

In an effort to improve communication between school and home, VCS is beginning a curriculum update program. We will be sending home class updates monthly, to help parents be better informed about what their children are currently studying and working on in their core courses (including Second Language courses). It is a short summary. If parents need or desire more detailed information than they are receiving, we encourage them to contact classroom teachers directly.

Kindergarten Class Update

We have started Reading Mastery and Language for Learning. We have been doing lots of cutting, tracing and colouring getting those fine motor skills stronger. This month brings us to starting our alphabet and numbers. We will be talking about thanksgiving and Halloween. Looking forward to a fun filled month.

Mrs. Stockman

Grade 1/2 Class Update

Language Arts – Mrs Mumert

Bonjour! Here we are, into a new year of school that already seems like routine. Our grade 1/2 class is full of friendly faces and eager learners! Our reading classes are advancing nicely, we've been able to jump ahead in some groups, thanks greatly to the dedication of parents who are reading with them each night. Our weekly spelling tests have been improving, keep studying those words each night as well. :-D

Language classes in Gr.2 have been writing sentences from picture prompts and Gr.1's are learning sequencing, the calendar and will talk about opposites this week.

Math – Mrs. Lowen

In math the Grade 1/2's are working on our first unit called Number Sense. It is the largest unit we will study this year. We will be working on counting, recognizing number words, word problems and adding and subtracting in the weeks to come.

Science – Mr. Heikel

We are currently exploring heat and temperature and learning how to read thermometers.

Social Studies – Mr. Heikel

We are looking at communities across the country and how they have changed from the way they were in the past.

Grade 3/4 Class Update

Language Arts – Mrs. Lowen

We are off to a great start in Reading Mastery. The Grade Three's just finished a story about geese and the Grade Four's are reading a shortened version of The Wizard of Oz.

In Language Arts this year the focus is on spelling and writing skills. The students have written three spelling tests so far and learn a new phonics concept each week. In addition, we have been working on alphabetical order and are currently learning about sentence structure.

Math – Mrs. Lowen

We recently wrapped up our first unit in Math called Patterns and Algebra and the students wrote their first unit test this week. We have started a new unit called Number Sense. The concepts we will be working on are place value, base ten, counting by 2's, 3's, 5's, 10's and 100's in the weeks to come.

Social Studies – Ms. Fowler

Finishing Unit 1, Alberta's landscape and fossil history. Beginning Unit 2, National Parks and their importance. A look at the resources, rivers, mountains and minerals of Alberta.

Science – Mrs. Lowen

In Science, we are working on a unit called Waste in Our World. We are learning about how garbage is handled and what it means to reduce, reuse and recycle. The students are becoming familiar with the vocabulary associated with this unit. We will be writing our first quiz this week.

SLA – Mrs. Lowen

From September 14th to November 1st the Grade Three's will be completing the Student Learning Assessment(SLA 3.) The students are doing great and have completed the digital portion of the Literacy questions. We will be doing the digital numeracy questions this week.

Grade 5/6 Class Update

Language Arts Grade 5 – Ms. Fowler

Reading Mastery-5- Greek mythology is nearing an end and will be beginning myths and fables in short stories.

Language Arts Grade 6 – Ms. Fowler

Finished Unit 1 Identity-beginning Unit 2 Respect the Earth. Book talks will be due October 20th.

Math – Mrs. Flint

Hello grade 5-9 math parents,

Welcome to another school year. I would just like to send out a quick update to say "Hi" and pass along some information. School start-up has gone extremely well. The students have had a good first month of classes to get used to my expectations, teaching style and lesson assignment procedures. My classroom is very structured and I expect students to be cooperative, respectful and to always try their best. I am looking forward to a great year working with them and also getting to know them better.

I believe communicating with parents is important and contributes to each child's success in school. I will do my best to send out a group email or personal emails regarding upcoming events, homework/assignments and student behavior throughout the year. I generally work on the premise that **"no news is good news"**. If your child says that they don't have homework and you are not getting any emails or phone calls from me, then they are telling you the truth. I try not to assign a lot of homework; I just expect them to work efficiently in class. The less disruptions we have in class, the easier it is to get the work completed and not have homework.

All grades are working in the Saxon Math Textbooks and are all working on lessons 11-25 for the next month. Each grade has written their first math test as well. I expect the grade 5 & 6 students to take their math tests home for you to see and then return with your signature. All math students can expect a math test every 5-6 classes.

If you have any questions or concerns at any time, please feel free to email me (flintkelli@gmail.com) or phone me at the school ([780-356-2370](tel:780-356-2370)).

