



VINCENT MASSEY SCHOOL JUNE UPDATE BULLETIN



OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTS

We would sincerely appreciate all fees owing being paid to **make it fair for all the families** of Vincent Massey.

Kindergarten fees are \$110.00/child and \$100.00/child for grades 1-6. **When parents don't pay the school fees, there will be a shortage of funds in the instructional envelope, which will result in loss of programs and higher student-teacher ratios.**

The **Before/After School Program** will run right up to and including **Wednesday, June 29th**. If your children will not be attending the program during the last week of school or you know when their last day of attendance will be, **please let the office know**. That way, an invoice can be sent home and your account can be cleared up before the end of the year.

Mrs. Knutson will be in the office June 30th 7:30-4:00 to enable parents to clear up any balances owing. There is a mail slot at the front of the school to drop off payments after hours.

If the Before/After School Program fees remain unpaid at the end of the year, your child **will not** be allowed into the program in the fall. If you want to register your child for the program next year, please stop by the office to pick up the forms. Thanks for your cooperation.

Special thanks to **Mrs. Galipeau** (Supervisor), **Mrs. Simmonds**, **Mrs. Roesler**, **Ms. Barnett**, **Ms. Clarke** & **Mrs. Ginnis** for the excellent care provided to our students.

ACHIEVEMENT TESTS AND FINAL EXAMS

Parents are reminded that final exams are just around the corner. Because this is such a busy time of year with soccer, baseball, and other out-of-school activities, plus our own field trips, swimming, year end activities, and other special events at school, it is important that students begin to prepare for their final exams now.

Students in Grades 3 and 6 will be writing Provincial Achievement Tests on the following dates:

Tuesday, June 14th

Grade 3 Language Arts
Grade 6 Social Studies

Wednesday, June 15th

Grade 6 Language Arts – Part B

Thursday, June 16th

Grade 3 Math – Part B
Grade 6 Math – Part B

Friday, June 17th

Grade 6 Science



Please make sure your child is prepared, well rested, has a nutritious breakfast and is **on time** for these tests.

PRIDE & PRAISE ASSEMBLY

Due to the length of the yearend assembly, we are having the regular Pride & Praise assembly on **Friday, June 17th at 2:10 p.m.** Parents are more than welcome to attend.

GRADE 6 OUTDOOR EDUCATION CAMP

We are busy finalizing the plans for the annual Outdoor Education Camp. Grade 6 students, teachers and parent volunteers will be leaving early the morning of June 21st and returning the evening of June 22nd. Once again, the students will be traveling to the Saskatchewan side of the Cypress Hills. They have raised funds through Pizza Sales to help with the costs. They would like to extend thanks to the students and parents who supported these events. We know they will have an awesome experience!

We would also like to express our sincere thanks to those parents who have assisted with the preparation and who will be helping out at camp. This event would not be successful without parent support.

SWIMMING SCHEDULE

As with any outing that the students take, there is always the possibility of injuries. However, the students are given the rules and expectations before they participate in any school activity. As well, lifeguards are on duty. We wanted parents to be aware of the risks with swimming:

- Injury can occur walking to and from the pool.
- Injury can occur when riding the bus to and from the pool.
- Injury can occur if a student slips and falls on the pool deck surface.
- Injury can occur when jumping in or diving into the pool.
- There is a possibility of drowning.



Reminder of Pool Rule: There must be one adult (in the water) for every two children under the age of seven. Older children are encouraged to use the “buddy” system.

HEIGHTS POOL (Crescent Heights)

Wednesday, June 8 th – 9:00-9:50	Grade 4
Friday, June 10 th – 11:00-11:50	Grade 3
12:45-1:35	Grade 2 & 5
1:45-2:45	Grade 6
Tuesday, June 21 st – 9:00-9:50	Grade 4O & 2
Thursday, June 23 rd – 12:45-1:35	Grade 3R & 5

HEALD POOL

Tuesday, June 28 th – 12:30-1:30	Grade 3 & 4M
1:30 – 2:30	Grade 6

STRATHCONA POOL

Friday, June 10 th – 1:00 – 1:50	Grade 1
Friday, June 17 th – 1:00 – 1:50	Grade 1
Friday, June 24 th – 1:00 – 1:50	Grade 1

REDCLIFF POOL

Monday, June 27 th – 9:00-11:00	Grade 5 & 6
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VINCENT MASSEY PRESCHOOL

Medicine Hat School District 76 would like to offer a Preschool Program next year at Vincent Massey for children ages 3-5. Programs would be morning (8:20-11:20 am) or afternoon (11:45- 2:45 pm). Fees are dependent upon the number of days registering.

