



# VINCENT MASSEY SCHOOL OCTOBER UPDATE BULLETIN



VISIT THE WEBSITE: [www.vincentmasseyschool.ca](http://www.vincentmasseyschool.ca)

## SCHOOL FEES ARE NOW DUE

Thanks to those families who have already paid. **Please refer to the fee payment option sheet sent home with your child.**

### Kindergarten

Fees are **\$110.00/student.**

### Grades 1-6

The cost is **\$100.00/student.**



Payment may be made by cash, cheque, VISA or MasterCard. **Please make cheques payable to Vincent Massey School.** There will be a **\$10.00** fee for all NSF cheques. **If you qualify, a school fee waiver** can be applied for. Please contact Mrs. Knutson for details.

## STUDENT-LED CONFERENCES

A BIG thank you to all parents and students who attended Student-Led Conferences! We all know parents play a large part in our students' success! Thanks again.

## HEALTH & FITNESS

Once again the students at Vincent Massey School will be focusing on improving their health and fitness levels over the course of the year. The first component of this program will begin in October, and involve rewarding students who regularly bring four food groups in their lunches. Each week, between now and the end of January, approximately 25 students a week, in grades three to six, will be randomly rewarded with a free swim pass to the Medicine Hat Leisure Centre for bringing a healthy four food group lunch.

Please keep in mind that food choices such as Lunchables, Pizza Pops, and left over pizza without whole wheat crust, although containing four different food groups, will not be recognized due to the extremely poor health value and high fat content of these products. Also, as many students seem to bring a large number of snack-type products we will be looking for lunches that have a maximum of one unhealthy snack. These include chips, nachos, chocolate bars, cookies, as well as other highly processed foods.

Sincerely,  
Jamie McIntosh  
On behalf of the Health and Fitness Committee

# Student Success!

Staff members of Vincent Massey are very proud of our students and we love hearing about their achievements **outside the school setting as well.** If you would like us to acknowledge your child's accomplishments for out-of-school activities, please contact Mrs. Knutson or Mrs. Pahl at 527-3750, ext. 5601.

## PRIDE & PRAISE STUDENTS

Kira Chell  
Evan Cochran  
Micheal Foley  
Jose Hoffart  
Rebecca Jones  
Cailynn Kenny  
Braden Latimer  
Jonathan Meloney  
Jadyn Micheal  
Caitlynn O'Connor  
Jayden Collins  
Isaac Handley  
Anna Heggie  
Bailey McCann  
Benjamin Milner  
Nataya Penttila  
Riley Rutledge  
Josh Suelzle  
Chase Aaker  
Kennedy Bierback  
Tara Bourassa  
Jayden Jackson  
Autumn McFetridge  
Ty Petersen  
Keeley Schnuth



Our next Pride & Praise Assembly is **Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup> at 2:10 p.m.** Parents and Grandparents are more than welcome to attend.

## FAIR PLAYERS AWARDS FOR SEPTEMBER

Ella Hoffarth	Trae Gow
Sierra Milroy	Axxel Foley
Cooper Ryckman	Nathan Heebner
Khia Carriere	Dominick McCrory
Emily Schlenker	Alyssa Ford
Jolene Moffat	Sara Malek
Israel Honig	Chantel Acton

## SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR – MRS. PAHL

I want to send a huge **Thank You** to all students and parents who attended our Book Fair and made it such a success. With your contributions I will be able to add numerous books to our Library. Look in the November Bulletin for further details and contest winners! Thanks again Vincent Massey!



## PATROLLER OF THE MONTH



Our Patroller of the Month for September is **Jocelyn Walters** And our Patroller of the Month for October is **Isaac Handley**.



Thanks for your commitment to the program – CONGRATULATIONS!

Please remember to be extra careful and watch for our Safety Patrollers at lunch and afterschool. These students have dedicated themselves to ensure that everyone gets home safely. Thank you to all the students who have given of their time to be on our Safety Patrol team this year.

## TERRY FOX CHALLENGE

We would like to thank those who contributed to the **“Toonies for Terry”**. We are very proud to say that **over \$1,000.00** was raised to go directly to the Terry Fox Foundation! Your support is sincerely appreciated! Thanks to Mrs. McBain for being the facilitator of this event.

