



RIVER HEIGHTS  
PUBLIC SCHOOL

4269 HAMILTON RD  
DORCHESTER, ONTARIO N0L1G3  
PHONE: 519-268-7884



FIND TVDSB Learn At Home on the  
WEB at

[https://www.tvdsb.ca/en/our-board/  
learn-at-home.aspx](https://www.tvdsb.ca/en/our-board/learn-at-home.aspx)



# REDHAWK READER



"We ALL Belong At River Heights!"

Issue #8

May 19th 2020

Covid -19 Edition

## Inclusion, Equity, Diversity and Outdoor Classroom Day 21st

### To the Wonderful Families of River Heights:

This week the focus is on a sense of belonging. Sunday May 17th marked the International Day Against Homophobia (IDAHO). For us at River Heights we spend time focussing on acceptance and inclusion—best characterized by the phrase "Its Ok To Be Different." [Our From the Heart#7](#) has activities, resources and book supports for this theme. We recognize the importance of all children feeling comfortable at and part of their school environment.

Tuesday is the debut of our Virtual Talent Show. Thank you to the students and families who contributed videos to this event and to Mrs. Callowhill for coming up with the idea and editing it all together. You can check it out by following the link <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1u3HoOtxwblmGh-pnqTTGx76NOleqRrOS/view?usp=sharing> This is a first for River Heights we hope you enjoy the show.

Thursday is Outdoor Classroom day. To celebrate your Eco Club is asking everyone to decorate/ repurpose some older clothes dressing them up with natural items and natural colours. Wear your outfit and play outside all day on Thurs 21st [Check out the From the Office Nature Supplement](#) for more details and stay tuned to the Morning Announcements Thurs for more Eco club fun.

Thank you to those families that participated in the TVDSB survey. I want to address some of your concerns. First and always NO CHILD will have their marks drop as a result of this emergency teaching they can only improve their mark as of March 13th. As always, do your best with this and forget the rest. The purpose of our quarantine teaching is to provide routine, a sense of normalcy and to continue the learning. This is a public service, do not fight with your child to do the work. I can only imagine the stressors on families - school is NOT TO ADD to that burden. Focus on your mental health (many of our recent activity suggestions have centred on this area.) We try as hard to make the work as independent of parents as possible but we recognize the efforts it takes from parents. Be good to yourselves. Remember your child's mark will not suffer and we will address gaps when we return.

This week's [TIP Sheet centres](#) on connecting to our google classrooms with a variety of devices. Please **let us know which topics need future tip sheets and we will find and or make them.** This past we sent out more chromebooks and a wifi access port to families that needed access to the internet. *If you need a device or access to the internet, contact your teacher or email me [J.sheik@tvdsb.ca](mailto:J.sheik@tvdsb.ca).* **Those families that don't have access to technology** the board mailed you the next package of learning materials from your classroom teacher Tuesday May 19th.

To help us feel a somewhat normal routine announcements continue Tues Thurs this week posted in your child's google classroom in the FROM THE OFFICE WITH MR. SHEIK folder or check it out on You Tube, Friday's <https://youtu.be/ULZJD5d54Xw> and Today's <https://youtu.be/oQH6q5E2BiM>

We now have Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/river.heights.908> and Instagram - [https://www.instagram.com/riverheightsps\\_dorchester/](https://www.instagram.com/riverheightsps_dorchester/) We want to post the good stuff our students are doing. Let your teacher know the pictures are media friendly and look for them soon. Thank you for the many pictures for our friends at Dorchester Terrace—from your heart to there's. All Smiles Mr. Sheik, Proud Principal of River Heights.



## Series of School Wide Activities

### #7 We All Belong At River Heights

Please see the attached video for visual instructions.

<https://youtu.be/upws0FcR3C0>

Download from this LINK.

Our From the Heart Series has focussed on being part of a community and on coming together. In our school all students belong. We may be different on the outside but on the inside we all are and feel the same. Like our colour houses, we may belong to different colour houses but we all are Redhawks, we all wear Red to show that we all belong even when we are from different colour houses.



**Prompting:** What words can we use to describe belonging? What makes us different? Anything else?

Follow the link and listen to the book "[It's Ok To Be Different.](https://youtu.be/97GVMypRjvc)" <https://youtu.be/97GVMypRjvc>

This will give you more words to think about and to help you to understand, celebrate, and accept differences.

What makes us the same? When we accept someone what does it look like? How can we celebrate our uniqueness? This video will help us answer some of these questions.

<https://youtu.be/UA6QtKzOZkI>

In this video, Gulliver is excited to have a new dog on the playground, but his new friend isn't exactly what he expected. Gulliver learns that accepting someone's differences is an important skill to have- especially if it helps you make a new friend!

