



Riverside Public School | April 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,

Spring has finally arrived, and with it comes a much-welcomed change to our school days to include more outdoors fun. Students have been thrilled to return to open playgrounds and gaga ball pits at recess, making the most of the fresh air and renewed energy that this season brings. The last month was filled with exciting celebrations and moments of connection across our school community, many of which are highlighted below and speak to the vibrant spirit of Riverside.

Over the past month, we have enjoyed a variety of meaningful events, including the joyful celebration of Carnaval, the Grade 8 White Elephant Sale, and our successful Books and Bites fundraiser. Our talented musicians proudly represented Riverside at the Kiwanis Music Festival, with both our primary and junior/intermediate choirs showcasing their hard work and enthusiasm (receiving GOLD medal awards!). Families also had the opportunity to engage in learning together through our Family Math Engagement event, reinforcing the important connection between home and school. Alongside these special events, our classrooms continue to be places of rich learning, creativity, and engagement, thanks to the dedication of our staff and the curiosity and effort of our students.



As always, we encourage families to take a moment to review the updated '**Important Upcoming Dates**' section at the end of this newsletter to stay informed about what's ahead. Thank you for your continued support and partnership as we move into the spring months together.

Sincerely,

Peter Atack

Principal, Riverside Public School

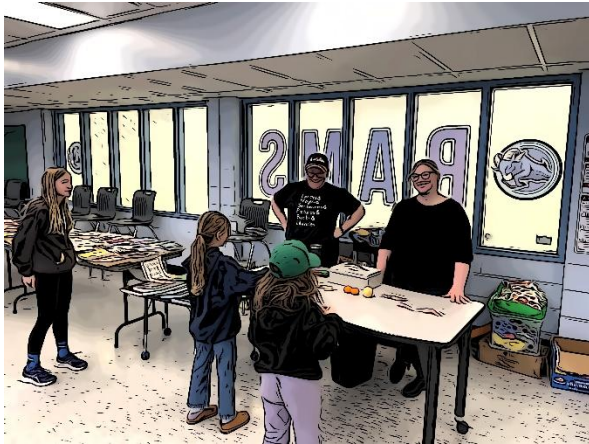


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Books & Bites Fundraiser

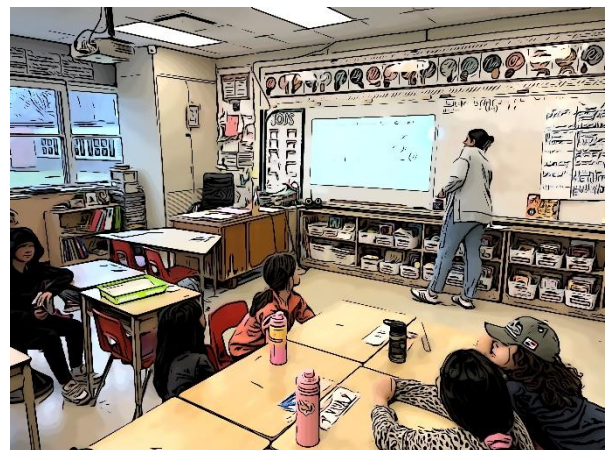
Riverside's Books and Bites Sale was a great success thanks to the hard work of our Home and School Association, in partnership with our Teacher Librarian, Mrs. Amy McCallum-Harris. With the support of dedicated parent volunteers, books and tasty snacks ("bites") were sold to raise almost \$1000 which will go towards the purchase of new books for our school library.

Thank you to everyone who donated, volunteered, and stopped by to support this important fundraiser. Your generosity and involvement continue to make a meaningful difference for our students and school community.



Classroom Learning Spotlight

Across Riverside, students continue to be actively engaged in rich, meaningful learning experiences. In Mrs. Jovichevich's Grade 4 class, students in the picture adjacent are participating in a Number String activity (based on the work of Cathy Fosnot), encouraging mathematical reasoning, flexible thinking, and communication of strategies. This approach aligns directly with the Ontario Mathematics curriculum and supports our 2025–26 School Improvement focus on strengthening number sense through Math Talks as a targeted, high-impact classroom strategy.





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In Mrs. Haley's Grade 8 Science class, students explored concepts from the Understanding Life Systems: Cells strand of the Science curriculum. To help consolidate learning about cell structures and functions, students created (not so) edible cell models using Jello and candy, deepening their understanding of how cells work and how form relates to function. Hands-on learning experiences like this support key curriculum expectations related to scientific understanding, inquiry, and communication.

