

November 29, 2011

Valhalla Community School

Christmas Season Approaching!

It's hard to believe, but the Christmas season is upon us already!

VCS students are already hard at work learning and practicing parts and music for the annual Christmas concert. Only two weeks to go until performance!

A busy schedule of activity is underway. Drama club is continuing weekly practices on Wednesdays after school. They still need to find costuming and props for their production of "The Wizard of Oz".

Teachers are asking parents for help with this. The concert will run on December 13 at 1:30pm (dress rehearsal) and 7:00pm. Both performances are open to the public. December 14 is a backup date, should the concert have to be postponed due to road or weather conditions on December 13.

The last day of classes for VCS is December 15. **That afternoon Parent Council will be hosting a school community potluck dinner for students, staff and parents. Please join us.** Students will also have a Christmas Sock Hop that same afternoon.

Ministry Seeks Input

Alberta Education is seeking input from teachers, parents and students regarding changes to the Education Act.



Meetings are being held (the closest to us in Peace River on Dec.9) to gather input. The Minister of Education would like us to send 2 teachers, 1 TA, 5 students and 1 parent chaperone.

Please see the attached letter from the Minister. If you are interested in attending please let the school office know.

ECS Field Trip

Kindergarten and Playschool students are heading out for a field trip on November 30. This field trip is an enhancement to the Social Studies Curriculum topic "Community Helpers" and is for those **students in grade K and Playschool**. We are touring the Fire Department, the EMS Building, the Post Office and the RCMP station to learn about how they keep us safe and work in the community. We need two parent volunteers for this field trip to ride the bus with us. (One **Kindergarten** parent and one **Playschool** parent). If you have any questions please contact the office at 780 356-2370.

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Attachments:

December calendar
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Drop In Volleyball

Drop in Adult Volleyball at VCS on Tuesday evenings from 7-9pm. Come out for an evening of fun! Contact Leah Schuller @ 780 518-2507

Upcoming Event

Nov.29
VCS gym
Girls' Basketball tryouts

Nov. 30 – Dec.8
Leisure Centre, GP
Round 2 Swim Lessons
Grades 1 – 4

Nov.30
Kindergarten Field Trip
"Community Helpers"

Dec.5
6:30pm, VCS
Parent Council Meeting

Dec.13
1:30pm, 7pm, VCS Gym
VCS Christmas Concert

Dec.14
VCS Christmas Concert Alternate
Date

Dec.15, 9am-12noon
VSF Board Meeting

Dec.15
VCS Christmas Celebration
Potluck Dinner, Christmas Dance

Swimming Lessons

This year's second round of swimming lessons will be held from November 30 to December 8. This round is for grades 1-4.

Students will leave VCS at 10am. Their swimming lesson runs from 11am-12noon. They will leave GP to return to VCS at 12:15pm and should arrive back at school by 1:15pm.

Basketball to Begin!

Boys' tryouts were held on Thursday, November 24. Girls' tryouts are set for today, November 29 after school and will run until 5:15pm. Practice will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays



After School Drama Club! Wednesdays after school

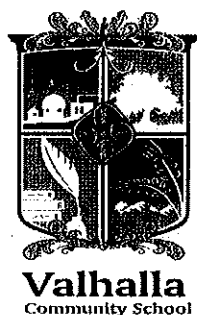
Drama club is seeking any costume items that could be used for our Wizard of Oz production coming up in December. The cast of characters are: Dorothy, Scarecrow, Tin Man, Lion, Glinda the Good Witch, The Wicked Witch of the West, Toto, Munchkins, and Trees. If you have any items that could be used as costumes, or if you have any interest in helping create props or set pieces to be used in the play, please contact Mrs. LeBlanc at the school.

Bus Drivers' Corner

All students and parents please take note! Colder weather is coming!

Parents must ensure all students are dressed appropriately for the weather at all times. All students riding on school buses during winter months shall be required to wear winter footwear and outerwear and to carry with them winter headwear and gloves or mitts from November 1 to March 31. In those cases where students are not appropriately attired for winter conditions, the bus driver shall advise the parent and Principal.

(Student-parent information handbook-2011-2012)



Valhalla Community School

Telephone: 780 356 2370 Fax: 780 356 2789
 Box 143, Valhalla Centre, AB ToH 3Mo

DECEMBER 2011

Ray Battochio, Sup't
 Mary Ann Westad, Sect'y Tres
 Steve Mumert, Principal
 Anna Odd, Admin Asst
 Reanna Stockman, Gr. K & TA
 Cindy Mumert, Gr. K, 1/2 & French
 Jennifer LeBlanc, Gr 3/4
 Vivian Fowler, Gr 5/6
 Margo Stuerenagel, Gr. 7/8
 Kelli Flint, Gr. 9
 John Heikel, Gr.5/6 LA 7-9 Science
 Judy Hauger, TA
 Frieda Bratland, TA
 Jennifer, White, TA