Now if Gulliver didn't accept his new friend, well that would have created some hard feelings. Have a look at this book "[Don't Laugh At Me!](https://youtu.be/tVxW-l2A2PQ)" <https://youtu.be/tVxW-l2A2PQ> so that you will understand why it is so important to learn to accept each other even we are different in some way.

**Making Connections:** Words that describe belonging, words that make us the same, and words that we use when we accept someone are very similar!

**The Challenge:** You can use a piece of paper and turn your ideas into art.

- 1) Write the words that describe differences, belonging, and acceptance, choose your words to show your understanding.
- 2) Arrange the words, use different colours, arrange them to make a picture.
- 3) Use the words you feel show how you feel about accepting differences.

When your work is done you can either do it in the google classroom on the google doc

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ZE8kFXdXLvVM4ldOEhJERmWM\\_wCWSUS+dun2fuz83aE/edit?](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ZE8kFXdXLvVM4ldOEhJERmWM_wCWSUS+dun2fuz83aE/edit?usp=sharing)

[usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ZE8kFXdXLvVM4ldOEhJERmWM_wCWSUS+dun2fuz83aE/edit?usp=sharing) or if you did it on paper at home then take a photo of the picture and send it to your teacher or to Mr. Sheik at [j.sheik@tvdsb.ca](mailto:j.sheik@tvdsb.ca) We will make sure it is included in the school art.





May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020

## Nature Supplement From today's Morning Announcements

Your Eco Team is excited about celebrating our Playful Nature. On 21 May, the next Outdoor Classroom Day, your Eco Team wants to celebrate our connection to the natural world by dressing up in nature! Check out our [Pinterest board](#) for inspiration, including how to:

- 1) Make a nature crown out of leaves, cardboard or twigs.
- 2) Use a cardboard box and paints to make beautiful butterfly wings.
- 3) Turn yourself into your favourite animal with a simple mask.

If it's possible or you have the space, your Eco team is encouraging you to spend time playing outdoors in your outfit creation this Thurs May 21<sup>st</sup>. Or they could dress up for a walk or hang out on the balcony to make their neighbours smile. Whatever you get up to, connect with thousands of others getting involved around the world by sharing on social media using #PlayfulNature. Are you joining in the fun? RSVP to Outdoor Classroom Day [Facebook event!](#)



Connecting to nature can restore our sense of wellbeing. For children, this connection is best made through play - whether outdoors in nature or indoors with natural elements

If you've got a bit of outdoor space at home or school, help the children in your care connect to nature through play with these lovely ideas from the Outdoor Classroom Day community! From a game of outdoor bingo to making a nature crown, there's something for everyone.

### 5 nature play ideas from the Outdoor Classroom Day community

- 1) Take a nature bag or basket on walks and collect natural items like pebbles, fallen leaves and feathers.
- 2) Play a game of outdoor bingo - who will be the first to spot a black bug, a brown bird or a white flower?
- 3) Make a nature wind chime out of twigs, pine cones, shells and anything else you can find. Hang it where it will catch the wind.
- 4) Use old pots and pans to concoct mud pies and garden soups! If you have the space, create a little mud kitchen in the corner of your garden or yard.
- 5) Make a nature crown out of twigs, fallen leaves and other natural materials. Check out the [Outdoor Classroom Day Pinterest board](#) for more nature dress-up ideas.

[Find more ideas for connecting to nature](#) learn more from <https://outdoorclassroomday.com/> and share your own on social media using #PlayfulNature!



RIVER HEIGHTS  
ECO TEAM

## **Parents Helping Parents Connecting with Variety of Devices**

---

**If you are using Google Classroom on an iPad, you will need to download a separate app for each part of the Google Suite (ie: Google Chrome, Google Slides, Google Docs etc.) to have full functionality**

**On an iPad, it is easier to navigate to links embedded in the slides if you are in 'Present' mode**

**Also on an iPad, when you open a slide, a drawing tool icon will open in the bottom, right corner. If you click on the drawing tool, you have the option of drawing, adding a text box that you can drag around the slide, using a marker or a highlighter.**

**For full functionality of Google Read and Write, access google Classroom through a Chrome Browser. You may need to download the Chrome Browser to your desktop if you have not already done so. e: click on the Google Chrome icon, NOT Internet Explorer)**

**Your child has a GMail account attached to their goTVDSB account. While many teachers have not been communicating directly to those email addresses, Google sends the students a notification email whenever there is a private comment on their work.**

**Admittedly, we discovered this week that it was much easier to see our own children's feedback by clicking on it in the inbox of the gmail account. Your teacher has the email account address and password for every student in their class if parents opt to use this time saving measure.**

---

# FROM ALL OF US TO ALL OF YOU



Enjoy Outside Especially  
on May 21st!  
We Miss You RedHawks