



# VERMILION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS



*Being the Best We Can Be* **December 2021**



**Virtue of The Month**  
*Responsibility*

**School Council**  
**Next Meeting**  
**Tuesday**  
**January 25, 2021**

**Assembly**  
**& Dress Up Day**  
**Tuesday,**  
**December 7, 2021**  
**Plaid or Christmas**  
**Sweater**



**Stay Connected with VES on**  
**our website, Facebook, or**  
**email the principal by clicking**  
**on the following buttons**



Wow, December is here and with that comes all the celebrations for the holiday season. We are super excited to have our virtual concert to share with you in the following weeks. Our students and Ms. King are working hard to bring you some festive singing. We hope you enjoy it all!

Our last school council meeting was an informational one. Parents learned about our new school webpage and how to navigate it. Mr. Beecroft did an excellent job showing parents how to find what they were looking for. Our parents had asked for some resources on digital citizenship and how to help parents support their child with being safe online. There are two resources that we looked at and I encourage you to take a look if you are interested.

1. [Common Sense Media](#): You can find books, movies, and games reviews for children of a variety of ages. It talks about the content, the age level, and both the positive and negative aspects of each movie, book or game. You can also see what parents and children are saying about the movie, book or game. Parents can search movies, books, and games prior to using them with their child.
2. [Common Sense Media Youtube Channel](#): Here you will find videos relating to reviews about games, movies, and books. You can also find some parenting videos about how to talk to your child about technology use. There are a variety of webinars and parent videos around questions about technology use, safety and conversations with your child.

If you have any questions about these two resources, please feel free to reach out to us.

We would love to have more parents join us for our school council meetings. If you have topics that you would like to learn about at a school council meeting, please let us know and we can ensure we bring that learning to you.

We wish you a happy holiday season and hope you enjoy the time with your family! Thank you for tremendous support this school year. We are truly fortunate to have each and everyone of you in our school family.

Sheila Doherty

Acting Principal/Inclusive Learning Coordinator

## Vermilion Elementary School Mission Statement:

*Within a safe and nurturing community, we at Vermilion Elementary School, will foster personal and academic excellence, while treating each other with dignity and respect.*

*As a team, we will be the best we can be.*

IMPORTANT

## PICK-UP/DROP-OFF COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

### Parents/Guardians/Caregivers/Visitors Entering the School

All visitors to the school must wear a mask, use proper hand hygiene upon entering, and complete the BTPS [daily screening app](#). Visitors, students or staff who feel ill or have symptoms of COVID-19 cannot enter the school.

**As you enter the building through the main entrance ONLY, you will follow the visitor protocol outlined here.**

- **Complete the BTPS COVID-19 app on the ipad provided or use your own device to complete the app. To open the app, scan the QR code with your device camera.**
- **Sanitize your hands with the provided sanitizer.**
- **Sanitize the IPAD after use with the provided wipes.**
- **Wear a mask at all times in the school.**
- **Please maintain physical distance of 2m from others where possible.**
- **Please follow the directional arrows for travel within the school.**



All visitors, including those coming for Vermilion Play Development and Before/After School Care, **MUST** use the front entrance to enter the building and must follow the visitor instructions in the front entrance. Visitors will exit the building using the closest exit.



## PARKING

Parents and visitors are able to park on 49 Avenue, as well as south of the crosswalk on 44 Street. **Please ensure that you are not parking in front of the school in the bus loading/unloading zone from 8:00-9:30 am and from 2:30-4:00 pm.** We ask that parents & visitors also refrain from parking in the staff parking lot as this is reserved for staff members and for safety reasons students may not be dropped off or picked up in the parking lot.



## STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Parents and caregivers must access their children daily for symptoms of cold, influenza, COVID-19, or other infectious respiratory disease before sending them to school. Anyone showing symptoms listed on the Alberta Health Daily [Checklist](#) must remain home.

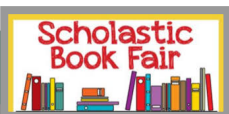
If your child is going to be absent/late, even if buses are not running please let your child's teacher know or call the office to notify us. If you have not contacted the school office or teacher to inform us if your child will be absent/late, we will call you to ensure your child is safe. Please note if you are emailing a teacher during the school day, they may not always get them in time to avoid a call from the automated system.



## CHRISTMAS CONCERT SCHEDULES

Here is a schedule of your child's performance day in case you would like your child to wear something specific that day. Students are not expected to dress up fancy, but we wanted to give those an opportunity to do so if they wish.

Class	Performance
KA	Dec 15
KB	Dec 14
1A	Dec 9
1B	Dec 8
2	Dec 13
2/3	Dec 10
3	Dec 14
4	Dec 14
4/5	Dec 16
5	Dec 14
6A	Dec 15
6B	Dec 15



## SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Thank you to everyone for supporting our Virtual Book Fair. The proceeds of this fundraiser go directly towards our Learning Commons for new books and author visits. It will be exciting for students to see all the new books!