Preschool Fees-

- \$365.00 per month (for five half days per week)
- \$292.00 per month (for four half days per week)
- \$219.00 per month (for three half days per week)
- \$146.00 per month (for two half days per week)
- \$ 73.00 per month (for one half day per week)
- \$ 75.00 registration fee (non-refundable and payable upon registration)
- (\$50 will be applied to first month payment)

Registration forms are now available at the school. Please register early to ensure that we have enough interest, and are able to offer this wonderful program.

For more information please contact:
Vicki Glass, Preschool Special Needs Co-ordinator
403-528-6725



FATHER'S DAY MESSAGE

In the faint light of the attic, an old man, tall and stooped, bent his great frame and made his way to stacks of boxes that sat near one of the little half-windows. Brushing aside a wisp of cobwebs, he tilted the top box toward the light and began to carefully lift out one old photograph album after another. Eyes once bright but now dim searched longingly for the source that had drawn him here.

It began with the fond recollection of the love of his life, long gone, and somewhere in these albums was a photo of her he hoped to rediscover. Silently as a mouse, he patiently opened the long-buried treasures and soon was lost in a sea of memories. Although his world had not stopped spinning when his wife left it, the past was more alive in his heart than his present aloneness. Setting aside one of the dusty albums, he pulled from the box what appeared to be a journal from his grown son's childhood. He could not recall ever having seen it before, or that his son had ever kept a journal. Why had Elizabeth always saved the children's old junk, he wondered, shaking his white head? Opening the yellowed pages, he glanced over a short entry, and his lips curved in an unconscious smile. Even his eyes brightened as he read the words that spoke clear and sweet to his soul. Entry after entry stirred a sentimental hunger in his heart like the longing a gardener feels in the winter for the fragrance of spring flowers. But it was accompanied by the painful memory that his son's simple recollections of those days were far different from his own. But how different?

Reminded that he had kept a daily journal of his business activities over the years, he closed his journal and turned to leave. Hunched over to keep from bumping his head on the rafters, the old man stepped to the wooden stairway and made his descent down a stairway that led to the den. Opening a glass cabinet door, he reached in and pulled out an old business journal. Turning, he set at this desk and placed the two journals beside each other. His was leather bound and engraved with his name in gold, while his son's was tattered and the name “Jimmy” had nearly been scuffed from its surface.

As he opened his journal, the old man's eyes fell upon an inscription that stood out because it was so brief in comparison to the other days. In his own neat handwriting were these words:

“Wasted the whole day fishing with Jimmy, didn't catch a thing.”

With a deep sigh and shaking hand he took Jimmy's journal and found the boy's entry for the same day. Large scrawling letters pressed deeply in the paper read:

“Went fishing with my Dad, BEST DAY OF MY LIFE!”

You may have heard it before but it bears repeating. Someone once said, “I've never known anyone who on their deathbed said, “I wish I had spent more time at the office”. A hundred years from now it will not matter what our bank account was, the sort of house we lived in, or kind of car we drove, but the world may be different because we gave some extra time to our son or daughter.

(This article was excerpted from the book To A Child Love is Spelled T-I-M-E by Lance Wubbels and Mac Anderson.)

K-3 FITNIC and 4-6 Track – FRIDAY, JUNE 24TH



- **Grade 4-6** students will be walking to C.H.H.S. to participate in track activities for the morning.
- **K-3 Fun Fitnic** will take place the **morning**.
- **“Subway” Lunch for EVERYONE** will be at approximately **11:45 a.m.** You will want to bring a blanket to sit on as we will be eating outside on the front lawn.

