



VINCENT MASSEY P.S. NEWSLETTER



A Peanut & Nut Safe School

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October 2017 Newsletter #2	10 Church St Bowmanville, L1C 1S3	Tel: 905-623-5502 Fax: 905-623-7341
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DATES TO REMEMBER

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- October 2 – International Day of Non-Violence
 - October 3 – World Habitat Day
 - Oct 4th – Junior Soccer Tournament at Clarington Fields**
 - Oct. 5-Harrier at Courtice Secondary**
 - October 5
-World Teachers' Day
 - October 9 – Thanksgiving Day/School Closed**
 - October 10-Intermediate Soccer Tournament-Clarington Fields**
 - October 10 – German Pioneers Day
 - October 11 – Room 156 to Wilmot Creek**
 - October 12 – Room 153 to Laurie Lawson**
 - October 13 – Simchat Torah
 - October 16 – Room 157 to Laurie Lawson**
World Food Day
 - October 17-School Council Meeting-6:30**
 - October 17 – International Day for the Eradication of Poverty
 - October 18 – Persons' Day
 - October 19 – Diwali
 - October 20 – Birth of the Bab
 - October 24 – United Nations Day
 - October 25- Jr. Rugby at Clarington Fields**
 - October 25-Bus Evacuation Practice
 - October 26- Intermediate Rugby-Clarington Fields**
 - October 27 – Picture Retake Day
 - October 31 – Hallowe'en

DATES TO LOOK FOR

November 10th-Progress Reports go home
Friday November 24th is a P.A. Day

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

We were again thrilled to see so many families and community members at the Open House and Barbeque. A special thank you to all of the students and volunteers who gave their time and demonstrated their leadership. Not only did they volunteer at the event, but they spent a lot of time practicing and preparing for it. We especially appreciate the dancing leadership...lots and lots of students were demonstrating their Macarena skills. An extra special thank you goes out to our staff members for doing the cooking! (Ms. Ruckstul, Mr. Weatherup, Mrs. deVries, Ms. Carlson...and anyone else who pitched in!)

At the PA day on Friday, we continued to work on....Mathematics Instruction

1. ...Improving the learning of students in all areas of math instruction including Algebraic Reasoning.
2. ...As well, we are working on helping our students feel more like mathematicians.
3. ...They are also improving their computational fluency (students using their learned skills to solve new problems)

4. And...they are earning through problem-solving and the use of manipulatives.

We also continued our work on **Restorative Practice** where students are learning to feel part of their classroom and school community. They learn social skills as well as other learning skills through the use of many different strategies on the part of teachers. Restorative Practice helps students to resolve conflicts while developing important skills regarding empathy and communication. We will complete our training on November 24th and will then keep using the structures we are learning from then on. **Your child will come home with a restorative practice question card. These are great questions to inform us when helping students deal with and learn from social mistakes.**

We continue to be thankful for the ongoing support from, and strong communication with, our parents and guardians. Please call us if you have questions or concerns.

Bev Assinck



School Council Meetings

Would you like to make a difference?

Would you like to know more about what is going on at school?

Would you like to have input into questions that affect our students?

We would like to grow the number of parents/guardians who attend our meetings.

Please join us for our next meeting on **Tuesday, October 17th at 6:30** in our newly 'refreshed' library/learning commons.

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).

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

CROSSING GUARD SCHEDULE

King/Simpson	Liberty/Church
8:00-8:30	8:00-8:30
2:50-3:10	2:50-3:10
Mearns/Soper	
7:50-8:15	
3:00-3:25	



REGISTRATION OPEN FOR FREE KPR PARENT CONFERENCE ON CHILD, YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH

[Registration is open](#) for KPR's free, annual Parent Conference on child and youth mental health.

Minds Matter @ KPR is the theme for the conference, as follows:

2017 KPR Parent Conference – Minds Matter @ KPR

Saturday, October 21

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

Adam Scott Collegiate Vocational Institute
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

Parents also will be able to choose from a dozen workshops focused on different areas of children's and teens' mental health – from anxiety to addictions, and from concussions to kids' stress. Community

agencies serving the mental health needs of families in Northumberland and Peterborough Counties and the Municipality of Clarington also will have displays and resources available.

Registration will continue until October 18 at www.kprschoools.ca. Although there is no charge to anyone attending the conference, parents and guardians should pre-register. The venue is fully accessible.

This is the fifth year that KPR's annual conference has focused on child and teen mental health and well-being.

Parents and guardians who do not have Internet access, who require assistance in registering, or who are seeking additional information after visiting the registration site should call Judy Malfara at the Education Centre, 705-742-9773 or toll-free at 1-877-741-4577, ext. 2001.

SAFE WELCOME PROGRAM

We are well on our way into our fourth year of the Safe Welcome Program. **Thank you to everyone for ensuring that you check in or sign in at the office when you arrive at the school.**

Helpful Hints:

1. If you are bringing something to your child (like a lunch or clothes), please leave it at the office and we will make sure that it goes down to the classroom as soon as possible.
2. If you are picking up a child, please wait at the office while we have him/her come down. These small steps prevent interrupting precious instructional time for our students. Thank you for helping us maximize every child's learning.

MORNING ENTRY

As you know, for safety/supervision reasons, we are asking all students to go around to their appropriate entry door when they arrive in the morning. Students will not enter through the front doors unless there are extenuating circumstances. They should walk around to the back of the school and ask a duty teacher for permission to enter if they need to go in to use the washroom etc. Please make sure that your child(ren) are dressed warmly for the upcoming cold fall mornings. Thank You!

