



VINCENT MASSEY P.S. NEWSLETTER



A Peanut & Nut Safe School

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September 2017 Newsletter #1	10 Church St Bowmanville, L1C 1S3	Tel: 905-623-5502 Fax: 905-623-7341
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DATES TO REMEMBER

September 6 - Leaves Turning Color Moon
 September 8 - International Literacy Day
 September 15 - International Day of Democracy
 September 16-17 Curve Lake Pow Wow
 September 17 – Terry Fox Run
Sept 18 – Photo Day
 September 21 – International Day of Peace
 September 22 – Autumn Equinox, Mabon/Harvestide
September 25- Magazine Fundraiser Kickoff Assembly
Sept 27 –Barbeque/Open House 5:00-6:30 p.m.

September 29 – PA Day – NO SCHOOL

LOOKING AHEAD

Oct 9 – Thanksgiving Day (No School)

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

We are thrilled to welcome staff and students back for another exciting school year and to extend a special warm welcome to those students and families who are new to Vincent Massey. We look forward to getting to know you over the next few months. If you are new, please make a point of coming to meet us so that we can put names to faces.

See below for some messages to help us get the year off to a great start:

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING AT SCHOOL ON TIME

Turning Over a New Leaf!!

We would like to work toward 100% of our students arriving at school before 8:30. Sometimes we have up to 30 students of our 330 arriving late. Please see below regarding the benefits of arriving on time.

When students arrive on time (before 8:30), they...

1. Have time to socialize with peers and make valuable connections that help them develop friendships.
2. Do not miss the important beginnings of the day. Without this beginning, they feel like they missed the beginning of the ‘story’.
3. Have better self-esteem because they don’t feel they are ‘behind’ or have missed important information.
4. Do not disrupt the learning of the rest of the class since the teacher will have already started with the daily routines/lessons.

If you are having trouble getting your child(ren) to school on time, please give me a call so that we can come up with strategies that might help. We understand that on rare occasions, being late is unavoidable so we encourage you to do the best you can to get us closer to that 100%.

Restorative Practice at VMPS!

Last Thursday, our whole staff participated in a full day learning session to help us further develop our classroom communities and our school community. Staff members will be using even more well-researched strategies to support student learning and well-being. We will have another full day of training on fall PA days and will receive support over the next 2 years to grow our skills over time.

What is Restorative Practice(RP)?

RP is an approach that staff members can use to...

- proactively help students develop relationships so that conflict is decreased
- help students develop social skills and social relationships
- teach the Ontario Curriculum using strategies and structures that facilitate learning (i.e. the use of classroom circles to help teach mathematics)
- help students deal effectively with conflict so that they learn positive skills
- support Progressive Discipline and repair harm

Can You Help With Playground Materials?

As you may know, the next phase of playground development is to create our outdoor classroom and Primary play area between the Primary shed and the ball diamond. This endeavor will cost us about \$60 000. We are very thankful for all of the fundraising that School Council and our volunteers have done but we need YOUR HELP to keep working toward covering costs.

See below for items that we need donated.

1. Armourstone
2. Sod
3. Trees
4. Engineered fill. We will need approximately 100 cubic meters (10

trucks). Gravel pits and quarries may be inclined to donate this material as it isn't refined or expensive material so if you have any connections, please let me know.

5. Topsoil (must be screened sandy loam topsoil). We will need approximately 40 cubic meters (4 trucks).

Messages for Parents/Guardians of Intermediate Students

I would like to start by welcoming all of our new grade 7 students and families (some have come to us from Central PS and some who are new to our area. A special welcome to our new grade 8's as well. We are excited about all of the great possibilities and opportunities available for all intermediate students this year.

A few items we would like to bring to your attention:

1. We will be working to offer many leadership opportunities for our grade 7's and 8's. Please encourage your son/daughter to do what they can to support Vincent Massey and hone their leadership skills.
2. Please make sure that your son/daughter keeps a pair of indoor shoes to school.
3. Please see the school code of conduct for important information about items like the use of cell phones/electronics, and the dress code.
4. Our Rotary System: Students will have the core subjects (Math, Language, History/Geography, Science) taught to them by their home room teacher. French, Phys. Ed./Health and the Arts (visual arts, drama/dance, and music) will be taught by rotary teachers.
Mme. Lato French
Mrs. Crawford Phys. Ed.
Mrs. Rowan Drama/Dance/Health
Mr. Walters Visual Arts
Mr. Hall Instrumental Music

Staff openings have been filled and we welcome:

Teachers

- M. Brown in grade 6 and 8
- M. Topper (ECE) Kg
- C. Greig (Educational Assistant)
- A. Badame (Educational Assistant)

A Special Thank You to Mr. Hone, Mr. Beech and Mr. McGiver who worked so hard all summer to get the school ready for us.



