

Friday December 5, 2025

Hello VM Community,

[Click for translation](#)

Another week in the books here at VM! Can you believe it's December already!? Today was a chilly start to the day. Thank you for sending your child to school dressed for the weather! Jackets, snow pants, boots, hats and mittens or gloves are definitely needed for recess and outdoor learning now that the temperature has dropped!

A full week of festive spirit days coming up!

Monday, December 15th: red plaid clothing day

Tuesday, December 16th: pyjama day

Wednesday, December 17th: holiday headgear day

Thursday, December 19th: tacky/holiday sweater day

Friday, December 19th: cultural celebrations day

Increased incidence of illness

Absence rates have been higher this week - for both students and staff. We will continue to monitor absence numbers closely over the next 2 weeks. Please read this important information from Ottawa Public Health: it provides guidelines around keeping students home when they are not feeling well:

Vincent Massey Gives Back Gift Card Drive

Vincent Massey has a longstanding tradition of giving back during the holiday season. As discussed with School Council, this year we propose the "VM Gives Back" Gift Card Drive.

Focusing on supports for food and living expense insecurity within our own school community, we are asking Vincent Massey families to consider donating gift cards that will be directed to VM families in need. In lieu of gifts for staff, please consider sending in gift cards for Loblaws, Food Basics, Shoppers Drug Mart, and Walmart that will be given to VM families in need.

If you are able to contribute, please send gift cards to school with a post-it note, in an envelope or with a label that says, "Gift Card Drive." If you are comfortable, thank you for including the amount of the gift card. We will distribute the gift cards to families during the last week of school.

We thank you for your interest in helping VM families!

VM Food Drive

Food insecurity in Ottawa is at an all time high this year. Vincent Massey has collected over 500 donations for the Ottawa Food Bank so far! The food drive continues until Friday, December 12th. Remember that monetary donations can be made to the Ottawa Food Bank at this link: [Vincent Massey Food Drive](#) Keep it up VM!

Some of the items in the greatest demand at the moment include: Baby food and cereal, Stage 1 baby formula, Canned chicken and fish, Canned fruit and vegetables, Canned Tomatoes, Diapers, Nut butters, Dry pasta and Pasta sauce

Most Needed Healthy Snacks: Fruit Cups in Water or 100% Fruit Juice, Instant Oatmeal, Unsweetened apple/fruit sauce, Dried Fruit, Whole Grain Cereal Boxes and Whole Grain Granola Bars. Please be sure to check the expiry date before you send items to school for donation.

Willy Wonka Jr. (VM School Musical) Community Update:

Calling all candy makers.... We would like each class to have the opportunity to contribute ART to the musical this year. We are encouraging K-6 classes to create some Willy Wonka Candy that will be on display in the show! In preparation for our set design, we are inviting all classes to make candy props (each grade has been assigned a different candy to focus on - shared with teachers and classes this week!)

We are currently trying to use recyclable materials as much as possible and we are appealing to our VM families to contribute:

- Sturdy wrapping paper tubes (without the wrapping paper)
- Cellophane- type plastic for wrappers (or crinkly shiny plastic)
- Medium-large boxes to be chocolate boxes
- Shiny ribbon (used is great!)
- Old unwanted pool noodles)

(Donations can be sent to Room 212 Madame Anna's room or your child's teacher can help ensure materials are donated!) Thank you so much VM!!

Save the Date:

Primary Winter Concert: December 17

Jr Division Winter Concert is on Thursday, December 18th.

Time: 12:00pm - 1:00pm

Parents are welcomed.

Gifted Classes Visiting Alta Vista Manor

Today the G 5/6/7 and the G 7/8 classes went to the Alta Vista Manor to entertain the residents. There were a variety of performances, such as the students playing instruments, dancing, reciting poetry, singing, and many others. It was a great experience for our students and the residents absolutely loved seeing the student performances and singing along!



Looking For...

The Multicultural Dinner Committee is looking for gently used table cloths that can be used at our annual Spring Multicultural Event. If you have a tablecloth to donate, please send it in with your child and they can give it to their homeroom teacher or take it to the main office.

Thank you for your help and support.

INTERMEDIATE NEWS

Intermediate News

On Tuesday, December 9, Grade 7 and 8 students will participate in some mental health workshops offered through YouthNet. Some classes will have the 'Stressless' workshops while others will have the 'Wellness 101' workshops. Details are below.

YouthNet / RéseauAdo (YNRA) is a bilingual, for youth by youth, mental-health program at CHEO: <https://ynra.ca/>

StressLESS - Learn where stress comes from and how you can ride the waves!

Wellness 101 - Mental health is just as important for our well-being as physical health. The goals for this presentation are for youth to understand mental health, understand the stigma associated with mental health/mental illness, how to notice changes in their mental health and learn where to go to ask for help.

Level Up! Skilled Trades Career Fair:

Some students from Grades 7-8 will have an opportunity to attend the Level Up! Skilled Trades Career Fair happening at the EY Centre on Friday, December 12. Students who are interested in attending will fill out a Google Form. There will then be a draw of names to choose the 42 students who can attend the event.

Level Up! is an opportunity to learn more about the skilled trades as a potential career path. Level Up! Skilled Trades Career Fairs showcase what is available in the skilled trades, while offering hands-on experience of what some of the exciting careers in the skilled trades are like. Level Up! is not specific to one industry and welcomes any student interested in the diverse range of skilled trades professions, regardless of their background.

Grade 8 Trip to Hillcrest High School:

On Tuesday, December 16 Grade 8 students who are in the Hillcrest catchment area will be going to Hillcrest for the afternoon to get a tour of the school, participate in planned activities and ask questions they may have about Hillcrest.

Grade 8 Arts Canterbury Applicants: please check your Google classroom for details of 5 upcoming Virtual Audition/Portfolio Help Sessions!

SCHOOL COUNCIL CORNER

Help us bring back pizza lunches!

We need more volunteers (one volunteer coordinator and two to four parent volunteers per lunch) to bring pizza day back to VM in 2026!

If you can help out, please email the school council team at sc-vincentmasseyps@ocdsb.ca. We hope to meet soon to discuss next steps.

Black Makers' Market

To kick off Black History Month, planning is underway for a Black Makers' Market to be held at the January 30 movie night.

Are you a crafter, an artist, a baker or a creator? Can you help us reach Black families at VM? We'd love to hear from you. Please email sc-vincentmasseyps@ocdsb.ca.

Join your School Council!

Save the date for our next meeting, to be held Tuesday, January 20, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month in the VM library or online via [Google Meet](#). Everyone is welcome! Babysitting is available onsite.

Questions? Please email the school council team at sc-vincentmasseyps@ocdsb.ca

Upcoming Dates

December 22 - January 2, 2026 - Winter Break
January 5 - First Day Back in 2026

Have a wonderful weekend everyone!

Best,

Kristine Klassen, Principal

Glenda Davies, Vice-Principal

Friday November 21, 2025

Hello VM Community,

[Click for translation](#)

A big thank you to EF7A, EF7B and Mr. McKean for organizing the Bus Loop opening event yesterday. It was with great enthusiasm, energy and pride that we welcomed all students, their families and staff to gather at the front of the school for speeches and the ribbon cutting! We were happy to thank neighbours and families for their patience through the transition, and to welcome Councillor Marty Carr, Director of Education Stacey Kay, and Superintendent of Education, Kristin Riddell.

Family/Educator Interviews will take place next week, on Thursday afternoon and Friday morning. Teachers will contact families directly for scheduling. Gentle reminder: there is no school for students on Friday.

Bus Loop Ceremony

Thank you again to the community, staff and students for making the Bus Loop ceremony a moment to remember at VM. It was so great to see all the faces engaged and celebrating the event.

The EF7a/b groups did a wonderful job planning, coordinating and facilitating the event. A big thank you to both Ms. Klassen and Ms. Davies for working with these groups to support them. It is these community events that make VM a real pleasure to work at. (Mr. McKean)

Please note: The school bus loop is for student transportation only. Thank you for parking in the visitor's section in the parking lot or on the side streets.

Here are some highlights:

Breakfast Club - Volunteers Needed

Thank you to everyone who offered to volunteer! Many hands make light work, and our students will benefit from a nutritious breakfast to start their day!

Book Fair

Students will visit the Scholastic Book Fair with their classes next week; [here is the class schedule](#). Picture books, chapter books, graphic novels and non-fiction – we've got it all! Cash and card accepted. The Family Event is Nov. 27 from 3:00-7:30pm. Thank you for your support!

Progress Reports

Progress reports were sent home electronically on Wednesday. You will have received a purple paper in your child's backpack, with their Ontario Education Number (OEN) and instructions to login in to retrieve the report.

OSTA - Message to Parents/Caregivers

Ottawa Student Transportation (OSTA) is developing its next Strategic Plan for 2026-2029, which will guide decisions on student transportation for the coming years.

The strategic plan focuses on enhancing student safety, improving route efficiency, technology, and ensuring a positive student experience. We value your perspective. Broad participation of our prioritization survey ensures the strategic plan aligns with the diverse needs of our community.

Please share your perspective by completing this brief, 5-minute, anonymous survey before Friday, December 12, 2025.

[Please click here to access the survey.](#)

Thank you for your time and contribution.

**Ottawa Student Transportation (OSTA)
1547 Merivale Rd. Suite 300, Ottawa, Ontario K2G 4V3**

Save the Date: Primary Winter Concert: December 17

Lost and Found

Please look carefully at our Lost and Found items:

Any items not retrieved by Wednesday, November 26 will become donations.

All donation items will be available for pick up during Family/Educator interviews on Thursday and Friday. Come by the small gym to collect donations.

INTERMEDIATE NEWS

Intermediate News

Mrs. Shiau, our Intermediate Student Success teacher, has started to visit Intermediate classes to talk about the transition to high school. During her visits, students are learning about:

*different pathway options available to them

*introducing XELLO - the online platform that is used to select courses (this will happen later in the year) and where students are researching various jobs, programs and schools

*showing students how to use the 'School Locator' tool to determine the designated home school for high school.

Here is a document that helps explain the various programs available to students in high school and upcoming high school open houses.

If you have questions, please feel free to reach out to Mrs. Shiau at kim.shiau@ocdsb.ca.

On Tuesday, December 2 and Tuesday, December 9, Grade 7 and 8 students will participate in some mental health workshops offered through YouthNet. Some classes will have the 'Stressless' workshops while others will have the 'Wellness 101' workshops. Details are below.

YouthNet / RéseauAdo (YNRA) is a bilingual, for youth by youth, mental-health program at CHEO. YNRA offers alternative support services for youth aged 13 to 20. They work at reducing the stigma surrounding mental health and illness through prevention and intervention programs, education, research and advocacy.

All of their programs are led by trained youth facilitators. The facilitators are all aged 20 to 30 and are supported by a clinical social worker.

<https://ynra.ca/>

StressLESS - Learn where stress comes from and how you can ride the waves!

Wellness 101 - Mental health is just as important for our well-being as physical health. The goals for this presentation are for youth to understand mental health, understand the stigma associated with mental health/ mental illness, how to notice changes in their mental health and learn where to go to ask for help.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Please see details about the City of Ottawa's Heron Road Youth Night. This is a regular Friday night event, beginning today!

Upcoming Dates

November 25-27 - Scholastic Book Fair in the Library

November 27 & 28 - Parent/Guardian-Teacher Interviews

December 22 - January 2, 2026 - Winter Break

January 5 - First Day Back in 2026

School Council Corner

[Help Us Bring Back Pizza Lunches!](#)

For many years, VM staff have organized weekly pizza lunches. You may have noticed that pizza lunches have not started this year. The work of organizing pizzas for our large school is not sustainable for staff, given their busy schedules.

School Council has been asked to take the lead. We're now exploring whether we have the volunteers and resources to make it happen.

Why Pizza Lunches Matter:

- A break for parents from packing lunches for parents
- A fun treat for students
- Pizza Lunches are a fundraiser for our school! In previous years, pizza has raised thousands of dollars for school programs like Luv2Groove, drama, sports, field trips, equipment, and guest speakers.

Without pizza lunches, School Council may be asked to fund more activities – but we can't match the fundraising power of pizza lunches.

What We Need:

- 1 volunteer coordinator
- 2 to 4 parent volunteers per lunch

Your ideas and opinions. Please take a moment to complete [this survey](#) to let us know if we can count on your support to bring back pizza lunches.

Have a wonderful weekend everyone!

Best,

Kristine Klassen, Principal

Glenda Davies, Vice-Principal

Friday November 14, 2025

Hello VM Community,

[Click for translation](#)

We have had an eventful week at Vincent Massey PS: on Tuesday, all students participated in Remembrance Day commemoration; Wednesday, we opened the bus loop; and Thursday evening and Friday morning we hosted the community for a Q&A/Feedback session about our Blending initiative.

Gentle reminder: Monday is photo retake day

Remembrance Day November 11

We were honoured to welcome Lt. Colonel Caleb Walker (ret.) and Major Patrick Dornan to share their experiences and powerful messages.

As Lt. Colonel Walker (ret.) shared with Kinder and primary students:

“One of the biggest lessons I learned as a soldier is how important it is to be kind and to help each other - just like you might help a friend who falls down or share your snack with someone who forgot theirs. Even small things can make a difference... Remembrance Day is not just about remembering the past - it's also about thinking about the world we want to live in today and tomorrow. A world that is peaceful, kind and safe for everyone.”

Major Dornan spoke to Junior and Intermediate students, focusing on what military service has meant to him. From a generational family of military members, Major Dornan explained their legacy of service and exemplified the many ways that military members have preserved peace for all Canadians. Major Dornan reminded us how important it is to care for others and be responsible to each other as community members.

We were very fortunate to welcome them both on Tuesday. These special events will provide an opportunity for our students to reflect on the sacrifices made by those who have served, and continue to serve, in the military.

Thanks to Ms. Snowden, the orchestra, class performers, and the tech crew for a memorable Remembrance Day.

Breakfast Club - Volunteers Needed

Ms. Somayeh works hard every day to have breakfasts available for students! We are making almost 200 breakfasts for students each day.

We are in need of a volunteer to help with Breakfast Club!

If you are available to volunteer and help in preparing food for students, please contact:

glenda.davies@ocdsb.ca

We are flexible: 7am-830am would be great, but availability at other times can work too!

Book Fair

Scholastic Book Fair

The annual **Scholastic Book Fair is November 25-27 in the VM Library**. Books for every interest and reading level will be available for students to purchase when they visit the Book Fair with their classes during the day. Cash and card accepted. **The Family Event is Nov. 27 from 3:00-7:30pm**. Thank you for your support!

Cold weather is here!

The temperatures are finally starting to reflect the season. All students go outside several times a day, in the snow and sometimes rain cannot be avoided. Please send students dressed layers, with a warm jacket, hat and mitts. As always, please label these items so that we can help students keep track of their winter gear.

The Bus Loop is up and running!

Please see my email from Wednesday afternoon, November 12 for more details. To reiterate:

- The loop is for buses and OSTA vans. Otherwise it is a fire lane, and not accessible to personal vehicles.
- **There will no longer be staff on Edgecombe, either in the am or pm.**
- We've contacted the City about removing the bus loading zone on Edgecombe, we will let you know once that happens

Bus Loop Opening Ceremony: Thursday, November 20

We are very happy to invite you to our school's Grand opening Celebration of the new bus loop. We are excited to show you all the new changes and celebrate this special ribbon cutting ceremony together.

This event will be held on November 20 at two times; 11:30am and 12:15pm, in front of the school. This event is a way to thank our community for their patience and support. Our grade 7 classes have set up and prepared for this event, and we hope you will enjoy it!

We look forward to seeing you there.

Shayma
EF7A

Info Sessions: Blending initiative at Vincent Massey PS

We had 2 productive information sessions about Blending at VM - last night and this morning. Families provided important feedback and asked great questions; we had a rich conversation about why and how Blending is disrupting the cultural divide between Immersion and non-Immersion students/classes, and why this disruption is so important to remove barriers to accessing opportunities and holding high expectations for all. We also spoke of operational decisions we made, challenges we've encountered, and importantly, successes we are tracking!

The questions and feedback will be invaluable as we continue to refine our processes to set up for Blending to start on day 1 in September, 2026.

If you were not able to attend either session, please be in touch. We value the questions and the conversation: they will help inform our practice and decision making as we prepare to Blend classes across the school next year.

Save the Date:

Primary Winter Concert: December 17

INTERMEDIATE NEWS

Ottawa Technical Secondary School (OTSS)

Attached is an important message for Grade 8 students and their families. Please share this communication in a way that best suits your school community (e.g., email distribution, School Messenger, printed copies) and with your Grade 8 teachers to post in their Google Classrooms.

- **Open House:** We look forward to connecting with prospective students and their caregivers during our **Open House on November 19th**.
- **Expression of Interest (EOI):** We are already receiving Expressions of Interest for next year and will begin reaching out to families in the coming weeks.

Should you wish to bring students for an OTSS tour, please please contact us. We are happy to make arrangements with you. Please see more information here:

Community News

Hello to our neighboring OCDSB schools,

I am a parent who runs the school council at Viscount Alexander Public School in Sandy Hill. This year, we are hosting again the **Good Books Sale** on Saturday Nov. 15 at the **Sandy Hill Community Centre** (the profits go to our school).

We are a small school and really want to get the word out to make this fundraiser successful. I was wondering if you would **post the BOOK Sale poster** on any social media you have, or community boards. The 2025 poster is **attached** There is also a Craft Fair at the same time, poster also attached.

We would be happy to share events you are hosting with our school community as well.

We appreciate the support!

Leila

Chair- School Council Viscount Alexander P.S.

Upcoming Dates

November 17 - Photo Retake Day

November 19 - Progress Reports sent home

November 27 & 28 - Parent/Guardian-Teacher Interviews

School Council Corner

School Council Corner

Help Us Bring Back Pizza Lunches!

For many years, VM staff have organized weekly pizza lunches. You may have noticed that pizza lunches have not started this year. The work of organizing pizzas for our large school is not sustainable for staff, given their busy schedules.

School Council has been asked to take the lead. We're now exploring whether we have the volunteers and resources to make it happen.

Why Pizza Lunches Matter:

- A break for parents from packing lunches for parents
- A fun treat for students
- Pizza Lunches are a fundraiser for our school! In previous years, pizza has raised thousands of dollars for school programs like Luv2Groove, drama, sports, field trips, equipment, and guest speakers.

Without pizza lunches, School Council may be asked to fund more activities – but we can't match the fundraising power of pizza lunches.

What We Need:

- 1 volunteer coordinator
- 2 to 4 parent volunteers per lunch

Your ideas and opinions. Please take a moment to complete [this survey](#) to let us know if we can count on your support to bring back pizza lunches.

Join your School Council!

Next meeting: Tuesday, Nov. 18 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month in the VM library or online ([Google Meet](#))

Everyone is welcome! Babysitting is available onsite in the library

Questions? Please email the School Council team at sc-vincentmassey@ocdsb.ca

Have a wonderful weekend everyone!

Best,

Kristine Klassen, Principal

Glenda Davies, Vice-Principal

Thursday, Nov. 6, 2025

Hello VM Community,

[Click for translation](#)

Hello folks! The e-news is arriving today as we have a Professional Activities Day tomorrow, and there is no school for students. The focus for educator learning is Ministry directed. We will be engaged in learning around Literacy and Numeracy instruction.

Cold weather is here!

The temperatures are finally starting to reflect the season. All students go outside several times a day, in the snow and sometimes rain cannot be avoided. Please send students dressed layers, with a warm jacket, hat and mitts. As always, please label these items so that we can help students keep track of their winter gear.

Remembrance Day November 11

As part of our learning about and recognition of **Veterans' Week 2025 - Indigenous Veterans' Day and Remembrance Day** - assemblies will take place throughout the day on Tuesday, November 11.

These special events will provide an opportunity for our students to reflect on the sacrifices made by those who have served, and continue to serve, in the military.

Assembly Schedule:

- Grades 1-3: 9:30 AM
- Grades 4-6: 11:30 AM
- Grades 7-8: 12:30 PM

Family members are invited and welcome to join us in the large gym for grade 1 - 8 assemblies.

Kindergarten students will also spend time on November 11 learning with a visiting military member, and Vincent Massey parent, within their classrooms.

Poppies will be available for students on Tuesday morning, and donations for the Canadian Legion will be collected.



Pathway Exploration (aka Take our kids to work) Day at VM!

Wednesday, November 5 was Pathway Exploration Day in the OCDSB for students in grade 9. We welcomed some staff member's children to Vincent Massey, where they engaged in learning from both students and staff!

Info Sessions: Blending initiative at Vincent Massey PS

Please join us to learn more and share experiences about our Blending initiative at Vincent Massey PS. This will be an informal session for families to participate in a Q&A, and for us to share our learning to date in support of and planning for our 12 Blending classes, across all grades, that are partnered for Language and Math instruction.

We plan to expand this framework more consistently across all Divisions for the 2026-2027 school year, and this is an opportunity for the community to learn more about it.

In order to welcome as many families as possible, we will offer two sessions:

Thursday, November 13: 6:30 - 8:00pm

Friday, November 14: 8:45 - 9:30am

Scholastic Book Fair – Volunteers Needed!

The annual **Scholastic Book Fair is November 25-27 in the VM Library**. Parents, guardians, grandparents, high school students... please join us! Your volunteer support is invaluable in making this our best Book Fair yet. Please contact VM's Library Tech, Laurie Mackenzie: laurie.mackenzie@ocdsb.ca. Thank you!

Popcorn Sales

Student Council continues to sell popcorn each Thursday at 10:30! We will sell on "Friday schedule" school days in November as well. Our November flavour of the month will be **sweet & salty** (small bags) and sold for \$2.50 while supplies last.

Butter, kaboom, sweet & salty: \$2.50

Caramel: \$3.50

INTERMEDIATE NEWS

Ottawa Technical Secondary School (OTSS)

Attached is an important message for Grade 8 students and their families. Please share this communication in a way that best suits your school community (e.g., email distribution, School Messenger, printed copies) and with your Grade 8 teachers to post in their Google Classrooms.

- **Open House:** We look forward to connecting with prospective students and their caregivers during our **Open House on November 19th**.
- **Expression of Interest (EOI):** We are already receiving Expressions of Interest for next year and will begin reaching out to families in the coming weeks.

Please encourage any interested students and families to complete the **Expression of Interest form**.

Completing the EOI is the vital first step. It opens a direct line of communication with us and allows us to **review the student's profile and assess their fit** for our technology, skilled trades, and experiential learning program *before* a formal offer of admission is considered.

Should you wish to bring students for an OTSS tour, please please contact us. We are happy to make arrangements with you. Please see more information here:

Dempsey Community Centre Blended Class Field Trip: EF7/8A and R7/8C

Today, EF78A and R78C visited Dempsey Community Centre. They spent some time cleaning up some of our local parks, and they learned about the programming offered at Dempsey

Community Centre. The students are planning a presentation to share what they learned with the rest of the school.

Upcoming Dates

November 13 - Blending Initiative Information Sharing/Q&A (evening session)

November 14 - Blending Initiative Information Sharing/Q&A (morning session)

November 17 - Photo Retake Day

November 19 - Progress Reports sent home

November 27 & 28 - Parent/Guardian-Teacher Interviews

School Council Corner

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Your ideas and opinions. Please take a moment to complete [this survey](#) to let us know if we can count on your support to bring back pizza lunches.

VM Moves Fundraiser

See highlights here:

- Held last Friday, the VM Moves dance party raised \$2013.70 for sports equipment, special events, the library and to support various teacher-led activities. Way to go, VM!
- Ms. Rashida Islam's homeroom class was selected as the winner of a pizza party, courtesy of School Council and community member Sonja Payette. Congrats!

Join your School Council!

Next meeting: Tuesday, Nov. 18 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month in the VM library or online ([Google Meet](#))

Everyone is welcome! Babysitting is available onsite in the library

Questions? Please email the School Council team at sc-vincentmassey@ocdsb.ca

Have a wonderful weekend everyone!

Best,

Kristine Klassen, Principal

Glenda Davies, Vice-Principal

Friday, October 31, 2025

Hello VM Community,

[Click for translation](#)

Halloween festivities today brought the month of October to a close. We had so much fun sharing our costumes and dancing the day away. Thank you to School Council for organizing VM Moves, and to all who contributed to this School Council fundraising event. Students will certainly be tired this evening!

Take a look at some of our [Halloween highlights](#)!

Info Sessions: Blending initiative at Vincent Massey PS

Please join us to learn more and share experiences about our Blending initiative at Vincent Massey PS. This will be an informal session for families to participate in a Q&A, and for us to

share our learning to date in support of and planning for our 12 Blending classes, across all grades, that are partnered for Language and Math instruction.

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Butter, kaboom, sweet & salty: \$2.50

Caramel: \$3.50

Intermediate Cross Country

The Intermediate cross country team had a tremendous day at the board meet on Tuesday. All of the athletes pushed themselves and made VM proud. A special mention to FD and AM who finished 1st and 6th in the school board!

Intermediate Girls Touch Football

A huge congratulations to the Intermediate Girls Touch Football team! Last week, the girls played in the Regional Tournament and came in 2nd place (qualifying for Boards). The girls competed in Boards this week and finished Top 4!

INTERMEDIATE NEWS

High School Information

Canterbury Arts Program Information for Grade 8 Students

We recommend that interested students and their families attend one or both of the upcoming Arts Open Houses being held at Canterbury High School:

- Tuesday, November 4 at 7:00 PM – Dance, Drama, and Music
- Thursday, November 6 at 7:00 PM – Literary Arts and Visual Arts

please visit the [Canterbury Arts Website](#)

Ottawa Technical Secondary School (OTSS)

Save the date: OTSS will be having its open house on Wednesday, November 19th for all prospective students and their families.

Upcoming Dates

November 7 - PA Day - No School for Students

November 13 - Blending Initiative Information Sharing/Q&A (evening session)

November 14 - Blending Initiative Information Sharing/Q&A (morning session)

November 17 - Photo Retake Day

November 19 - Progress Reports sent home

November 27 & 28 - Parent/Guardian-Teacher Interviews

School Council Corner

VM Moves Fundraiser: Thanks for your participation!

- Earlier today (Friday, Oct. 31) every class had an opportunity to participate in a dance party.
- Students worked to raise money for sports equipment, special events, enriching the library and supporting various teacher-led activities. Total amount raised will be announced next week. [Donations can be made here](#) and are eligible for a tax receipt.
- What's next? All homeroom classes will be entered into a draw and one lucky class will win a pizza party courtesy of School Council and community member, Sonja Payette. Winner to be announced soon!

Join your School Council!

- Next meeting: Tuesday, Nov. 18 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.
- Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month in the VM library or online ([Google Meet](#))
- Everyone is welcome! Babysitting is available onsite in the library

Questions? Please email the School Council team at sc-vincentmassey@ocdsb.ca

Have a wonderful weekend everyone!

Best,

Kristine Klassen, Principal

Glenda Davies, Vice-Principal

Friday, October 24, 2025

Hello VM Community,

[Click for translation](#)

Lost and Found Items

The warm weather we have had in October means that the lost and found is full of coats, hoodies and sweatshirts, hats, boots and shoes of all sizes! If you are visiting the school, please take a look at the lost and found to see if anything belongs to your child. Please encourage your child to check and bring home any missing clothing. Of the many items in the lost and found, only a few have had student names in them, which enables us to reunite it with the student. Please label your child's clothing with their first or last name.

There are many items that are looking to be returned! Take a look [here](#)!

Volunteering at the school

We are asking that volunteers for field trips - especially for those trips where volunteers may be driving - obtain a current Police Check for the Vulnerable Sector before volunteering. While a record check is not yet mandatory, it is highly recommended by the OCDSB that all volunteers have an up to date [Police Record Check](#) for the Vulnerable sector.

Should you need a letter from us for Ottawa Police Services' one year free [Police Record Check](#), please email vincentmassey@ocdsb.ca and we will prepare a letter for you. We ask for your patience as this can take several days to process.

Again, this is not yet mandatory, but it is highly recommended.

Student Accident Insurance (from the OCDSB)

Creating a caring and safe environment for our students is our top priority. Unfortunately, despite all reasonable precautions being taken, accidents can still happen. Some injuries may result in medical, dental or other expenses that are not covered by provincial health care or employer group plans and caregivers become responsible for these expenses.

The OCDSB does not provide student accident insurance and encourages all caregivers to consider purchasing accident insurance or student accident insurance for incidents that may not be covered by the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) or any additional medical plans they have.

Student accident insurance is available for purchase, on a voluntary basis. Caregivers may apply online at insuremykids.com or call 1-800-463-5437. The accident insurance coverage options range from \$17.00/year to \$33.00/year. All plans provide 24/7 coverage and a variety of important accident benefits (benefit limits differ based on plan selected). If you have any

questions, please call **Jones DesLauriers Ottawa (formerly Binks Insurance Brokers)** directly at 613-226-1350.

INTERMEDIATE NEWS

High School Information

Colonel By SS

A representative from Colonel By Secondary School will be coming to VM on Tuesday, October 28 to give a small presentation to grade 7 & 8 students about the IB program offered at Colonel By SS and Merivale HS.

Canterbury Arts Program Information for Grade 8 Students

We recommend that interested students and their families attend one or both of the upcoming Arts Open Houses being held at Canterbury High School:

- Tuesday, November 4 at 7:00 PM – Dance, Drama, and Music
- Thursday, November 6 at 7:00 PM – Literary Arts and Visual Arts

please visit the [Canterbury Arts Website](#)

YOCISO Leadership, Empowerment and Active Participation Program comes back to VM!

This year we are fortunate to welcome back YOCISO (the youth branch of Ottawa Community Immigrant Services Organization) to Vincent Massey. Along with our staff, they are running a program for grade 7-8 boys once a week during second break developing skills in leadership, Student Voice and building connections with peers in a social setting. If you are interested in learning more, please email Sejal Trivedi at sejal.trivedi@ocdsb.ca

Intermediate Cross Country

A huge congratulations to the Intermediate Cross Country team who competed at the regional meet on October 17th! The team was awesome and we had a fantastic day. The following athletes have qualified for the board meet on October 28th.

Grade 7: FD, ER, JJ, SB, CH, MW

Grade 8: AM, MC, HM, KH

A special mention to FD and AM, who finished 1st and 2nd in their races.

Go VM!

Upcoming Dates

October 29 - School Photo Day

October 31 - VM Moves

November 7 - PA Day - No School for Students

November 17 - Photo Retake Day

School Council Corner

VM Moves Fundraiser

- Each class will get to participate in a dance party during the school day on Friday, Oct. 31
- Through Oct. 31, students will work to raise money for sports equipment, special events, enriching the library and supporting various teacher-led activities
- All homeroom classes will be entered into a draw and one lucky class will win a pizza party courtesy of School Council!
- [Donations can be made here](#) and are eligible for a tax receipt

Questions? Please email the School Council team at sc-vincentmasseyps@ocdsb.ca

Have a wonderful weekend everyone!

Best,

Kristine Klassen, Principal

Glenda Davies, Vice-Principal

Friday, October 17, 2025

Hello VM Community,

[Click for translation](#)

Volunteering at the school

On the District's volunteer form for families, there is now a question about a Police Check for the Vulnerable Sector and whether you have one. While a record check is not yet mandatory, it is highly recommended by the OCDSB that all volunteers have an up to date [Police Record Check](#) for the Vulnerable sector.

We recognize that this is an added step, but we are asking that volunteers for field trips obtain a current Police Check for the Vulnerable Sector before volunteering for a trip - especially for those trips where volunteers may be driving students to and from events.

For Field trips volunteers, we have crafted a letter for you to submit to Ottawa Police Services so that you can get a Vulnerable Sector Record check completed for free. This record check will be good for one year.

Should you need a letter from us for Ottawa Police Services' one year free Police Record Check, please email vincentmassey@ocdsb.ca and we will prepare a letter for you. We ask for your patience as this can take several days to process. The letter from the school can be used to support your application for the [Police Record Check](#).

Again, this is not yet mandatory, but it is highly recommended.

School Bus Safety Week

School Bus Safety Week, which runs from Monday, October 20, to Friday, October 24, 2025. As part of this week, we will also be celebrating our dedicated drivers on **Driver Appreciation Day, Wednesday, October 22, 2025**.

Junior Cross Country

The VM Junior Cross Country competed at the Junior Region 4 Cross Country meet on Thursday at the Terry Fox Facility. The Grade 4, 5 and 6 runners demonstrated perseverance racing against 20 schools in our region and over 100 runners in each event! We are so proud of their amazing accomplishment. The following students placed top 20 in their category:

Grade 4 Girls: AM- 9th place

Grade 4 Boys: JDB - 2nd place

Grade 5 Boys: C - 14 place

Grade 6 Girls: CG - 3rd place,

DP - 7th place

MS - 12th place

Grade 6 Boys: Fletcher Leering - 14th place

Congratulations to all of our runners!

INTERMEDIATE NEWS

High School Information

Colonel By SS

A representative from Colonel By Secondary School will be coming to VM on Tuesday, October 28 to give a small presentation to grade 7 & 8 students about the IB program offered at Colonel By SS and Merivale HS.

Canterbury Arts Program Information for Grade 8 Students

We recommend that interested students and their families attend one or both of the upcoming Arts Open Houses being held at Canterbury High School:

- Tuesday, November 4 at 7:00 PM – Dance, Drama, and Music
- Thursday, November 6 at 7:00 PM – Literary Arts and Visual Arts

please visit the [Canterbury Arts Website](#)

- Tuesday, October 21: all grade 7 & 8 students will attend a student led presentation at Canterbury High School. Permission forms and further information will be shared soon.

Lost and Found Items

Be sure to have your students come by and take a look at our lost and found! There are many items that are looking to be returned! Take a look [here!](#)

Upcoming Dates

October 29 - School Photo Day

October 31 - VM Moves

November 7 - PA Day - No School for Students

November 17 - Photo Retake Day

School Council Corner

VM Merch - Last Call! (Sales close at midnight tonight)

- We've kept sales open a few days longer as orders were still coming in
- TODAY is the last day to order merch: [VM Merch | Vincent Massey Public School School Council Online Store](#)

VM at the Ottawa 67's this Sunday

- For those who have purchased tickets, your tickets have been transferred and you should have received an email with logistics information
- If you have any questions, contact sc-vincentmasseyps@ocdsb.ca or katieeberts@gmail.com
- We look forward to seeing you there!

VM Moves Fundraiser

- Each class will get to participate in a dance party during the school day on Friday, Oct. 31
- Through Oct. 31, students will work to raise money for sports equipment, special events, enriching the library and supporting various teacher-led activities
- All homeroom classes will be entered into a draw and one lucky class will win a pizza party courtesy of School Council!
- [Donations can be made here](#) and are eligible for a tax receipt

Join your School Council!

- Next meeting: NEXT TUESDAY, Oct. 21 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.
- Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month in the VM library or online ([Google Meet](#))
- Everyone is welcome! Babysitting is available onsite in the library

Thanks - Outdoor movie night

- Thank you to everyone who came out to the October 3 movie night
- It was a beautiful evening of fun and community that demonstrated VM's heart and generosity - we collected over 150 food items for Blair Court Food Table, and raised \$160 that will go towards school activities
- HUGE thanks to our volunteers and to the Riverview Park Community Association for making it all possible!

Questions? Please email the School Council team at sc-vincentmassey@ocdsb.ca

Have a wonderful long weekend everyone!

Best,

Kristine Klassen, Principal

Glenda Davies, Vice-Principal

Friday, October 10, 2025

Hello VM Community,

[Click for translation](#)

School Bus Safety Week

School Bus Safety Week, which runs from Monday, October 20, to Friday, October 24, 2025. As part of this week, we will also be celebrating our dedicated drivers on **Driver Appreciation Day, Wednesday, October 22, 2025**.

INTERMEDIATE NEWS

High School Information

OTSS Information for Grade 8 Students

On October 14, a representative from the Ottawa Technical and Trades School (OTSS) will be coming to VM for a short presentation for all grade 7 & 8 students about pursuing studies in the tech and trades and the various programs that OTSS has to offer. Save the date: OTSS will be having its open house on Wednesday, November 19th for all prospective students and their families.

Canterbury Arts Program Information for Grade 8 Students

We recommend that interested students and their families attend one or both of the upcoming Arts Open Houses being held at Canterbury High School:

- Tuesday, November 4 at 7:00 PM – Dance, Drama, and Music
- Thursday, November 6 at 7:00 PM – Literary Arts and Visual Arts

please visit the [Canterbury Arts Website](#)

- Tuesday, October 21: all grade 7 & 8 students will attend a student led presentation at Canterbury High School. Permission forms and further information will be shared soon.

Upcoming Dates

Thanksgiving - No School Monday, October 13

IEPs sent home: Tuesday, October 14

67's hockey game on October 19 (Deadline to buy tickets is October 13)

Don't Miss This Incredible VM Community Hockey Event!

- **Exclusive VM Seating:** Cheer with fellow VM families in Section 27, reserved just for us, as the Ottawa 67's face off against the Kingston Frontenacs (Puck drops at 3 p.m.)
- **Lead the Arena in O Canada:**
 - *For the first time ever*, VM students are invited to lead the singing of the national anthem for the entire arena
 - Singers should indicate interest at checkout (optional - if you don't wish to sing, there is still plenty to enjoy!)
 - Student singers will have one rehearsal during school, led by Ms. Snowdon
- **Special Family Skate on the 67's Ice:**
 - Enjoy an exclusive, pre-game skating session from **noon to 1 p.m.** - a rare opportunity to skate on professional ice! (Optional)
- **Discounted Tickets – \$21 each (includes tax):**
 - Special VM rate (Regular ticket price is \$31)
- **Buy Your Tickets Today!**
 - Tickets have been moving a little slower than we hoped, so we'll be opening up sales to other area schools soon.
 - **Link to purchase:** [VM group hockey game - Ottawa 67's vs Kingston Frontenacs | Vincent Massey Public School Council Online Store](#)

Create lasting memories - join us for this one-of-a-kind VM community experience!

VM Moves Fundraiser (now until October 31) and Dance (Friday, October 31)

- **NEW DONATION LINK! See details below.**
- The VM Moves fundraiser dance is BACK! Each class will get to participate during the school day on Friday, Oct. 31.
 - From now until October 31, students will work to raise money through donations from friends, family, neighbours and local businesses.
 - All homeroom classes will be entered into a draw and one lucky class will win a pizza party courtesy of School Council!
 - Donations will go towards sports equipment, special events, enriching the library and supporting various teacher-led activities.
 - [Donations can be made here](#) and are eligible for a tax receipt.

- **Please note:** The OCDSB's donation platform has changed effective immediately, as the previous provider is shutting down. The board acted quickly to choose a new platform, and the updated donation link (see above or on the VM website under "Donate") is now active.
- **Please note:** The QR code on the backpack flyer being sent home today is no longer valid. To support VM Moves, please use only the new link.
- Thank you for your understanding! Rest assured that all donations made through the old platform have been received.

VM Merch

Rep VM with hoodies, joggers, t-shirts, and hats, plus a new limited edition design: Preorder [here by October 14](#) for delivery in early November. Sold at cost (not a fundraiser).

Next meeting: Tuesday, Oct. 21 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

- Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month in the VM library or online ([Google Meet](#))
- Everyone is welcome! Babysitting is available onsite in the library

Questions? Please email the School Council team at sc-vincentmasseyps@ocdsb.ca

VM Events at a glance

Want a handy poster of school happenings for your fridge or family bulletin board? Check out our [updated VM Events Flyer](#).

Have a wonderful long weekend everyone!

Best,

Kristine Klassen, Principal

Glenda Davies, Vice-Principal

Friday, October 3, 2025

Hello VM Community,

[Click for translation](#)

On Tuesday, September 30, the Vincent Massey community recognized National Truth and Reconciliation Day. Over the last two weeks, educators have been sharing age appropriate resources and stories about the history and legacy of Residential Schools in Canada. On Tuesday, there was also a school wide focus on kindness, acceptance, and

belonging. In addition to our daily Land Acknowledgement, the following message was read on the intercom:

"Today is the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. We honour Residential School Survivors, their families, and the children who never returned home. We wear orange because every child matters. Today, let's commit to listening, learning, and taking actions that support Indigenous students, staff, families, and communities every day, not just today. Miigwetch/Thank you."

Verification Forms

Please check students' backpacks today. An important document has been sent - the Contact Verification. Please read the instructions to review the information on your student's sheet, sign the form, and return to the school by Friday, October 10th.

The form **MUST** be signed, even if there are no changes to the information. Thanks for your support of student safety.

Terry Fox Campaign, 2025-2026

The 2025 Terry Fox School Run was this afternoon!!! The students had a great time running and supporting such an important cause! The weather this afternoon was spectacular! Way to go VM!!!

We have set a fundraising goal of **\$5000** - and we have surpassed our goal! It is not too late to donate! But the final total will be revealed soon!

Outdoor Movie Night: TONIGHT! 6 to 8:30 p.m.

Join us for a [free screening of "Ron's Gone Wrong"](#) under the stars.

Come early for outdoor games (6 to 7 p.m.) and stay for the movie at 7 p.m.

Please bring a non-perishable food item for the Ottawa Food Bank and a chair and blanket!

Looking For Donations: Vincent Massey Wear

We are looking for Vincent Massey Clothing that students have outgrown. We are accepting donations of clothing that has been previously worn so we are able to offer it to new students, for a small cost.

INTERMEDIATE NEWS

High School Information

OTSS Information for Grade 8 Students

On October 14, a representative from the Ottawa Technical and Trades School (OTSS) will be coming to VM for a short presentation for all grade 7 & 8 students about pursuing studies in the tech and trades and the various programs that OTSS has to offer. Save the date: OTSS will be having its open house on Wednesday, November 19th for all prospective students and their families.

Canterbury Arts Program Information for Grade 8 Students

- October 6: Liz Hanson, Canterbury High School's Arts Program, will visit with Grade 7 & 8 students
- The Arts Program offers specialized instruction in five areas: Dance, Drama, Music, Literary Arts, and Visual Arts. Students may apply to one discipline only. During the visit, Ms. Hanson will explain the application and audition process. A flyer with more details is attached.
- We also recommend that interested students and their families attend one or both of the upcoming Arts Open Houses being held at Canterbury High School:
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please visit the [Canterbury Arts Website](#)

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Upcoming Dates

Thanksgiving - No School Monday, October 13
IEPs sent home: Tuesday, October 14

School Council Corner

TONIGHT! FREE! Outdoor movie from 6 to 8:30pm

- **WHAT:** Bring a blanket and chair and cuddle up under the stars for a screening of the movie "Ron's Gone Wrong"
WHO: VM has partnered with the Riverview Park Community Association to bring you this FREE event
WHERE: VM schoolyard
WHEN: Socialize and play some games from 6 to 7 p.m.; movie will start at around 7 p.m.
BRING: A non-perishable food item to donate to the [Blair Court Food Bank](#)

67's hockey game on October 19 (Deadline to buy tickets is October 13)

Don't Miss This Incredible VM Community Hockey Event!

- **Exclusive VM Seating:** Cheer with fellow VM families in Section 27, reserved just for us, as the Ottawa 67's face off against the Kingston Frontenacs (Puck drops at 3 p.m.)

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Next meeting: Tuesday, Oct. 21 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

- Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month in the VM library or online ([Google Meet](#))
- Everyone is welcome! Babysitting is available onsite in the library

Questions? Please email the School Council team at sc-vincentmassey@ocdsb.ca

VM Events at a glance

Want a handy poster of school happenings for your fridge or family bulletin board? Check out our [updated VM Events Flyer](#).

Have a wonderful weekend everyone!

Best,

Kristine Klassen, Principal

Glenda Davies, Vice-Principal

Friday, September 26, 2025

[Click for translation](#)

It was wonderful to see so many families at the school last night for our Meet the Educators event! Thanks to the VM School Council for organizing pizza orders and the Fun Zone. We will look forward to the next School Council event on October 3 to make up for not being able to access the Fun Zone due to rain last night. Please scroll down to the bottom to see about all the exciting upcoming School Council events!

Gentle reminder: Monday is a PA Day - no school for students

Gentle reminder #2: Please pack extra dry clothing (especially socks) in backpacks for rainy days.

Spirit Days Are Back!

Please read here for the dates and details of our Spirit Days this year:

POPCORN IS BACK!

The Student Council will be selling popcorn, THURSDAYS at 10:30am to fundraise for Grade 8 special events. Sales will begin Thursday October 2nd. This year Butter and Kaboom will be \$2.50 and Caramel will be \$3.50. Cash payments only day of.

VM School Musical Updates: Willy Wonka Jr.

Our 2025-2026 School Musical at Vincent Massey is now officially underway. Thank you very much School Council, Administration, Parents, Staff and Students for getting this year's musical off the ground. Auditions will begin next week on Tuesday, September 30th and we hope to wrap up auditions (during recess) by Friday, September 3rd. A

schedule has been posted in the Intermediate Hallway at school and in the Willy Wonka Jr. Google Classroom online for all grades 6-8 students hoping to audition. Opportunities for Grade 4 & 5 students and stage crew will be made available a little later in the year. Good luck to all of our students auditioning next week and don't forget to prepare your song and monologue over the weekend!

Terry Fox Campaign, 2025-2026

The 2025 Terry Fox School Run on Friday Oct. 3 and we have set a fundraising goal of **\$5000**.

The Terry Fox Foundation has created an online fundraising page customized for our school:

- 1. Donate online at:** <https://schools.terryfox.ca/108009>
 - Click the link above to donate or search for our school name at terryfox.org
 - Receipts are issued immediately to donors by email from the Terry Fox Foundation
- 2. Help your child set up a [student fundraising page](#)**
 - Upload personal photos, videos and messages to share with friends and family
 - All student logins and links are private and secure
 - Student names are not searchable on our website and links can only be shared by you
- 3. Support your child's fundraising efforts**
 - Share their fundraising link or your child's school's link with family and friends to help them reach their goal
 - Share a ["#DearTerry" message](#) to celebrate Terry's legacy and inspire others to go the distance

Looking For Donations: Vincent Massey Wear

We are looking for Vincent Massey Clothing that students have outgrown. We are accepting donations of clothing that has been previously worn so we are able to offer it to new students, for a small cost.

INTERMEDIATE NEWS

Good afternoon Grade 8 Parents/Guardians!

In preparation for your child's transition to high school, we will be sharing several opportunities over the course of the next few months. More details about high school will be coming, however, Canterbury High School offers a specialized Arts program for interested candidates that we wanted to bring to your attention. The deadlines can approach quickly and we wanted to give you as much notice and information as possible. If your child is not interested in applying for the

Canterbury Arts program, feel free to disregard this message. More information to come about community high schools and other programs!

Canterbury Arts Program Information for Grade 8 Students

On October 6, Liz Hanson, the coordinator of Canterbury High School's Arts Program, will visit Vincent Massey to introduce our Grade 7 & 8 students to this specialized OCDSB program.

The Arts Program offers specialized instruction in five areas: Dance, Drama, Music, Literary Arts, and Visual Arts. Students may apply to one discipline only. During the visit, Ms. Hanson will explain the application and audition process. A flyer with more details is attached.

We also recommend that interested students and their families attend one or both of the upcoming Arts Open Houses being held at Canterbury High School:

- Tuesday, November 4 at 7:00 PM – Dance, Drama, and Music
- Thursday, November 6 at 7:00 PM – Literary Arts and Visual Arts

These sessions are an excellent opportunity to get detailed information and ask questions directly to the program coordinator, school administration, guidance staff, and arts teachers.

For more information, please visit the [Canterbury Arts Website](#) or contact kim.shiau@ocdsb.ca

COMMUNITY NEWS

YOCISO Community Fall after school program calendar and registration.

Please find attached YOCISO's (the youth branch of Ottawa Community Immigrant Services Organization) Fall After-School Program Calendar.

Each day, we have something special planned! Youth can register for our after-school programming using the link below and select the programs they are most interested in:

👉 General Registration Form: <https://forms.gle/fvS6dtgM9EoWKMsCA>

Program Highlights

Monday – YOCISO Outdoor Program + Homework Club

Tuesday – Cooking Program + Homework Club + KidzClub

- **KidzClub:** For newcomer children ages 6–10.
KidzClub Registration: <https://forms.gle/WcCz9RQ5jFsnbTAN8>

Wednesday – Audio & Visual Club + Homework Club (In-person or Virtual)

Thursday – Treat Yourself Thursday & Empowered to Be U

Please check the attached poster for full details on times and dates.

Upcoming Dates

PD Day: Monday, September 29

Thanksgiving - No School Monday, October 13

IEPs sent home: Tuesday, October 14

School Council Corner

'Meet the Staff Night' a big success

The School Council Fun Zone was cancelled due to rain, but we still enjoyed seeing many VM families for the pizza picnic in the gym! Thanks to all who participated, and huge shoutout to our incredible volunteers!

The games planned for the Fun Zone will now be offered before the movie starts at the Outdoor Movie Night next Friday!

Outdoor Movie Night: Friday, Oct. 3, 6 to 8:30 p.m.

Join us for a [free screening of "Ron's Gone Wrong"](#) under the stars.

Come early for outdoor games (6 to 7 p.m.) and stay for the movie at 7 p.m.

Please bring a non-perishable food item for the Ottawa Food Bank and a chair and blanket!

VM @ Ottawa 67's Game, Skate & O Canada: **Sunday, Oct. 19**

Buy your tickets today to watch the Ottawa 67's face off against the Kingston Frontenacs!

But wait... there's more!

This is really three experiences rolled into one: Your ticket also gets you **free entry to skate on the 67's ice from noon to 1 p.m.**, and **at 3 p.m., VM students will sing O Canada** (sign-up during ticket purchase; rehearsal at school) before **watching the game from a special section** (Section 27) reserved just for the VM community!

Tickets are \$21 (incl. tax) and can be purchased [here by October 13](#).

VM Moves Fundraiser (Now through Oct. 31) & Dance (Friday, Oct. 31)

All students work to raise funds for sports equipment, events, the school library and activities. Classes will be entered into a draw for a pizza party courtesy of VM School Council.

[Donate here by October 31](#) (tax receipts available)

The dance will take place during in-school hours on Oct. 31.

VM Merch is Back!

Rep VM with hoodies, joggers, t-shirts, and hats, plus a new limited edition design: [Pre-order here by October 14](#) for delivery to your child's homeroom class in early November.

All items are sold at cost.

Want to get involved? Plan to attend the next School Council meeting: Tuesday, Oct. 21, 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to attend the next School Council meeting in person at the VM library or online ([Google Meet](#)). Babysitting is available onsite. Can't join us this time? No worries... meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month, so mark your calendars!

VM Events at a glance

Want a handy poster of school happenings for your fridge or family bulletin board? Check out our [updated VM Events Flyer](#).

Have a wonderful weekend everyone!

Best,

Kristine Klassen, Principal

Glenda Davies, Vice-Principal

Friday, September 19, 2025

[Click for translation](#)

September is rolling along nicely as students and staff settle into routines and focus on building relationships. We are all looking forward to the Meet the Educators Event on Thursday, September 25, from 4:30 - 6:00pm. This is an opportunity to visit your child's learning spaces, say hello to their teachers, and meet other families in the community. There is even a Fun Zone hosted by School Council, including pre-orders for pizza. See details below.

Personal Items

If students decide to bring personal items to school, please keep in mind how easily they can be misplaced. It's essential that all items are labeled with their names. We cannot be responsible for lost or stolen items.

Spirit Days Are Back!

Please read here for the dates and details of our Spirit Days this year:

Meet the Educators Event: Thursday, September 25, 4:30 - 6:00pm

We hope to see you on Thursday, September 25! There will be an opportunity to say hello to your child/children's teachers, and to hear about their program and routines. See School Council Corner for details about the Fun Zone and pizza orders.

Breakfast Program

Breakfast is served in the small gym starting at **7:45 a.m.** Students leave the gym at **8:15 a.m.** and proceed outside for before school recess. Students on the bus are able to grab a packed breakfast.

Children arriving late will be able to access a snack to take to class.

To facilitate access to the program, please complete this permission form **for each child**:

[Breakfast Club Sign Up](#)

Terry Fox Campaign, 2025-2026

The 2025 Terry Fox School Run on Friday Oct. 3 and we have set a fundraising goal of **\$5000**.

The Terry Fox Foundation has created an online fundraising page customized for our school:

- 1. Donate online at:** <https://schools.terryfox.ca/108009>
 - Click the link above to donate or search for our school name at terryfox.org
 - Receipts are issued immediately to donors by email from the Terry Fox Foundation
- 2. Help your child set up a [student fundraising page](#)**
 - Upload personal photos, videos and messages to share with friends and family
 - All student logins and links are private and secure

- Student names are not searchable on our website and links can only be shared by you

3. Support your child's fundraising efforts

- Share their fundraising link or your child's school's link with family and friends to help them reach their goal
- Share a ["#DearTerry" message](#) to celebrate Terry's legacy and inspire others to go the distance

School Bus Safety Presentation

September 24th all students Kindergarten to Grade 8 will participate in a School Bus Safety presentation.

INTERMEDIATE NEWS

For grade 8 students interested in applying to the Canterbury Arts program next year:

Upcoming events and Deadlines:

OPEN HOUSE No 1 for Drama, Dance and Music (Strings, Winds/Percussion -or- Vocals)

WHEN: **November 4, 2025** 7:00 - 9:00 PM

WHERE: Canterbury High School

(You can visit 2 out of 3 art program information sessions during this open house.

For example: Drama and Dance -or- Vocals and Drama -or- Winds/Percussion and Strings, -or- Dance and Vocals)

OPEN HOUSE No 2 for Literary Arts and Visual Arts

WHEN: **November 6, 2025** 7:00 - 9:00 PM

WHERE: Canterbury High School

(You can visit both Literary Arts and Visual Art Information Sessions.)

Applications are open November 10th - December 1st.

References must be sent to teachers to be filled out (academic and arts teachers) by December 1st

All References are due by December 12th

All this information and audition dates are on our Arts Canterbury Website!

YOCISO Community Fall after school program calendar and registration.

Please find attached YOCISO's (the youth branch of Ottawa Community Immigrant Services Organization) Fall After-School Program Calendar.

Each day, we have something special planned! Youth can register for our after-school programming using the link below and select the programs they are most interested in:



General Registration Form: <https://forms.gle/fvS6dtgM9EoWKMsCA>

Program Highlights

Monday – YOCISO Outdoor Program + Homework Club

Tuesday – Cooking Program + Homework Club + KidzClub

- ***KidzClub***: For newcomer children ages 6–10.

KidzClub Registration: <https://forms.gle/WcCz9RQ5jFsnbTAN8>

Wednesday – Audio & Visual Club + Homework Club (In-person or Virtual)

Thursday – Treat Yourself Thursday & Empowered to Be U

Please check the attached poster for full details on times and dates.

Upcoming Dates

Meet the Educators Event: Thursday, September 25, 4:30 - 6:00pm

PD Day: Monday, September 29

IEPs sent home: Tuesday, October 14

School Council Corner

Fun Zone @ Meet the Staff Night - Sep. 25, 4:30–6:00pm, Primary Yard

Music & games & socializing! Skip the stress of dinner - \$20 pizza combos: 1 large cheese/pepperoni Pizza Hut pizza + 4 drinks. (Gluten free option is a medium size pizza)

[\[Pre-order here by September 23\]](#)

Pick-up in the primary yard between 5-5:30 on September 25; BYO plates/cutlery.

Outdoor Movie Night - Fri. Oct. 3, 6:00–8:30pm

"Ron's Gone Wrong" under the stars. Bring a chair and blanket!

Movie starts ~7pm. Free event!

Please bring a non-perishable food item.

VM @ Ottawa 67's Game, Skate & O'Canada - Sun. Oct. 19

Noon–1pm: Skate on the 67's ice

3pm: Ottawa 67's vs Kingston Frontenac (Section 27, reserved for VM)

VM students will sing O'Canada (sign-up during ticket purchase; rehearsal at school)

Tickets: \$21 (incl. tax); [Order here by October 13](#)

Have a wonderful weekend everyone!

Best,

Kristine Klassen, Principal

Glenda Davies, Vice-Principal

Friday, September 12, 2025

[Click for translation](#)

Week two has flown by with absolutely beautiful weather and some good improvements with our beginning and end of day protocols. Each afternoon, the late arriving buses are getting here closer to 3:00, and students are becoming more accustomed to the new routines.

Thank you for not using Edgcombe between 8:00 - 9:00am and 2:30 - 3:30pm. This helps to maintain safety for students and families. Family members waiting off the school yard until the 3:00pm final bell also supports safety.

Personal Items

If students decide to bring personal items to school, please keep in mind how easily they can be misplaced. It's essential that all items are labeled with their names. We cannot be responsible for lost or stolen items.

Student Accident Insurance - from OCDSB

Creating a caring and safe environment for our students is our top priority. Unfortunately, despite all reasonable precautions being taken, accidents can still happen. Some injuries may result in medical, dental or other expenses that are not covered by provincial health care or employer group plans and caregivers become responsible for these expenses.

The OCDSB does not provide student accident insurance and encourages all caregivers to consider purchasing accident insurance or student accident insurance for incidents that may not be covered by the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) or any additional medical plans they have.

Student accident insurance is available for purchase, on a voluntary basis. Caregivers may apply online at insuremykids.com or call 1-800-463-5437. The accident insurance coverage options range from \$17.00/year to \$33.00/year. All plans provide 24/7 coverage and a variety of important accident benefits (benefit limits differ based on plan selected). If you have any questions, please call **Jones DesLauriers Ottawa (formerly Binks Insurance Brokers)** directly at 613-226-1350.

From the Red Cross - babysitting course

We are writing to inform your students and their families about upcoming training in our city for the Red Cross Babysitting Certification Program. We are holding these training days for students aged 9 to 14 on September 21st at St. Aidan's Church 955 Wingate Dr, Ottawa, ON K1G 1S9 or October 25th at St John The Apostle 2340 Baseline Road Ottawa, Ontario K2C 0C9 9am to 4pm - and on March 10th

Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns. We can be reached by email at nationalcapitalfa@gmail.com.

Thank you, and kind regards,

Terry Fox Campaign, 2025-2026

Dear Parents/Caregivers:

The 2025 Terry Fox School Run is set for this month and we are so excited to be taking part! Our event will be taking place on Friday Oct. 3.

We need your help to boost our student's fundraising. This event supports vital cancer research while also building incredible school spirit for our students. Let's all show how incredible and generous our school community is and work to reach the fundraising goal of **\$5000**.

The Terry Fox Foundation has created an online fundraising page customized for our school. Don't delay, let's start fundraising today!

1. **Donate online at:** <https://schools.terryfox.ca/108009>
 - Click the link above to donate or search for our school name at terryfox.org
 - Receipts are issued immediately to donors by email from the Terry Fox Foundation
2. **Help your child set up a [student fundraising page](#)**
 - Upload personal photos, videos and messages to share with friends and family
 - All student logins and links are private and secure
 - Student names are not searchable on our website and links can only be shared by you
3. **Support your child's fundraising efforts**

- Share their fundraising link or your child's school's link with family and friends to help them reach their goal
- Share a ["#DearTerry" message](#) to celebrate Terry's legacy and inspire others to go the distance

We are very excited to be a part of this year's Terry Fox event. This is our opportunity to "Try Like Terry" and go the distance for this year's event. Please join us to support cancer research while building incredible school spirit for all of our students. Thank you in advance for your support!

Police Records Check Letters

Letters supporting Ottawa Police Services Criminal Record Check requests have been sent to parents/guardians who requested them. If you requested a letter and have not received it please re-submit your request to vincentmasseyps@ocdsb.ca.

School Bus Safety Presentation

September 24th all students Kindergarten to Grade 8 will participate in a School Bus Safety presentation. The topics will include:

- Walking to the school bus stop
- Walking when there is no sidewalk
- Waiting at the school bus stop
- The Danger Zone
- Getting on the school bus
- Riding on the school bus
- Getting off the school bus
- Crossing in front of the school bus

Individual Education Plans (IEPs)

For students with Individual Education Plans:

Consultation forms for parental/guardian input in the development of your child's IEP were sent home digitally this week. Please check your emails, including the spam folder, for an email from "noreply@pcgeducation.ca". This is the consultation form for you to complete to have input into your child's individual education plan. If you would like a paper copy of the form, please email [Jessica Hebb](#) and one will be sent home with your child.

Meet the Educators Event: Thursday, September 25, 4:30 - 6:00pm

Mark your calendars! Vincent Massey Public School's doors will be open on Thursday, September 25 to welcome families to meet our educator team. There will be an opportunity to

say hello to your child/children's teachers, and to hear about their program and routines. There will also be fun activities in the play yard - details to follow. We hope to see you all there.

(The event is Thursday 25, **not** Wednesday 24th, which may have been communicated to some classrooms.)

Breakfast Program

As part of the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board's commitment to providing quality education for all and in partnership with community resources, Vincent Massey PS is able to offer a **BREAKFAST PROGRAM** again this year. Our Breakfast Program will be run by Ms. Safari & Mr. Albert, once again! We are lucky to have them!

The **Breakfast Program** provides students in **Kindergarten** and **Grades 1 - 8** with a nutritional start to their day and assists families by reducing the strain on family resources.

Breakfast is served in the small gym starting at **7:45 a.m.** Students leave the gym at **8:15 a.m.** and proceed outside for before school recess. Students on the bus are able to grab a packed breakfast.

Children arriving late will be able to access a snack to take to class.

If you feel like your child would benefit from this program, please fill in the information below. If you have multiple children, please complete the form **for each child**.

This form is for you to give permission to your child to access Breakfast Club - everyone is welcome!

[Breakfast Club Sign Up](#)

Volunteering at the school

Please read this [important information](#) for all family members who would like to volunteer at the school - this includes volunteering for field trips, as drivers for sports, etc.

We have received many requests and are hoping to have letters out to parents who have requested them by the end of next week.

FORMS

- Here are several important forms to complete:
 - [Media Permission Form](#)
 - [Use of Technology form](#)
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Come and join us this month!

We're looking forward to seeing you back in the fall and planning more great events like the fall Open House. Want to be part of the school council team? Please contact us at:

sc-vincentmasseyps@ocdsb.ca. We meet on the 3rd Tuesday of most months from 6:30-8pm in the school library, with babysitting and hybrid options typically available. Our first meeting is September 16 and everyone is welcome at every meeting! Come hear from the VM admin, help

plan events and fundraising and find out about volunteer opportunities. Stay tuned to the weekly newsletter for more updates.

Volunteer Opportunity

Seeking adult volunteers to help children cross at Dauphin and Smyth until a crossing guard is hired. Please email sc-vincentmasseyps@ocdsb.ca for more information.

Have a wonderful weekend everyone!

Best,

Kristine Klassen, Principal

Glenda Davies, Vice-Principal

Friday, September 5

[Click for translation](#)

Hello VM Community,

It has been such a pleasure welcoming students, educators and families back to school for another exciting year! 2025-2026 may be starting with some logistical challenges, but it has also kicked off with great energy and enthusiasm.

Blending Across non-Immersion and Immersion Classes

The community feeling will continue to grow through the developing relationships in our partner classes. As we discussed in the Spring - in the e-News, at our June Open House, and when we visited with incoming Grade 6 students and families - a number of our classes are involved in our blending pilot project. Through this initiative, we are engaged in the essential work of removing barriers and setting high expectations for all students. Pairs of classes in each grade have begun working as partners, with non-Immersion and Immersion students and teachers blending their classroom experiences for Language Arts and Math. Next week, we will provide more details to families of students who are involved in the blending initiative. As one of several pilot schools in the OCDSB working with the blending model this year, we are excited to share this experience and our learning with the VM community, and with the District as a whole.

Traffic Management

Thank you for all of your support with our new arrival and dismissal procedures. We know this is challenging for many families, and we appreciate you: walking students rather than driving;

slowing down while driving near the school; and refraining from driving on Edgecombe St. between 8:00 - 9:00am and 2:30 - 3:30pm.

Some important reminders:

- From 8:00 - 9:00am and 2:30 - 3:30pm, Edgecombe is now a bus loading zone. Bylaw enforcement vehicles have been circulating in the neighbourhood, and a ticket for parking in a bus loading zone is \$105
- The city has recommended that drivers use Botsford rather than Edgecombe - see map below.

The reason for this: Students are entering and exiting 7 buses and 7 vans on Edgecombe AND scores of students are also crossing Edgecombe to and from home at the same time. Staff cannot also manage car traffic as well.



Blue lines: recommended routes for walkers

Red lines: recommended routes for cars

End of Day Access to the School Yard

Families are invited onto the school yard to meet your children at **3:00pm - and not before**. Please wait off of school property until you hear the bell ring at 3:00pm. This will help manage people traffic at the end of the day - which has increased with all students exiting from the same gate.

Visitors Entering the School

Door F, at the corner of the intermediate play yard, will continue to be the only entrance to the school for visitors, early pick up for appointments, etc.

We would ask that families limit early pick ups between 2:30 - 3:00pm. As discussed above, the play yard is very congested near dismissal time already; visitors entering the school through door F near the end of the day simply adds to this challenge.

Thank you for staying off school property until 3pm, as instruction is still happening!

Individual Education Plans (IEPs)

For students with Individual Education Plans:

Consultation forms for parental/guardian input in the development of your child's IEP were sent home digitally this week. Please check your emails, including the spam folder, for an email from "noreply@pcgeducation.ca". This is the consultation form for you to complete to have input into your child's individual education plan. If you would like a paper copy of the form, please email [Jessica Hebb](#) and one will be sent home with your child.

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 - [Plan of care for Students with Life Threatening Medical Conditions](#)
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- In the afternoon: no family members on the yard until 3:00pm dismissal. **Please wait to enter the yard until you hear the final bell at 3:00pm.**

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Volunteer Opportunity

Seeking adult volunteers to help children cross at Dauphin and Smyth until a crossing guard is hired. Please email sc-vincentmassey@ocdsb.ca for more information.

Have a wonderful weekend everyone!

Best,

Kristine Klassen, Principal

Glenda Davies, Vice-Principal

Friday, August 29

[Click for translation](#)

Hello VM Community,

It's Friday, and the first day of school is right around the corner!

It was wonderful to see families yesterday for a quick visit, in the rain. Folks asked great questions about arrival and dismissal. We have also been consulting with the City of Ottawa, the Ottawa Safety Council, and the OCDSB to plan for safety with respect to our construction zone. Please read below for details and updates.

- Kinder families have already been contacted about your child's class placement
- Grades 1 - 8: you will receive an email over the weekend with your child's/children's class placement
- Once school begins, educators will be supervising the play yard beginning at 8:15am
- Contact OSTA if you have questions about transportation: [OSTA Busing Information](#)
- Here is the voluntary [VM School Supplies 2025-2026](#)
- Here are several important forms to complete:
 - [Media Permission Form](#)
 - [Use of Technology form](#)
 - [Plan of care for Students with Life Threatening Medical Conditions](#)
 - [Prescription Medication to be Administered at School](#)
- No cell phones, personal chromebooks or tablets to be used at school
- In the afternoon: no family members on the yard until 3:00pm dismissal. **Please wait to enter the yard until you hear the final bell at 3:00pm.**

Front of the School

The Smyth sidewalk in front of the school is inaccessible. This will be the case for the duration of the bus loop project. For students and families who walk from the east side of the school, we would recommend:

- At the corner of Edgecombe and Smyth - cross to the south side of Smyth, walk down to the light at Dauphin, and cross back to the school side. From Dauphin, walk along Smyth to school property

Planned Additional Crossing Guards (not in place next week)

2 additional temporary crossing guards have been approved for the duration of the bus loop project. One will be stationed at the corner of Dauphin and Smyth, and the 2nd at the corner of Edgecombe and Smyth.

Important note: the Ottawa Safety Council is working to staff these positions. These corners will **NOT have crossing guards** yet, i.e. there will not be additional crossing guards to start next week. We will update you as soon as this changes.

Moyra, our wonderful crossing guard at Haig and Smyth, will be returning to that corner.

Buses and Vans

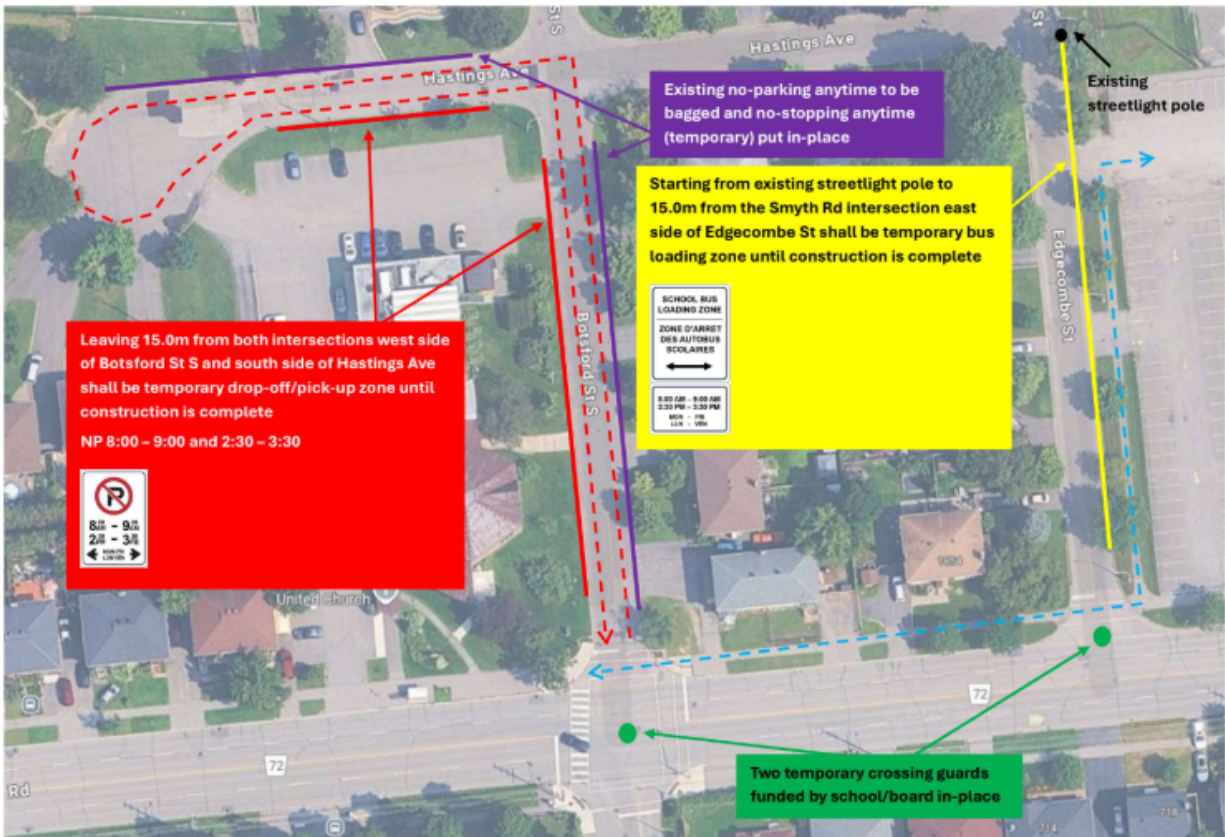
Buses and vans will be unloading and loading on Edgecombe, to the West of the school. As this is a bus loading zone, it will be **impossible to turn onto Edgecombe from Smyth** once the buses arrive and until they depart. The city is currently working on signage to mark this area as a bus loading zone. Parking in a bus loading zone could result in a hefty fine.

Consider walking, rather than driving

In addition to the sidewalks, Smyth Road itself is also currently torn up, with lane reductions. All things considered, this may be the time to try walking rather than driving, for the sake of convenience as well as safety.

If you must drive, the City is recommending that you use Botsford Street, since Edgecombe is unavailable. Turn north onto Botsford, and then left onto Hastings. There is an opportunity for cars to turn around at the end of Hastings and face towards the school. Students can be **dropped** on Hastings, before Botsford, so that they can walk along to Edgecombe and you can turn the car back south onto Botsford. (Parking will not be possible on Hastings.)

There will be a staff member to manage the safety of students walking on the west corner of Hastings and Edgecombe from 8:15 - 8:30am and 3:00 - 3:15pm.



Blue lines: recommended routes for walkers

Red lines: recommended routes for cars

Entering and exiting the School Yard

All access to the school will happen through a door in the gate along the intermediate yard (west side of school). Please see my 2 previous emails for further details and see image below.

If students and families have to access the school once the school day begins, this will **ONLY** happen **through door F**.

There will be a staff member at door F to greet you. We thank you in advance for your patience; there will be adjustments for us to make given that we can't welcome you through the front door. Safe arrival to the school is one of the most important functions of a school office. Since we are building a new process without the front door access, we have to take it slow and steady to ensure we get it right.



Red arrow: door F is in this corner (for all visitors and later arrivals)

Blue arrow: gate in the fence where students will enter and exit

VM School Council Corner

Help us get a head start on 2025-2026 fundraising!

Shopping for summer or stocking up for a new school year? Here are two easy options to support VM:

Mabel's Labels

Buy all your back to school labels using our school name (Vincent Massey Public School (Ottawa)): <http://campaigns.mabelslabels.com/>

FlipGive

Buying pretty much anything else? Check out FlipGive, which offers cash back to VM on hundreds of brands and gift cards, and purchase using our school code: (S7CGCS)
<https://www.flipgive.com/teams/219474-vincent-massey-public-school>

Come and join us in September!

We're looking forward to seeing you back in the fall and planning more great events like the fall Open House. Want to be part of the school council team? Please contact us at: sc-vincentmassey@ocdsb.ca. We meet on the 3rd Tuesday of most months from 6:30-8pm in the school library, with babysitting and hybrid options typically available. Our first meeting is September 16 and everyone is welcome at every meeting! Come hear from the VM admin, help plan events and fundraising and find out about volunteer opportunities. Stay tuned to the weekly newsletter for more updates.

Looking forward to another amazing year here at Vincent Massey PS!

Kristine Klassen & Glenda Davies
Proud Principal & Proud Vice Principal
Vincent Massey PS