Because we exceeded our fundraising goal, Mr. Brandt agreed to cut his long luscious locks of hair! Thanks for being such a great sport Mr. Brandt!



## CHESS CLUB

This year, Chess Club will begin on **Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>** for all interested **Grade 5 and 6 students**. The club meets at noon every Tuesday, under the instruction of Dr. Bill Taylor. Dr. Bill Taylor has been playing chess for over 40 years, and participating in many provincial, national and international championships. He has also had experience in playing many Grandmasters, the elite players of the chess world. In February, March and April, members participate in a round-robin Chess Tournament. Trophies are awarded to winners, and they also have their name inscribed on a large chess trophy that remains in the school showcase. A pizza party concludes our year. We hope to have lots of participants this year. **Come out and learn the game of royalty and noblemen, that we call Chess!**



## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

**“Spreading Christmas Cheer Overseas”**

Boxes are now available at the school office. Please refer to the October Bulletin for suitable items to place in the boxes. You can find the October Bulletin online on our school website.

All boxes/containers **must be brought to school no later than November 17<sup>th</sup>**, so that they can be prepared for shipping. Please remember to **enclose a \$7.00 cheque/box** (payable to Samaritan's Purse) to cover overseas shipping costs.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

- KPAC Meeting – Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm
- Parent Council Meeting – Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm
- Pride & Praise Assembly **October 21<sup>st</sup> at 2:10 p.m.** – Parents and Grandparents are welcome to attend.
- Hot Lunch day is Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Grade 6 Pizza Day –Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Halloween parties will be held the **afternoon** of October 28<sup>th</sup>. Children are allowed time at noon hour to change into their costumes after the noon recess. Parade begins around 12:45 p.m.
- Milk for November **\$13.30**.



## **FOR PARENTS:**

### **SCHOOL WEBSITE/MONTHLY BULLETINS**

We're trying to avoid wasting money and paper. From now on, students will only receive one page which includes the monthly calendar and point-form messages to parents. Those parents that have requested a paper copy will receive them.

The complete bi-monthly bulletins will be available for viewing on line at [www.vincentmasseyschool.ca](http://www.vincentmasseyschool.ca)..



- Well-balanced, healthy lunches delivered to your child's school just in time for lunch!
- No more running to the school with forgotten lunches!
- Peace of mind your children are eating healthy, nutritious lunches!
- Eliminate school lunch making stress!
- Easy online ordering for convenience in your busy schedule!
- School staff orders welcome!

“We Make Healthy Easy!”

Visit us online [www.kidsplate.ca](http://www.kidsplate.ca) to place your order!

### **HEAD LICE HAPPENS**

Head lice management is not a school or health issue. They are inconvenient but do not cause illness. The detection and management of head lice is a parental responsibility. Parents should be checking their children's heads **weekly** for head lice.

Lice are tiny wingless insects. They spread from person to person through direct contact with the hair or through items such as combs or hats. When checking the hair it is more likely to see eggs rather than the insect. Grayish-white oval shaped eggs or “nits” are about one millimeter in size and found **firmly** attached to single hair shafts close to the scalp. Nits can be removed by pulling each one down the shaft.

Checking your child's head **regularly** and teaching them not to play with their friend's hair or share personal items will go a long way to prevent the spread of head lice. For more information call a Public Health Nurse at 403-502-8200.

### **CALLING YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER**

If you have a general message for your child's teacher, please feel free to use the school extension numbers and leave a message on their voice-mail. If you need a message to get to your child before the end of the day, please contact the school office as teachers may not get a chance to check their voicemail until after the students are dismissed.

### **PARENT RESOURCES**

Southeast Alberta Children's Resource Guide, a directory of all children's programs and services in our area, developed under the leadership of the Palliser Child & Youth Network Committee is now available as a booklet or on-line. You can access the on-line version at:

[http://www.sacyhn.ca/pdfs/SE\\_Children'sXResource\\_Guide\\_2009.pdf](http://www.sacyhn.ca/pdfs/SE_Children'sXResource_Guide_2009.pdf)

### **SCHOOL COUNCIL CORNER**

The first school council meeting was attended by an impressive amount of parents. The meeting was full of animated discussion a large portion of which involved the hot lunch/hot dog program. Some great suggestions were brought forward and some ideas will be implemented in the future. We value any and all input and are always looking for volunteers for hot dog/hot lunch days. If you can help for an hour or so please let the school know.

