



Vernon River Consolidated School
Parent Newsletter #1 – Tuesday, September 12th, 2023

www.gov.pe.ca/edu/vrcs

Phone: 902-651-8520

David Wood, Principal

Lori Targett, Vice-Principal

Welcome Back: Welcome back to another school year! We are excited to start the school year and welcome our kindergarten students, new and returning students and staff. We encourage all parents to become involved with our school, and to maintain open communication with your son or daughter's teachers!

Student Allergies (Update): This year we do not have any students at VRCS with life-threatening allergies; therefore, all foods are permitted.

Staffing Update: Welcome to the following new staff members:

Natalie Boyle (Grade 3)
Nelson MacAulay (Grade 7)
Emma Spence (Grade 8 science)
Ashley Hughes (Educational Assistant)
Juanita Bradley (Educational Assistant)
Sherrel Shaw (Evening Custodian)
Kerry MacPhee (Day Custodian – will be replacing Shannon Harding who is on maternity leave)



Thank You: A huge thank you to our custodial staff for all of their work over the summer getting the school ready for students and staff. The school looks amazing! We appreciate your effort and hard work - **thank you!**



Attendance: To allow teachers to keep up-to-date attendance in PowerSchool, we require parents to please notify the school when their child will not be in school. Parents may send an email to your child's teacher, call the school (651-8520) or send an email to Helen hencisaac@edu.pe.ca

Student Drop Off: Reminder that students should not be dropped off prior to 8:20am since no supervision is provided before that time. When students are dropped off, they are to wait in the front lobby until they are permitted into the classroom area.

Student Pick Up: If you need to pick up your child(ren) before the end of the day, please send a note. However, please come into the school to notify us that you are here and ready to pick up your child. Helen will then page your child to come to the front lobby. A note is also required if you are picking your child(ren) up at the end of the day.

Again this year, bus passes will be granted to students to travel on alternate buses for child care purposes only.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this, please email Mr. Wood dawood@edu.pe.ca or Ms. Targett at latargett@edu.pe.ca

School Schedule: Buses and students arrive at 8:35am. A morning bell will ring at 8:40am followed by O’Canada and morning announcements. At 8:45am all regular classes will begin. Please note: The school day begins 10 minutes earlier this year. We will be operating on a six day cycle for both elementary and junior high.

Elementary Schedule

8:35 -8:45	Homeroom
8:45-9:15	Period 1
9:15-9:45	Period 2
9:45-10:15	Period 3
10:15-10:30	Snack
10:30-11:00	Period 4
11:00-11:30	Period 5
11:35-12:00	Outside/Break
12:00-12:25	Lunch
12:25-12:55	Period 6
12:55-1:25	Period 7
1:25-1:45	Outside/Break (K to 6 only)
1:45-2:15	Period 8
2:15-2:45	Period 9
2:55	Dismissal Bell

Intermediate Schedule

8:35-8:45	Homeroom
8:45-9:45	Period 1
9:45-10:45	Period 2
10:45-11:45	Period 3
11:45-12:00	Lunch
12:00-12:25	Outside/Break
12:25-1:25	Period 4
1:25-2:25	Period 5
2:25 -2:45	Homeroom
2:55	Dismissal Bell

End of the Day (Bicycles): At the end of the day, students with bicycles cannot leave until the buses are dismissed and out of the parking lot. They must also supply a note (one note will do at the beginning of the year) advising their teacher that they will be taking their bicycles to and from school.

Bus Information: The following is a list of buses at Vernon River Consolidated School:

Bus #402	Mary O'Donnell
Bus #425	Judy McIsaac
Bus #431	Daniel Roper
Bus #444	Johanne Ings



Please note: Due to some challenges with getting the buses to school on time, the Public Schools Branch is looking into making some changes to our bus routes. More information to follow.



School Newsletters: School newsletters, calendars and any other notices will be emailed to the address provided by parents. These will also be posted to the school’s website (www.gov.pe.ca/edu/vrcs).

Milk: White and chocolate milk will be available each day, in both the small and large sizes. It would be greatly appreciated if parents could send in the exact change for milk – no large bills please – thank you!



White: (Small) 237 ml - 50 cents
(Large) 473 ml - 80 cents

Chocolate: (Small) 237 ml - \$1.00*
(Large) 473 ml - \$1.50*

Please note change in price for chocolate milk this year.

