



# *From the Raven's Nest...*

for Friday, January 28, 2022

Dear Families,

**Everyone on the same page...** It is hard to believe that we are halfway through the school year, but the days continue to tick along. One of the school wide projects that we have been developing is common language that can be used with the student around their behaviour expectations here at Rockheights. These expectations are consistent for all members of our community, across all areas of our community and during all times of day. Whether that is in the class, in the halls, out on the playground, or when the students are in the community, we have the same expectations for all members of our community. The expectations are:



**WE ACT  
& SPEAK  
CONSIDERATELY**



**WE HAVE  
OUR  
MATERIALS**



**WE DO  
OUR  
TASKS**



**WE ARE  
WHERE WE  
BELONG**



These expectations are posted in all of our classes, around the school, and staff have been working with students on helping clarify and understand how they apply to all areas of our community. We know that common language, based on common expectations, is a strong tool to increase safety and belonging for all.

## **What's happening at Rockheights next week:**

### **Monday, Jan 31<sup>st</sup>**

### **Tuesday, Feb 1<sup>st</sup>**

- 3pm-4pm Volleyball practice after school

### **Wednesday, Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>**

- Noon - Music Pizza sales

### **Thursday, Feb 3<sup>rd</sup>**

- Volleyball practice at lunchtime

### **Friday, Feb 4<sup>th</sup>**

- Dollar Dog Day – Hot Dogs and Freezies on sale for \$1 each
- Manga/Anime Club at lunch in LLC

### **Looking Further Ahead:**

**February 7<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>** – SD61 K-12 Transfer week

**February 8<sup>th</sup>** – RMS PAC meeting



**Our heart goes to the families...** With yet another confirmation of the unthinkable tragedies regarding the treatment of children in the Residential School System, our thoughts go to the families of all those connected to St Joseph's Mission Residential school in Williams Lake.

Please see the attached letter from our interim Superintendent Deb Whitten regarding this heartbreaking discovery.



**Opportunities for youth:** We were very excited to hear that Esquimalt Parks and Rec are looking at reopening their Teen Centre. As we know social connections are incredibly important for all of our students and the Teen Centre provides a supervised area for our young people to hang out. I hope you will think of this when your child is looking for a place to hang out.



## **RMS PAC News: Save the DATE!**

At 7pm (our PAC meeting will start at 6:30 and Parent Education session will start at 7pm) on Tuesday March 8 we are planning a Parent Education Evening with Dr. Lisa Gunderson (<https://www.oneloveconsulting.com/>). Dr Gunderson's work centres around BIPOC mental wellness and the power in being unapologetically Black while engaging in discussions around power, privilege, racialized violence/trauma, "micro"aggressions, bias, intersections, colonialism, white and other supremacies/ accountabilities and systemic racism and discrimination. She will be hosting a Q&A to try to answer any of the questions our community may have regarding raising adolescents to be anti-racist.

Please mark your calendars for this important event!

**Updated Covid Information from SD61** – Given the ever changing environment around Covid 19 protocols and expectations, the school district has tried to summarize the protocols into one brochure. Please find attached a "COVID-19 Update" brochure which is in alignment with the BCCDC's latest direction to date.



The brochure includes the following:

- Daily Health Check/Updated Symptoms
- What to Do When Sick
- What to Do if Someone in Your Home is Sick
- What to Do If You Test Positive
- Flowchart (simplified summary)

**District Transfer process:** *We have received a few questions from students that want to attend a high school that is different than their catchment school. For this to happen, families need to submit a transfer request to the district through the annual K-12 Student Transfer Process which facilitates requests from students in Kindergarten to Grade 12 to transfer to schools outside of a designated catchment. To apply for a transfer request you must complete a transfer form during the K-12 Student Transfer Process week of February 7 – 11, 2022.*

*In the event, a school receives more transfer requests by grade than the number of seats it can accommodate, the waitlist order of transfer requests will be determined by lottery in accordance with our student enrolment priorities. Therefore, there is **no advantage of submitting your transfer request first**. Please submit your request at your convenience during the communicated dates.*

*The **K-12 Student Application Transfer Form** will be available online and at the school office during the K-12 Student Transfer Process week of February 7 – 11, 2022.*

Well, thank you for reading this far! I know that is a lot of information and I really appreciate you taking the time to review it. We also really appreciate your continued support around reinforcing the Covid Protocols (Daily health check, mask wearing, personal space and sanitizing) and the technology expectations here at school (off and away unless asked by an adult) as your support at home allows students to also feel the common expectations that I spoke about at the beginning of this update.

It truly does take a village to raise a child and we really appreciate your continued support and communication as we work together to support each of the children in our school.

Sincerely, *Mr. Maxwell*