



VINCENT MASSEY P.S. OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

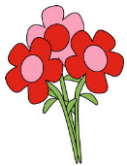


A Peanut & Nut Safe School

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Principal

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October 2021 Newsletter #1	10 Church St Bowmanville, L1C 1S3	Tel: 905-623-5502 Fax: 905-623-7341
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DATES TO REMEMBER

October 4 – School Pictures
November 12 – Picture Retakes
November 19 – Progress Reports go Home

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: Courage is represented by the bear. To show courage is to know bravery. Face your fears and live your life.

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, time, and link on our webpage or in emails.

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 27th. The 2021-2022 council consists of:

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

Tentative Virtual Meetings are scheduled for:

Monday Oct. 4 th	Monday February 7 th
Monday Nov. 1 st	Monday March 7 th
Monday Dec. 6 th	Monday April 4 th
Monday Jan. N/A	Monday May 2 nd
	Monday June 6 th

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

KPR's 20th Annual Parent Conference
-- You've Got This! Mental Health
After COVID: Getting Back to Normal

As part of the Parent Involvement Committee report, the board received an update on planning for this year's event. For the past 20 years, KPR's annual Parent Conference has given parents and guardians free, direct access to expert advice on supporting their children's learning and on raising healthy, resilient families.

All interested parents, guardians, staff and community members can join online for this year's Virtual Parent Conference, which will be held:

Saturday, October 16, 2021

9 a.m.-11 a.m.

Featuring Dr. David Templeman

You've Got This! Mental Health After COVID: Getting Back to Normal

As always, there is no charge for this much-anticipated conference.

Registrants will receive a link to the virtual presentation, which will feature practical advice on supporting your child's or teen's mental health from Dr. David Templeman. A Child and Youth Psychiatrist based in London, ON, Dr. Templeman also is an engaging speaker and author of A Teenager's Guide to Life: The Secret to Living Life and Being Happy.

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 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 19th. 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.



POLICE RECORD CHECKS FOR VOLUNTEERS & FIELD TRIP SUPERVISORS

KPR has recently completed the volunteer attestation process/policy for volunteers and visitors to the schools.

Please watch for an email from Principal Shea that outlines the process for completing the attestation if you are interested in volunteering. You will still be required to have a valid police record check and 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 (it reduces the cost) to take with you when you request your police check.**

All visitors to schools must also complete the provincial COVID 19 school self-screener prior to attending school each day:

<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>

Thank you for being a volunteer! We always need you and appreciate your help!

CROSSING GUARD SCHEDULE	
King/Simpson	Liberty/Church
8:00-8:30	8:05-8:30
2:50-3:10	2:50-3:10
Mearns/Soper	
7:50-8:20	
2:50-3:20	



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.

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.



SNACK PROGRAM UPDATE



The snack program will be running at some point in this month (October). 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.



Volunteers:

Volunteers are always welcome at Vincent Massey. We are just waiting for the School Board's Attestation Policy for Volunteers and Visitors. Once we know the policy and roll it out to parents/guardians/community members, we will begin inviting our Vincent Massey Family to volunteer in our school.

Please STAY TUNED!!

Thank You to Jeff & Charlene Griffin

Once again this couple have arranged community activities to raise funds to go towards our Nutrition Program. We are grateful for their support!



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.."