



NEWSLETTER 7-5

Roch Carrier Elementary School

January, 2012

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From the Principal...

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Welcome back and happy New Year to all of our families, staff and volunteers. I hope you and your family had an opportunity to relax and enjoy all the joys that the season had to offer. It was great to see everyone back on January 9th. School and all of our extracurricular activities are back in full swing.

The school was a very busy place at the end of December, and a sincere thank you is extended to all staff and students for the wonderful shows they presented and to the parents who volunteered in so many ways in classrooms and other school areas. Your support makes it possible to provide rich activities for our children. Thank you for all you do throughout the school to support learning!

Staff and students continue to work hard. The first term report card will be going home on Wednesday, February 8. You will be invited to attend a Student-Led Conference on Friday, February 10, where students will have the opportunity to show you their portfolio and conference with you. More details regarding specific times will follow soon.

December also marked the end of our first School Improvement Plan SMART goal:

"By the end of December, more students at Roch Carrier will achieve level 3 or 4 when reading and writing a variety of texts (e.g. fiction, non-fiction, media, photo essays, illustrations) in order to respond to and evaluate texts from different points of view."

I am very happy to report that there has been an increase from 29% to 68% of students reaching level 3 and 4. That is a 39% increase! We will focus on our second SMART goal of the year from mid-February to the end of April. More info about our next SMART goal will be on our February newsletter.

Sincerely,

Mme Sioufi 😊

From the Desk of Ms. Clayton:

I hope everyone had a happy and restful winter break. I enjoyed spending time with family and friends during my holiday but find myself happy to be back to routine.

This month, we will be welcoming two dramatic arts groups to our school. *Aboriginal Experiences* will be at Roch on January 27th to present their play "The Gift" to grades one through six. On January 31st, *The Rag and Bone Puppet Theatre* will be presenting their show "Felicity Falls" to the morning and afternoon kindergarten students. These events are being jointly funded through the volunteer levy, the school budget and the School Council.

The snow and the snow hills are finally here and the students are having a wonderful time, building, sliding and playing! As always, students are encouraged to play cooperatively and are reminded that snow should remain on the ground (ie. no snowballs please.) It is important to dress for the weather as we will be playing outdoors unless the temperature is very low (-25) or the yard conditions are extremely poor.

In December, we sent three large bags of Lost and Found articles to charity. Please be sure to label items so that we can return them to you. It is important to label pretty much anything that may be removed throughout the day, including boots, snow pants, and coats with the child's first and last name. It is amazing what we find in the Lost and Found bin. Thank you for your help with this.

Happy New Year,

Ms. Clayton

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From the class of Mme. Toye:

The class of Mme Toye and 2 parent volunteers were very busy creating their gingerbread cookies for the Holidays!



Choir News:

The **Primary Choir** will be starting back on January 18th. We will meet every Wednesday during the second recess in the library. New members in Grades 1 and 2 are welcome to join on Jan. 18th.

From,
Mrs. Paunins, Mrs. Wood and Mlle Backstrom

No Child Without Overview

The Canadian MedicAlert® Foundation has developed a program to protect children and provide school officials with the help they need to address concerns about students living with chronic medical conditions, allergies or special needs.

This program is called **No Child Without**. It was developed to ensure children across Canada from Junior Kindergarten up to their 14th birthday receive MedicAlert protection at no cost to the parent, school or Board of Education. The program follows the child should they move to another school in Canada. Principals tell us that

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they have seen a significant benefit to the school because **No Child Without** blends in with the school's safety plan and illustrates the importance of children's health and safety.

As a national charitable organization, MedicAlert has been protecting people for over 50 years through customized medical identification. Over one million Canadians have chosen MedicAlert to provide them with protection and peace of mind in case of a medical emergency.

During the school day, students can come in contact with up to five adults responsible for their care and safety. Before and after school programs, recess, lunch and the classroom are often the responsibility of different individuals.

In case of a medical emergency, children can be the most vulnerable because they are often too young, too afraid or too hurt to express themselves. That is why parents often feel better knowing their children's MedicAlert identification can speak for them if they're not around.

No Child Without is only offered through school districts. Initiated in September of 2005 with 5 schools the program has grown to include over 5,800 schools participating in the **No Child Without** program in ten provinces and one territory with over 51,500 participants.

The schools are being funded by the Canadian MedicAlert Foundation, two grants from the Government of Canada and with the assistance of local Lions Clubs across Canada.

