

Russell Public School Newsletter

December 2013
Volume 1, Issue 4

Stacey McCready
Principal



14 Mill Street
Russell, ON., K4R 1E1

Phone:
613-445-2190

Fax:
1-855-484-6073

Visit RPS on the Web!

<http://russell.ucdsb.on.ca>

And Stay Connected - Like us on Facebook and Follow us on Twitter to keep up on the latest and greatest!



Russell Public School



@RussellPSchool

Featuring the young Artists at RPS...

Keep an eye out for some of our student's masterpieces featured in J-J Clarke's Weather Window on the local CTV news 6 o'clock broadcast.



From the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents and Supporters of Russell Public School,

We have been busy at RPS and have many exciting events happening in the next few weeks!

Everyone is invited to our Holly Carnival on Saturday, December 7th from 10am-2pm. There will be games, prizes, silent auction, baking and of course, the ever popular Santa Shop. The Santa Shop is Christmas shopping for kids only - children come out with wrapped gifts for their whole family at prices ranging from .50 cents to \$2.00. Come out and enjoy!

Join us for our first Family Movie Night on Friday, December 13th at 6:30 p.m. We will be showing the movie "Arthur's Christmas" in the gym. Admission is free but donations to Champions for Kids are welcome.

Please mark your calendars for the annual Christmas Concerts on Tuesday, December 17th. We will have two concerts this year - a primary concert & a junior concert. The primary concert (Kindergarten-grade 3) will begin at 6:30 p.m. and the junior concert (grades 4-6 including Mrs. Joseph's 3/4 class) will begin at 7:30 p.m. In case of a snow day, the concerts will be postponed until Wednesday, December 18th.

We would like to express our appreciation for all the help that individual parents and the Parent Council provide to support our many programs on a daily basis.

So much is accomplished at Russell Public with your continued support.

On behalf of all of us at Russell Public School we sincerely wish you a peaceful, happy holiday season and best of health for your families. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

As always, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Stacey McCready
Principal

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Did you know many RPS teachers have class websites?

Remember to check your child's class website often for class activities, updates and resources!

What's Happening at RPS...

Music Program

This year RPS students are being treated to weekly music classes with Mrs. Heather Huisman. She will join classes on Friday's to teach students the basics of rhythm and music literacy in fun and entertaining ways. Sessions with students in grades 1-3 have now come to an end, while sessions with kindergartens and grades 4-6 began on November 28th.

Reading Buddies -

November also marked the kick-off of the reading buddy program, where older students will be paired with kindergartens for weekly reading sessions.

The older students were given training on how to work on reading with younger students to make the most of opportunity.

The Healthy Snack Program -

Thanks to a grant received by the school, the healthy snack program will run again this year at RPS. On Tuesdays a basket with the healthy snack of the week will be delivered to each class to be shared with students.

As with all of our extra-curricular activities, volunteers are needed to assist in the delivery of this program. Please get in touch with the school if you are interested in helping out.

Things to look forward to

Christmas Concert - Our Christmas concert will be held in the gym at Russell P.S. on the evening of Tuesday December 17th. Primary students (JK-3) will perform from 6:30 pm - 7:15 pm. Following a 15 minute intermission, junior students (4-6 including Mrs. Joseph's 3/4 class) will perform from 7:30 pm - 8:15 pm. We look forward to seeing you there!

Ahoy Parents - There are exciting projects in the works for the New Year, including an RPS production of a Pirates Musical. Stay tuned for more information. For a sneak peak, check out our FaceBook page for a photo from chorus rehearsals on the RPS FaceBook page.

RPS In The Community



Festive Fun! On Sunday November 24th Jinx the Lynx and a number of RPS students bundled up to march in the Russell Santa Claus Parade.

Keep in Touch - The best way to be involved is to stay connected. At RPS we have many tools to share information, (agendas and communication books, our website, class web pages, Facebook and Twitter updates), including our monthly newsletter. To keep RPS families better connected to what's going in the school we are piloting a new format for the newsletter coordinated by a parent volunteer. To submit content related to a school event or activity for the newsletter please send it to newsletter.rps@gmail.com.

When the weather outside is frightful...

Reminder for information on school bus cancellations you can:

- ✦ Call Student Transportation of Eastern Ontario (STEO) 1-866-629-0629 for a pre-recorded message - cancellations will be recorded by 6.15 am.
- ✦ Access the Website at www.steo.ca and click on the Delay or Cancellation feature.
- ✦ Listen to local radio stations, cancellations will be broadcasted starting at 6.15 am.

Unless otherwise announced, the school will remain open for students and staff.

If the snow day falls on a hot dog or pizza day, the hot lunch program will be cancelled. Students need to bring their own lunch.

Contact Information for Russell Public School

Telephone: 613-445-2190
Fax: 1-855-484-6073

Absence Line:
613-445-2190, press 1.

It is important that you call the absence line if your child is away or late for school. Messages can be left 24 hours/day.



RPS Families Need to Know Important Safety Enhancements at School

You may have already noticed but we have recently had a camera/buzzer system installed at our front door.

The system will be activated in the next few weeks and will require all visitors to ring the bell at the front door. Visitors are asked to check-in at the office once entering the school.