October 28<sup>th</sup> was the date chosen for the first school dance and it will have a Halloween theme. We would love to see all the families attend. It is a great opportunity to get to know other parents, support our school and enjoy time as a family. What more could you ask for?

On the topic of fundraising the coupon sales are going well and a school wide popcorn party is tentatively planned for mid October to reward all students in the school for their sales. The magazine campaign is also tentatively set to begin mid October. If you have been getting renewal offers please hold off just a bit longer. Selling magazines is optional, but the funds raised are used within the school to support your child/children's education

We also reviewed the results of the Provincial Achievement tests that grade 3 and grade 6 students completed last year. Vincent Massey did an awesome job and we should all be proud of our students, our staff and our school. There are no limits to what we can accomplish together.

The next school council meeting will be held on **Monday, October 17** at 7:00 pm and everyone is welcome.

## **FNMI EDUCATION**

FNMI Education is offering the Culturally Enhanced Tutoring Program (CET) for students in grades 3 – 7 who are identified on their enrollments as First Nations, Métis or Inuit. CET meets weekly at the Medicine Hat High School Legacy Room (Room 600) and will commence on November 2, 2011 and continue until May 2012. The scheduled time is from 2-5pm, with students arriving when they can. CET is a homework-based program so they are expected to bring school work with them, but we do provide activities that facilitate basic skills depending on students needs. Students will be provided a healthy snack and will also participate in culturally appropriate activities (crafts, storytelling etc.). Parents are encouraged to attend but are not required to stay. Forms to sign up for this program were sent home with eligible students. If you need another form, please contact the office.

As part of the collaborative framework to improve relationships between educators, families and the community, FNMI Education will also continue with the FNMI Advisory Committee this year. The first meeting will be held in Room 600 (Legacy Room) at Medicine Hat High School on November 7, 2011 at 6:30 pm.

For more information on these or other FNMI programs please contact Jen Karpiuk, Teacher CHHS, 403-527-6641 ext. 8712.

## **PRE-SCHOOL PROGRAM FOR 3-5 YEAR OLDS**

We are pleased to announce that Vincent Massey will be offering families in our community a morning Pre-School Program. This program is on-going and you can register at anytime. The program runs from 8:20 – 11:20am. For more information please contact the school or Vicki Glass, Pre-School Coordinator @ 403-528-6725.



### **ARRIVAL TIME FOR STUDENTS**

Walking students should arrive at school **no earlier than 8:00 a.m.** If your child needs to be dropped off or arrives at school prior to 8:00 a.m. they will need to be registered in the **Before School Program**, which operates **7:15-8:15 a.m. daily.**

### **REMINDER TO DRESS FOR THE WEATHER**

With the ever-changing fall weather we are now experiencing, it is important that your child is dressing for the weather. It may be necessary to wear gloves and a toque in the morning and it may turn out to be t-shirt weather in the afternoon! Dressing in layers may be the way to go. We ask that students are appropriately dressed to go outside for recesses.

## **LOST AND FOUND**

Just a month into school and our lost and found is already brimming with jackets, sweaters and other lost items. Please ensure that your child is checking periodically for misplaced items. The lost and found is conveniently located just to the left of the office doors.

## **ENCOURAGE COMMUNICATION**

(From Healthy Lifestyle Choices – Alberta Health Services)

When children are telling you about their experiences, be sure to ask them how they felt, by making eye contact with them. The more we talk with our children about everyday experiences, both positive and negative, the more likely they **will be able to tell us about a problem.**

Some tips to encourage communication:

- Ask open-ended questions, such as “Tell me about your day.”
- Listen reflectively. You can do this by asking what your child said back to them in your own words. This will show that you truly understand what your child is trying to tell you.

For more information about communicating with your child, visit the information series located at [www.aadac.com](http://www.aadac.com). Here you will find topics such as; “How can I help my young child learn to get along with others?” Or contact the 24 hour toll free hotline at 1-866-332-2322.

## **STUDENT/PARENT INFORMATION**

It is **very important** that we have the correct information on file in case parents need to be contacted or if an emergency arises.

If you have had **any changes** to your child’s information, that is, new phone/cell numbers, new medical info, new address, new contact information, etc. please contact me **as soon as possible** so your child’s file can be brought up to date. Thanks for your cooperation.