

Valhalla Community School

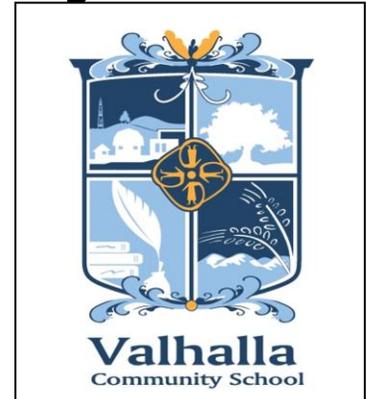
Valhalla School Remembers

This week brings Remembrance Day.

November 11 falls on a Sunday this year. At VCS, we will remember our soldiers at a service at the school at 1:10pm on Thursday, November 8.

The grade 7/8 leadership class is planning and hosting the service this year. Parents and community members are invited to attend.

Poppies are available at the school for students. A small donation to the Poppy Fund is asked in return for a poppy. All students are encouraged to bring a donation and wear a poppy this week in recognition of our soldiers and veterans.



Christmas Shoebox Campaign

VCS is hoping to begin a Christmas Shoebox campaign next week.

We are fortunate to have a former recipient of a Christmas Shoebox making a presentation to staff and students on November 7 at 10:30am.

Juan Warkentin was living in an orphanage in Central America when he was given a gift shoebox. His presentation speaks of the impact the gift had in his own life.

We're hoping each family will try to fill one shoebox. ***If you'd like more than one box for your family, please let the school know so we can send them home.*** Boxes will be sent home with students on Wednesday. Our timeline is very tight, boxes need to be filled and returned to the school by Friday, November 16. The school will forward them to Operation Shoebox.

Let's make a difference for as many children as we can!

See the attached information for more details.

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Parent Feedback Request

Valhalla School Foundation Announcement

The Valhalla School Foundation would like to announce that the Charter Board will be seeking a parent to temporarily fill a mid-term director vacancy according to *Article 2: Section 9* of our bylaws. Information regarding the position of director and this process is available in the Director Nomination Package, which includes the Director Nomination Profile Agreement, our Charter and our Bylaws, and can be viewed on our website or paper copies can be requested at the office. Please feel free to call for more information. Jolene Kochendorfer (Chair) (780) 356-2114

Parents! Please send back the request for your feedback that was attached to last week's newsletter!

(we've attached it again! ☺)

Your support and feedback are needed and greatly appreciated!

Volunteer Needed!

VCS is seeking a volunteer School Correspondent/Reporter –

This person would be responsible for organizing photos and articles for distribution to local papers. Ideas include VCS events, student articles and accomplishments and VCS accomplishments. Work would be in coordination with school, teachers, students and other volunteers. Do you have an eye for reporting or the journalism bug? Please contact the office for more specific information.

Community News

Valhalla Community Library:

Library Hours:

Mondays: 11am – 4pm

Tuesdays: 11am – 4pm

Wednesdays: 10am-6pm

Thursdays: 11am-5pm.

Fridays: Closed

New members always welcome; memberships are free!

The Book Fair is coming this November!

For any information please contact:

Gail Perry: 780.356.3834

Report Cards!

The first term of the year is almost over already!

Report cards will be issued next week. Parent/Teacher interviews are scheduled for November 21 starting at 4pm. We'll try to fill all spaces on the 21st if possible, then, if we need more time we'll extend PTI's to November 22 as well.

Phone the office asap to book your appointment. Remember that we'd like your student/s to participate in PTI's if possible (there would also be opportunity for parents to talk privately with teachers if they wish).

If you are unable to attend PTI night, teachers are happy to make arrangements to meet another time if necessary.



Upcoming Events

Nov.7, 10:30am

VCS gym

Juan Warkentin Presentation

Nov.7

VCS

Quebec Trip Meeting

Nov.8, 1:10pm

VCS gym

Remembrance Day Service

Nov.9 - CSW

Nov.12 – Stat Holiday, no school

Nov.16

Report Cards Issued

Nov.21, 4pm

VCS

Parent Teacher Interviews

Phone to set up appointments beginning at 4pm

Nov.20, 9am

Valhalla Room

VSF Board Meeting

Nov.23 – Day off in Lieu, no school

Nov.30 - CSW

AISI UPDATE!

Important new information about our new AISI project is attached to this newsletter!



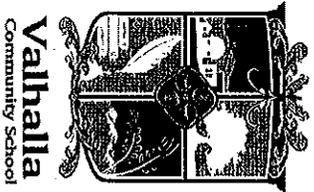
Check it out!

Bus Drivers' Corner

COLD WEATHER

All students riding on school buses must wear, which is preferable, or carry with them, proper clothing appropriate for the weather conditions. If a student is not wearing, or does not have in their possession, appropriate clothing suitable for the weather conditions, the bus driver shall advise the parent, principal and document the discussion. In a situation that the Principal determines to be of significant risk to the student, he/she may decide to keep the student at the school until they have appropriate clothing or the parent picks them up.