*****Parent or Grandparent volunteers are desperately needed for:**

- 1) K-3 Fitnic from 9:45am – 11:30am to help run the Fitnic events. All materials will be ready for you to manage the station independently or to take the children from station to station.**
- 2) Grade 4-6 volunteers are needed from 8:45am – 11:15am at CHHS.**
- 3) We also require volunteers at 11:00am to help with the lunch.*****

Please contact the school if you are available. When calling, please indicate which event or lunch or BOTH! Whatever you choose, thanks in advance for your support.

Grade 1's will be going to Strathcona Pool and Grades 2-6 will be going to the Leisure Center in the afternoon. Please watch for more information to come home with your child's homeroom teacher in this regard.

Student Success!

Thanks for an outstanding year of submissions to our Student Success. Vincent Massey Staff is extremely proud of our students and their accomplishments. We always love to hear about their achievements outside the school setting as well. Keep up the good work!

PRIDE & PRAISE STUDENTS

Kirsten Erfle	Alyssa Johnson
Emily Martin	Hayden Maxwell
Irelynd Rutley	Emily Schlenker
Bentley Stewart	Jamine Acton
Sharli Clarke	Hunter Denton
Alyssa Ford	Keenan Gertner
Layne Gow	Nikkie Jordan
Justin Lantican x2	Danton Markewich x2
Marissa Schmaltz	Faith Scrivner
Noah Smith	Madison Hunt x2
Tara Bourassa x2	Logan Braun x2
Cheyenne Crawford x3	Isaac Handley x3
Phoenix Kylo x2	Autumn McFetridge x2
Benjamin Milner x3	Jolene Moffat
Blayne Penner x2	Nataya Penttila
Ty Petersen	Josh Suelzle
Chritopher Topping	Davane Beauchamp
Dakota Carrier	Dakota Degenstein
Konnor Gertner	Taylor Hanson
Israel Honig	Samantha Hunt
Victoria Jones	Adam Klick
Tayln Latimer	Ivey Russell
Hannah Bonogofsky	Angel Chatters
Enoch Doe	Ami Dynes
Kaedom Hernandez	Ethan LaRochelle
Talia Laubenstein	Dustin Pillman
Tyson Rutledge	Austin Sembaliuk
Jayda Steele	Jocelyn Walters x2

FAREWELL & BEST WISHES



The end of a school year is always met with mixed emotions. We look forward to summer holidays, but we know some of the Vincent Massey students will be moving away over the summer and this makes us sad. We wish all the families who will not be returning in the fall all the very best and hope they enjoy their new adventure. You will be missed and we welcome you back at any time!

PLEASE NOTE: If your children **will not** be returning, and you have not notified the school, please do so as soon as possible. This makes it easier to make up the class lists in the fall. And, if you change your mind, we would love to have you back!

Staff Announcements

- **Mrs. McWilliams and Mrs. McClain** will continue their maternity leaves until the new year.
- **Mrs. Ulbricht** will be on maternity leave next year. We wish her good luck with expanding her family!
- **Mrs. McBain** will be going back to Grade 1.

STUDENT REGISTRATION

Registration for **new students** to Vincent Massey (grades K-6), for the upcoming school year is ongoing, so please come in **anytime during office hours (7:30-4:00)**, if you would like to register for the 2011-2012 school year.

Kindergarten: Children, who will be 5 years old by February 28th, 2012 are eligible.

Grade One: Children, who will be 6 by February 28th, 2012 are eligible.

NOTE: Please bring your child's **birth certificate** and **Alberta Health Care number** with you.

ARE ALL OF YOUR LIBRARY BOOKS RETURNED??

It's hard to believe but the end of the school year is in sight. The library is no longer checking out materials for this school year. Please ensure that your child returns her/his borrowed books as soon as possible. All books must be returned by June 17th. All lost books must be paid for by June 24th.



Mrs. Pahl will be holding **draws for prizes** for all students that have returned all their books or paid for their lost books. Prizes will be awarded on June 27th. Just a note to Grade 6 students, MHHS, CHHS and AMS will not allow you to check out any books...including text books if you have an outstanding invoice at Vincent Massey.