Thank-you for your support!

Mrs. K. Flint

Social Studies – Ms. Fowler

Finishing Unit 1- What guides decision making? Beginning Unit 2 What do governments do for us?

Science – Mr. Mumert

In grade 5/6 Science we have been working since school began on a unit about Wetland Ecosystems. We've studied types of wetlands, components of wetlands, wetland organism interactions and we've visited a wetland habitat at Spring Lake to experience it first hand. We're currently studying the adaptations that organisms have that allow them to live in a wetland environment. We've also been working hard at developing note-taking and organisational skills and are promoting regular home-study habits with the students.

Grade 7 Class Update

Language Arts

September has been a busy month for grade 7. We started the year with a unit on personal focus called "Find the Courage". This unit explores many forms of courage, not just daring physical acts students are familiar with from movies or TV. The selections of stories for this unit explore the inner courage it takes to make life decisions, the courage needed to change and grow, and the courage that allows a person to accept himself or herself.

Mr. Warkentin

Math – Mrs. Flint

Hello grade 5-9 math parents,

Welcome to another school year. I would just like to send out a quick update to say "Hi" and pass along some information. School start-up has gone extremely well. The students have had a good first month of classes to get used to my expectations, teaching style and lesson assignment procedures. My classroom is very structured and I expect students to be cooperative, respectful and to always try their best. I am looking forward to a great year working with them and also getting to know them better.

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Thank-you for your support!

Social Studies – Mr. Heikel

We are studying explorers and the period of new France in Canadian History.

Science – Mr. Heikel

We are close to the end of unit on the environment and ecosystems. Current concepts include the nitrogen carbon and water cycle.

French – Mrs. Mumert

The French Intermediate Jr. High class have been studying the map of France, the personnel in our school and how to ask the seven key question words. We have just finished our test, and will be moving on to vocabulary of Our House and Numbers. The students are doing amazing on the Duolingo App which reinforces vocabulary, sentence structure and oral practise. Each week the student with the highest points on the App wins a treat from the Valhalla School store, so congratulations to those hard workers who have won so far! I will be giving an oral test this week on Wednesday on greetings and pronunciation of major cities in France. Merci Beaucoup!

Grade 8/9 Class Update

LA8/9 – Ms. Fowler

Finishing Unit 1 Identity Beginning Unit 2 - Turning Points topics on Change . A look at elements of a story. Book talks will be due October 15th.

Math – Mrs. Flint

Hello grade 5-9 math parents,

Welcome to another school year. I would just like to send out a quick update to say "Hi" and pass along some information. School start-up has gone extremely well. The students have had a good first month of classes to get used to my expectations, teaching style and lesson assignment procedures. My classroom is very structured and I expect students to be cooperative, respectful and to always try their best. I am looking forward to a great year working with them and also getting to know them better.

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Thank-you for your support!

Mrs. K. Flint

Science – Mr. Heikel

We are half way through the biology unity and are currently looking at genetics and heritable traits.

Social Studies – Mr. Heikel

We are in the unit on how parliamentary democracy works. Currently we are examining the media and lobby groups and how they influence voters and governments.

French – Mrs. Mumert

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Upcoming Important Dates:

October 13th – Nov 10 – We Scare Hunger!

October 23 – PD Day, No School

October 27 – School Spirit Day, Formal Day

October 30 – Halloween Carnival

November 10 – Remembrance Day Ceremony 1pm

November 10 – School Spirit Day, Plaid Day

November 13 – Report Cards Issued

November 24 – School Spirit Day, Western/Cowboy Day

December 15 – VCS Christmas Concert and Silent Auction

Information Items:

VCS School Year Calendar Change

VCS has made some changes to our school year calendar. We have taken a CSW from February 26th and moved it to May 27th. We have also have changed our parent teacher interview dates to mid week. We have attached a copy of the new revised calendar, please recycle any old copies of the calendar. It is also available on our website at www.valhallacommunityschool.ca or our mobile friendly website at vcs.education

We Scare Hunger

Term 1 student council students have chosen to take part in a service project called **WE SCARE HUNGER**. Millions around the world go hungry every day, even in our own backyard. During 2013, 1.7 million Canadians used food banks of which 36% were children. Did you know that last year, 1 in 12 Canadians who visited a food bank were turned away because of a lack of food? It's easy to forget that, even within our own community, people struggle with hunger, poverty and homelessness. This project will be an awesome opportunity to make a difference and can have a huge impact, both for the students donating and for the people receiving the food.