TWITTER

A reminder to all families that you can now read news and updates about Vincent Massey PS on Twitter. You do not need to have a Twitter account to follow the updates – Simply log onto our school website at <http://vincentmassey.kprdsb.ca/> to follow along with our tweets!!

REMINDER: NO DOGS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

Just a reminder to families that dogs are not permitted on school property.



SPORTS UPDATES...

We are excited about our upcoming Junior (Oct. 4) and Intermediate (Oct. 10) soccer tournaments and Harrier (Oct 5.). Thank you to all of the parents who are providing transportation. Due to the timing of our buses and their double runs for schools, it is very difficult to hire them for this type of event.



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PROGRESS REPORTS

Progress reports will be distributed on November 9th. This progress report outlines the learning students have been doing in the last two months. This is an opportunity for you and your child to reflect on the progress that has been made at this time and to use the next steps to support their learning in the coming months. There are no marks/grades assigned at this time.



VOLUNTEER FORMS

Are you interested in volunteering at our school? If you are, and if you have a valid criminal record check, we would love for you to join our team of fabulous helpers! Please fill out the attached form indicating your preferences and strengths and we will contact you based on student need. If you do not have a valid criminal record check, please come to the office and ask us for the paperwork to get you started!



SNACK PROGRAM UPDATE

Our snack program is up and running 5 days per week. The snack program ensures all students will have the opportunity to receive a portion controlled nutritious morning snack. This program serves all students regardless of need to remove the social stigma from those who may depend on it for nutrition. Students enjoy trying new foods with their friends and classmates and may be more adventurous in a group than they would be trying foods at home on their own!

The VMPS Snack Program is completely dependent on volunteers! We are lucky to have a great core group of volunteers but we need a couple more to ensure the program continues smoothly. Our volunteers generally assist from 8:30 to 11:00 am one day a week. With notice we are easily able to schedule around shifts and family obligations. Our volunteer group has a lot of fun together and it's always nice for young students to see their parents/grandparents/guardians volunteering in the school.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Ms. Assinck.



LUNCH LADY

This year the Lunch Lady comes every Thursday.

HOMEWORK CLUB

We are pleased again to offer The Vincent Massey Homework Club.

When: Tuesdays and Thursdays
from 2:50 to 3:30

Where: In the Library

Who: Students in grades 1-8

What students do:

- Complete assigned homework with support
- Use Prodigy Math on-line to improve math skills.

Club Rules: Students will be expected to be on-task and following the expectations that will be reviewed each session.

Students will be dismissed at 3:30. Please make appropriate arrangements for them to get home safely.

Thank you to Mrs. Carlson, Ms. Green and Ms. Ruckstul for being our supervisors.

CROSS-WALK RULES

Please make sure that you and your children cross at the designated crosswalks. When you do, it teaches them good safety awareness. This includes our crosswalks at Church and Liberty and the Bowmanville Mall at the lights in addition to the new crosswalk at the school.

BUS SAFETY

Please insure that you and your child do not walk between the busses as they are parked in our parking lot during am and pm bussing times.

TERRY FOX WALK

On Wednesday, September 27th, the students of Vincent Massey showed their support for Terry Fox by participating in our annual Terry Fox Walk. Students showed their spirit by wearing crazy socks for Terry Fox. The staff would like to congratulate all students on their enthusiasm and good behaviour during our walk around the school yard or Bowmanville. We would also like to thank the community here at Massey for raising nearly \$400.

Amazing work Vincent Massey! You would have made Terry very proud! Mrs. Crawford and Mrs. Rowan would like to extend a special thank you to our intermediate Team Terry that helped us out in many ways. We greatly appreciate all of your help!

GREEN TEAM TIP FOR OCTOBER GROCERY BAGS!!!

Canadians take home more than 55 million plastic shopping bags each week. Just think of the amount of petroleum products - used to make plastic bags - that could be preserved if people used cloth bags.

Remember to plan ahead before you head to the store and bring carrying boxes or cloth bags along with you.

COMMERCIAL ELECTRONIC MESSAGES

Many parents/guardians selected “yes” to receiving commercial electronic messages such as invitations to purchase yearbooks, spirit wear, pizza days, etc.

Some parents selected “no” to receiving the newsletter electronically and wish to receive a hard copy.

In order to not have to create two separate mailing lists, those parents/guardians who chose this combination will receive the newsletter in both email and hardcopy format.

A test email was done in late September, if you did not receive this please contact the school or send in a note indicating such and provide your address printed clearly.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact the office.

Thank You.

Grade 5 Action Pass



The Grade 5 Action Pass gives all Grade 5 students in Durham Region free:

- public swimming
- public skating
- other programs (programs vary by recreation centre)

This pass can be used at any participating municipal recreation centre, Oshawa Mary Street YMCA, Durham College/UOIT Campus Ice Centre, and the Abilities Centre.

Your child may use his/her pass as many times as they want from September to August!

For more information:

- contact your municipal recreation centre, Oshawa Mary Street YMCA, Durham College/UOIT Campus Ice Centre, or the Abilities Centre
- visit durham.ca/physicalactivity
- call Durham Health Connection Line at 905-666-6241 or 1-800-841-2729



durham.ca/physicalactivity



If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.

School Spirit Wear

With this newsletter you should also receive a blue “Spirit Wear” order form. You can also purchase items in School Cash. Orders are due on Friday October 13th.