for updates throughout the school year. Physical calendars will also be posted throughout the school.

Terry Fox School Run

The annual Terry Fox Run will again take place during physical education classes this year. Students will learn about Terry Fox throughout the month of September. If you would like to contribute to the Terry Fox Foundation under Robert H. Smith, please visit <http://www.terryfox.ca/RobertHSmith> to donate. Thank you for your support.



Mr. Donato - Physical Education Teacher

RECESS SCHEDULE

morning recess: **10:10 - 10:25 and 10:30 - 10:35 a.m.**

afternoon recess: **2:00 - 2:15 and 2:20 - 2:35 p.m.**

RHS MODERN BAND

It's exciting to get rolling with another year here at RHS! This year marks our transition to a full fledged K-6 Modern Band Program. Over the past five years we have been transitioning to a Modern Band program by purchasing instruments and building programming. PAG has supported us with this endeavour with much support including purchasing: electric drum kit, electric guitars, electric bass, amps, lights, microphones, and more! Modern band teaches kids to perform, improvise and compose using the popular styles that they know and love including rock, pop, reggae, hip hop, R&B and other modern styles. Modern band classes feature guitar, bass, keyboard, drums, vocals, technology, and computers. Modern Band looks to engage all learners through a student centered approach that emphasizes composition and performance. We look to use the extensive musical knowledge that our students come to school with and create classroom communities that value learning from each other and sharing what we know with each other.

With the 1-4 students there will be a large focus on building core skills and creating using the drums, ukulele, keyboard, and voice in these first couple months. Our 5-6 students have been forming "mini bands", choosing their preferred instrument and are hard at work on their first song of the year. In grades 5 and 6 I try to provide as many first and last recesses as "open jam" times for students to come down and work on their own skills or with their bands. I am working on creating a schedule to allow all grade 5/6 classes this opportunity but due to the restrictions of cohorts and recess schedules it is taking some time to get sorted out.

I am in the process of organizing lunch clubs for the older students and will update as they get underway.

RHS is a registered Little Kids Rock school! Little Kids Rock provides resources, PD, and support for Modern Band programs. To learn more about what Little Kids Rock is check out

<https://www.littlekidsrock.org/>

I look forward to a music filled year and am hopeful for ways to share the hard work your kids are doing with the community!

Thanks for the continued support! Feel free to reach out with any questions you might have, may it be instrument related or you are looking to access resources at home for your child by emailing me at jossachuk@wsd1.org.

Jerry Ossachuk - Performing Arts



MEDICATION FOR STUDENTS

Every year, the school gets a number of requests for medication to be administered to students. If parents request that the school administer any medication to their child, a letter from a medical doctor ***must support the request***. Form letters to this effect are available at the school office.

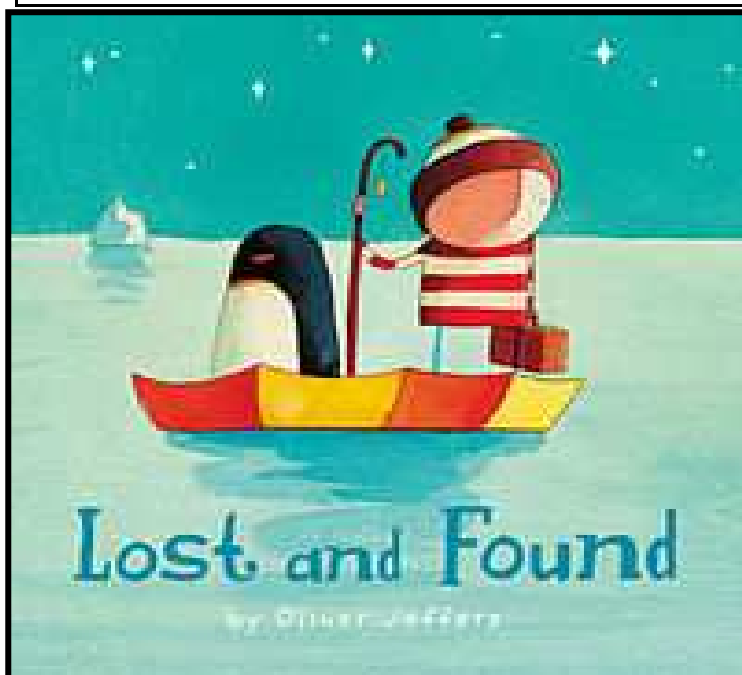
Please **DO NOT** send any medication, including over the counter pain relief or cough medicine, etc. without coming in to complete the permission form.

The prescribed medication must be brought from the home by the parents, guardian, or other reliable adult. The medication container must have the dispensing instructions noted on it and must have the official label of the pharmacist. The container should be one for school use - a separate container should be kept at home. Students with asthma who bring "inhalers" to school will be allowed to carry them at all times. Students who have epi-pens must carry them in a pouch with them at all times. It is up to parents to ensure that the children's epi-pens are not expired.



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

SCHOOL OFFICE (HOURS: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.)	204-488-1137
SCHOOL FAX NUMBER	204-487-1463
SCHOOL E-MAIL ADDRESS	rhsmith@wsd1.org
WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION WEBSITE	https://www.winnipegssd.ca
ÉCOLE ROBERT H. SMITH SCHOOL WEBSITE	https://www.winnipegssd.ca/RobertHSmith
PARENT ADVISORY GROUP WEBSITE	http://roberthsmithpag.weebly.com



Every year we have numerous articles which are Lost and sometimes Found. Any unclaimed articles are sorted and donated to such charities as the Salvation Army or inner city schools, at the end of each month.