Remember that even though our library is closed, your child can continue their leisure reading through the Medicine Hat Public Library. Check out their great reading programs this summer! Stop by the MHPL or call the library at 403-502-8526 for more information.

REPORT CARDS

Report Cards go home with students the last day of school, **June 29th**.

If your child will not be attending the last day, the report card will be mailed out **if a stamped, self-addressed envelope (9X12)** is provided. Otherwise, it will be placed in your child's file and can be picked up in August when they return to school.

STUDENT ASSIGNMENTS IN CLASSROOMS FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

Parents, please note the following information on when and how students are placed into classrooms for the beginning of the school year –August/September.

Classroom assignments for the new school year are created during the last two weeks of June. The process is a collaborative one where the previous year's teachers create the initial list for the receiving teachers and then fine tuning takes place during the last few days of June and as late as the last few days of August before classes begin for the new school year. The process of placing students into new classes is a challenging one. There are many factors that are taken into consideration when making up the new class lists. Academic concerns are the first priority, followed by discipline, number of boys/girls, number of special needs students, and past interactions between students, etc. Parents should note, that instructional intelligence tells us that it is important for students to learn how to work with others that are not necessarily their friends as we all know that we do not always get to choose who we work with later in life. **Therefore, please note that Class Lists posted on the front doors of the school the day before school begins (the end of August) are tentative.** As new children register at our school at the beginning of the school year, it may be necessary to reassign students to different classes to balance classroom needs for any of the above reasons listed.

Also, please note that if there are large numbers of students in a particular grade level, the School District may provide additional staffing to lower the student – teacher ratio, which means that class lists may need to be **completely** revised as a new full or part- time classroom is created. If this takes place, parents are contacted by phone.

Teachers and administration have many things to consider as we place students in new classrooms at the beginning of each school year. The process is a complex one, but we do our best to try and address all student and classroom needs.



TOT-EM TRANSPORTATION

Tot-em Transportation will be adding a new and exciting feature to its company this fall.

Many people already are "twitter users" and Tot-em is joining Twitter so that we can provide parents and students with the very latest information regarding bus routes, such as, delays due to weather, construction, breakdowns etc.

You will be able to get updates from Twitter by following the instructions below.

Once you have signed on, Twitter messages from Tot-em Transportation will automatically and in real time come to your phone.

We will not bombard you with numerous messages, we value your time so we will only send "tweets" when there is a message that we feel will be important to you and your family regarding school bus routes.

Can I get updates from @Twitter without a Twitter account or associated Phone number?

Absolutely! This is what **Fast Follow** is all about. It's a new way of receiving Twitter updates. Now you don't have to sign up or add your phone in order to receive updates!

To get started, send: "**Follow totem district 76**" to **21212** and you will start receiving tweets from us on your device.

Can I use Mobile Commands?

The commands you can use without an account are listed below. All commands, including those for registered users, can be found [here](#).

- To receive updates from us send "**Follow totem district 76**" to **21212**
- Send **OFF** or **STOP** - You can turn off receiving updates from us that you are following by sending OFF or STOP
- **ON** - Sending ON will turn on device updates and you will start receiving tweets again.

Another new thing that children and parents should be seeing is the new animal signs in the busses windows. Tot-em has done this to make it easier for the elementary children to recognize their bus (especially in the new school year). Instead of having to remember a bus number or driver's name, they will just have to remember what animal is in their bus's window!

Tot-em's routes for 2011-2012 will soon be on their website www.totemtransportation.com. If you have any questions about any of these items, you can call Tot-em at 403-527-6986 for more information.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- The line ups at the microwaves are getting longer and longer. PLEASE do not send items that take longer than 1-2 minutes to warm up. Also, students are not allowed to warm up sandwiches or subs. Thanks for your cooperation.
- There will be **NO Hot Lunch Friday or Grade 6 Pizza Day** this month.
THANKS TO MR. BRANDT, MISS BAIRD, THE GRADE 6 STUDENTS, MRS. STEWART AND HER CREW OF VERY HARD WORKERS for providing these special lunches throughout the year!
- The regular staff meeting will be on **Wednesday, June 15th**. Students will be dismissed at **11:45 a.m.**
- All students will be going to a movie on Thursday, June 23rd. We are finalizing all the details and a note will be sent home with students from their homeroom teachers.
- The **Lost & Found** box is **OVERFLOWING** again with coats, sweaters, hats, shoes, lunch containers, etc. If there are items missing from your household, please make sure you or your child stop by and check it out. Please note that **all unclaimed items will be removed from the school at the end of the year and donated to charity.**

