

# Palmer Rapids Public School



## October 2021 Newsletter

### Message From the Principal

I would like to thank everyone for completing the <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/> each morning before heading out the door—and staying home if the school screening says “Do not go to school.” For the week following Thanksgiving, Public Health is once again asking for you to submit the results of self-assessments to the school. Thank you for your patience and understanding with all of the challenges. We will continue do our best to ensure you have the most up to date information. We encourage you to visit [www.rcdhu.com](http://www.rcdhu.com) often!

September flew by quickly. We have been involved in great learning and community building activities such as The Terry Fox Walk/Run and Truth and Reconciliation/Orange Shirt Day! We recognize the negative impact residential schools had on many Indigenous children and their culture. Looking forward, we invite everyone to participate in Dress Purple Day on Wed., Oct. 27, 2021. Wear something purple to show children and families that Children’s Aid Societies are here to help!

We will host a virtual Meet the Teacher evening on Oct. 19th – watch for your invite! Also on October 12th @7:00pm, we will be holding our first Parent Council Meeting, in which we will formally select our Parent Council roles – we encourage everyone to get involved! The meeting link:

<https://meet.google.com/awc-fsxw-wcr?hs=122&authuser=0>

Oct. 3-9 is Fire Prevention Week. Theme: “learn the sounds of fire safety.” Our local Fire Chief will join us for a fire drill. On Oct. 29th we celebrate Hallowe’en early with Dress in Orange/Black or Hallowe’en costumes. Costumes must be school appropriate – and accommodate out COVID masks. Like last year, only peanut and treenut pre-packaged Halloween treats can be sent in to the school. Treats must be at school no later than Monday, October 25th if you choose to send them in. Please connect with your child’s teacher, if you are planning to send in treats.

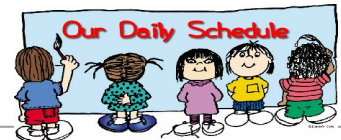
Finally, I would like to wish everyone an enjoyable Thanksgiving Weekend. We’re all in this together (now more than ever),

*Jessica Poff*

## SEVERE ALLERGY ALERT

### Anaphylaxis

PRPS prides itself in ensuring the safety of all students. Several individuals in our school have **life-threatening allergies to peanuts and tree nuts**. We request that these foods be avoided in all common areas of the school (e.g., gym, library, etc.) Please keep this in mind when packing your child’s snacks and lunches. If your child is in an identified classroom, you will receive a separate notice.



<b>Instructional Time</b>	<b>9:30 - 11:18</b>
<b>Nutrition Break</b>	<b>11:18-11:38</b>
<b>Recess</b>	<b>11:38-11:58</b>
<b>Instructional Time</b>	<b>11:58-1:34</b>
<b>Lunch</b>	<b>1:34-1:49</b>
<b>Recess</b>	<b>1:49-2:04</b>
<b>Instructional Time</b>	<b>2:04-3:40</b>
<b>Dismissal</b>	<b>3:40</b>

Renfrew County District School  
Board Trustee: **David Kaiser**  
T: 613-628-5428  
C: 613-635-2137

Renfrew County District School  
Board Superintendent:  
**Renald Cousineau**  
T: 613-735-0151 (ext.3316)

Palmer Rapids Public School  
Principal:  
**Jessica Poff**  
613-758-2202

Palmer Rapids Public School  
Office Manager:  
**Noelle Cawthray**  
613-758-2202

# 2021-2022 STAFF

SERT William Scheistel/Dana Miller  
Secretary Noelle Cawthray

EA Blair Wagner  
Principal Jessica Poff

Custodian Brenda Recoskie  
SSC Michele Kicksee

JK/SK Lynn Ciupak  
Gr. 1/2 Simon Chappell  
Gr. 7/8 Paul Sarazin

JK/SK ECE Heather Quade  
Gr. 3/4 Nancy Matschke  
French Rachelle McCloskey

Gr. 5/6 Colette Mantifel

## RECENT UPDATES TO THE SCHOOL & CHILD CARE SCREENING TOOLS

**ALL STAFF and STUDENTS MUST self-screen every day before attending school.**

The screening tool can be found here: [Ontario's Screen for COVID-19 before going to any public place.](#)

### Symptom Updates

Recent updates to symptoms clarify that staff, students and children should stay home from school and child care if they are unwell, EVEN if they do not have symptoms that are most commonly associated with COVID-19, and monitor before returning to school.

