



VINCENT MASSEY SCHOOL JUNE BULLETIN



SCHOOL FEES

The majority of our parents have paid their school fees for this year and we **sincerely** thank you.

These fees are used to provide your child's basic school supplies for the entire year. To date, approximately 13% of the fees owing are unpaid.

This amounts to over \$5,000.00.



This amount is needed for us to reach our budget goal set for this school year. Notices in the bulletins, letters to parents, phone calls and offers of installment plans have been made to remind parents who have not yet paid.

We would sincerely appreciate all school fees getting 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. Thanks for your cooperation.

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 English Language Arts – Part B
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 well rested, **on time** and prepared for these tests. This includes ensuring that they eat a nutritious breakfast.



IMPORTANT NOTICE BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

As was stated in the information given when you registered your child for the program, you will be receiving two bills in June that are **due upon receipt.** The program will run right up to and including **Wednesday, June 29th**. If your children will not be attending 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 from 7:30-4:00 to enable parents to clear up any balances owing.** Thank you for your cooperation.

Remember: Failure to clear up your account by June 30th may result in your child not being accepted to this program in September.

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.



PRINCIPAL'S PERSPECTIVE

Make learning last all summer long

When it comes to summer vacation, kids need more stimulation than a TV and full refrigerator. During the summer the average student forgets some of the math and reading skills learned during the previous school year. Parents can help prevent this loss by maintaining a learning environment at home.

- Ask teachers for a summer reading list.
- READ. Let your children see you spend time reading, and make sure to set aside time each day for reading. You might consider attaching an incentive to reading time.
- Visit the library often. Sign up for summer reading program. Find the stacks of children's magazines and take some home for fun reading times.

Remember to keep the learning environment creative and fun. It is summertime, and because there is no competition with regular classroom assignments, it's the perfect time to learn new and exciting things. During the summer there are many community activities offered by the City of Medicine Hat, the Espanade and the Medicine Hat College community programs. Check our local paper for advertisements for scheduled events and activities.

- Encourage art projects. Head to the craft store to find an inexpensive project to do together. There are so many art media to experiment with.
- Play word games or puzzles.
- Plan a vacation together. Visit the library or go online together to find out all you can about the places you plan to visit this summer.
- Teach your children some culinary basics. Even the smallest youngster can be a big help in the kitchen, and when everyone pitches in, it's easier for parent to prepare healthy meals. Make cookies, or some other tasty treat, together. Have your children read the directions to you. Let them measure the ingredients.
- Assign summer jobs. Doing household chores provides important life skills and teaches responsibility.
- Plant a garden. If you don't have much room, use a couple of pots. Give your children some responsibility for these plants, like watering and weeding.
- Sign your children up for summer camps, church camps, or sports camps. These programs usually teach valuable skills and lessons.

Summer doesn't mean the learning has to stop. There are so many ways that the learning can continue in fresh and exciting opportunities.

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.



CHILDREN OF NOBLE CHARACTER

Our school is presently focusing on the last social skills theme for this school year - "**Conscience – Knowing Right from Wrong**". We would ask that parents partner with us in teaching your child the concept of listening to our conscience. Of course we want our kids to do what's right and act in virtuous ways, but have we really taken time to teach them what morality is and why it is important?

Six Ways to Teach Virtues That Promote the Development of a Strong Conscience

If you asked parents the question, "What kind of person do you want your child to become?" On the top of most parents' lists would most certainly be significant characteristics like: respectful, kind, responsible, fair, peaceful, honest and persevering. But this begs the question, "When was the last time you talked about that virtue with your child. It is so critical that parents commit to teaching your child virtues we want them to acquire most. No matter what virtue you choose, there are six ways to teach it.

1. *Identify the virtues you want most to develop in your child.*

The first step is to choose the specific virtues you want your child to acquire most. The clearer you are in knowing what traits you deem most significant, the greater the likelihood that your child will learn them.

2. *Accentuate a virtue each month.*

Research says it takes at least three weeks to learn a new behavior or skill, and the same premise applies to cementing good virtues. One idea is to select a virtue each month and commit a few minutes each day to helping children learn it.

3. *Describe the value and meaning of the virtue.*

The third way to teach a virtue is to help your child know exactly what the virtue means and why it is important to learn. The trick is to be sure to explain the virtue in a way that is in keeping with your child's level of understanding and never assume he understands your meaning.

4. *Teach what the virtue looks and sounds like.*

There is no perfect way to teach a virtue, but research says that telling children about the trait is never as powerful as showing them what it looks like. The most important point is to make sure your child knows exactly ways she can display the virtue.

5. *Reinforce the virtue in daily life.*

The best teaching moments aren't ones that are planned – they happen unexpectedly. Look for those moments and use them to reinforce the virtue. Use everything from family squabbles to trips to the mall. The most important thing is to reinforce the virtue in your own child's behavior: "That was being honest".

6. *Find opportunities for your child to practice the virtue.*

The critical last step is to find ways for your child to incorporate the trait in his/her daily living. For example, some families take a few minutes each night at the dinner table to share how they experienced the virtue during their day.

One of the most effective ways to enhance your child's conscience and virtuous behavior is to reinforce it whenever your child displays it. Just name the virtue, and then specifically describe what he/she did right. It is never too late to start.

BELL TIMES FOR THE 2011-2012 SCHOOL YEAR

As most of you may know, next year Medicine Hat School District has decided to standardize the Common Planning Days to one full Friday a month for **all** schools. Currently we have every 3rd Wednesday as an early dismissal day. Due to this change in scheduling we had to make some slight changes to our bell times to ensure our students will still get the full instructional time that they are entitled to.

The new bell times will be as follows:

8:17 – 8:25 Entrance and announcements
8:25 – 9:00 Period 1
9:00 – 9:30 Period 2
9:30 – 10:00 Period 3
10:00 – 10:15 Recess
10:15 – 10:45 Period 4
10:45 – 11:15 Period 5
11:15 – 11:45 Period 6
11:45 – 12:30 Noon
12:30 – 12:35 Entrance (noon hour shortened by 5 minutes)
12:35 – 1:10 Period 7 (5 minutes added)
1:10 – 1:40 Period 8
1:40 – 2:10 Period 9
2:10 – 2:45 Period 10 (5 minutes added)
2:45 – 2:50 Agendas and preparations for dismissal

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 early in 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!

Student Success!

Good Luck to **Katrina and Ty Petersen** as they head to Regina for the Pan Am Games, which will be held June 11th and 12th. The Pan Am Games are put on by the Canadian National Martial Arts Association (CNMAA). Both students participated in a martial arts tournament earlier this year, qualifying them to complete in the games. Katrina earned a 1st in sparring and 3rd in weapon sparring. Ty won 1st in weapon sparring. Congratulations and Good Luck!!

FAIR PLAYER AWARD WINNERS

Our Fair Player winners for the month of May are Taylor McLellan, Carter Banks, Trevor Dimmer, Haley Johnstone, Rebecca Jones, Lorenzo Ricci, Alyssa Ford, Ardit Zejnullahu, Braeden Buchburger, Isaac Handley, Amy Alcorn, Austin Sembaliuk, Madison McCann and Achiel Shlepp. Congratulations!

PRIDE & PRAISE STUDENTS

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Amy Alcorn | Davane Beauchamp x2 |
| Dakota Carrier | Dakota Degenstein x2 |
| Taylor Hanson x3 | Israel Honig |
| Samantha Hunt | Victoria Jones |
| Adam Klick | Hannah Bonogofsky |
| Ami Dynes | Davis Fishley |
| Talia Laubenstein | Tanner Maxwell |
| Akira Pentila | Jocelyn Walters |
| Aaron Burton | Cole Beitz-Denton |
| Grace Countryman | Erica Countryman x3 |
| Kaden Ginnis | Brody Hilgendorf x2 |
| Alyssa LaRochelle | Anfernee Houmphanh |
| Abigail Maynard x3 | Dayne Levesque-Spriry |
| Jessica Meloney x2 | Peighton Olmstead |
| Brady Penman x2 | Katrina Petersen |
| Livia Ricci x3 | Achiel Schlepp |
| Karissa Simpson x3 | Ashley Tindall |
| Steven Kronebusch | Sara Pegoraro |
| Lizzy Meakin | Madison McCann |
| Torin Ireland | Courtney Perrior |
| Colton Kerner | |

PARENT COUNCIL S.W.E.A.T AWARD

The following students were award winners for the month of May:

| | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Kohen Foley | Dawson Hegedus |
| Brandon Dintheer | Landen Fode |
| Alyssa Milner | Kira Chell |
| Hayden Maxwell | Madison Hunt |
| Josh Thunberg | Dominik Speakman |
| Seth LaRochelle | Samantha Hunt |
| Davis Fishley | Nick May |
| Raissa Zalazar | |

Congratulations to **Evan Cochrane** who was the winner of the movie passes!!

PATROLLER OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Daylan Tonin! Thanks for your commitment to the program.

Please remind your children to follow the instructions of the school patrol members – they are there for your child's safety.



IMPORTANT EVENT INFORMATION

- There will be **NO Hot Lunch** this month but, we will have **Hot Dogs on June 3rd**.
- The regular staff meeting will be on **Wednesday, June 15th**. Students will be dismissed at **11:45 a.m.**
- School-wide movie day will be held on **Thursday, June 23rd** in the morning at the Monarch Theatre. More details to follow.
- The end of the year **Awards Assembly** will be held **Wednesday, June 29th at 10:15 a.m.** Yearend certificates, medals and pins will be handed out. All parents are more than welcome to attend.
- The last day for students is Wednesday, **June 29th**. They will be dismissed at **11:45 a.m.**

FUN FITNIC/TRACK & FIELD DAY

- **Fun Fitnic** activities will take place at 10:00am on **Friday, June 24th** for **K-3 students**.
- **Track & Field** will take place at CHHS for Grade 4-6 students the **MORNING of June 24th as well**.
- The Fitnic lunch for **everyone** will be at Vincent Massey at **11:45 a.m.** Please bring a blanket for the picnic.
- **Parent volunteers are needed to assist in running the Fitnic events and helping with the lunch.** Please contact the school if you are available. When calling, please indicate whether you want to help with Fitnic events, Track & Field or lunch. Whatever you choose, we sincerely appreciate your support.

LOST & FOUND

Our Lost & Found Box is, once again, **OVERFLOWING!** Please stop by the school and check for articles of clothing, shoes, boots, lunch kits, backpacks, etc. that might be missing from your home. Also, please remind your children to check on a regular basis.

Reminder: At the end of the school year, these items will be bagged up and taken to a local charity.



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 |
| Tuesday, June 23 rd – 12:45-1:35 | Grade 3R & 5 |
| Tuesday, June 22 nd – 12:45-1:45 | Grade 1 |

HEALD POOL

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Monday, 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 |
|--|-------------|



We would like to acknowledge some parents who have volunteered for the school on a regular basis.

- **Mrs. Stewart** and **parent helpers** for working on the Hot Dog and Hot Lunch days. We will miss you next year!!
- **Parents and relatives** of students in our Kindergarten classes.
- **Mrs. Carrier & Mrs. Tonin** – School Council Co-Chairs.
- **Mrs. Kenny** for chairing the School Council fundraising projects.

- **Mrs. Carriere** for chairing the Kindergarten Fundraising projects.
- **Mrs. Dunphy** for organizing the Family Dances. And the S.W.E.A.T. Awards.

Of course, we sincerely appreciate all the Vincent Massey families who have been involved in any event at the school and supporting our fundraising campaigns!

JUNE MILK

Grades 1-6

June \$12.60

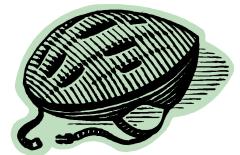


This does not include early dismissal days or Fun Fitnic day. The grade 6 students should deduct 2 days (\$1.40) for Outdoor Education Camp.

Please understand that we cannot predict when your child forgets to pick up their milk or misses a day of school. If you require a refund, please contact the office.

DON'T FORGET THE HELMETS!

Your child should wear a helmet whenever he or she is on anything with wheels, such as scooters, bicycle, or roller blades. Be sure to set a good example parents and wear your helmets!



SUMMER SAFETY



Sun Safety

Time outside is a great way to increase physical activity. But, before you hit the beach, pool, or backyard remember sun safety! Slip on a shirt, slap on a hat and slop on some sunscreen. Sunscreen should be at least 30 SPF and should be reapplied often especially after swimming or sweating.

Safety in the water:

- Know the weather forecast before you head out in the boat.
- Make sure each boat passenger has a floatation device.
- Don't swim alone or when tired
- Don't dive into a pool or any other body of water: walk into the water.

In the woods:

- Wear appropriate clothing that protects against ticks, plants and weather changes
- Wear high boots if snakes are a concern
- Avoid stagnant water were mosquitoes breed. Fight the bite.
- Pack water, a bee-sting kit and other emergency supplies when hiking in unpopulated areas.

In the backyard:

- Be cautious using pesticides or power equipment
- Keep children away from the BBQ.

SCHOOL DRESS CODE (from school handbook)

Students attending Vincent Massey are expected to conform to school expectations regarding dress and grooming. In particular, all students are required to show a clean, neat and tidy appearance.

We urge you to consider that some very popular shirts, t-shirts, and hats have logos or statements on them, which we do not feel are appropriate to wear at school. Clothing and accessories, which have vulgar language, suggestive sexual thoughts, and alcohol or other drug logos, are not valued at Vincent Massey School. Students who come to school with those kinds of shirts or accessories will be spoken to in an individual manner and will be requested to come dressed in something more appropriate the next day. We want you to be aware of this and thank you for your support.

In addition, we want students to be aware that all headwear (caps, toques, hoodies) must be removed when entering the school.

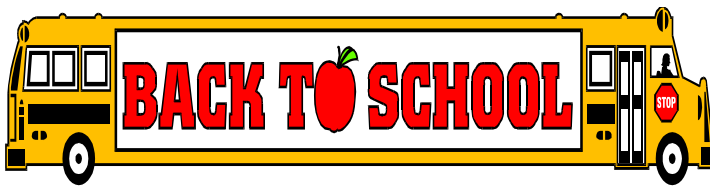
Short tops (tummy or back exposed), low-cut tops, halter-tops, tube tops and pajama pants are deemed unacceptable. Underwear should not be exposed when wearing tops, pants, or shorts. Shorts/skirts/skortis are required to be a suitable length so as not to embarrass others in the classroom.

PARENT BEEFS & BOUQUETS

Communication between the home and school is very important to us. As we come to the end of another school year, if you have any suggestions or concerns about happenings/situations at Vincent Massey this past school year, we would appreciate hearing from you. Please send your "beefs and/or bouquets" at any time **before June 30th**.

We hope you all have a safe and fun-filled summer. See you...

Tuesday, August 30, 2011



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 | 18 |
| 19 HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!  | 20 | 21 Grade 2-6 students swimming at the Leisure Centre-PM Grade 6 Outdoor Education Camp | 22 Grade 6 Outdoor Education Camp | 23 | 24 Grade 4-6 Track & Field at CHHS-AM K-3 Fun Fitnic starts at 10am Lunch for everyone at the school-11:45. Bring a blanket for your picnic! | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 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 30th. Have a wonderful summer holiday!! | |