YEAREND ASSEMBLY

The end of the year **Awards Assembly** will be held **Wednesday, June 29th at 10:15 a.m.** Certificates, medals and pins will be handed out. All parents are more than welcome to attend. **Student will be dismissed at 11:45 a.m.**

Parents are welcome to attend!



STUDENT SUPPLY LIST FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

All Grades (PLEASE put your name on all items for easy identification):

- ✚ Pencil case/box (except for Kindergarten)
- ✚ Backpack
- ✚ Lunch bag

Kindergarten:

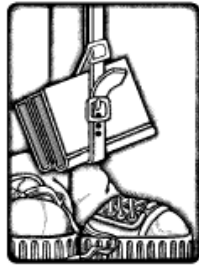
- ✚ One pair of non-marking soled running shoes (that they can put on and do up themselves) to be left at school.
- ✚ Backpack to transport lunch, odd sized crafts, notes and clothes home daily.
- ✚ One paint shirt

Grade One:

- ✚ PLEASE – no pencil crayons, pencil sharpeners or felts.
- ✚ 4 EXPO Whiteboard markers (black)
- ✚ Glue stick

Grade Two:

- ✚ Small pencil sharpener that holds the pencil shavings
- ✚ Glue stick and white glue
- ✚ Felt markers (We have found Mr. Sketch Water Color Markers to be of superior quality.)
- ✚ Deck of playing cards
- ✚ 4 EXPO Whiteboard markers (black)



Grade Three:

- ✚ 1 Extra large Ziploc bag
- ✚ Pencil sharpener that holds pencil shavings
- ✚ Glue stick
- ✚ Felt markers (optional)

Grade Four:

- ✚ Pencil sharpener that holds pencil shavings
- ✚ Highlighter (1)
- ✚ 1 Packages of dividers
- ✚ 1 large Ziploc bag
- ✚ Glue stick

Grade Five & Six:

- ✚ Geometry set
- ✚ Calculator
- ✚ 1 Highlighter
- ✚ 1 large Ziploc bag
- ✚ Glue stick

All basic supplies are covered by the September school fees. Teachers may request specific items during the school year, however, notes will be sent home.

A BACK-TO-SCHOOL CHECKLIST FOR FAMILIES

The first day of school can bring jitters to students and families alike. There are many things that can be done to help make the back-to-school transition easier. When you, as a parent or guardian, interact with and support your children, your children are more likely to be successful.

Make sure your children know:

- His or her name, address and phone number;
- How to take outer clothing on and off;
- How to take care of basic toilet needs; and
- How to be patient and wait for his or her turn.

Before your children's first day:

- Establish a bed routine that ensures adequate rest;
- Have children spend time one-on-one and in small groups with other children their age;
- Help your children learn letters, numbers, colors and shapes;
- Read to your children daily;
- Let your children learn by trying new activities;
- Practice the route they will take to and from school;
- Talk about making new friends and doing new activities;
- Visit the school and classroom, if possible;
- For older students, let them know you are interested;
- Talk to your children about friends, classes and activities;
- Teach your children how to set goals;
- Encourage them to be involved in extracurricular activities at school, at church or in the community;
- Give them opportunities to try new skills and earn recognition for a job well done; and
- Plan with them how they will budget their time.