Students receive a choice of a bracelet or necklet listing their medical conditions, allergies and or medications with their identification number, a wallet card, access to the 24 Hour Emergency Hotline, notification of personal emergency contacts at the time of emergency and a follow-up with parents after the emergency call is made to the Hotline.

Roch Carrier is very proud to be a participating school in this program. **No Child Without** brochures are available at the school office.

To all our families and friends in the neighbourhood:

Please be reminded that the school yard is a place where children play and, although it is a wonderful place to run your dogs, there are signs posted that dogs are not allowed on school property. At the

very least PLEASE SCOOP their waste. Our return to school after the Christmas break has been somewhat shocking as to how much waste is littering our playground. Even if you are not a dog owner but notice people walking their dogs on school property, please be vigilant and remind them to SCOOP behind their dogs.
Thank You!!

Green Bin Program

Please be advised that the green bin program at Roch Carrier has been suspended until after March Break because we do not have a proper place for the city to pick up the bins during the winter months. We are recommending that the children bring home their compost items in their reusable containers.

Thank you ☺

OCDSB NEWS

2012-2013 Registration Dates

Each year, there is a Kindergarten registration period, a student transfer period for the elementary and secondary panels, and a French Immersion Program registration period.

The following timelines will apply for the 2012-2013 school year:

Kindergarten Registration Period: Monday, January 30 to Friday, February 3, 2012

Elementary Student Transfer Application Period: Monday, February 13 to Friday, February 24, 2012

Secondary Student Transfer Application Period: Monday, February 13 to Friday, February 24, 2012

Middle French Immersion Registration Period: Tuesday, February 21 to Monday, February 27, 2012

The information can also be found on the Board's website: www.ocdsb.ca

Special Education Classes 2011 - 2012

The following link provides information on a Consultation that will be taking place at Confederation Education Centre on Thursday, January 19, 2012 regarding Special Education Classes, Programs and Services for 2011-2012. The link includes an email address for interested stakeholders to provide input as well as a copy of the report that was presented to the Education Committee on 13 December 2011.

http://www.ocdsb.ca/Pages/FeedbackNews_ConsultationonSpecialEducationClasses,ProgramsandServicesfor2012-2013.aspx

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call 613-596-8254.

Lorraine Smith-Champagne
Administrative Assistant to
Superintendent Dawn Paxton of Learning Support Services

School Council NEWS



Reminder: There will not be a January meeting for School Council. The first meeting of the 2012 calendar year will be held on Wednesday February 8th, at 7pm in the RCES library. Hope to see you there.

ZUMBA

Mark your calendar!

On Thursday January 19th this popular fitness craze is back for its 3rd annual

evening, hosted by Jennifer Tackabury (certified Zumba instructor). We invite you to join us for this fitness party. We can guarantee you will have a lot of fun.

Cost: \$10 per adult



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FOOD PROGRAMS

New milk and pizza/sub orders will start on **February 1st, 2012**. The new order forms have been sent home and are due back on Monday, January 16th, 2012.

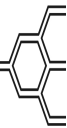
SNOWHAWKS SKI PROGRAM

We will be offering this program again this year. If you have questions please contact Shannon Williams at shannon-williams@rogers.com

Not at the school every day but want to stay connected? You can! You can check out the Council's website <http://www.rochcouncil.ca/index.html>

OR
visit our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Roch-Carrier-School-Council/150201855030124>

Community News



Bed Bugs



Bed bugs are common. Anyone can get them. They can get to and from school by hiding in a student's clothes or bag. Bed bugs feed at night when people are asleep. You may notice small red bumps in groups of three on your body. They do not spread disease.

Adult bed bugs are the size of an apple seed. They are hard to find. They hide in small cracks during the day. If you think you have bed bugs, check for live or dead bugs, and for small black spots (feces). Check on your mattress, bed frame and behind baseboards.

To deal with bed bugs you will need to vacuum and reduce clutter. Dry clothes in the dryer on the hottest setting, steam clean items, seal cracks and use a pest control company.

For more information please contact Ottawa Public Health at 613-580-6744 or visit ottawa.ca/health or bedbugsinfo.ca



School's Cool!

Jan/Feb 2012
4 mornings/week
6 week program
9am-12pm



For children ages 3-5 who are registering to attend school for the first time in September 2012. Child must be able to commit to the entire session. Applications accepted in person or by calling 591-3686 x545. **For information please call the Program Teachers, Melanie McCool or Susan Wheat at 613-591-3686.**

**Children who have no previous formal childcare or preschool experience will be given priority in the program.*

The program is offered in English only.