Our A/R Wall of Fame is looking great! Students who have reached their 1/2 year goal, get their picture on the Wall of Fame. All students who reach their year end goal prior to January 31st, get the reward to order a new book for our Learning Commons! Thank you to the Vermilion Credit Union for their donation to our school which makes this reward possible.



## COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Vermilion Elementary School-Wide Community Connection Projects focusing on "Together we are better" are happening each month. More than ever before our school wants to connect with our community. Community Connection gives us the opportunity to learn about making a difference. These projects also give students authentic experiences learning about our virtues. When we were raising money for the Ice Plant, we learned about goal setting, responsibility, and citizenship. We were pleased to surpass our goal of raising \$300 to help with a community facility that many of us enjoy in one way or another.



1A Getting active on Jersey Day to support the Ice Plant



Presenting the check to the Vermilion Enhancement Committee



## BASKETBALL CLUB

Due to the current health situation, I am sorry to announce that there will be no Basketball Club for Grades 4-6 this school year. I am very hopeful that we will be able to have Basketball Club again in the 2022-2023 school year.

Mr. Beecroft







## DATES & THEMES

To help you remember, dress up days are on Assembly days. There are a few other seasonal days included below. Have fun and get involved!

<b>December 7</b>	<b>Plaid Day</b>	<b>Christmas Sweater</b>
<b>January 5</b>	<b>Dress to Impress</b>	<b>Career Wear</b>
<b>February 8</b>	<b>All in one colour</b>	<b>Rainbow of colours</b>
<b>March 2</b>	<b>Superhero</b>	<b>Super hero</b>
<b>April 5</b>	<b>Mustache or beard</b>	<b>Crazy socks</b>
<b>May 4</b>	<b>Star Wars</b>	<b>Aliens</b>
<b>June 7</b>	<b>Beach wear</b>	<b>Inside out or backwards</b>



## VES SPIRITWEAR

Looking for VES Spiritwear clothing to wear to show your school pride? Visit the official Vermilion Elementary School shop online at [ves.entripyshops.com](http://ves.entripyshops.com) to place an order. Choose from a variety of products and brands that you can customize with our VES logo! Everything from t-shirts, hoodies, polos, jackets, shorts, pants, hats, toques, and bags. Orders will be shipped directly to you and 10% of sales is donated back to the school!



**\$25.00**



**\$22.00**



**\$13.00**



**\$25.00**



**\$40.00**

**Every Friday is wear VES Spirit Wear or School Colours**

**The Parent-Child Connection**

Connection is our ability to understand what matters to another, respond to their needs, and express our own.

A strong parent-child connection can help lead to better outcomes for children. It takes hard work and persistence, but builds the foundation for every interaction you have.

Connecting with your child motivates positive behavior and helps regulate "big" emotions.

**How To Creatively Build Connections in your Family**

Grow your relationship and get to know each other better!

Have more conversations and use new ideas to start them.

Visit the Search Institute for free downloadable cards:

<https://keepconnected.searchinstitute.org/free-downloads/>

**Connect During the Holidays**

Curl up together as a family and watch a favorite holiday movie.

Make holiday crafts together.

Talk about family traditions.

Plan and cook a meal together as a family.

**Every Day Ways to Connect with your kids**

Even the simple stuff counts!

Go for a walk one-on-one with your child.

Join in their play and let them lead.

Have your child read you a story.

Tell each other jokes.

**MORE RESOURCES**

<https://parentingnow.ca/articles/connection-matters/>

[Keep Connected \(searchinstitute.org\)](https://keepconnected.searchinstitute.org/)

Information on mental health, community supports, programs and services in your area:



Addiction Services Help Line  
1-866-332-2322

Mental Health Help Line  
1-877-303-2642





With so many hilarious Elf on the Shelf scenarios these days, it can be hard to narrow down your choices to only 24. Okay, for lots of us it would be hard to ever possibly think of 24. Either way, at Active for Life we've decided to have a little fun with this elvish tradition and share a few of our favourite active Elf on the Shelf ideas.

Because if there's one thing we know, it's that those crazy elves sure do love to move.

Here are our top 10 favourite active Elf on the ideas (be sure to scroll down on some of these pages to find the image :)

1. [Flour snow angels](#)
2. [Swinging on a toilet paper roll](#)
3. [Snowball fight with Buzz Lightyear](#)
4. [Sledding](#)
5. [Skating](#)
6. [Potato sack race](#)
7. [Gymnastics](#)
8. [Ziplining](#)
9. [Bowling](#)
10. [Ballet](#)

Maybe that silly elf will even inspire your family to be a bit more active this holiday season, too. We're pretty sure that extra activity would encourage some positive reports back to the North Pole, after all.





