



# INCENT MASSEY P.S. SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER



A Peanut & Nut Safe School

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<b>September 2024 Newsletter #1</b>	<b>10 Church St Bowmanville, L1C 1S3</b>	<b>Tel: 905-623-5502 Fax: 905-623-7341</b>
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## DATES TO REMEMBER

Sept. 3 – Welcome Back  
Sept 27 – P.A. Day

**SEPTEMBER 2024**

- ◆ 1 First Parkash
- ➔ 2 Farvardegan (SC)
- ◆ 2 Labour Day
- ◆ 8 Samvatsari/Paryushan Parva ends/Dastakshan Parva begins ●
- † 11 Nayrouz (J)
- ☾ 15 Milad-un-Nabi
- ☾ 17 Anant Chaturdashi
- ◆ 18 Kshamavani/Dastakshan Parva ends ●
- ⊗ 19 Powley Day
- ⊗ 22 Mabon/Fall Equinox ●○
- ◆ 25 Franco-Ontarian Day
- ⊗ 30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation◆



## Principal's Message

Welcome back to school! I am thrilled to be starting another year at Vincent Massey. I

am looking forward to a year of relationship building and community along with the wonderful team here. We are very excited to greet your children as they return for a year of learning and growth. Happy September!

B. Speed

## Class Lists Update...

Year 1 and 2 (JK/SK)  
Ms. Watson and Ms. Dalimonte



Year 1 and 2 (JK/SK)  
Mrs. Hicks and Ms. Fedorowich

Year 1 and 2 (JK/SK)  
Ms. Fish and Ms. Rahman

Year 1 & 2 (JK/SK)  
Ms. MacDonald and Ms. Thornton

Gr. 1	Ms. Ling
Gr. 1	Ms. Sturge
Gr. 1&2	Ms. Iacobelli
Gr. 2	Ms. Smith
Gr. 2&3	Ms. Michaud
Gr. 3	Ms. Bond
Gr. 3&4	Ms. Wilkinson

Gr. 4 Ms. Glover  
 Gr. 5 Mr. Bongard  
 Gr. 5 & 6 Ms. Bernardi  
 Gr. 6 & 7 Ms. McAllister  
 Gr. 7 Mr. Robins  
 Gr. 7 & 8 Ms. McCormack  
 Gr. 8 Ms. McGillen  
 Planning- Mr. Nugent, Ms. Pym Murphy, Mr. Hall  
 Junior French- Ms. Glover  
 Jr & Intermediate French - TBD  
 Special Education Resource Teachers – Ms. Crawford & Ms. Pym-Murphy  
 Educational Assistants- Ms. Lafave, Ms. O’Connell, Ms. Ruckstuhl, Ms. Sajac  
 Child & Youth Worker – Ms. Carlson  
 Secretary - Mrs. Fallis & Ms. Coffey  
 Head Custodian -Mr. Heaslip  
 Night Custodian-Mr. Hamilton  
 Principal- Ms. Speed

**REFILLABLE/REUSABLE WATER CONTAINERS AND CUTLERY**

Although the fountains will be available to students this year, we strongly encourage them to bring a reusable water container to school.

Also, please remember to pack cutlery for your child if they require it.



**DAILY DROPOFFS**

Thank you for doing your best to send your child with everything they need for the day. We understand that sometimes it is necessary to do a mid-day drop off, but our office can get very busy! Thank you in advance for your support.

**Vincent Massey Public School**  
 10 Church Street  
 Bowmanville, Ontario L7C 1S3  
 905-623-5502 (p)  
 905-623-7341 (f)  
 vincentmassey.kprdsb.ca

**Balanced Day Schedule**

**LEARNING BLOCK 1**  
 8:15-9:55  
**First Nutrition Break**  
 9:55-10:15  
 JK-6 Eat  
 7-8 Yard  
 10:15-10:35  
 JK-6 Yard  
 7-8 Eat

**LEARNING BLOCK 2**  
 10:35-12:15  
**Second Nutrition Break**  
 12:15-12:35  
 JK-6 Eat  
 7-8 Yard  
 12:35- 12:55  
 JK-6 Yard  
 7-8 Eat

**LEARNING BLOCK 3**  
 12:55-2:35  
 End of Day  
 2:35 PM  
 Office Closes  
 3:30 PM

**Student Absence Reporting**  
 1-844-434-8119 or  
 studentabsence.kprdsb.ca or  
 Mobile App "SchoolMessenger"

## ADMINISTERING MEDICATION

As per the Board's Policy Code: ES-1.5, we must have an "Administering Medication Form" completed by a parent/guardian for the school to administer any medication. Please contact the office for further information.

### Plan of Care: Medical Information

Students with any potentially life-threatening illnesses or medical conditions will be receiving a 'Plan of Care' information package from the school today. Please complete and return this information package to the school as per instructions enclosed. Please contact our Special Education Resource Teacher (SERT) Ms. Crawford or Mrs. Fallis at the school should you have any questions or require more information.

### STUDENT AGENDAS

Student agendas will be used by all students in grades 1-8 to support school to home and home to school communication.

**The cost of the agendas is \$4.50 for grades 1-8.** The preferred method of payment is School Cash Online but we will except a cheque or cash.

Congratulations to our three students who designed the beautiful covers!

