

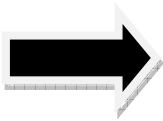


# VINCENT MASSEY SCHOOL SEPTEMBER UPDATE BULLETIN



## **SCHOOL WEBSITE -**

<http://www.vincentmasseyschool.ca/>



**Last chance to let the school know if you want a PAPER COPY of the bulletin.**

**Unless we hear from you or you fill in the request at the end of this bulletin, starting October 1<sup>st</sup>, it will be assumed you are accessing the bulletin on-line. To access online, go to the school website and in the bottom left hand side enter your email where it says “subscribe to newsletter”. A calendar page will be sent home with the youngest child of each family, monthly.**

## **PRINCIPAL’S PERSPECTIVE**

### **Equipping Your Kids to Love School**

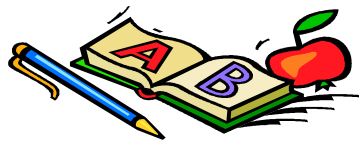
#### **1. Attitude is Everything**

Share with your children that school is important and a privilege. Let them know that learning is exciting. Start a list of things your kids like about school. Recess and lunch may be at the top, but look for additional positive aspects. Discuss these positives at meal time, in the car and before bedtime.

When you get school supplies, make it a special time together. Encourage your child to get involved in various clubs, sports, fine arts groups, etc, and make plans to attend events that are open to the public.

Most of all, model a positive attitude about school and help your children get excited

about the new adventure that awaits them.



#### **2. Build Up Their Confidence**

Bolster your children’s confidence by communicating that you believe in them and appreciate how they learn. If your children struggle with particular subjects and/or have learning challenges, stay positive.

Use statements like, “I believe in you and know that you can succeed in school” or “We are going to look into your learning style and get you support if you need it.

If you have older elementary children, find books to read about successful people who learn differently and perhaps struggled in their school years, but went on to do great things. Role models encourage children that they can succeed.

#### **3. Talk With Your Kids**

If your children are young, talk about the new things they’ll encounter, and alleviate their fears and concerns. If your child has already hit a difficult area with a particular subject and/or a learning issue and concerns about dealing with those issues again, be proactive and talk about ways to find solutions together. Encourage them that this is a new school year, and it can also be a new beginning.

#### **4. Homework is an Opportunity to Practice**

Homework isn’t a punishment given by teachers. Rather, it’s an opportunity to practice what is being taught in the classroom. Remain positive about homework, and your attitude will be contagious.

An encouraging concept to discuss with your child is the “10 000 Hour Rule” from the book *Outliers: The Story of Success* by Malcolm Gladwell. He says that the greatest athlete, musicians, inventors and dancers practiced for at least 10,000 hours before they become really successful at their “art”. Sometimes kids think that certain people can just do things easily and it doesn’t take a lot of work for them. But even Dirk Nowitzki, the MVP of the 2011 NBA finals, practiced every day for 20 years! Sharing stories like this is a positive way of showing your kids that there’s a truth to the old adage, “Practice make perfect”.

Once they understand that homework has merit, give them a special place to do it. With each of your children, brainstorm ways to set up homework environments suited to his or her learning style that will energize, empower and equip the student to study more effectively. Then execute your ideas so each child knows where his or her homework spot is and feels comfortable in it. Your efforts will help turn potential homework hassles into healthy homework habits.

## STUDENT ENROLMENT INFORMATION

We have already made several changes to our lists. If there have been **any** information changes, please send the new information to your child's teacher or contact the office so your child's file can be updated. This includes medical information as well please. It is **extremely important** that the student information be kept up to date at all times. Thanks for your cooperation.

## SCHOOL FEES

Text Rental fees are due by the end of September. **Please note the fee payment option sheet sent home with your child.**



### Kindergarten

Fees are **\$110.00/student**. \$50.00 will be for instruction materials and \$60.00 for program fees.

### Grades 1-6

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

Payment may be made by cash, cheque, VISA or MasterCard. Sorry, we can not accept debit cards. **Please make cheques payable to Vincent Massey School.** There will be a **\$10.00** fee for all NSF cheques.

