



Message from the Principal & Vice-Principal

Welcome back and Happy New Year to everyone in the Riddell community. We hope you had a relaxing break and were able to spend some quality time with family and friends. December was a busy month and we finished the school year with classroom celebrations, a surprise visit from Santa, the Primary/Junior Jingle Bell Hop and Middle School Dance.

December was also a month of generosity from our community. Thank you to everyone who donated to our mitten drive. It was very successful. Overall, we collected several boxes full of mittens, hats and scarves. We have donated our warm clothing to Queen Victoria School in Hamilton. They were very grateful to receive such a generous donation. Your support was greatly appreciated!

Thank you to our classrooms who went above and beyond to support local families who, due to circumstances, were in need of support. Our staff was truly touched and overwhelmed by the contributions made by our students and their families to our Riddell Cares initiative. A special thank you to Mrs. Nicosia, Mrs. Henry and Mrs. Gilmour for delivering our packages of presents, clothing and personal items. They were met with both gratitude and tears from the receiving families.

Finally, in the spirit of New Year's resolutions, this is a good time to reflect with your child(ren) on his/her progress and set some goals for the remainder of the school year. The staff at Riddell look forward to 2018 and the activities and events we have planned.

Stay Up to Date on News and Events

Subscribe for Direct Email Updates

Take advantage of our electronic subscriptions for weather alerts, school closures, HWDSB's monthly newsletter, as well as Riddell school website updates.

<http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/rariddell/subscribe>

DATES TO REMEMBER

Jan 15	School Council (6pm)
16	Sport Academy Welcome Night
23/24	Grade 8 Grad Photos
26	PA Day (No Classes)
29	Spirit Day - Pajama Day

Kindergarten Registration Begins

February 5, 2018

Kindergarten is available for four- and five-year-old students at schools in September.

Pick up a registration package in the office after January 29th or complete and print a form online.

<http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/rariddell/kindergarten/>

No out of catchment applications will be accepted for the 2018/2019 school year.



Scent Free School

R.A. Riddell is committed to providing a comfortable and healthy learning environment for our staff, students and visitors from the community. Fragrance is a common trigger of asthma, rhinitis (hayfever), sinusitis, eczema, dermatitis, migraine and other types of headaches. Scented products contain a variety of chemical which causes serious problems for many people. Fragrance can also trigger anaphylaxis (a potentially fatal allergic reaction), epileptic seizures, dizziness, fatigue, poor concentration, nausea and other symptoms.

Some people are allergic or sensitive to one or more fragrance ingredients. Some get symptoms only when they use a product containing fragrance. Others get symptoms when someone around them is wearing fragrance or when there is fragrance in a room from cleaning products, air fresheners, perfumes, aftershave, hairspray, deodorants, laundry products or other scented sources.

Wearing scented products may make you feel good, but knowing how it effects others, you'll feel even better leaving home without them. Remember: no scents is good sense.

Thank you for your ongoing support and understanding.

Interested in finding out more about the
R.A. Riddell Sport Academy?

Sport Academy Parent Information Evening



Tuesday January 16

5:30—6:30 PM



The R.A. Riddell Sport Academy High Potential Athlete and Basketball Programs feature 5 classes within our Middle School. There are High Potential Athlete classes in grades 7 and 8 and Basketball classes in grades 6, 7, and 8. Student athletes from all over the district apply to come to Riddell for this specialized program.

Applications and more detailed information can be found on our website at the link below. Please call the school if you have any further questions.

<http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/rariddell/sports-academy/>

Head Lice - Pediculosis

Head lice (pediculosis) occurs from time to time in each school. Anyone can get head lice. School children get lice more than adults. When children play, their heads often touch. Lice crawl from head to head. Head lice are spread by direct contact only (e.g. head to head, shared clothing).

Help us reduce the spread of head lice. Please check your children on a regular basis and if you do find that your child has head lice, please inform the school.

Your child will never be identified to other parents. A treatment must be used before your child returns to school.

Consult with Bug Busters (City of Hamilton), your pharmacist or other medical practitioner about the best product to use. The city's Bug Busters clinics also offer free treatment support.

Important Notice Regarding Parking at Rygiel

As our neighbour, Rygiel has been receptive to working with our school and has enjoyed several outreach activities with our students.

We understand that morning are busy, but parents are reminded that the Rygiel lot is private property. We have been asked not to use this parking lot during business hours (8:00 AM - 5:00PM). During these hours the lot is available solely for their employees and clients. We ask that you respect this request, as it is within Rygiel's rights as the property owners.

Thank you for your cooperation on this matter.

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

DESPICABLE ME 3

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 2, 6-8 PM

FREE ENTRY

POPCORN, COOKIES AND DRINKS FOR SALE



INDOOR-ONLY SHOES



For safety reasons, students are expected to wear shoes at all times in the building. Keep our school and classrooms clean by sending an additional pair of indoor only shoes with your child each day. Assist us in keeping the mud, dirt, water and salt outside.

Snow and rain can often lead to some very wet conditions in our school yard. With two outdoor breaks, it is a good idea to leave items such as extra socks and mitts in your child's backpack in the event they are needed.

Secondary School Transition

As you prepare your son/daughter for secondary school it may be helpful to know that secondary schools in Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB) are about to hold Option Sheet Information Nights. These nights are welcoming and practical sessions that help Grade 8 students and their parents select courses for the 2018-2019 school year. Visit your In-Catchment Secondary School's website to determine the date and time of your option sheet night. Please do not hesitate to connect with the Riddell staff, as they may also be able to provide some insight and guidance around course selection for your child.

<http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/elementary/plan-for-school/grade-7-8-information-nights/>

Sir Allan MacNab-January 18, 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Westmount - January 18, 6:00 PM