🎵 Music Notes from Ms. Rees 🎵

After many extra rehearsals, lots of at-home practising, and a tremendous amount of hard work, Madame Wyant and I are *very* proud to announce that **both the Primary Choir and the Junior & Intermediate Choir received GOLD** at the **Kiwanis Music Festival!**

As an added piece of the celebration, we are delighted to announce the Primary Choir has won the Michael H. Farrow Memorial Cup for the second year in a row. Outstanding work, Primary Choir! Sadly, there is not a cup to be won for the Junior and Intermediate Division however, we are happy to share the music "Stanley Cup" with the JI Choir!

We performed an incredibly challenging repertoire, and our RAMS rose to the occasion—singing with **beautiful tone, outstanding energy, and confidence**, earning glowing remarks from the adjudicator. **Bravo, RAMS!** We are absolutely over the moon with your accomplishments! To celebrate, we will be hosting an **ice-cream party next week**. Permission forms will be coming home shortly.



We would also like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our **amazing parent volunteers** who helped get us there safely, our **fan club** for coming to cheer us on, and the **incredible support of our teaching staff**, along with our **exceptional administrative team at Riverside**, for supporting us throughout this adventure. We truly could not have done it without you.

Special thanks to:

Mr. Attack, Mrs. Tamasi, Ms. Kramer, Ms. McLean, Mrs. MacKinnon, Mrs. Barron, Ms. Yonemitsu, Miss Fox, and Mrs. Fox!

On a personal note, thank you to **Madame Wyant** for being such a wonderful accompanist and partner. We are so lucky to have you!



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Choir—you are **legends**, and I cannot wait to see what you do next. **Standing ovations all around!** 🙌

Now that the festival is over, please **wash and return your choir shirt as soon as possible**. If anyone has **photos or videos** from the competition, please send them to: t.rees@tvdsb.ca

Thanks again for your exceptional performances! ☀️

Ms. Rees

Carnaval Day

Riverside recently enjoyed a lively, whole-school Carnaval celebration, hosted by Mme Wyant, Ms. Esler, and our intermediate student leaders. Students engaged in a variety of fun activities both inside and outside, strengthening connections to Core French expectations related to French culture, oral communication, and real-world language experiences as outlined in the Ontario curriculum.

A highlight of the day was the leadership demonstrated by our intermediate students, who ran stations and supported younger learners with confidence and care. The celebration was made even more special with a visit from Bonhomme, bringing French learning to life in a joyful and memorable way.





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Family Math Engagement



In partnership with the Riverside School Council and the TVDSB Math Team, we were pleased to offer a Family Math Engagement Opportunity that encouraged families to explore and enjoy math learning together at home. Thank you to all of the families who participated and demonstrated their continued support for mathematics learning beyond the classroom.

Congratulations to the winners of Riverside Public School's Family Math Engagement Draw—Elizabeth Fung (Primary), Mesandi Paskol Handilage (Junior), and Luke Medeiros (Intermediate). We are proud of our students and grateful to our families for helping to foster positive and joyful connections with math learning at Riverside!

White Elephant Sale

Riverside's White Elephant Sale was a wonderful example of community spirit and student leadership in action. Organized and hosted by Ms. Petrosyan, Ms. Haley, and our intermediate students, the sale was open to the community on the afternoon and evening of April 1, and to students during the school day on April 2.

Thanks to the generous donations and volunteer support from our families and community, the fundraiser was a great success—raising more than \$500 to support the Grade 8 end-of-year trip and graduation celebrations. We are grateful to everyone who contributed their time, donations, and support to help make this event such a meaningful experience for our students.





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Important Upcoming Dates:

- Monday, April 13, 2026 – School Council / Home & School Association Meetings
- Thursday, May 7, 2026 – Heritage Fair
- Thursday, May 21, 2026 – Riverside Talent Show
- Monday, May 25, 2026 – Thursday, May 28, 2026 – Grade 3 EQAO
- Tuesday, June 2, 2026 – Friday, June 5, 2026 – Grade 6 EQAO
- Monday, June 8, 2026 – Summer Send-Off Concert
- Friday, June 19, 2026 – Grade 8 Grad REHEARSAL
- Monday, June 22, 2026 – Grade 8 Grad CEREMONY

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