**PLEASE NOTE: These fees cover the school supplies that are provided for your child throughout the school year.** It is extremely important that all fees be paid. If you anticipate payment problems and would like to make installments, please contact the school **immediately** so arrangements can be made. **If you qualify**, Fee Waiver forms are available at the office. Thank you.

**ADDITIONAL NOTE: It would be sincerely appreciated if you would not include all fees owing on one cheque. Please separate school fees, after school fees and monthly milk money. Thanks so much for your cooperation.**

## PICTURE DAYS ARE WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup> AND THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22<sup>ND</sup>

LifeTouch Photography will be here to take the class and individual pictures. They will begin with Kindergarten through to grade 3 on Wednesday and progress up through grade 4 through 6 on Thursday.

**BRING YOUR SMILES!**



## TO REACHING STAFF MEMBERS

If you would like to leave a **non-emergent** message with a staff member, please use the following extension numbers:

Mr. Klautt	5603	Mr. McFetridge	5602
Mrs. Knutson	5601	Mrs. Pahl (Library)	5625
Mrs. Osmond	5628	Mrs. Morin	5619
Mrs. McBain	5629	Mrs. Cowan	5617
Mrs. Seitz	5618	Mrs. Thompson	5616
Mrs. Ryckman	5621	Mrs. Oliphant	5609
Ms. Baird	5612	Mrs. Bader	5608
Mrs. Elderkin	5607	Mr. Brandt	5611
Mrs. Fahey	5610	Mr. McIntosh	5626
Mrs. Read	5630	Mrs. Immel	5615
Mrs. Desjarlais	5627		

For messages that you want delivered **before** the end of the school day, please dial "0" to connect with the office. Even if you leave a message it will be delivered before 2:45 p.m.



## KPAC & SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETINGS

The first KPAC meeting for Kindergarten parents will be held on **Monday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.** in the staffroom. The School Council will be holding its first meeting of the year on **Monday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** in the staff room. All interested parents are encouraged and welcome to attend and get involved. We'd love to fill all the chairs in the staffroom with enthusiastic parents!

**WE NEED AND VALUE YOUR SUPPORT AND INPUT!**

## **Student-Led Conferences**

The first round of Student-Led Conferences will run according to the following schedule:

**Wednesday, October 12<sup>th</sup>** – Kindergarten to Grade 6 - **5:00-7:30 p.m.**

**Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup>** – Kindergarten to Grade 6 - **3:00-5:30 p.m.**

A letter will be sent home from your child's teacher explaining the format of the Student-Led Conferences. We hope you will be able to attend.

## SCHOOL POSITIVE RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

### 1. **Pride and Praise Program**

- will be administered by Mr. Klautd
- is intended for student work that is of a longer nature i.e. Unit work or major assignments.
- will be given out during scheduled times of the week
- the student's name will go into the Vincent Massey Bulletin
- the student will be given a certificate, treat, and something from the "Treasure Chest".
- the student's name will be put into a draw box for a Pizza Lunch to be announced on Pride Day.

### 2. **W.O.W. (What Outstanding Work) Program**

- will be administered by Mr. McFetridge
- is intended for student work of a shorter nature i.e. test, quiz, shorter assignment, etc.
- will be given out during scheduled times of the week
- the student's name will be put into a draw box for a Pizza lunch and announced on Pride Day
- the student will be given a handshake and treat from the "Treasure Chest".

### 3. **Caught in the Act**

- will be administered by any staff members
- is intended for any act/behavior of a positive nature (good citizenship)
- the student's name will be put on a slip with a brief description
- the student will be given something from the "Treasure Chest"
- some names and descriptions of citizenship will be read over the intercom
- the student's name will be put into a draw box for Pizza Lunch and announced on Pride Day

### 4. **Pride Days**

- Besides the School Council sponsored Hot Lunch on Pride Day, we are planning on having several other activities. Pride Days will also include a different "dress up theme" each month, a special noon hour "fun activity" to build school spirit, and a "short assembly" in the afternoon to recognize students for academic work and citizenship efforts. It is our hope that these special days will help **build school spirit and PRIDE.**

## WELCOME BACK CORN ROAST

The annual Welcome Back Corn Roast was once again a wonderful success. We served about 300 children, parents and staff members.

I would like to thank all of the families that joined us for supper that evening. We hope you had a chance to meet your child's teacher too.