### INDOOR SHOES... for indoors only!

Please ensure that your child has a pair of indoor (non-scuff, rubber soled) shoes that are suitable for indoor wear, gym classes and all sport-related activities. For safety reasons, all students must have proper footwear in order to participate. Also, changing into indoor shoes helps to keep our hallway and classroom floors clean and safe.

## SAFE ARRIVAL

Please use the safe arrival system by calling **1-844-434-8119** or go to **[studentabsence.kprdsb.ca](http://studentabsence.kprdsb.ca)** to report student absences.

### **CROSSING GUARD SCHEDULE**

#### **King/Simpson**

8:00-8:30

2:50-3:10

#### **Liberty/Church**

7:50-8:15

2:30-2:55

#### **Mearns/Soper**

7:40-8:05

2:35-3:00



### 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.

Please refrain from using strong shampoos, deodorants, and perfumes as we have a staff member who is anaphylactic to many scents.

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

### OPEN HOUSE / MEET THE EDUCATORS

Vincent Massey is excited to announce the return of our Open House/Meet the Educators on September 19<sup>th</sup>. This event will run from 4:00-6:00 p.m. Pizza will be available to order on School Cash Online for \$1 a slice. Cheese pizza only.

## BOOK FAIR

We will be hosting a book fair from September 16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> in our library. Classes will have scheduled visits (usually two). The first is to look around and window shop. The second is to make purchases. Your child will see books, fancy pencils, erasers, fidget toys and much more. For younger students, if you wish to send in money for your child to make a purchase, please send it in an envelope or baggie clearly labelled with their name and the amount you have put in.

**NOTE: The book fair will be open to families during the Open House on the 19<sup>th</sup> from 2:30 – 6:00.**

## SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

We are always looking for new volunteers for our Nutrition Program and Hot Lunch Program. The Police Record Check letter which provides you with a discount is included in this newsletter. Please reach out to the office if you can volunteer and Mrs. Fallis will point you in the right direction.

## SCHOOL COUNCIL 2024-2025

**The first meeting and elections for the upcoming school year's School Council will be held Monday September 23, 2024.**

A Note from your School Community Council,

A Big Welcome Back to our returning and new community of VMPS! We hope you all had a lovely summer and we are looking forward to another successful and fun school year ahead!

September brings us to the end of our 2023/2024 SCC Membership and welcomes new and returning members to join our team. The School Community Council acts as an advisory body to provide ideas and opinions to assist the principal in making the school a better place for learning.

Membership is voluntary, with parents and guardians electing their own representatives. You can hold a role on our

Executive Committee or just be a voting member. SCC meets up to 5 times within the school year in the evenings at VMPS' Library. If you are interested in being a part of VMPS School Community Council look out for an email or contact the school for a nomination form.

With that said, SCC is always looking for **Volunteers!** We are hoping to create a pool of volunteers that we could call on when we needed. We are not asking for a commitment to be on SCC, but just a commitment of time for when we need help organizing orders to be handed out from a fundraiser or should we host a bigger event; we would need your help. We are looking for day time volunteers as well as after school volunteers or sometimes High School volunteers looking to complete their hours. All adult volunteers must have a current Police Records Check specific to a Vulnerable Sector Check (working with Children). This can be obtained online only from the Durham Regional Police website. You will need to request a letter from the school to apply and it will take about 3 weeks to process and be mailed out to you.

The first meeting of SCC will be held on **September 23, 2024 at 6pm in the Library.** Come out and introduce yourself; meet some great Parents, Kids and Staff and share any ideas or thoughts you might have.

Looking forward to meeting you!

Your, SCC

## DOT DAY SEPTEMBER 15TH



September 15<sup>th</sup> is recognized internationally as Dot Day and this year marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Peter H. Reynolds' book. Everyone is encouraged to wear dots/circles/polka dots on Friday September 13<sup>th</sup>.

### **BUS LOOP PICK UP AND DROP OFF**

Thank you for not parking in the designated bus area. We know you value the safety of all our children.



Does your family dine at Boston Pizza, Bowmanville? If yes, please write "Vincent Massey PS Bowmanville" on the back of your receipt and drop in the box at the front door. Boston Pizza will donate a portion of your receipt back to the school!

Kids eat free for the whole month of September!

Also, from September 1 to October 13, Kids Cards are available for purchase at \$5 each. They can be used throughout the school year until the end of June. This will get you 5 kids meals for free as the \$5 is considered a donation to the Clarington Museums, Libraries, and Archives. The

money will go toward purchasing books, technology, and more. They are also expanding their collection with items like telescopes and sports kits.

### **New Cell Phone Policy**

New provincial government legislation has resulted in changes to the use of mobile devices in schools. A mobile device is any personal electronic device that can be used to communicate or access the Internet, such as a laptop, cellphone, tablet or smart watch.

To help ensure focused and engaging learning environments, all personal mobile devices must be stored out of view during the school day. Students in Grades K- 8 may not use mobile devices anytime during the school day (including recess), except as outlined below.

Devices may be used in certain circumstances, including:

- for health and medical purposes,
- to support special education needs, or
- for educational purposes, as directed by an educator.

While these changes may be difficult, please know that creating and maintaining a protected space for learning in classrooms is our goal. Schools will be working with students to educate and support them as they adjust to these expectations. If students need to use their phones for reasons other than those outlined above, families should contact Mrs. Speed to discuss a shared solution.

