



VINCENT MASSEY P.S. FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER



A Peanut & Nut Safe School

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February 2022 Newsletter #5	10 Church St Bowmanville, L1C 1S3	Tel: 905-623-5502 Fax: 905-623-7341
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DATES TO REMEMBER

- Feb 1 – Grad Photos
- Feb 16 – 100th Day of School
- Feb 21 – Family Day (School Closed)
- Feb 22 – Term 1 Reports on Edsby

Principal's Message

February is a month where we emphasize the importance of learning about, speaking about and acting on anti-black racism through Black History Month.

VMPS has a weekly focus where teachers and students will take part in discussions while learning more about Black history in Canada, and more importantly, how to continue the discussion throughout the year.

This is what we are and will be focusing on this month:

- 1) Feb. 1st to 4th: Explore Ubuntu "I am because we are!"
- 2) Feb 7th to 11th: Revisit Humanae Project and explore White Fragility and Individualism
- 3) Feb 14th to 18th: Racial discrimination based on Origin, Colour and Customs: Indigenous Residential Schools, Reserves and linking to Reconciliation
- 4) Feb. 22nd to 25th: Canadian Context to racism: Loyalists and Quakers of Nova Scotia
- 5) Feb. 28nd to Mar. 4th: Linking Ubuntu, white fragility, Racial ideologies and discrimination to our Sacred Teaching focus of Humility.

This connects with our board's focus on CRRP (Culturally Relevant and Responsive Pedagogy) which focuses on the individual student's learning

needs based on cultural needs, race, identity, and whole person.

At VMPS, we have been working hard at learning about "The Third Path" which is a relationship approach to education and supporting students through their learning. We have learned about Safety, Regulation, Belonging, and Positivity. During our discussions we determined that our physical entrance was not "welcoming", and at times, not visible to new families. As a result, we ordered new "Main Entrance" signs and a beautiful new welcome sign for above the main entrance. Our hope is this will allow newcomers to our school to sense the positive and welcoming community that Vincent Massey is and continues to strive to be.

I always say that I am the luckiest Principal ever; I have the best students, staff, parents, and community one could ask for. I always say "VMPS is a small school with a huge heart" and I hope that everyone feels that when they walk up to our school and see our new welcome sign.

Mr. Shea
VMPS
Principal

KPRDSB Director's Annual Report

Vincent Massey was featured in the Director's Annual Report (pg. 13) for our work on Mental Health and CRRP through the lens of The Third Path.

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!



EXTREMELY IMPORTANT

Inclement Weather

On inclement weather days when buses are cancelled due to poor weather and roads, **KPR schools will remain open for students and staff**. As always, families have final say on whether they wish their children to attend school on those days.

We will inform families of school closures on snow days in several ways, including local news media, on www.kprschoools.ca, through our social media channels (@kprschoools on Twitter and Facebook), and by email or text from School Messenger.

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

The next council meeting will be March 7th. More info will be sent closer to the date.

All are welcome!!!!

Kindergarten Registration for September 2022 is open

Your child can attend school in September 2022 as follows:

- **Junior Kindergarten** – your child is four years of age by December 31, 2022
- **Senior Kindergarten** – your child is five years of age by December 31, 2022

Please bring a birth certificate or other proof of age, proof of address, and current immunization record when registering your child. Registration forms are available at each school and **also online at the KPRDSB website**.

LABEL LABEL LABEL

Clothing is so expensive, and we hate to see our lost and found overflowing with items we cannot return to their owner.

Please take the time to label your child's things (clothing, backpacks, lunch boxes, shoes, mitts)

100th Day of School February 16th

The primary students will be celebrating the 100th day of school on February 16th. This is a great opportunity to work on math skills such as counting to 100, counting by 2's, counting by 5's, and counting by 10's.

Use some manipulatives such as cheerios to give your child a visual cue as well.