



VINCENT MASSEY P.S. OCTOBER NEWSLETTER



A Peanut & Nut Safe School

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Principal

Simon Farquhar, School Council Chair
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October 2020 Newsletter #2	10 Church St Bowmanville, L1C 1S3	Tel: 905-623-5502 Fax: 905-623-7341
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DATES TO REMEMBER

October 15 – School Photos
November 19 – Grade 8 Grad Photos

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

October is a month that brings thanks for all that we have even in the wake of a pandemic.

I would like to thank our students, staff, parents/guardians and community members for following the school protocols and ensuring that our school community is safe and healthy. Please remember that we can't relax on any of our protocols, we need to keep being vigilant and wear our masks for drop-off and pick-up.

We are continuing to talk about our School Motto for this year every day on the announcements and in our classes. Our Motto is, "I am because we are!" together we are a community.

Our Sacred Teaching focus for the month will continue to be Courage. Each day students are reminded of this teaching through a quote: Respect means that we give to others and Respect means to have balance between ourselves and others.

I would like to welcome our new School Council members and thank them for stepping up and supporting VMPS, please see below for who filled our council positions. We encourage all parents to participate in the School Council. Please join us and watch for the dates, times and link.

As always, please contact me if you have questions or concerns.

Nicholas Shea
Principal

SCHOOL COUNCIL 2020-2021

The first virtual meeting and elections for the upcoming school year's **School Council** were held on Monday September 28th. The 2020-2021 council consists of:

Chair – Simon Farquhar
Co – Chair – Korri Bickle
Secretary – Desiree Newman
Treasurer – Cindy Williamson

Tentative Virtual Meetings are scheduled for:
Monday October 7th
Monday November 4th
Monday February 3rd
Monday April 6th

Meetings will be 5:30-6:15 p.m.

Register now for Free Virtual Parent Conference Saturday October 17th

Parents: get expert advice on raising mentally strong, well-adjusted children, without having to leave home!

KPR's 19th Annual Parent Conference is going virtual this year. Please join us online on:

Saturday, October 17

9 a.m.-11 a.m.

Theme: **Drop the Worry Ball**

Registration for the virtual conference opens October 1.

Featuring Dr. Alex Russell



Dr. Russell is a clinical psychologist, well known and engaging speaker, and co-author of the book *Drop the Worry Ball: How to Parent in the Age of Entitlement*.

As always, the parent conference is free and open to all interested parents, guardians and community members. Registrants will receive a link to watch the presentation live, and to ask Dr. Russell questions.

Please see the KPRDSB website to register

DAILY SCHEDULE

8:15	Staggered Entry Begins
8:30	Entry Bell
8:30-10:30	First Instructional Block
10:30-11:10	First Nutritional Break
11:10-12:30	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 by a parent/guardian in order 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 should have received a 'Plan of Care' information package from the school. If you have not already done so please complete and return this information package to the school as per instructions enclosed. Please contact our Special Education Resource Teacher (SERT) Ms. deVries, at the school should you have any questions or require more information.

PROGRESS REPORTS

Progress reports will be distributed on November 20th. 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.



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.

POLICE RECORD CHECKS FOR VOLUNTEERS & FIELD TRIP SUPERVISORS

We recognize that volunteers may not be required as often this year. Having said that please be advised that when the time comes we will require valid background checks.

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!

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.

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

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	



SNACK PROGRAM UPDATE



The snack program will be running at some point in the next month or so. We are just working out the kinks in terms of what we are going to provide, how we are providing it, where we are going to provide it, and the sanitization protocols that must be followed.

STAY TUNED!!

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. Also, masks must be worn on the busses at all times.



Before and After Care at Vincent Massey

As some as you may or may not know, Vincent Massey has a Before and After School Program within its walls!

It is run through Umbrella Central Daycare Services.

We offer before and after school care for ages 3.5-12.

Our hours of operation are 7 am-8:30 am and 2:50 pm-6:00 pm.

We currently have spaces available.

If you require more information regarding our program, please contact Lisa (Director) at (905) 623-6279.

Please be advised Vincent Massey P.S. is not accepting out of bounds applications at this time.

Lisa DeMille, RECE
Vincent Massey Bowmanville
Before & After School Program

Centre Director

"Find some goodness in everyday.."