Please note the attachment regarding bus cancellation procedures.



Valhalla Community School

Telephone: 780 356 2370 Fax: 780 356 2789
 Box 143, Valhalla Centre, AB T0H 3M0

November 2012

John Picard, Superintendent
 Linda Appleby, Sect'y Tres
 Steve Munnert, Principal
 Anna Odd, Admin Asst
 Reanna Stockman, Gr. K & TA
 Cindy Munnert, Gr. K, 1/2 & French
 Jennifer LeBlanc, Gr. 3/4
 Vivian Fowler, Gr. 5/6
 Margo Steele, Gr. 7/8
 Kelli Flint, Gr. 9
 John Heikel, Gr.5/6 LA 7-9 Science
 Frieda Bratland, TA
 Lorraine Gerow, TA
 Laura Wade, TA
 Angie Tetrau, TA

Director of Transportation
 Doug Koehendorfer
 356-2114 Residence
 831-5701 Cell Phone
 Bus Drivers:
 Jason Bratland 814-1058
 Vicki Leman
 354-8881 / 402-1385
 Pat Mountray
 356-2372 / 831-9150
 Janelle Trodd
 830-9943

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Early Dismissal Every Monday @ 3:10pm					
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
			Operation Christmas Child Presentation 10:30Am	Remembrance Day Ceremony 1:10pm	CSW	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Remembrance Day	Remembrance Day Holiday No School				Report Cards Issued	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		School Board Meeting	Parent Teacher Interviews		Day off/lieu of PTI	
25	26	27	28	29	30	Kindergarten days - Every Tuesday and Thursday
		Boys Basketball Tryouts			CSW	

Nov. 5, 2012

Dear Parents,

We are starting a new AISI project! AISI stands for “Alberta Initiative for School Improvement”. It’s an Alberta Learning initiative, and every school in the province develops a project that they engage in for a 3 year cycle. We are now into Cycle 5, and Valhalla Community Charter School has chosen to participate in a software project called “Simply Smarter” developed by the National Association for Child Development (NACD).

Here is a message from Simply Smarter to help you understand what the project is all about.

How many distinct pieces of information can you hear or see, understand, hold in your mind, and use to carry out an action? For example, a two-year-old child should be able to follow a two-step direction (such as “touch your nose and your tummy”) after hearing it only one time. A five-year-old should be able to follow a five-step direction. And, as an adult, you should be able to read or hear at least seven or more instructions and follow them correctly. But no matter how many you can absorb and process currently, you can develop your brain so that it can process more, and doing so can have a profound impact on your quality of life.

How well we think is largely a question of how many pieces of information we can take in and manipulate in our minds. There are two primary ways we take in information: one is by auditory input (hearing), and the other is by visual input (seeing). Once we take in the information, there are only two ways to manage or manipulate the information - or, if you will, to *think* about it. One way is to *conceptualize* the pieces of information, which means to think about them in words. The other way is to *visualize* – to think about the pieces of information in pictures.

Since hearing and seeing are the two primary ways we take in information, and conceptualizing and visualizing are the two ways we manipulate and use information, it stands to reason that these four functions – *hearing, seeing, conceptualizing, and visualizing* - are vitally important. If you have a problem with one or more of these functions, then your ability to think, learn, and communicate will be affected. And, if you restore and develop these functions, you will enhance and improve your ability to think, learn, and communicate. The fact is you are smarter than you think you are. Everyone possesses innate intelligence of vast potential. The *access to* that innate intelligence, however, is limited by the brain’s ability to process information sequentially.

Use Simply Smarter to unlock the unlimited potential of your innate intelligence, and see for yourself -- You are smarter than you think you are!

All students from grades 3 to 9 have completed a Baseline Activity using laptops. The grade 3/4 class will soon begin to log in every day to the online project and do activities to improve their sequential processing skills. Grades K-2 will do activities with their teachers in small groups to participate. For grades 5-9, participation in the Simply Smarter Project is optional, and will involve online computer activities done in the home. The teachers will be able to access information about each home-based participant and will give weekly awards for participation in the program. If students do enroll, it is critical that they commit to doing the exercises regularly. The school will pay the subscription for all students signing up.

We are very excited about the potential benefits for our students and staff as a result of this project and greatly encourage you to consider enrolling your gr.5-9 student. In fact, Valhalla Community Charter School is inviting all parents and community members to enroll as well! NACD will collect the confidential data and make it available to us to report to Alberta Learning each year. Let's see if we can make the 'Best School in Alberta' even better!

Sincerely,

Cindy Mumert

AISI Coordinator

Date_____

This is to certify that I am enrolling my child in the Simply Smarter Project under Valhalla Community School.

I understand that the school will pay the fee to NACD for the school year. I commit to regular participation in the online project at home.

Name of student_____Grade_____

Name of student_____Grade_____

Name of student_____Grade_____

Signature of parent_____