Director of Transportation
 Doug Kochendorfer
 780-356-2114 Residence
 780-831-5701 Cell Phone
 Bus Drivers:
 Jason Bratland 814-1058
 Vicki Leman
 356-2521 / 402-1385
 Pat Moutray
 356-2372 / 831-9150
 Janelle Trodd
 356-3037 / 830 -9943

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Swimming Lessons Gr 1,2,3,4	2 CSW	3
4	5 Early Dismissal Staff Meeting Swimming	6 Assembly Swimming Les- sons gr 1,2,3,4	7 Swimming Lessons Gr 1,2,3,4	8 Swimming Lessons Gr 1,2,3,4	9	10
11	12	13 Christmas Concert 1:30 & 7pm	14 Christmas Concert Al- ternate Date	15 Sock Hop & Potluck	16 CSW Holidays Begin	17 Christmas Break
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		HAPPY HOLIDAYS				
25 	26	27	28	29	30	31 Happy New Years
		HAPPY HOLIDAYS				

To: Interested Members of the Public

As the new Minister of Education, I want to provide you with the opportunity to share your views about education in Alberta. Since the introduction of the proposed Education Act in April 2011, much has changed. Our government has made a renewed commitment to the education system, and it is important to confirm that we are indeed moving in a direction that reflects the desires and wishes of Albertans.

On November 15, I announced the opportunity for public input as we begin to review the proposed Education Act. The first component is a series of seven full-day meetings, called ***Our Children, Our Future: Getting It Right***, scheduled for late November and early December 2011.

The new Education Act must support and sustain learning environments in which students can thrive through flexible, personalized learning. By opening discussion to the public, especially to students, we can ensure this legislation reflects Albertans' vision for their education system and that it has a direct and positive impact on Alberta classrooms now and for years to come.

Many of the ideas emphasized in the earlier draft will likely carry forward because it:

- enables school boards to be more responsive to local needs;
- engages students from Kindergarten to graduation;
- better supports inclusion of learners with differing needs, cultures and abilities; and
- ensures that schools are caring, respectful and safe environments all remain important priorities for this government.

I invite you to attend one of the scheduled meetings identified below. I also ask you to encourage participation among others in your community for whom the meetings would be a new experience by passing along this information.

We have invited community leaders and education authorities to attend the meetings, however, the vast majority of registrations are being held for students, parents, teachers and others who have a broad interest in education – as learners, as taxpayers and as future employers.

The meeting dates are as follows:

Date	Location
Saturday, November 26	Edmonton
Tuesday, November 29	Red Deer
Thursday, December 1	Calgary
Saturday, December 3	Bonnyville
Monday, December 5	Lethbridge
Wednesday, December 7	Fort McMurray
Friday, December 9	Peace River

For more information, and to register, please follow this link: <http://ideas.education.alberta.ca/engage/current-initiatives/education-act-getting-it-right>. Following submission of registration, participants will receive a confirmation. This will include venue information and pre-meeting reading materials.

While space is limited and preregistration is required, those who are unable to participate in a community meeting will also have other channels for submitting their thoughts on the future of education in Alberta. We expect to have online options ready in a little over a week and will ensure Albertans are aware of how to provide us with their input. Of course, I also welcome traditional forms of communication, such as letters and emails.

If you have any questions, please contact the project team by email at Engage.Education@gov.ab.ca or by phone at [780-422-1484](tel:780-422-1484) (dial [310-0000](tel:310-0000) first for toll-free access in Alberta).

Thank you for your interest as we continue this important work on behalf of education in Alberta. Your input will be considered as we work toward reintroducing the Education Act in spring 2012.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Lukaszuk

Minister of Education

MLA, Edmonton – Castle Downs



Bus Drivers Corner

For safety concerns, parents please remember not to park in the bus lanes or along the south fence between the hours of 8 to 9 AM and 3 to 4 PM.

Thank you!



Something to Say 2011



Designed for members 13-16 years old interested in developing their communication skills and giving back to their club by sharing their newly acquired skills with their club. Session topics are: impromptu, public speaking, presentations and the importance of public speaking. This program is also packed full of hilarious good times and lively games and activities.

Date: December 10

Place: Grande Prairie

Cost: \$15

Time: Registration - 8:45-9:15

Pick-up - 5:30 PM



Please register by mailing this form and payment to:
Box 159
Fairview, AB T0H 1L0

Forms may also be faxed to 780-835-3600, but payment must be received before registration is complete.

Should you have any questions, call the Regional Office (dial 310-000 then 780-835-7537) or email alexia.hoy@gov.ab.ca.

Please make checks payable to:
"Peace Regional 4-H Council"

Name: _____

Club: _____

Male _____ Female _____ Birth date: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Town or City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Registration Deadline December 2 !