For student success, it is recommended that families:

- Establish a definite time and location for a student to do his or her homework;
- Attend Student-led Conferences;
- Join the school's parent organization;
- Keep the school calendar handy;
- Volunteer – opportunities are expanding for working parents;
- Stay informed about school events;
- Serve on a school or jurisdiction advisory committee;
- Get to know your children's friends;
- Teach your children how to say "no" to peer pressure;
- Make sure all parties your children attend have adult supervision

From Insights... for Parents

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

1-2-3 MAGIC SESSIONS & CHILDREN'S GROUPS

Please check out their website or call them to find out about their summer programs for parents and children. For more information call: Janice Eckert at 403-502-8257.
www.palliserhealth.ca Program/Services – Children's Health & Developmental Services.

SOCIAL SKILLS CAMP

Join other "scientist" kids in the Friendship Lab! You're invited to investigate what it takes to be a good friend.

- Conversation Skills
- Handling Emotions
- Thinking about others – What are they thinking??!

July 11-15 or August 8-12 (identical content)
Come each day for 1.5 hrs of exploration and fun.

For students with social skill needs who have just completed

Grade 1-3	8:30am – 10:00am
Grade 4-5	10:30am – noon
Grade 7-9	1:00pm – 2:30pm

Taking registrations until June 21st. For more information or to register, call 403-528-8175.

RECIPES FOR 7-12 YEAR OLDS

This is a great website featuring a cookbook that suggests healthy recipes for kids to make on their own and/or with adult assistance. Why not check it out:
<http://www.healthyalberta.com/HealthyEating/319.htm>

YMCA SUMMER CAMPS

Camps are located at the downtown YMCA (ages 5-12), Camp Elkwater (ages 8-14) and Southridge (ages 6-12). Lots of fun with weekly themes. For more information visit www.ymca-medicinehat.org or call 527-4426.

MEDICINE HAT PUBLIC LIBRARY

Check out their reading programs for all ages. Stop in the library or call 403-502-8526 for more information.

FREE FAMILY SWIM TIMES

The Kinsmen Club of Medicine Hat sponsors free family swim times throughout the City and Redcliff. Go to the City's website or call the swim line at 403-502-8571 for more information.

CITY PARKS

Don't forget to check out all our great city parks. Take a picnic and make a day out of it. City parks offer lush green spaces for you and your family to play games, read a book, study nature or even take a hike. Some City parks have water-parks for your enjoyment. Check out the new playground at Strathcona Park. It's awesome!! Echo Dale Park is free and only a few minutes away. Lifeguards are on duty all day.

Whatever you plan this summer, be safe and don't forget the sunscreen!!

A Parent's Guide to:

facebook

This presentation is designed to help parents understand what Facebook is and how to use it safely. With it, parents will be better informed and able to communicate with young Facebook users, and future users, in their life.

When: Wednesday, June 15th 6:30

Where: Southview School gym

Who: For any parents or guardians who would like to learn more about their children and Facebook

We hope everyone has a very enjoyable and active summer holiday. We look forward to seeing you...



TUESDAY, AUGUST 30th

Students will be dismissed at the regular time of 2:45 p.m.

JUNE



		TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3 Appreciation Pancake Breakfast 7am – 8:30am Hot Dogs! 	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 Grade 6 Outdoor Education Camp forms due today.	11
12	13	14 Grade 3 Language Arts-Part B Grade 6 Social Studies	15 Grade 6 Language Arts – Part B Staff Meeting Dismissal 11:45	16 Grade 3 & 6 Math – Part B	17 Grade 6 Science Pride and Praise Assembly 2:10pm	18
19 HAPPY FATHER'S DAY! 	20	21 Grade 6 Outdoor Education Camp	22 Grade 6 Outdoor Education Camp	23 School-wide movie 10am Sponsored by Monarch Theatre	24 -Grade 4-6 Track & Field at CHHS-AM -K-3 Fun Fitnic starts at 10am -Lunch for everyone at the school-11:45. -Grade 2-6 students swimming at the Leisure Centre-PM	25
26	27	28 Classroom Clean-Up - PM	29 Final Awards Assembly 10:15 Everyone Welcome! Last Day for Students Dismissal at 11:45	30 Last day for teachers. 	Mrs. Knutson will be in the office <u>June 30th</u> from 7:30-4:00 to clear up any bills owing. Thanks for your cooperation. See you on August 30 th . Have a wonderful summer holiday!!	