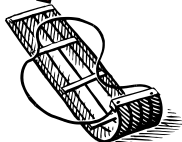
This system has been put in as a security measure for all students and staff. Thank you for your cooperation.

Have fun, play safe!

When enjoying winter sports, it's just as important to wear a helmet as when cycling during the summer. Here are a few tips to stay safe this winter:

- ✦ Wear a hockey helmet when playing hockey, ice-skating or sledding;
- ✦ Wear a ski or snowboard helmet when downhill skiing or snowboarding;
- ✦ Do not wear a bicycle helmet, as they are not designed for winter sports;
- ✦ Winter helmets should fit snugly and be insulated
- ✦ Replace the helmet if it has been dropped or the wearer has been in a fall or collision;
- ✦ Helmets should be replaced every 5 years.

For more tips on how you can help keep your family healthy, visit www.eohu.ca





Items most needed by the Good Neighbours Food Bank:

- Cereal
- Peanut Butter
- Jam
- Beef Stew
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Kid's Pasta
- Canned ham
- Canned chicken
- Canned turkey
- Canned tuna
- Canned salmon
- Meal helpers
- Canned potatoes
- Rice
- Ketchup
- Mustard
- Relish
- Tomato Juice
- Fruit Juice
- Coffee
- School Snacks
- Granola Bars (all kinds)
- Small canned fruits for kids lunch
- Cookies (all kinds)
- Pudding/Jello
- Canned fruits (dessert)

** No glass containers or perishable items please!**

RPS Annual Food Drive December 9-13, 2013

RPS will be holding its annual non-perishable food drive next week to benefit *The Good Neighbours Food Bank/ la Banque Alimentaire Bons Voisins* in Embrun.

While every contribution helps, a list of most needed items has been provided by the food bank.

Please have students bring items to their home rooms.

We thank you for past and continued support of those in need.

Thank You for Your Generosity

Thank you to everyone who participated in Spirit Days over the past few weeks in support of the *Valoris Christmas Elves Campaign* to ensure that Children in need in Prescott-Russell receive presents on Christmas morning!

It was great to all the great hats, cozy pj's, crazy hair and Christmas colours that staff and students were sporting.

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks for the funds raised in support of Mrs. Zych through Toonie Tuesdays held at both Russell Public School and Russell High School in November.



On behalf of the Christmas Elves Campaign we would like to thank all families for their generous donations. Together the school has raised over \$950. These funds will be used to purchase Christmas presents for over 18 RPS students in need. Thank you and a Very Merry Christmas to all.

With Kind Regards,
Carole Anne Hoffman, Valoris Community Worker
Stacey McCready, Principal

*"Remember there's no such thing as a small act of kindness.
Every act creates a ripple with no logical end."*

~ Scott Adams



DECEMBER 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Parent Council Meeting @ 6:45pm	3 Spirit Day - Christmas colours	4 Citrus Order Pickup 3:30-7:30 pm @ Russell High School	5	6	7 Holly Carnival 10am-2pm
8	9	10	11	12	13 Movie Night 6:30 pm @ RPS	14
RPS Annual Food Drive						
15	16	17 Christmas Concert K-3~ 6:30 - 7:15 4-6~ 7:30 - 8:15	18 Snow Date for Christmas Concert	19	20 PD DAY	21
22	23	24	25 Merry Christmas	26	27	28
Christmas Holiday						
29	30	31 Happy New Year				
Christmas Holiday						

Other Important Dates to Put in you Calendar...

Monday January 6, 2014
 Friday January 31, 2014
 Monday February 17, 2014
 Friday March 7, 2014
 March 10-14, 2104

Back to School
 PD DAY
 Family Day Holiday
 PD DAY
 March Break

Stay tuned for more events and activities to be announced in January!

LIBRARY REJUVENATION FUND - Christmas 2013

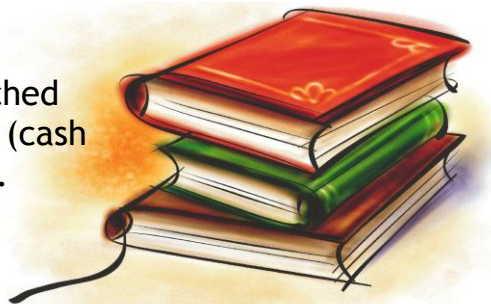
We are approaching that time of year when many RPS families generously offer Christmas gifts to staff.

While we are very appreciative of these gestures, this year the staff once again encourage you to consider foregoing the traditional gifts in favour of participating in the Library Rejuvenation initiative, which has in itself become a tradition at RPS.

You may make a monetary donation to the fund on behalf of yourself, your child, your child's teacher or someone else. Money collected will be used to purchase materials in order to keep our library current and an exciting place for students to access. This is truly a gift that will keep giving!

If you'd like to contribute, please fill in the attached form and return to the school with your donation (cash or a cheque payable to RUSSELL PUBLIC SCHOOL).

Thank you for your continued support.



RUSSELL PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARY REJUVENATION Christmas 2013



Name: _____



I would like to make this donation in honour of:

(Staff Member's Name)

Message:

