



VINCENT MASSEY SCHOOL MAY UPDATE BULLETIN

Visit our website at www.vincentmasseyschool.ca



APPRECIATION BREAKFAST

On **Friday, June 3rd, from 7:00-8:30 a.m.** Vincent Massey School staff will be hosting the annual Appreciation Pancake Breakfast. This breakfast is to acknowledge the support we receive from parents/family in our school community throughout the school year. It also gives us a chance to visit with family members in a relaxed setting. Letters will be going home to parent volunteers and tickets **(\$3.00/person)** will be available for other family members at the office. In order to help us with the food order, **please let the school know whether you will be attending by Tuesday, May 24th.**

If we accidentally missed any of our valued volunteers, PLEASE let us know so we can get a letter to you right away. We hope to have a fantastic turnout to this fun event. **EVERYONE is encouraged and welcome to attend!**



VINCENT MASSEY'S GOT TALENT!

Were you there? Did you see them? **They were GREAT!** All the participants in the Variety Show did an excellent job. Eight **random** draws were made for prizes provided by School Council.

Special thanks to Mrs. Carrier and School Council for their organization and supervision of this event. We appreciate the time they spent with the auditions, practices and setting up for the evening. We look forward to having the event again next year.



UPPER ELEMENTARY SPRING MUSICAL

The musical, "Rock and Roll Forever" was an **outstanding** success. Thank you to all of our choir children and families for your help with our musical. Thank you for taking the time to come out to support the children – they worked so hard!

Thanks to **Mr. Klaudt** for directing, **Chantel Acton, Emily Aucoin, Alyssa Bertin, Hannah Bonogofsky, Talyn Latimer, Jocelyn Walters** for choreography, **Mrs. Dunphy** for Visual Direction, **Mr. Moser** for stage setup, **Mrs. Knutson** for the programs, and **the students** for making it so much fun.

Finally, special thanks goes out to **Mrs. Galipeau and her helpers** for the wonderful decorations. We would be lost without your amazing talents!

VINCENT MASSEY'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

A huge **THANKS** goes out to the committee of teachers who organized the 50th anniversary celebrations that we held during Education Week (May 2 – 6). Thank you to Mr. McFetridge, Mrs. Knutson, Mrs. Immel, Mrs. Morin, Mrs. Ulbricht, Mrs. McBain, Ms. Ganten and Mrs. Ryckman. Countless hours were spent in organizing the event and putting together the slide show. Mrs. Knutson had some great memories tucked away!! Thanks again.

Students and Staff were treated to a week long celebration of our school which concluded with a "rocking" assembly and cupcakes on Friday, May 6th.

Thanks to community members who came and supported our school at the assembly.

SCHOOL FEES

The majority of our parents have paid their school fees for this year and we **sincerely** thank you. However, there are some fees still outstanding.



These fees are 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.

STUDENT REGISTRATION FOR NEXT YEAR

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

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



Current students are reminded to return the **blue registration forms** that were sent home. It is critical that we keep our records up to date, especially in the case of an emergency.

LOST & FOUND

With the cool mornings and warm afternoons lately, 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.

ACHIEVEMENT TESTS AND FINAL EXAMS

Parents are reminded that final exams are just around the corner. Because Spring 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 this month and next.

Tuesday, May 17th

Grade 3 English Language Arts – Part A

Wednesday, May 18th

Grade 6 Language Arts – Part A

Tuesday, June 14th

Grade 3 Language Arts – Part B
Grade 6 Social Studies

Wednesday, June 15th

Grade 6 Language Arts – Part B

Thursday, June 16th

Grade 3 Math
Grade 6 Math

Friday, June 17th

Grade 6 Science

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

THE BUGS ARE OUT!!

The mosquitoes are biting already as we have had a lot of wet weather a few warm sunny days.

We would like to suggest that you put sunscreen and mosquito repellent on your child before they leave for school or send some lotions with them.



HERSHEY TRACK & FIELD MEET

Congratulations to all the athletes from Vincent Massey who participated in the Hershey Track & Field Meet on Saturday, May 7th. Our students all performed well and many qualified for Provincials in Edmonton.

PRIDE & PRAISE STUDENTS

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Kirsten Erfle | Hayden Maxwell |
| Irelynd Rutley | Emily Schlenker |
| Bentley Stewart | Alyssa Ford |
| Justin Lantican | Madison Hunt |
| Tara Bourassa | Logan Braun |
| Cheyenne Crawford | Isaac Handley x2 |
| Phoenix Kylo | Nicholas Lawrence |
| Benjamin Milner | Autumn McFetridge x2 |
| Jolene Moffat x2 | Blayne Penner x2 |
| Dominick Speakman | Josh Suelzle x2 |
| Chase Aaker | Kennedy Bierback x2 |
| Keesha Brown | Braeden Buchberger |
| Jayden Collins | Anna Heggie x2 |
| Adam Hillgendorf | Jayden Jackson |
| Sara Malek | Bailey McCann x2 |
| Jocelyn Middelhoek x2 | Riley Rutledge |
| Keeley Schnuth | Davane Beauchamp |
| Taylor Hanson | Israel Honig |
| Victoria Jones | Adam Klick |
| Talyn Latimer | Samantha Hunt |
| Chantel Acton | Hannah Bonogofsky x3 |
| Ami Dynes x2 | Davis Fishley |
| Ryder Goldade | Kaedom Hernandez |
| Ethan LaRoche x2 | Talia Laubenstein |
| Tanner Maxwell x2 | Akira Penttila |
| Dustin Pillman | Tyson Rutledge |
| Jocelyn Walters x3 | Ardita Zejnullahu |
| Matthew Devonshire | Scott Frandsen |
| Torin Ireland | Colton Kerner |
| Madison McCann | Lizzy Meakin |
| Sara Pegoraro | Courtney Perrior |
| Daylan Tonin | Erica Countryman x2 |
| Brody Hilgendorf x2 | Anfernee Houmphanh |
| Dayne Levesque-Spiry | Abigail Maynard |
| Dorian McCormick | Jessica Meloney x2 |
| Peighton Olmstead | Brady Penman |
| Katrina Petersen | Livia Ricci |
| Karissa Simpson | Ethan Suelzle |
| Ashley Tindall | Raissa Zalazar x2 |



GENERAL/PARENT INFORMATION

Choose milk – you may win a prize with your milk carton!



June **Grades 1-6**
\$12.60

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.**

- **KPAC** meeting on Monday, May 16th at 6:30.
- **School Council** meeting on Monday, May 16th at 7:00 – last formal council meeting of the year.
- Hot Lunch is on **Friday, May 20th**.
- Pride and Praise assembly 2pm – Everyone welcome.
- **NO SCHOOL** on Monday, May 23rd. Enjoy your long weekend.
- **Author Visit** – Tracey Kuffner – Tuesday, May 24th.
- **Grade 6 Pizza Sale** on Friday, May 27th.
- Final **Hep B immunization** for grade 5 – Tuesday, **May 31st**.
- **Parent Appreciation Breakfast** on Friday, June 3rd from 7:00-8:30 a.m.

LIBRARY NEWS

We are very excited to be welcoming Southern Alberta Author, **Tracey Kuffner** to our school on Tuesday, May 24th. Tracey grew up in Maple Creek, SK, and now lives on a sheep farm, "The Woolmine", near Duchess, AB.

She has just released her 3rd children's book using the felting process to do all the illustrations. In her presentation she will go through the book making process, from getting her ideas to the end product. It will be a fun hands-on presentation where children are invited to touch and smell the raw wool as well as the cleaned and colored wool. We also discuss other fibers that she uses in her art work and she will show them the many other things she has created with wool besides books.

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.

HOW TO MANAGE PICKY EATING

By CHADS Occupational Therapy— South Zone – East

Children need to learn about new foods in an unthreatening way. They need a great deal of exposure to a food before they will consider tasting it or eating it. The following are some strategies to help your child expand their diet:



· **Build on What the Child Knows and Accepts:** Make a list of the foods and liquids that the child currently accepts and likes. Organize these according to sensory properties such as taste, texture, color or smell. For example, does the child eat mostly foods that are crisp or crunchy? Foods that have a strong taste? Foods that are bland? Foods that are sweet? Foods that are soft and smooth? Foods with similar colors?

· Next make a list of other foods in the same category. For example, a child who eats potato chips and pretzels may accept other crisp, salty foods (for example, corn chips and crackers) more easily than foods that are soft and bland.

· **Make Very Small Changes as New Foods are Introduced:** Small or gradual changes are always easier to accept than large or sudden changes. Make very tiny changes in the new foods that you offer. One of the easiest changes is to introduce a new brand or variety of a food that the child already accepts.

· Small, gradual changes to food can be: yellow cheese could be mild cheddar, medium cheddar, sharp cheddar, Colby, etc. Applesauce comes in sweetened, unsweetened and cinnamon. Pretzels can be long and thin, short and fat or round.

· Choose new foods that are similar according to taste, texture, and color. For example, a yellow apple and a yellow pear have many similarities but a few important differences in taste and texture. A child who eats apples may have an easier time moving to pears than to strawberries.

· **Introduce New Foods through Play:** Children become familiar with new foods by playing with them. When they stir, pat, smear, pour, and make 12 designs with unfamiliar food, they experience the sensory qualities of that food (ie; the color, what it smells like, what it feels like on their hands etc.)

· Make food play separate from the child's meal, therefore the pressure is off as they are not expected to taste or eat the food. Food play can begin with pretend foods such as soft plastic apples or plastic slices of bread and cheese. The child can explore these foods with the lips and tongue or pretend to feed them to a doll or stuffed animal. The real foods can be introduced into the play once the child becomes more comfortable and accepting of the real food.

· **Help Children Feel Physically and Emotionally Safe with Textured Foods:** It is important for children to explore toys or objects with their mouth. Some children miss this stage of infant development.

· Children need to know that they can get pieces of food out of their mouth. Adults can help them use their fingers to remove a piece of food from their mouth, learn to spit the food out into a bowl. Some children learn to clear their mouths by taking small drinks between bites. When children know they can get the food out of their mouth when they need to, they are much more likely to put it into their mouth.

PICKY EATING CON'T

· **Build Acceptance through Gradual Repeated Exposure to the Food:** All children need repeated exposure to a new food before they are comfortable eating it. Children are more likely to eat new foods that they have seen or played with many times. Introduce a new food at a meal after the child has explored aspects of it during the food play and exploration.

· When the food is offered many times without the pressure to eat it, the child becomes familiar with its sight, smell, feel, and taste. Curiosity and hunger may encourage the child to take a few bites and eventually incorporate the food into an expanded diet.

· **Have the Child Involved with Mealtime Preparation:** Young children love to imitate their parents. Very young children can be involved by, carrying their plate or bowl to the table when its time for lunch and take their plate to the sink when they have finished eating. This helps them understand that meals have a clear beginning and end.

· Get them involved by having them participate with meal preparation. Young children can scoop their food from a serving dish or baby food jar into their own bowl. Older children can help cook the meal.



Information gathered from <http://www.new-vis.com/>.

PROGRAMS FOR PARENTS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

Parenting Courses

Intensive Parenting Course: A two-part program, offering parents a positive philosophy for raising children in today's world and an effective set of strategies that can be applied to the daily challenges of parenting.

Medicine Hat Courses:

April 13 & 20
May 4 & 11
June 1 & 8
July 6 & 13
September 7 & 14
October 5 & 12
November 2 & 9
December 7 & 14

1-2-3 Magic & More: A two-part course for parents who may benefit from this proven behavior management program. Registration is free, and any interested parent, community member, or professional is welcome to register. A certificate of completion will be provided to all attendees who complete this training. Pre-registration is necessary.

Medicine Hat Courses

April 13 & 20
May 4 & 11
June 1 & 8
July 6 & 13
September 7 & 14
October 5 & 12
November 2 & 9
December 7 & 14

Additional courses will be considered upon request.

Children's Groups

Kids in Control: A seven session anger management and emotional expression training program for children ages 4-7.

Kids in Between: A seven session program for children aged 6-7 who have experienced or are experiencing parental separation or divorce.

Bravehearts (Building Courage Through Play) & Cool Cubs (Learning Limits Through Play):

Both are six session play therapy groups for children ages 3 – 5 and their parents. The purpose is: (a) to provide parents with a demonstration of how to use play therapy skills to help children manage difficult feelings; and (b) to provide children with a safe environment to express themselves, try new things, learn more about themselves, and work through difficult feelings and problems through play.

All children's groups have a corresponding parent component.

For information and registration, contact CHADS Behavioral Services in Medicine Hat (403-502-8257) or Brooks (403-793-6664).