WE ARE EXCITED ABOUT THE YEAR AHEAD AND LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

AS ALWAYS, WE HAVE AN OPEN DOOR...SO CONTACT ME OR YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS. THANKS,

BEV ASSINCK

ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION FORMS

Attention to all families who have children who require medication to be administered during school

hours: Please contact the office as soon as possible to get an Administration of Medication form if your child will need medication administered during school time. This includes all medications including inhalers etc. When needed, meetings can and will be set up this month with Ms. Assinck.

INDIVIDUALIZED EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANS

Students with any potentially life threatening illnesses or medical conditions should have a completed **Individualized Emergency Response Plan** on file at the office. It should be updated yearly so that school personnel know the safest way to deal with an emergency. Please contact the office for more information.

DAILY SCHEDULE

8:15	Yard Supervision Begins
8:30	Entry Bell
8:30-10:10	First Instructional Block
10:10-10:50	First Nutritional Break
10:50-12:30	Second Instructional Block
12:30-1:10	Second Nutritional Break
1:10-2:50	Third Instructional Block
2:50	Dismissal Bell

ADMINISTERING MEDICATION

As per the Board's Policy Code: ES-1.5, we must have an "Administering Medication Form" completed and signed by the child's doctor in order for the school to administer any medication.

STUDENT AGENDAS

Student agendas will be used by all students in grades 1-8 to support school to home and home to school communication. They also help your child develop important organization and accountability skills. In order for the agenda program to be successful, it is essential that you ask to see your child's agenda each night and ensure that they bring it back to school each day. Also, please read the first pages carefully as they contain very important school information, policies, safety, etc. This is even critical for our older students as it helps parents/guardians know what work is required over the next days and weeks. **The cost of the agendas is \$8.00 for grades 1-6 and \$3.00 for grades 7-8.** Please send the money in this week to your child's homeroom teacher or pay via School Cash on line.

Indoor and Outdoor Shoes

Please insure that your child has both outdoor and indoor – non-scuffing / gym shoes for school. This includes Intermediate students. This is very important so that we can keep our floors clean for all student activities.

VINCENT MASSEY P.S. STAFF

B. Assinck	Principal
S. Fallis	Secretary
T. Hone	Head Custodian
R. McGiver	Night Custodian
C. Watson/M. Topper	Kg Year 1 & Year 2
S. Hicks/S. Kubica	Kg Year 1 & Year 2
A. MacDonald	Kg Year 2 & Gr. 1
D. Nugent	Gr. 1 & Gr. 2
L. Gahagan	Gr. 2
K. Mastroianni	Gr. 3
M. Michaud	Gr. 4
W. Bridal	Gr. 4/5
M. Bongard	Gr. 5
D. Woodman/M. Brown	Gr. 6
S. Hall	Gr. 7
H. Walters	Gr. 7
L. Crawford	Gr. 8
K. Rowan/M. Brown	Gr. 8
C. Baxter	Jr. French
J. Lato	Int. French
S. deVries	SERT
M. Rice	Library/Reading Recovery
J. Wright	Primary Planning
P. Carlson	CYW
A. Badame	EA
S. Bouma	EA
B. Green	EA
N. LaFave	EA
C. Grieg	EA
A. Ruckstuhl	EA
A. Weatherup	EA
S. MacEwan	EA

POLICE RECORD CHECKS FOR VOLUNTEERS

The Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board requires volunteers to complete an annual criminal background check which must include a vulnerable sector screening. This can be done at Durham Regional Police, Clarington, East Division, located on Hwy 2 west at the corner of Maple Grove Rd. Please pick up a letter at the school office to take with you when you request your police check.

Thank you for being a volunteer! We always need you and appreciate your help!

SAFE ARRIVAL

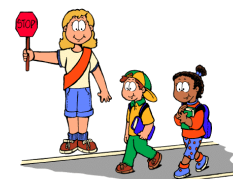
Please use the safe arrival system by calling 1-866-740-2902 or go to kprdsb.schoolconnects.com to report student absences.

NEW CROSS WALK

We are pleased to tell you that we have a new cross walk on Church St. on the west side of the school. We also have a new sidewalk extension that leads to it. This will make for safer crossing for all community members. Please wait for cars to stop before crossing and teach your child(ren) how to use it safely. If you are driving, please watch carefully and stop when pedestrians are waiting to cross.

CROSSING GUARD SCHEDULE

King/Simpson	Liberty/Church
8:00-8:30	8:00-8:30
12:30-12:40	12:30-12:40
1:00-1:10	1:00-1:10
2:50-3:10	2:50-3:10
Mearns/Soper	
7:50-8:15	
12:35-12:45	
1:00-1:10	
3:00-3:25	



ALLERGY ALERT

We have many children and staff at our school with allergies that can make them very sick as well as those that are life threatening. As a result we have declared ourselves as a Peanut/Nut/**Flax**/Scent safe zone.

