



June 2017

Dear Grade Seven Families,

Welcome to Rising Tide Charter Public School's grade seven year. We trust your child is going to love grade seven. We see this grade as a transitional period as your child begins to develop into a young adult. Our goal is to ensure that your child becomes an independent, lifelong learner. We expect students to do their best work all the time, but we understand this does not mean everyone has to be perfect.

We would like your help in fostering this growth by supporting your child as he/she takes increased personal responsibility at school. We encourage you to join us on Back to School Night, happening in September, to further discuss expectations for students. An important part of this increased personal responsibility is our expectation that each student complete assigned homework and come prepared to class. Our team believes that homework is important to building the skills necessary for academic success. Meaningful homework provides students with an opportunity to practice skills, prepare for future lessons, and deepen their understanding of the material. Your child can expect to receive approximately one and a half hours of homework per night.

The grade seven year includes many exciting opportunities for exploration and academic growth. We build curriculum and activities to connect to our grade seven Guiding Question of "*How Do I Face Challenges?*" Some examples of the activities in which students participate are: designing and building solar cars, developing public speaking and performing skills, learning to conduct research, and starting to learn a foreign language. The grade seven service learning project focuses on community stewardship. This project helps students develop awareness of the challenges our community faces, and develop and participate in solutions to these problems. We have participated in beach clean-ups, worked at a local food pantry, and helped at an animal rescue center. Grade seven students have also served the middle school community by organizing and maintaining the school's recycling program.

This summer, the entire grade seven community will be reading *Pax* by Sara Pennypacker. This book connects to our grade level question regarding the importance of persevering through challenging situations. Students should come to school prepared to discuss the various challenges that are presented. Families are also encouraged to read and discuss the book with their child.

Increased organization is a goal we have for each student and is crucial for a student's success in grade seven and beyond. With that goal in mind, please see the attached list of required school supplies. We thank you for your cooperation and look forward to seeing you at the end of the summer.

Sincerely,
The Grade Seven Team

Grade Seven Required Supply List for 2017-2018 Academic Year:

- Five 1-inch, 3-ring binders, for Latin, ELA, Social Studies, Science, and Math (**Please note that you need a separate binder for each class**)
- One-subject notebook also for ELA
- 5 section dividers for each 3-ring binder
- Lined loose-leaf paper for each section of the binders (will need to be replenished throughout the year)
- Students will be provided an agenda with your annual school fee.
- Pencils - regular or mechanical (no pens for math and science)
- Pens - black or blue
- A low odor dry erase marker
- Five 100 count packages of 3" by 5" note cards for Latin, Social Studies, and other subjects
- Tissue boxes for general classroom use
- Basic calculator (for math and science)

Also, if you are able, please donate one of the following to your advisory classroom:

- Antibacterial hand sanitizer
- Paper towels
- Cleaning wipes

We can't wait to see you all!