

In an effort to improve communication between school and home, VCS is continuing 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.

**Mrs. Stockman:**

The month of September flew by! Your children have been busy getting used to our daily routine and are adapting well. September classes were filled with learning about why we have rules as well as the changes taking place this time of year. Your children have been working very hard learning to print their names. Please ensure that you give time for your child to practice this on the days they are not in school, ensuring proper letter formation and only using a capital letter for the first letter. They are all off to a great start and I am pleased with their progress.

**Mr. Heikel:**

In Elementary social we currently have been focusing on maps and geography that correspond to the various topics.

Grade 1/2, our community home and the continents.

Grade 3/4, the province of Alberta its cities and regions

Grade 5/6, the Mediterranean and ancient Greece

Junior high has been looking at the government of Canada its divisions and how they work.

In Science, 1/2 class is currently working on a light unit, 3/4 class is investigating waste, garbage and recycling. The Junior high class has been learning about plant and animal genetics.

**Mrs. Mumert:**

We are having an awesome start in our Reading Mastery! This is the second year that the entire class of grade 2's are starting all together in the Green textbook. We are taking our first Fluency Test and Mastery Test this week. The grade one's are divided into 3 reading groups; all students are doing great work on their daily worksheets.

There is no spelling test this week because we returned to school on a Tuesday. On Friday we will print the spelling words for the following week so you have the weekend to study as well. I hope this will be helpful. ☺

In French we are reviewing our numbers to 10, colours, days of the week and months of the year. We will have an individual oral quiz soon on saying the letters of the French alphabet from flashcards. We are singing songs to learn these concepts and hear authentic speakers. Check out this link!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=thlqJsbqVDQ>

Because of all the books your children are reading at home, we have had three ‘TREAT’ classes in which we are watching ‘Finding Nemo’ in the French Language with English subtitles. They are hearing many words they know, it’s so wonderful to see!

### **Mrs. Flint:**

Hello parents. I just want to start by saying that I’m very excited about this upcoming year in math. We’ve had an excellent start-up and the students are right into our routines and enthusiastic to learn and be successful.

Grade 3-4’s have completed our first mini unit in patterns and algebra and have written their first test, which they did amazing. Now we are in the long number sense unit.

Grade 5-6’s are on lesson 16 in Saxon Math and have written two tests so far. Hopefully they are bringing them home for you to sign!

Grade 7-9’s are on lesson 18 in Saxon Math and have also wrote two tests. I’m very proud of all the junior high students for their positive cooperation and patience and maturity towards me teaching 2 separate lessons in each class. They are handling this routine with great respect. THANKYOU! ☺

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me by phone or email.

### **Mr. Mumert:**

We’re just nicely back into school and Thanksgiving has already come and gone! I’m very excited to have the opportunity to be back teaching Language Arts in the Junior High Grades! Each student should have brought home a course outline that shows the requirements and activities for this year’s language arts program. It also contained a breakdown of how grades will be determined for Language Arts this year.

These first weeks have largely been taken up with beginning year introductory activities. We've done baseline assignments which while not for marks, are designed to assess student skills in several areas at the beginning of the year. With these baselines in place, it will be easier to measure student growth in skills and knowledge through the year.

We're also at the point where initial classroom assignments are beginning to be completed. Students have done a simple memory assignment for Term One. (Ask them to recite "We Too Cool" by Gwendolyn Brooks to you!). They also recently completed a couple of summarizing assignments to hone their skill in identifying key ideas and paraphrasing. Their first monthly book report is in the bag as of September 29! You can be a big support for your child by monitoring their ongoing reading for the monthly book report. If they get behind on this, it can be difficult to catch up! A new novel must be read each month, and finished early enough for students to complete a book report assignment on it by the last school day of each month - excepting for December and June.

Looking ahead, the class is just beginning new units: grade 7 - "Find the Courage", grade 8/9 - "All That I Am". Reading selections have a personal focus and encourage personal reflection and growth. Some focal areas for the units include: writing descriptive paragraphs, use of imagery and symbolism, analyzing character, point of view, developing work plans and study strategies.

Students who work hard in LA will do well. I've advised them that effort is a large part of success. They will also need to work to follow instructions closely. Many assignments are marked with rubrics which the students are given in advance. This allows for personal style, but does require that students address or include all parts asked for by the rubric. In general, Junior High LA marks in Term One reflect that the students are early on in learning what expectations are for the year and expectation is that marks will rise as the year progresses.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, concerns, or just want to chat!

### **Ms. Fowler:**

Grade 3-6 are working hard in Language Arts. We are working on vocabulary, spelling, writing and reading stories every day. Students have a workbook, scribbler and 2 textbooks. When your child is away we are all busy working. We try to do a lesson every day. I encourage you to ask your child to retell the story that they are reading. They also should be bringing home a workbook page that reviews vocabulary and the story they are reading. Please talk to your child and practice these pages. If your child has been away they need to be reading and doing lessons at home. I regularly ask students to share their work; please have your child share their work and encourage them to fix errors.

Grade 3-6 are correcting sentences in their agenda most mornings. Please note your child's efforts and sign their agenda daily. Thanks for communicating through the agenda!

**Ms. Lewis:**

Bonjour!

The Grade 5/6 French class, we have been working on and reviewing greetings/salutations, days of the week, months of the year, numbers, and are completing French workbooks. For the month of October students can expect to learn about the weather, articles, masculine/feminine, numbers, new verbs (singular vs. plural). It is very important that students are coming prepared with all that they need for each class. This includes their binder, booklets that they may need for the lesson and paper to write notes on. This class will move quickly and if they miss notes, handouts, and instruction on certain concepts they will have to come to me on their own time to catch up. In my classes I have “while you were away” folders that all students, if they were away, are to check in case they missed something, upon their return.

For the last month, in the Grade 7-9 French class, we have been working on and reviewing greetings/salutations, days of the week, months of the year, numbers, and are completing French workbooks, while working on our classroom app, Duolingo. If you are not familiar with Duolingo please have your child show you how it works. Students are expected to work on it every day that they have class and may be assigned quizzes and work from it at home. I do realize that not everyone has internet at home and I am more than willing to make an accommodation for those that don't, just please contact me with your concern as soon as possible.

For the months of October and November students can expect to learn about different sports/activities, verbs that are irregular and regular, grammar, negatives, directions, different marine life, technology and internet, and alphabet phonetics. It is very important that students are coming prepared with all that they need for each class. This includes a Google chrome book/cell phone (use is only permitted during Duolingo time), booklets that they may need for the lesson, and paper to write notes on. This class will move quickly and if they miss notes, handouts, and instruction on certain concepts they will have to come to me on their own time to catch up. In my classes I have “while you were away” folders that all students, if they were away, are to check in case they missed something, upon their return.

If you have any questions or concerns at any time, please do not hesitate to contact me by email ([ttorielewis@gmail.com](mailto:ttorielewis@gmail.com)), or by phone (780-356-2370), during lunch time or after school.

Merci Beaucoup!

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

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