## BOOK FAIR IS COMING!

"To the Book Fair...and Beyond!!" The Book Fair runs Tuesday, **October 11<sup>th</sup>** to Thursday, **October 13<sup>th</sup>**. Please stop in during Student Led Conferences to check out the great selection of Scholastic books for the whole family.

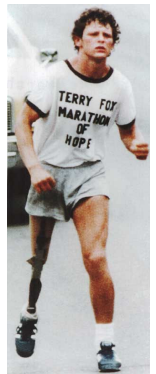
**Wednesday, October 12<sup>th</sup>** is our Family Night where all purchases are entered into a draw where students can win \$25 worth of free books for themselves and \$25 for their teacher. **All** proceeds go towards purchasing materials for the library.



Mrs. Pahl is looking for **volunteers** to help with the Book Fair on Wednesday, October 12<sup>th</sup> (between 1pm and 7:30pm) and Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup> (between 3pm-7pm). If you can help out please call her at the library 403-527-3750 ext. 5625. Thanks and see you at the fair!

## T NIES for Terry

Students and staff will be participating in the Terry Fox National School Run Day on Wednesday, September 28. We are asking students to bring "Toonies for Terry" in support of this event. Last year we raised \$640. Our goal this year is \$850, so maybe you could bring a toonie for your mom or dad, too. The run will be a part of the 42 km challenge that is on-going until Thanksgiving. Students are trying to meet the goal of running 42 km (42 laps for K-3), the average distance Terry ran in one day during his marathon! Thanks for your support!



## GENERAL INFORMATION

Vincent Massey's in the high tech age! That's right, the Vincent Massey Parent Council has setup a Facebook page to keep parents current on what's happening at the school. We'll let you know about important dates such as hot lunch days, school assemblies, concerts, and more. Have a Facebook account? Great! All you need to do is "Like" Vincent Massey School Council.

### CHOCOLATE ALMONDS

Our school fundraising campaign is going well. We would like to have all the money back to the school no later than **Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup>**. If you have almonds that you are unable to sell, please return them to the school.

Remember, there are prizes for those students selling the most almonds, with a major grand prize for Primary students (bicycle) and for Grades 4-6 (electronic equipment).

### 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.

- **NO SCHOOL – PLC Friday** - Students will have no school on Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup>.



▪ **PEANUT PRODUCTS** – At Vincent Massey, we have several students who have **severe allergies**. This includes anaphylaxis (closing of the airway) that can be fatal. We would request that **NO peanut products** be brought to school. Thank you for helping us to care for and make Vincent Massey a safer place for all our students.

- **SCHOOL SNACKS** - We have several peanut-free snack choices available at school. These can be purchased for 50¢ each. e.g. fruit cups, puddings, granola bars, yogurt tubes, etc.
- **BUSSING ISSUES** - Questions regarding location of bus stops, pick up times, etc. should be directed to Traxx Transportation at 527-6986, ext. 1 or Robert Olson at 403-528-6572. If there are any problems with behavior, please contact the school at 527-3750.



### ▪ **SCHOOL MILK PROGRAM**

White and chocolate milk can be purchased on a daily (75¢ each) or monthly basis (70¢ each). When paying on a monthly basis, it does not include early dismissal days, "no school" days, or Hot Lunch days.



Prices for the remainder of the school year are:

October - \$12.60	November - \$13.30
December - \$11.20	January - \$11.20
February - \$10.50	March - \$14.70
April - \$9.80	May - \$14.70
June - \$11.90	

**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.**

- **Microwaves:** Our line ups at the microwaves are already very long. Please do not send any items that need more than 2 minutes to heat up.
- **School Dress Code:** Please go over the student dress code policy with your child, that is in the school handbook. We would also like to request that no pyjama pants be worn at school.

## SAFETY CONCERNS

Parents, we are very concerned about the safety of the children at Vincent Massey, as we are sure you are as well.

Each year, to facilitate a safer environment at the school, we request and appreciate your help with three safety concerns.

### 1. **Student Arrival Times**

I would ask that students arrive at school no earlier than **8:00** a.m. Up until this time, students are not directly supervised. Once 8:00 a.m. arrives, we have assigned teacher supervision in the hallways and playground. I realize that a number of parents work and may have no other option than to drop their children off earlier. Parents with this situation should register their children in the supervised Before School Program (7:15-8:15).

