

Rickson Ridge P.S.—January 2016

# Rickson Ridge Public School



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*"Where Children Come First"*



## January 2016



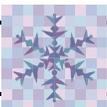
We have come to the end of another busy year. I want to take the opportunity to thank the wonderful staff at Rickson for the tremendous job that they have done in meeting the needs of our students. We are lucky to have such a dedicated and caring staff at Rickson. I would also like to thank the many volunteers and parent council members who take the time to make a difference for the students here. We receive many comments from visitors about what a warm welcoming environment we have here at Rickson. I am very proud of our students, staff and parents who are a part of our community that make this school so special.

I look forward to the continued partnership between parents and staff next year.

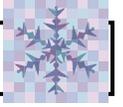
We wish everyone a happy and safe holiday, filled with family and friends.

As we come into January and potentially lots of snow please continue to follow the posted signs for parking and to not park in the daycare parking lots to drop off students.

Have a safe and happy holiday! See you on January 4th 2016.



## INCLEMENT WEATHER



During inclement weather, if you hear on the radio an announcement "All school taxis and buses in South Wellington and the City of Guelph will not be operating today" then Rickson's buses are cancelled but school is still open to students. During times of inclement weather, please listen to: either 1460 CJOY, 106.1 Magic FM, 900 AM CHML, 107.9 FM, 105.3 Kool FM, News Talk 570 AM, 96.7 FM, 1150 AM CKOC, or CKOC-TV. You could also check the board website ([www.ugdsb.on.ca](http://www.ugdsb.on.ca)) by clicking on the link in the yel-



## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION



Registration for all new junior and senior kindergarten students starting in September 2016 will take place the week of February 1-5th 2016. If you know of anyone who is born in 2011 or 2012 please encourage their parents to register them at the school. We need to know our kindergarten numbers in February in order to effectively assign teachers to classrooms in September.

RICKSON RIDGE P.S.—JANUARY 2016

**OUTDOOR RECESS**



We are expecting the weather to get chilly and anticipate snow. Please remember to assist your child in wearing the proper clothing to school. Extra clothing for younger children who get wet is also recommended. Outdoor shoes/boots for all students is necessary. When wearing only one pair of shoes both inside and outside dirt and mud are tracked into the school and it becomes onerous to keep the floors clean. Please help your child in remembering outdoor shoes/boots. All students are expected to participate in outdoor recess, as this important, active break aids concentration and success in the classroom. Please remind your child that snowball throwing is not allowed at school.

**Upcoming Events**

January	Event
Jan 4	First day of classes in January
Jan 12	School Council 7:00 pm
Jan 13	College Heights Open House
Jan 16	Patrol Skating Party
Jan 22	PD Day
Jan 25	Vision Screening JK/SK
Jan 26	Gr 8 CH Course Selection
Jan 28	Gr 8 CCVI Course Selection
Jan 29	Choir sings at Storm game.

**Generosity**

**Compassion**



## Monthly Environmental Newsletter



### ***January's Environmental Theme: WASTE MINIMIZATION***

In Canada, we create a lot of garbage. We throw away too much paper, plastic bags, food, old toys, electronics and much, much more! The good news is that at our school we have made a really good start to reducing some of our waste. We recycle paper, cardboard and containers made of metal, glass and plastic. We try to photocopy double-sided and use GOOS bins (bins that hold paper that is Good On One Side and can still be used). We do waste audits to see what we are throwing away and it seems we need to try to reduce our food waste as well as our packaging. Start thinking about bringing uneaten food from lunch back home to eat as a snack after school because we find perfectly good apples and other fruit, or even uneaten sandwiches, in the school garbage cans.

The best way to solve the problem of too much waste is to not create it in the first place. We have been talking about reducing the number of things we buy and buying items that can be reused instead of immediately being thrown away and taking up more landfill space. For example: use cloth towels instead of paper towels, borrow most books from the library instead of buying them new, use cloth bags instead of plastic bags, use litterless lunch containers and a metal water bottle that you can refill, and use reusable gift bags instead of wrapping paper. The list goes on and on - there are so many ways you can help to reduce waste!

We also need to let our government know that we don't want all that extra packaging when we buy things. Other countries have already banned all that unnecessary plastic, cardboard and Styrofoam that toys and cosmetics and games and food come covered with. So make a difference - write a persuasive letter to both the Ontario and Canadian Governments to ask them to be tougher on packaging laws. Our garbage dumps are filling up. They need to hear from you to stop all this waste!

***Slogan of the month: Let's reduce our waste - our planet is worth it!***



## **MATHEMATICS as a way of thinking**

In the last few years, there has been some confusion around the “new” way of doing math. It is important to note that today’s math includes all the same mathematical concepts and facts as the “traditional” math, the only real difference is in the way students learn this information. Today’s math focuses on understanding math ideas by encouraging discovery and exploration through problem solving.

In our math curriculum, there are 7 mathematical processes: **problem solving, selecting tools and computational strategies, reasoning and proving, representing, communicating, reflecting and connecting**. The goal of these processes is to help students become more confident problem solvers.

Below you will find the processes broken down into questions. These questions are meant to be used as coaching tools to help students with their mathematical thinking. Try them at home. You may be surprised by the answers!

### **Solving the Problem**

What is the question and what do you need to do?

### **Selecting tools and strategies**

Will you need to add, subtract, divide or multiply?

What tools or technology would help you?

### **Representing (Showing the work)**

How are you going to show your ideas? (graphs, numbers, words and symbols)

### **Reasoning (Making sense)**

Does your answer make sense? If not, do you need to fix or change something?

### **Communicating (Sharing it with others)**

How can you explain your answer in writing?

### **Reflecting (Making it personal)**

What worked and what did not? Why?

### **Connections (Seeing relationships)**

Does this problem remind you of anything?