Free Small White Milk for Kindergarten Students (September 11th to 28th): Dairy Farmers of PEI, on behalf of the PEI School Milk Foundation, is extremely excited to provide new kindergarten students with free access to white milk for three straight weeks beginning Monday, September 11th. This initiative is designed to welcome students to school with easy access to nutritional products, educate new parents on the School Milk Foundation and its benefit to Island schools, and inform them on how they can purchase milk for their child at their respective school following the end of the initiative.

If you have any questions regarding Dairy Farmers of PEI and the PEI School Milk Foundation, please contact Aidan Northcott, DFPEI Marketing Coordinator, at anorthcott@dfpei.pe.ca or 902-892-5331.

Ice Cream: Ice cream products will be sold every Thursday, **starting September 21st** – \$1.50* per item. This is a fundraiser for the grade 9 end of year activities. If possible, please send a spoon with your child if he/she is buying a sundae cup, as no spoons are supplied with these items. *Please note increase in price this year.



Terry Fox Run: On Friday, September 22nd at 2:00pm students and staff at VRCS will be running the perimeter of the school field to recognize and celebrate Terry Fox's efforts in raising money for cancer research. Parents, guardians and members of the community are invited to join us for this important event. Please meet at the lobby prior to the start of the run.

We are asking each student to please bring in a toonie to donate to cancer research, if possible. Thank you for your support!

From the PEI Home and School Federation - Home & School News, September 2023:

Slow down and watch for students on the road

Another school year begins Sept. 7th. Students will be walking, cycling, riding on a bus or in family car to school. It is a strategic time to remind all motorists that with awareness and education, children can get to school and back home again safely.

Update your Local Home and School Contacts

Are you still the President? Treasurer? If not, send current contact info to the Federation office.

Presidents – Submit your local Home and School's contact details using the new Google Form. Click here: [Home and School Association Contacts](#). **Treasurers** - Submit 2023-2024

Membership fees to the PEIHSF office by sending e-transfers to: peihsf@gov.pe.ca

"Meet the Teacher"

"Meet the Teacher" evening sessions are planned for parents to meet their child's teacher at the beginning of the school year. It's an informal opportunity to chat, face-to-face, say hi, to become acquainted with your child's teacher. Find the date on your child's school website.

What is Home and School's role in education?

Experienced facilitators, Vicki Bryanton and Stephen Gould, will lead volunteer training workshops on November 6, 7. Find out how volunteers collaborate with staff in schools. How can we help and support for the benefit of all students! Workshop locations to be announced.

Semi-Annual Meeting

The Semi-Annual meeting will be held Monday, October 23rd, 6:00 PM, Central Queens Elementary School, Hunter River, PEI. Speaker/Presenters will include: Dr. Travis Saunders, UPEI "Screens in schools: simple ways to maximize the benefits and minimize the harms"?; David Schult, Educator "Home and School 101", Dept. Health "Student Health Survey." Parents, educators and students are invited to attend. More info to follow by the end of September.

School Board By-Elections in two Zones

Due to the resignation of a Public Schools Branch Trustee in Zone 7 (Morell Family of Schools), and in the French board, Zone 2, there will be a By-election to fill these vacancies. Residents in these zones will be able to run as a candidate and vote beginning Sept. 5th, 2023. More details will be shared by Elections PEI. For current details, go to: <https://www.electionspei.ca/school-board-trustee-elections>

Healthy School Lunch Program

It's a new school year! Sign up your child for healthy school food meals that will be served daily in schools. \$5.50 per lunch or pay what you can. Donate to pay for another child who cannot afford to pay for a healthy lunch! Register and order at: [Healthy Lunch for Island Kids! | PEI School Food Program](#) / www.peischoolfood.ca

Vernon River Community School: Registration and information night will be held on Monday, September 18th from 7-8 pm.

First Class: Monday, September 25th from 7-9 pm.

Registration Fee: \$20 – additional fees for some classes.

Closing date: November 27th

Courses offered: rug hooking, knitting/embroidery/crocheting, craft night, Texas holdum-poker, kitchen jam party, pickleball, game-a-night, quilting-cathedral window, line dancing, ukulele

For more information contact Geraldine at 902-651-2562, or Betty at bwichers@hotmail.ca