### 2. **Student Drop Off and Pick Up Areas**

The staff parking lot and back alley become very congested with students walking and biking, as well as staff driving in and out of the parking lot. There has been a tendency at our school for parents to drive into the staff parking lot to pick up or drop off students. This has caused far too great a risk of students being struck by a vehicle when parents drive through the parking lot.



Therefore, we would ask that students be dropped off and picked up at the **front of the school** (Hargrave Way), or **along the side street** (Herald Drive), or the **pull in area beside the playground** along the alleyway, then proceed down the alley. Those parents wishing to stop and come into the school are requested to park along either street area. **Please do not enter or exit the school grounds using the staff parking lot.**

3. **After School Safety** - Parents, do you know where your child is after school? We would appreciate if students would please check in at home with their parents before returning to the school ground. **Please note that there are no teachers on supervision outside after school.** Also, if they return to school to play, we ask that they do not interfere with the After School Program group.



Welcome Back! KidsPlate is back for another great school year and excited to begin delivering our yummy lunches to our past and NEW children! We would like to announce our new thrilling 2011/2012 monthly contest information! We will be holding monthly contests that we invite **ALL** children to enter.

We ask you email us your children's entry along with their name, grade and school by the last day of the month. In the next months newsletter we will announce the winner, what school they go to and what they have won! (ex. Free lunch(s), lunch jokes attached to your lunches etc).

September's Contest: "Name our Logo". Our little logo guy or girl needs a name! Please email us YOUR children's pick!! Good Luck!

Email: [info@kidsplate.ca](mailto:info@kidsplate.ca)

**Brittany and Penny**  
**KidsPlate Moms**

## MEDIC ALERT'S "NO CHILD WITHOUT" PROGRAM

The "No Child Without" program is at our school. The program offers a free Medic Alert membership to students who attend our school and are between the ages of 4 and 14. If your child has a medical condition, allergy or is required to take medication on a regular basis then you should consider a Medic Alert membership. Medic Alert identification can alert school staff, friends, coaches and others about the medical condition should an emergency occur. For further information, see the office for a brochure or go to [www.nochildwithout.ca](http://www.nochildwithout.ca). If your child is already a member and there are changes to their condition, medication or contact information, call Medic Alert at 1-866-679-3220 to update your file.



### ATTENTION PARENTS OF GRADE 5 STUDENTS

In regards to immunization for grade 5 students:

1. Consents will either be sent home from school with your grade 5 student or you will receive a consent in the mail.
2. These consents will be issued early September. You will need to fill out the top part of the consent with your child's name, date of birth, health care number, school and grade. Please print clearly all the required information. Your signature is required for us to vaccinate your child at the school.
3. If you do not receive a consent for your student by September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011 please contact the Public Health Office at 403-502-8213.

**ALL CONSENT FORMS NEED TO BE RETURNED IN THE ENVELOPE INCLUDED WITH THE CONSENT PACKAGE.**

## WHAT IS A HEALTHY LUNCH?

Your lunch should consist of Well with Canada's Food Guide.

- Vegetable & Fruit
- Grain Products
- Milk & Alternatives
- Meat & Alternatives

Include an orange or a dark green vegetable, whole grains, and low fat milk and meats in your lunch everyday.



## LUNCH IDEAS

-Whole wheat pita with chicken salad (grilled chicken breast, cubed, mixed with light mayo) – grapes – coleslaw – milk

-Whole wheat English muffin with tomato, a fresh mozza cheese slice, and basil – hard boiled egg – 100% fruit leather – fruit & vegetable juice blend

-Turkey breast on whole wheat with lettuce, tomato, and honey mustard – broccoli florets with low-fat salad dressing – pear – bottle of water.

## CREATIVE LUNCH POINTS

Make lunches special and interesting by adding a special note, a sticker, or a temporary tattoo.

*Taken from the Moving and Choosing Newsletter.*

**Please complete the following and return it to your child's teacher if you will **NOT** be subscribing on-line.**

\_\_\_\_\_ **YES, I would like to receive a paper copy of the bi-monthly school bulletin.**

**Student:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Teacher:** \_\_\_\_\_