



VINCENT MASSEY P.S. NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER



A Peanut & Nut Safe School

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Principal

Simon Farquhar, School Council Chair
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November 2020 Newsletter #3	10 Church St Bowmanville, L1C 1S3	Tel: 905-623-5502 Fax: 905-623-7341
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DATES TO REMEMBER

- November 2 – Virtual School Council Mtg.
5:30 p.m.
- November 19 – Picture Retakes & Grade 8 Grad Photos
- November 26 – Progress Reports go Home
- November 27 – P.A. Day

Principal's Message

I think we all say this every year but I'm going to repeat it...wow, November already!

The staff and students are continuing to do an extremely professional job with the COVID protocols. The School Yard Spook was a spooktacular success. We are happy to know that we could give the students some sense of normalcy. Also, another BIG THANK YOU to COSTCO for donating enough backpacks for the entire school.

As we move into November we will be learning about the Sacred Teaching of RESPECT. Respect is represented by the Buffalo and students will learn why this animal was chosen for this very important teaching. November is Indigenous Peoples Awareness Month, please find the more information in the body of this newsletter.

We will be having a virtual Remembrance Day on November 11th to commemorate those who fought for our country and continue to fight. We will record the ceremony and share it with our community.

We will be having Live Virtual Assemblies for recognizing our students on a monthly basis. We will be recognizing those who follow the Sacred Teaching lessons on a daily basis. We had our first one last week and it went well; we will record them in the future and share them with our school community.

Remember our school Motto: I am because we are...together we are a community.

Have an absolutely, terrific, amazing month!

Mr. Shea
Principal
VMPS

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!

PROGRESS REPORTS

Progress reports will be distributed on November 26th. 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.



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.



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.



Outdoor Play + Warm Clothing = FUN!

Having fun and learning to play games in a fun and cooperative manner is something that children need to learn and practice!

With the cold weather upon us, we ask that you ensure that your child comes to school dressed for the weather and prepared for outdoor play. Unless the weather is inclement, students are outside for all recess and lunch breaks. Although we encourage the students to stay dry and away from puddles and wet, muddy areas, an extra pair of socks/underwear/pants in the backpack is always a good idea!



On November 11th we will virtually assemble for our **Day of Remembrance** where we will honour and show our respect for the men and women that served our country during history's most trying times. As a sign of our appreciation and respect, each student will be given and be wearing a poppy for our assembly. This flower is a very significant and respected symbol for this day - it is also an important way of reminding us that every one of these brave Canadians is never to be forgotten. To this end, a small, voluntary, monetary donation will be gratefully accepted in support of our local legion – Bowmanville #178. Our Virtual Assembly will begin at 10:45 a.m. We will record this assembly and share with the community.

On Wednesday, November 11th, a wreath donated by our school, will be laid at the Cenotaph at the Bowmanville Remembrance Day Service.

Another important date this month is Thursday November 14th - **World Diabetes Day**. It is our hope that as a school community, we can raise our awareness and understanding about living with Diabetes.

Indigenous Peoples Awareness Month

November marks an important month at KPR schools, when we celebrate our year-round commitment to teaching all students about the rich cultures and perspectives of First Nation, Métis and Inuit peoples. Over the coming weeks, our schools will

participate in special activities in honour of KPR's fourth annual Indigenous Peoples Awareness Month. The Board chose November because the month already marks four significant occasions: Treaty Recognition Week, National Aboriginal Veterans Day, Louis Riel Day and Inuit Day.

Throughout the month, KPR students and staff will focus on our commitment to reconciliation. Students and staff will learn about Treaty awareness, indigenous medicines, foods, bushcrafting, films, music, and culture. We also will have a virtual leadership conference for Indigenous youth. COVID-19 may have changed the way we recognize this pivotal month, but it has not dampened our dedication to working with local and national elders and knowledge holders to better educate students of all ages about Indigenous peoples in Canada. Watch for more information on the wide variety of virtual presentations available in the coming weeks.

Dr. Jennifer Leclerc
Director of Education
KPRDSB



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.

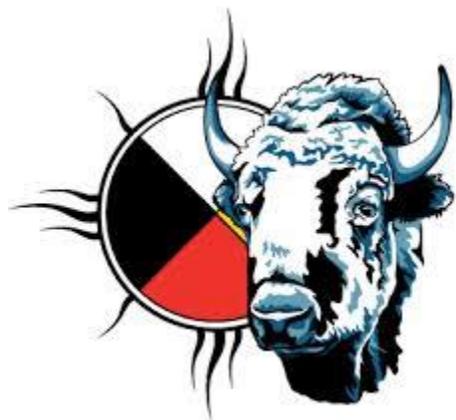
If you require more information regarding our program, please contact Lisa (Director) at (905) 623-6279.

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.."



Respect is represented by the buffalo. The buffalo gives every part of his being to sustain the human way of living, not because he is of less value, but because he respects the balance and needs of others. To honor all creation is to have respect. Live honorably in teachings and in your actions towards all things. Do not waste and be

mindful of the balance of all living things. Share and give away what you do not need. Treat others the way you would like to be treated. Do not be hurtful to yourself or others.

A message from your School Council Chair.

Hello Vincent Massey Public School family and friends! I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. I'm sure like many of you, this year provided time to share in family traditions as well as a unique opportunity to create new ones.

We have a great opportunity this coming council meeting to speak directly with our school's Public Health Nurse, Joanne Huizinga from the Durham Health Department. She will be answering questions or concerns you may have regarding the current health and safety protocols related to COVID-19 measures. We welcome everyone's participation. If you will be unavailable or prefer to submit your question online, please feel free to do so via the following

<https://forms.gle/TpW41JsiEhE9NmX28>.

As your school council, our priority is to look for areas of opportunities to enhance and enrich our students learning and achievements. In so doing, your input is vital. In order to accomplish this, we want to create an environment that is accommodating, friendly and welcoming to all. There is always an open invitation to join our online meetings. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out anytime to me via email or any member of your School Council.

I look forward to meeting with you,
Simon Farquhar
simonfarquhar@gmail.com

Meeting Information:

Monday November 2, 2020

Virtual meeting to commence at 5:30 pm

Google Meets link:

<https://meet.google.com/nno-zyiv-yio>