What is School's Cool?

This course is designed to promote:

- Successful entry into Kindergarten for children ages 3-5.
- A balance of active learning with structured routines to help prepare children for success in Kindergarten.
- Skill increases in key developmental areas through daily activities.
- The introduction of parents to the school system and their role as parents of school-age children.
- Children and their parents building a solid foundation for continuing learning.

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Research shows that a positive experience in the early school years results in more success throughout a person's life.

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Kanata Rhythmic Gymnastics Club

The Kanata Rhythmic Gymnastics Club is offering new recreational classes for girls ages 4 to teen beginning in January in Kanata and Stittsville. Registration is now open at www.krsg.org. Rhythmic gymnasts learn skills which enhance their fitness, coordination, concentration and gymnastics technique with ropes, balls, hoops and ribbons. They receive a report on their progress, earn badges and also participate in the Club's Gymnaestrada recital, performing a gymnastics routine to music. This popular Olympic sport suits girls who love to be active!

Growing Together: Early Literacy Specialist



Early Learning's Winter Wonderland



Simple steps to your child's success:

Did you know that there are many simple things you *can do at home to support your child's early learning?*
Here are some effective and simple tips for you.

Read with Me!

Did you know?

When you read with me, I get to learn about all kinds of cool things around me. This encourages my curiosity about the world I live in.

Book: Gingerbread Baby
By Jan Brett



Remember how the Gingerbread Boy is eaten by the fox? Well, not this Gingerbread Baby; it's a delicious twist to a favorite old tale.

Learn with Me!

Did you know?

When you come down to my level and maintain eye contact with me, you are showing me that you are involved and interested in what I have to say.

Early Learning Activities: Numeracy with play dough



Time to play: Play dough can be used for teaching basic math skills. You can do sorting activities, counting activities, size activities (bigger and smaller), addition, and subtraction activities, etc. You can use cookie sheets that are purchased from a dollar store so each child has his/her own work space.

Sing with Me!

Did you know?

Music helps me improve my listening skills and attention span. Did you ever notice how well I pick up my toys when you sing me a clean-up song?

Dancing snowflakes Sung to the tune of "Frère Jacques"

Dancing snowflakes
Dancing snowflakes
In the sky
In the sky
Whirling, twirling snowflakes
Whirling, twirling snowflakes
Up and down
Up and down

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Play with me!**Did you know?**

When you pretend play with me, I am learning to get along with others, make compromises, solve problems, and control my emotions.

Activity: Let's pretend we work at a restaurant where we make different foods and read recipes. We can create our food with play dough. We can also make some gingerbread cookies.



Family Literacy Day takes place annually on January 27th to celebrate adults and children reading and learning together, and to encourage Canadians to enjoy a learning activity as a family every day. <http://abclifeliteracy.ca/>

Prepared by Lynne Lemieux-Collard
Early Literacy Specialist
Parent Resource Centre
www.parentresource.ca

**Dates to Remember**

- Jan. 9 Welcome Back! School resumes for ALL students ☺
- Jan. 17 Mme. Laviolette's class to Museum of Science and Technology 8:45 am-2:40pm
- Jan. 19 School Council Zumba Night
- Jan. 20 PA Day: No school for students
- Jan. 24 Can West Spelling Bee
- Jan. 27 Family Literacy Day
- Jan. 27 Spirit Day: Pajama Day
- Jan. 27 Aboriginal Experiences (The Gift) for grades 1-6
- Jan. 30-Feb. 3 Kindergarten Registration Week
- Jan. 31 Rag and Bone Theatre (Felicity Falls) for Kindergarten students in the library
- Jan. 31 ARC Board Meeting at 9:00 pm
- Feb. 8 Report Cards go home
- Feb. 8 School Council Meeting @7:00 pm
- Feb. 9 Winter Walk to School Day
- Feb. 10 Student-Led Conferences
- Feb. 14 Toonie Tuesday
- Feb. 14 Candygram Day
- Feb. 14 Spirit Day: Hearts, pink, purple, red and White
- Feb. 16 Cake Walk
- Feb. 16 Grade 1 EFI field trip to Museum of Civilization
- Feb. 16 Movie Night: "A Dauphin's Tale"
- Feb. 17 PA Day. No School for students
- Feb. 20 Family Day. No School.

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