To ensure students and staff are in a safe environment, we ask that food containing peanuts/nuts/flax not be sent to school. For those students and staff who may use soy butter as a protein substitute for peanut butter, we ask that soy butter products be clearly labeled as such in lunches. This will ensure students and staff who are allergic to peanuts/nuts will not feel uncomfortable around soy products which are similar in appearance.

Extra Allergy Alert!!!

Flax Seed Allergy: Please read carefully. We have a new Kindergarten student in S. Hicks/S. Kubica's class who has an anaphylactic flax seed allergy. This is rather unique and we ask for your support as we make sure that food items that contain FLAX not be brought to school. We understand that this is a challenge due to flax being in a lot of foods lately. Please read labels carefully to ensure these items are not brought to school. Thank you SO much for your understanding, patience and diligence regarding this. You can imagine how challenging this situation is for the student and family.

Please refrain from using strong shampoos, deodorants, and perfumes.

Thank you for ensuring that we provide a safe school environment for our students and staff.

SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE AND BARBEQUE

On September 27st, we will be welcoming our school community for our **School Barbeque and Open House**. The barbeque will take place from 5:00 to 6:30. The Lion's Club will be doing the cooking for us and our School Council in partnership

with the school will be providing the food. We will be offering up drinks and hotdogs with vegetarian options as well. We may even have a treat for dessert. Donations toward the playground are welcome.

Information booths will include:

Library booth – Free Books

School Council-learn about volunteering and how your ideas are welcome

Health Unit-learn about all things healthy

We are in the planning stages of this event and will fill you in on more details as they develop.

HOMEWORK CLUB

We are happy to announce that we are able to provide our After School Homework Club on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons starting on Tuesday, Sept. 19. Our Educational Assistants and CWY will be supporting students with homework as needed.

Parent Conference on Mental Health

KPR invites all parents and guardians to join us at our free, annual Parent Conference, to learn more about children's and teens' mental health.

2017 KPR Parent Conference – Minds Matter @ KPR

Saturday, October 21

8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Adam Scott CVI, 175 Langton St.
(at Hilliard St), Peterborough

Keynote Speaker: Sara Westbrook

Three Habits of Resilient Families

Plus Choice of Workshops, Agency Displays,
Refreshments & Child Minding for
Ages 2 & Older



And it's all FREE! Look for more information and on-line registration later in September on the home page at www.kprschools.ca .

SAVING FOR EDUCATION: A LITTLE GOES A LONG WAY

Worried that you can't afford to start saving for your child education after high school?

The federal government can help you start to save for your child's future now! The Canada Learning Bond and the Canada Education Savings Grant will help make your child's trade school, college or university education more affordable.

The Government of Canada provides a \$500 **Canada Learning Bond** to families with a modest income to help them save for the education of children born after December 31, 2003. If you qualify, you may continue to receive \$100 a year for your child's education until your child is 15. That's up to \$2,000 total.

The **Canada Education Savings Grant** is money the Government gives you when you invest in education for your child aged 17 or under. You may receive between \$2 and \$4 for every \$10 you save for your child's education, depending on your family income and how much you save every year.

Imagine the doors that could open up for your child once they graduate. Save a little bit today, to lead to a brighter future tomorrow.

For more information, visit StartMyRESP.ca/KPRDSB

8 Click Canada.ca/education-savings
(Call 1 800 O-Canada (1-800-622-6232)
7 TTY 1-800-926-9105
O Visit a Service Canada Centre near you

INDIGENOUS STUDENT SELF-IDENTIFICATION

An information brochure will soon be sent home by our school describing the voluntary self-identification initiative for First Nation, Métis and Inuit students. Your Indigenous heritage is a vital part of who you are. By identifying your child or teen as a First Nation, Métis or Inuit student, this helps us build the best possible school programs for all students. The information you provide when you self-identify will be private and confidential.

You may choose to self-identify either by completing the form included on the brochure or on the Student Registration Verification Form which will be sent home in the coming weeks.

For more information, please contact Sheryl Mattson, Indigenous Education Consultant K-12 – Sheryl_mattson@kprdsb.ca

Hi Parents!

My name is Coop and I'm excited that the annual QSP fundraiser will be starting soon at our school. So -- Save those renewals! To get a HEAD START before our official campaign begins you can go online and get the word out by sending 12 or more emails to your circle of friends by using the super easy tools at www.qsp.ca/etools! Note: All early orders count towards the student awards.

By contributing to this effort our students learn important life skills & build self confidence in: GOAL SETTING • TEAM BUILDING • DECISION MAKING
COMMUNICATION SKILLS • PROBLEM SOLVING



Thank you in advance for your support. We count on your participation!