



Riverside Public School | March 2026 Newsletter

**P. Atack - Principal, B. Tamasi – Vice Principal
K. Kramer – Administrative Assistant, L. McLean - Secretary
J. Beynon - Superintendent**

Principal's Message

Dear Riverside Families,

March has arrived, and with it comes 'Mud Season' at Riverside Public School! Our yard is currently a mix of puddles, soft ground, and of course mud that seems to migrate into our school after each recess (and likely your homes at the end of each day!). We thank our custodial staff for their extra efforts to maintain a clean school, and our families for their ongoing patience (and laundry efforts) as we navigate this transitional time together.

February flew by, and was filled with positive celebrations and community events that highlight the incredible spirit of our school. We kicked off the month with our 'K-3 Blast Off With Learning' family engagement evening which served as an opportunity for our youngest learners and their families to explore literacy together. It was wonderful to see parents, caregivers, and students laughing, learning, and connecting. A special thanks to Mrs. McCallum-Harris and all of the staff who helped to make this event happen!



Other highlights include ongoing extracurricular activities such as chess club, choir, and volleyball, Black History Month themed learning, and our third Purple People Assembly with Pink Shirt Day theme. It has been yet another month that captures what makes Riverside so special – a strong community, joyful learning, and students who continue to rise, lead, and shine.

Wishing everyone a safe and restful Spring Break!

Sincerely,

Peter Atack

Principal, Riverside Public School



Riverside Public School | March 2026 Newsletter

Safe and Inclusive School Plan (SISP) Update

This year, Riverside Public School is committed to strengthening **Student Voice** as a key part of our 2025–26 Safe and Inclusive School Plan (SISP). Our goal is to ensure all students have meaningful opportunities to share their experiences, express concerns, and contribute ideas that help shape our school culture.

In February, students participated in their first Student Voice Council meeting with our Vice Principal, Mrs. Tamasi, where students engaged in collaborative conversations and fun challenges that focused on identifying what makes school / Riverside PS special.



We look forward to continuing this work throughout the year as we build a school environment where every student feels heard, valued, and included.

Purple People Assembly and Pink Shirt Day

On February 26th, we held our third **Purple People Assembly**, this time in recognition of **Pink Shirt Day** and our shared commitment to bullying prevention. Inspired by the message of *The World Needs More Purple Schools*, our focus for this assembly was on what it means to stand up for one another, show kindness even when it's hard, and help create a school where everyone feels safe and valued.

During the assembly, we highlighted how Purple People demonstrate courage and compassion—key qualities in preventing bullying and promoting inclusion. We also recognized students from each class who have shown exceptional leadership in creating positive peer relationships and supporting classmates in respectful, caring ways. It was wonderful to see our students come together in a sea of pink, celebrating the importance of empathy and encouraging one another to speak up, reach out, and lift others up. We look forward to continuing these assemblies throughout the year as we nurture a school community rooted in kindness, respect, and connection—because the world truly needs more Purple (or in this case, Pink!) Schools.





Riverside Public School | March 2026 Newsletter

Volleyball Celebrations!

It has been a tremendous volleyball season for both our Boys and Girls Volleyball teams. After successful regular seasons and tournament play, both teams went on to win Regional A Gold, earning their place in the TVDSB Finals on Friday, February 27, 2026. Each team demonstrated determination, grit, and exceptional skill throughout the year, leading to some incredible results.

Congratulations to our Boys Volleyball team and Coaches Koop and Sanders for winning AA Gold for TVDSB! Another round of congratulations goes to Coach Rees and our Girls Volleyball team, who brought home fourth-place medals. Both teams represented our school with pride, and class. Thank you to our Riverside parents and family members for attending games, transporting players to practices, and supporting the teams throughout the season. We deeply appreciate your commitment and the many adjustments you make to help our athletes succeed. Rams, we are very proud of you!





Riverside Public School | March 2026 Newsletter

Family Engagement

On the evening of February 12th, Riverside Public School was filled with excitement as families joined us for our **K–3 Blast Off with Learning** event. It was wonderful to welcome so many students and their grown-ups into the school for an evening of fun, connection, and hands-on literacy games.

Families had the chance to drop in, stay as long as they wished, and explore a variety of engaging activities designed to spark curiosity and build early literacy skills. Laughter and friendly competition filled the room as students worked side-by-side with their caregivers—and many were thrilled to have opportunities to win some fantastic prizes.



Thank you to all the families who joined us and helped make the event such a success. Nights like this remind us how powerful learning can be when we come together as a community.

🎵 Music Notes from Ms. Rees

Exciting news! We have received our Kiwanis Music Festival competition location, date, and times.

🌟 Primary Choir

- **Performance: April 9 at 10:30 a.m.**
- Location: First-St. Andrew's United Church
- Arrival time: 10:10 a.m. for warm-up
- Volunteers needed: 15–20 (our choir is wonderfully large!)



Riverside Public School | March 2026 Newsletter

- Practice materials: Songs are posted in Google Classroom.
- Classroom code: gpubl676

Permission forms and full details will be sent home after March Break.

Junior & Intermediate Choirs

- **Performance: April 9 at 11:30 a.m.**
- Location: First-St. Andrew's United Church
- Volunteers needed: 3
- Permission forms will also be sent home after the break.
- Practice materials: Songs are posted in Google Classroom.
- Classroom code: 23mmfk3t

Summer Send-Off Concert Update

Our Summer Send-Off Concert has been **moved to Monday, June 8, 2026**, due to food truck availability.

This event will feature:

- Intermediate Band
- All Intermediate classes
- Selected Junior recorder classes
- Both choirs
- Kindergarten classes

More details will be shared as we get closer to the date. Thank you for adjusting your family calendars!

Important Upcoming Dates:

- Monday, March 9, 2026 – Spirit Day / Blue Day
- Tuesday March 10, 2026 – Tye Dye Day
- Wednesday, March 11, 2026 – Neon Day
- Thursday, March 12, 2026 – Hat Day
- Friday, March 13, 2026 – Green Day
- Wednesday, April 9, 2026 – Kiwanis Music Festival



Riverside Public School | March 2026 Newsletter

- Monday, June 8, 2026 – Summer Send-Off Concert

2025-26 PA Days:

- Tuesday, September 2, 2025
- Friday, October 10, 2025
- Friday, November 14, 2025
- Friday, January 30, 2026
- Friday, April 24, 2026
- Friday, May 29, 2026
- Friday, June 26, 2026

2025-26 School Holidays:

Thanksgiving: October 13, 2025

Winter Break: December 22, 2025 - January 2, 2026

Family Day: February 16, 2026

Spring Break: March 16 - March 20, 2026

Good Friday: April 3, 2026

Easter Monday: April 6, 2026

Victoria Day: May 18, 2026