### Household Contacts with Symptoms Updates

Recent updates include adding the symptom lists for adults and children to the question about whether anyone in the household has symptoms.

### Testing Updates

Clarifying that rapid antigen tests are **not** for use on individuals with symptoms of COVID-19 or on high-risk close contacts.

### Vaccination Status Updates

Clarifying that the purpose of asking if someone was fully vaccinated or was previous positive is to provide correct isolation requirements. A reminder was also added, stating that **no personal health information is being collected** when completing the tool.

### International Travel Updates

Clarifying that individuals who are exempt due to being under 12 and traveling with a vaccinated companion may not attend school/child care upon return. Individuals with all other quarantine exemptions (e.g., travelling for cross-border custody arrangements, medical treatment) may continue to attend school/child care upon return.

Renfrew County and District Health Unit  
"Optimal Health for All in Renfrew County and District"  
October, 2021

We'd like to welcome our new staff to Team Palmer.

Mr. Chappell joined our school as the Grade ½ teacher. Unfortunately, he had to be away unexpectedly, we are thrilled that he is now back!

Mrs. Dana Miller will be re-joining Team Palmer in November. She will be a familiar face to many. Mr. Schiestel will be with us until Mrs. Miller's return. Welcome!

## Kids Help Phone

Within the Renfrew County District School Board, we are promoting awareness of the **Kids Help Phone** and **Good2Talk**. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the RCDSB Mental Health Leader, Lisa LaRiviere at [613-735-0151 ext. 3332](tel:613-735-0151).

## PRPS Parent Council

The next school council meeting will take place as a Google Meet – On October 12th @ 7:00pm!  
All parents/guardians are welcome to join the meeting from their home computer.

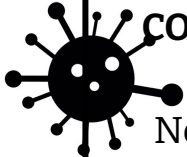
## Please Note: There will be **NO BUS PASSES** Permitted this year

Regular home stops and daycare stops will remain in place but if your child needs to go to another friend or relative's home after school, they will need to be picked up and driven there



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**COVID Health & Safety** – ALL students must be screened for COVID 19 each day. **Parents must complete the verification form each day.**

No students will be allowed to stay at school if they haven't been screened.

[Click here for the screening verification form](#)



### WHAT IS SECRET PATH WEEK?

A national movement commemorating the legacies of Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack, taking place from October 17-22. October 17th and 22nd the dates that Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack joined the spirit world.

This is a call to action to “Do Something” by creating reconciliACTION and furthering the conversation residential schools.



**P.R.P.S. appreciates all of our Volunteers!  
Due to COVID-19 there are restrictions for  
volunteers in our school.**

We will be keep you informed of any changes or updates!

Thank you to all of our present Volunteers, we look forward to working with you when permissible. We also will look forward to having new volunteers join our team!!



### Terry Fox Run

On Friday September 17th the students at Palmer participated in the National Terry Fox Run. A **huge** thank you to Ms. Mantifel for organizing the day.

We raised \$570 for Cancer Research. You already know it—Palmer Rocks!

Check out the Palmer Rapids Public School Website at:

[prps@rcdsb.on.ca](mailto:prps@rcdsb.on.ca)

### PALMER RAPIDS PUBLIC SCHOOL

116 Burnt Bridge Road, Box 10

Palmer Rapids, ON K0J 2E0

Telephone: 613-758-2202

Power Outage Line: 613-758-2924

# OCTOBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 FIRE PREVENTION WEEK	4	5 World Teacher Day	6	7	8	9
10 WORLD MENTAL HEALTH WEEK	11  Thanksgiving Holiday UN Day of the Girl	12 Virtual Parent Council 7:00 pm	13	14	15	16
17 SECRET PATH WEEK	18	19 Virtual Meet the Teacher	20	21 EA & ECE APPRECIATION DAY	22	23
24	25	26 Milk orders Due	27  DRESS PURPLE DAY Let's make it necessary this year!	28 Picture Day	29 Spirit Day Halloween Appropriate Costume or Black & Orange	30
31 						

Milk Days in November: 21