If personal articles are labeled with your child's name we will do our best to return the items to their owners.

Once a month we will send a photo of all the items that have been lost to our families. Please call 204-488-1137 if you recognize something



EMERGENCY PRACTICES

During the course of a school year, we are mandated to practice **10 Fire Drills** and also prepare children in the school for a **Lock Down** in the event there is a crisis or an unwelcome intruder.

We also practice a school **Evacuation**.

Our offsite safe location is St. Andrew's United Church.

We have adjusted our drills to comply with COVID -19 safety measures.

Staff will always debrief with children after every drill for all emergency measure practices. Please do not hesitate to call the school if you need any clarification.

FRIENDLY REMINDER TO PET OWNERS

Pets are **NOT** permitted on school grounds at anytime.

We would like to keep the field as clean and as safe as possible for our children.

If you would like to call Animal Services, their telephone number is
(204) 986-2155.

(non-emergency police services).



PAG NEWS:

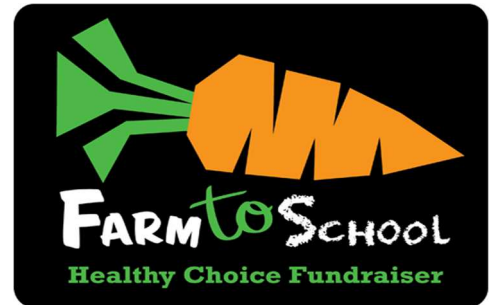
Greetings from the PAG! My name is Melanie Dorrington and I am the current Chair of the Parents Advisory Group (PAG) for our school. We are excited to start this school year with some new PAG Directors and we encourage any/all parents to attend a PAG meeting, check out our PAG website or even our PAG Facebook page (see links below). We will do our best to include any PAG updates in this school newsletter throughout the year. With Covid restrictions still in place, we may not be able to fully resume all of our PAG events and activities - remember when we got our families all dressed up in costumes and got together in the school gym for an Epic Halloween Family Dance? - well, that won't be able to happen this year but we will get creative and find ways to still support and celebrate our great school!

Environment Committee: Have you seen the changes on the school Playground? Over the summer we hired a local artist to add colour and activities to the hardtop surfaces of the school playground - the kids seem to love it! A BIG Thank you to all the parents and families that volunteered their time over the summer to water, weed and care for our outdoor plants and gardens. Next time you are at the school be sure to check out all the veggies growing in the garden on Oak Street next to the Staff Parking Lot - can you spot the pumpkin???

Fundraising: We are excited to announce that our much loved Veggie Fundraiser with Peak of the Market is back and just in time for Thanksgiving!!!

Full details are being emailed to parents from the school - so watch your inbox! This year the fundraiser is being done all online - the direct link is: <https://www.farmtoschool.ca/>

**Remember that you can also donate veggies to the food bank with this fundraiser - in 2019 our school families donated 126 bundles - let's try to double it this year!



Also, we have once again teamed up with Mabels Labels! If you need any labels for your child's belongings for: school, daycare, sports or activities - Mabels Labels has everything you need. When placing an order don't forget to select our school! Go to: [Mabels Labels](#)

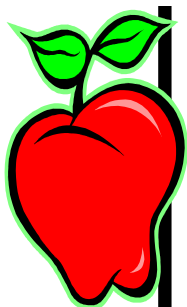
Open Positions: The PAG is needing a parent to fill the role of Secretary for a 2 year term. There are 5 evening PAG meetings per year plus 2 monthly daytime meetings that the Secretary would need to attend. We are hoping to find someone before our first meeting - so if you are interested or would like more info, please email Melanie at: chair@roberthsmithpag.ca.

PAG Meeting: The first PAG meeting of the year will be on **Tuesday, October 5th at 7pm**. This meeting will be a virtual meeting.

If you are interested in joining the PAG or finding out further information please email Melanie at: chair@roberthsmithpag.ca.

Don't forget to check out our **PAG website:** www.roberthsmithpag.weebly.com and our

PAG Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/RobertHSmithPAG> (please like and follow us).



SAFE ARRIVAL

<http://go.schoolmessenger.ca>
or

1-855-278-4513

Remember to call before

9:00 a.m.

if your child will be late or away.

Thank you!

SEPTEMBER/SEPTEMBRE 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6 Labour Day/ Fête du Travail	Day 1 7 In Service No School	Day 2 8 First Day Welcome Back! Lunch Program Begins	Day 3 9	Day 4 10	11
			Interviews & Staggered Classes for N & K			
12	Day 5 13 N & K Regular Classes Start Today	Day 6 14 8:00am Running Club Rooms: 201,202,203,120	Day 1 15	Day 2 16 8:00am Running Club Rooms: 210,212,117	Day 3 17	18
19	Day 4 20  In Service No School	Day 5 21 8:00am Running Club Rooms: 201,202,203,120	Day 6 22	Day 1 23 8:00am Running Club Rooms: 210,212,117	Day 2 24	25
					LOOKING AHEAD IN OCTOBER	
26	Day 3 27	Day 4 28 8:00am Running Club Rooms: 201,202,203,120	Day 5 29 Orange Shirt Day 8:00am Running Club Rooms: 210,212,117 Grade 4's in P1	Day 6 30 The National Day of Truth and Reconciliation No School	4th Picture Day	
					11h Thanksgiving Day/Action de Grâce - Classes Closed	
					22nd MTS PD DAY - Classes Closed	