From Oct. 13 to Nov. 10, 2015 our student council term 1 students are putting on a food drive in order to collect as many non-perishable food items as possible. If you could send a food donation with your child, that would be much appreciated. There will be food collection boxes in each classroom. We are hoping to overfill every classroom box with food so we can STOP HUNGER

IN ITS TRACKS. Please help us make a difference in our community! Sometimes changing the world needs to start at home or school.

VCS Store

This year student council will be operating a school store. The store will be open every Wednesday of every week. All the money raised will be going back to student council to put towards the school for special events and purchases to make the school a happier place to be.

Some of the store items may include pizza pops, mini pizzas, chips and chocolate bars.

Elementary students (K-6) will be asked to pre-order by submitting their menu form with the money included on the morning of the school store to their homeroom teacher. Payment is by cash only. Their store items will be brought to their classroom at lunch.

Junior high students (7-9) can come down to the school store at lunchtime to make their purchase. Thank you in advance from the student council in supporting our major fundraiser for the year.

Mrs. Flint

Missoula Theatre

Missoula Children's Theatre is coming to VCS! They will be here from April 11th to 15th, 2016 all the way from Missoula Montana. Students from Grades 3 to 9 will participate in an Aladdin themed play. We will have an afternoon and evening performance on Friday, April 15th. The school is going to begin fundraising to help fund this opportunity for our students. We are in need of a pianist from April 13-15. If anyone is interested in helping supporting this program please contact the school. We hope family, friends and community members can come and enjoy. Mark your calendars!

VCS Fundraiser

So it's official ... VCS is bringing in Missoula Theatre for our students in April this year. We will have to raise the money to cover the cost ... which is about \$4000. We hope to repeat the Vesey Seeds sale later this year. It helped a lot with last year's funding for Les Bouchérons.

We're going to try a new initiative this time as well. VCS will be selling a **limited edition calendar** featuring pictures by the Principal. Each calendar will cost \$20 (plus \$5 shipping if not picked up at the school) and all proceeds will go to support the Missoula Theatre project. Orders with payment can be given at the school office. Deadline for ordering is November 13, 2015.

Some sample picture can be seen on the VCS Facebook page.

Halloween Carnival

We are having a Halloween carnival themed fun day on Friday, October 30th. We will start with a costume parade from 12:45pm to 1:00pm around the gym, then the carnival from 1:00pm to 2:00pm. We will then have an age appropriate movie for all from 2:00pm to 3:30pm. A few of the carnival games are Mummy Bowling, Zombie Nerf Gun Target Station, Pumpkin Toss, Pumpkin Balloon Darts and a haunted house. Tickets are \$0.25 each or 25 tickets for \$5.00. The haunted house, movie with popcorn and pop are free, all other carnival events will require tickets.

Silent Auction

School Councils main fundraiser is the silent auction at the Christmas concert. Donations are now being accepted at the school office. A donation request letter is available. All help is greatly appreciated! Thank you.

School Council Update

Meet the new School Council Executive members!

Chairperson: Sarah Francoeur

Vice-Chair: Paula Probst

Secretary: Shellie McLean

Treasurer: Sara Morales

If you see these ladies thank them for their willingness to take on these important roles!

School Council Student Attendance

The November School Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 3 @ 7:00pm. Please note this month the Grade 3 class is attending with a parent to do their meeting observation assignment. More info coming for the grade 3 class!

Staffing Change

We would like to thank Juan Warkentin for subbing here at VCS while we had a staff vacancy. We would like to welcome Victoria Lewis to our staff. We are looking forward to the great things she will bring forward to our students.

If you have any questions about information on this letter please contact me anytime at the office, I would be happy to help. Please contact your teachers directly for any questions about your child.

Have a great day ☺

Anna Odd

780-356-2370 office

aodd@valhallaschool.ca

Teacher Emails

Reanna Stockman	marvinandreannastockman@msn.com
Cindy Mumert	cindy.mumert@gmail.com
Joy Lowen	lowenj777@gmail.com
Vivian Fowler	vmperrin@gmail.com
Victoria Lewis	ttlewis@gmail.com
John Heikel	jheikel@ualberta.ca
Kelli Flint	flintkelli@gmail.com
Steve Mumert	sjmumert@gmail.com

Valhalla Community School Calendar Order Form

If you would like to order please complete the order form below. All orders must be paid in full before orders will be placed. Cheque and cash only please

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Mailing Address _____

Each Calendar is \$20.00

Order Quantity _____

Amount \$ _____

All cheques must be made payable to Valhalla Community School.

For more information please the School Office 780.356.2370 or email aodd@valhallaschool.ca or sjmumert@gmail.com

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