## HOT LUNCH

# VES Hot Lunch Fundraiser

Need a holiday gift idea?

Our community is facing challenging times again this holiday season. The VES Hot Lunch Program continues to ensure all students have access to hot, healthy lunches no matter their family's financial circumstances.

Because of COVID safety, we have been pre-packaging meals so that they stay hot while being delivered to classrooms. This has come at additional operating costs for our program. We are committed to providing affordable lunch options for families, so we have decided not to increase the cost of our meals.

**From now until January, we are offering Holiday Gift Certificates sponsoring a VES student's Hot Lunch for \$25 (five meals), \$50 (eleven meals), or \$100 (twenty-two meals).** Please consider supporting our VES family by giving the gift of healthy lunch so we can continue to Be the Best We Can Be!



If you are interested in purchasing a certificate, please contact [kirstenburns14@gmail.com](mailto:kirstenburns14@gmail.com) to make arrangements. Holiday certificates will be emailed to you upon purchase. Charitable receipts available for donations over \$50 if requested.

Sincerely,

Kirsten Burns  
Fundraising Coordinator  
VES Lunch Program Society





## FROM THE BUS LANE

# STUDENT SAFETY IS OUR GOAL!

- All students and drivers are required to wear a mask. Students will not be allowed on the bus without a mask.
- Seating Plans: There will be seating plans on the bus, however this year, the first one on the bus does not have to load at the back of the bus.
- Buses will be cleaned after each bus run.
- Food/Drinks are not permitted at this time.

### BUS FEE PAYMENTS:

Parents and guardians can now pay their bus fees online. Go to your school website, Parents tab, Pay Fees. You will need your child's Alberta Student Number to make the payment. It can be found on the invoice. For assistance please email [transportation@btps.ca](mailto:transportation@btps.ca). We also accept e-transfers. The email is [vivian.locher@btps.ca](mailto:vivian.locher@btps.ca), and in the message include: school name, child's name, bus route number and bussing service you are paying for (i.e. Vermilion Intown, Wainwright Intown, Yard Service, etc.).

### PROPER WINTER ATTIRE:

Regardless of the temperature, students should always wear or carry with them appropriate winter attire when riding the school bus.

### BUS DRIVER NOTIFICATION:

When the weather is cold it is very important that you let your bus driver know that you will or will not be on the bus so they can adjust their stop times so students are not waiting longer than necessary at their bus stop.



### BUS STATUS APP:

Buffalo Trail Public Schools launched their new website [www.btps.ca](http://www.btps.ca) in October. With the new website comes the Bus Status App that allows parents to subscribe to their child(ren)'s school bus route. The division will use the Bus Status App to alert parents when a bus is delayed or cancelled. Bus drivers will continue to notify families of bus cancellations, but this will aid in the communication process to ensure no one gets missed. You can download the new Bus Status App by Box Clever on your smart phone or device.

< Search



**Bus Status**  
Box Clever

Tap on "All Buses" to find and star the buses you want to receive status notifications for. Then select the district in the lower right corner and select "Buffalo Trail Public Schools".  To choose your bus route to get notifications and status alerts, select the bottom middle icon "All Buses" on the main page. Then you can search for your bus route number or driver's name to find your child's bus route. Click on your child's bus route and the star should turn white.  You have now selected your bus route. When there is a change in that bus route's status you will be notified by an alert on the BUS STATUS APP. Please email [transportation@btps.ca](mailto:transportation@btps.ca) if you have any problems with the process.



*December 11th, 2021*

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# VERMILION WINTERFEST

**PROCEEDS WILL GO TO OUR LOCAL HIGH  
SCHOOL JR ROBSON**

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Events include:

Snowman Making Contest  
Family Winter Pictures  
Cookies & Candy Canes  
Hot Chocolate  
Snow Painting



Door prize sponsored by VIBE and the Wellness Coalition



Located at the Vermilion Provincial Park @1:00pm-3:00 pm

The event is held by Believe Leadership Club

It is free to come and donations are encouraged







# Vermilion Elementary School

*Being the Best We Can Be*

December 2021

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 School Assembly 9:30 am  <b>Dress Up Plaid or Christmas Sweater</b>	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 Pajama Day 	18
19	20 Christmas Break <b>No School</b>	21 Christmas Break <b>No School</b>	22 Christmas Break <b>No School</b>	23 Christmas Break <b>No School</b>	24 Christmas Break <b>No School</b>	25
26	27 Christmas Break <b>No School</b>	28 Christmas Break <b>No School</b>	29 Christmas Break <b>No School</b>	30 Christmas Break <b>No School</b>	31 Christmas Break <b>No School</b>	1
2	3 	4	5 School Assembly 9:30 am  <b>Dress Up To Impress or Career Wear</b>	6	7	