

V.M.P.S Newsletter

FEBRUARY

Hey V.M.P.S community!

Student council is proud to present our new student newsletter. The newsletter committee is a sub committee of student council, it is written by students and is meant to contribute to building our school community in a positive way. This newsletter will be given to every student and sent home digitally! The goal is to give access to everyone in our community and help everyone feel connected. Each month the newsletter will reflect what's popping at Vincent Massey! Happy Reading!

Upcoming Events

February 23rd	Int. Boys Basketball Tournament
February 26th	Int. Girls Basketball Tournament
February 26th	S.K Vision Screening
February 27th	I.E.P.'s go home
February 27th	Grad photo retakes
February 27th	S.K. Vision Screening
February 28th	Pink Shirt Day (Earn House Points)
February 28th	S.K. Vision Screening
February 29th	Character Ed Assembly - Integrity
March 5th	Ramadan Presentations
March 7th	House Colour Day - Wear your house colour!
March 8th-15th	March Break

Contest

We are accepting comic strips to be featured in the April newsletter. We will choose a winner from each division (Primary, Junior, Intermediate). The 1st place winner will win house points and their comic strip will be included in the newsletter. 2nd and 3rd runner-ups will get an honourable mention, house points and their names included in the newsletter. The comics have to be spring themed and are due March 20, 2024.

Please use full colour. No pencil only comics will be accepted. Can be Hard Copy or Digital.

Cougar Sports and Extracurriculars Update

On Wednesday January 30th, the Junior boys won 5 out of 6 of their games in their tournament and made it to the finals. However, they lost by a bucket. Overall, a great job by our Junior boys.

On Friday February 23rd, at the intermediate tournament, the boys Intermediate basketball team won 2 games and lost 2 almost making it to the finals.

The intra-mural badminton club is just getting started, and are ready to start playing on Tuesday February 27. They're playing on day 1 and day 3's during second break. They will be playing in pairs and the club is run by Mr. Mackie. The bands next concert is outside of school hours, and will be held at Garnet B Rickard on May 8th of this year.

Student Council had a dance on Valentine's day, and it was really successful, as we were able to raise \$566.89 in total to go towards helping the Grade 8's work towards their grad trip. Student Council is also planning to have a spring spirit week, full of fun VMPS activities! Crochet club is a great club for grades 3-8 to learn how to crochet, chill, and hang out with friends. Crochet club is run by Mrs. Pym-Murphy, on day 5's.

SHINING A SPOTLIGHT ON OUR V.M.P.S COMMUNITY!



Ms. Tammy

This month, the spotlight is on our volunteers who dedicate their time everyday to our school. We know them best as Ms. Betty and Ms. Tammy, together they run the snack program. They have a team of volunteers that help assist them throughout the week, but these two are here every day organizing the program.

They plan, order, buy, and sort all of the snacks for our whole school, then they come to each of our classrooms at lunch and deliver the snacks to students. They ensure that no student goes hungry and always has something to eat. They always come in with a big smile and try and get to know each of their students. Now, let's learn a little bit about them!

Before retiring in January 2020, Ms. Tammy worked as a nurse for 35 years. Since then, she has been contributing to V.M.P.S for the past 4 years. Ms. Tammy has two degrees and is currently taking a course from the University of Toronto. As Ms. Tammy said "education and volunteering should always be part of your life."



Ms. Betty

Before Ms. Betty retired she worked as a Personal Support Worker (P.S.W). After retiring Ms. Betty had plenty of free time, so dedicated herself to volunteering at her grandson's school, V.M.P.S. This year marks Ms. Betty's 10th year of volunteering at V.M.P.S!

Ms. Tammy and Ms. Betty are honoured members of our community, be sure to say "hi" , when you see them around! Thank-you snack volunteers for your service in our community!

House Colour Points Update

Blue house

8570

1st Place

Red house

8445

2nd Place

Green house

7340

3rd Place

Yellow house

7020

4th Place

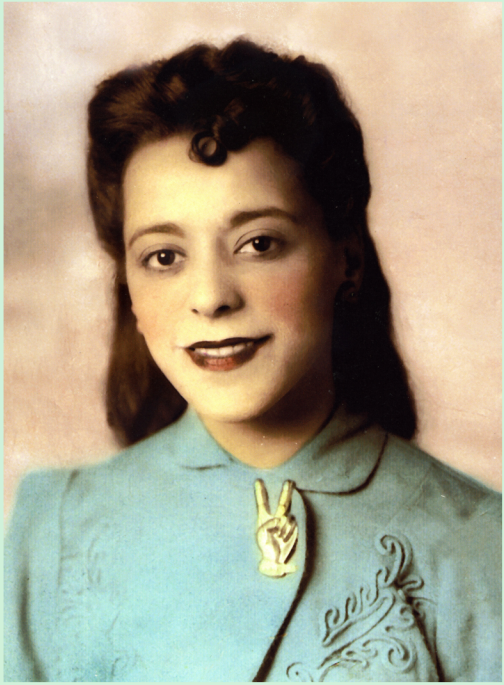
How do you Earn House Points?

You can earn house points in many ways. Some examples would be by competing in House Colour challenges, wearing your House Colour on House Colour days, or participating in any of the other opportunities that pop up throughout the year. If you aren't sure what your House Colour is, or you are new to the school, talk to your teacher or talk to Ms. McGillen in room 154!

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

February is Black History Month – a time for intentional celebration, and recognition of the achievements, contributions and lived experiences of Black communities. In our learning this month and beyond, we recognize the value of celebrating and highlighting Black History and Black Excellence every day.

PEOPLE WHO MADE A DIFFERENCE:



Viola Desmond is a Canadian businesswoman and Civil Rights Activist. On November 8, 1946 she challenged racial discrimination and refused to leave the segregated whites-only section of the Roseland Theatre in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia and was arrested, jailed overnight and convicted without legal representation for an obscure tax offence as a result. Desmond's courageous refusal to accept an act of racial discrimination provided inspiration to later generations of Black people in Nova Scotia and in the rest of Canada. On December 2016, the Bank of Canada announced that Viola Desmond would be the first Canadian woman to be featured by herself on the face of a banknote — the \$10 in circulation today.



Lincoln Alexander is a Canadian Air Force Veteran, Lawyer, and Politician. He is known for being the first black Canadian Member of Parliament (1968), Cabinet Member (1979), and Lieutenant Governor (1985). Lincoln Alexander had many accomplishments, because of those many accomplishments January 21st was labeled as Lincoln Alexander Day.

Resources

TO HELP YOU LEARN ABOUT
BLACK HISTORY



Books are a great way to learn and engage in Canadian Black history. Here are some books for all ages to get you and your family started.

- ~ "I Colour Myself Different" by Colin Kaepernick
- ~ "M is for Melanin: A Celebration of the Black Child" by Tiffany Rose
- ~ "Not Quite Now White" by Ashley Franklin
- ~ "More Than Peach" by Bellen Woodard
- ~ "Don't Touch My Hair!" by Sharee Miller



**Remember our School Motto; I am because we are
together we are a community**

Sincerely, the Newsletter Committee