

The Viper Vision

V.K. Greer - A Great Place for Kids to Grow

May 2018



Parent Involvement is Key

Research has shown that parent involvement in their child's education has a significant positive impact on their academic and developmental goals.

What can you do to help your child be successful in school?

1. Having high expectations for your children (this has the most significant impact);
2. Talking with your children about school;
3. Helping to develop positive attitudes and work habits;
4. Reading to and with your children.

It is very important that parents communicate that they expect their children to succeed. Let your kids know that you think it's important that they do well in school; tell your kids that you believe in their potential; and encourage them in their dreams!

Talking to your child about what happened at school has a greater impact on academic achievement than limiting screen time. Ask your child(ren) what was your favourite part of the day? What good things happened today? Can you show me what you're working on in school?

Parent's influence on school success is also found in how they shape their children's attitudes, sense of personal competence, and work habits. Fostering independence through gentle encouragement to complete their homework, checking their agenda, and modelling good work habits all contribute to establishing lifelong skills.

Reading to children is a significant trigger for developing children's reading skills. Read, Read, Read! It is very important for parents to read books regularly (several times a week) and that you talk about what you are reading together.

Parents who volunteer for committees and trips and attend parent teacher conferences, also have a positive impact on their child's education. It helps your children see that you value their school.

At VKG, we appreciate your ongoing support in helping us guide your students to become the best they can be!

Heads Up!

The **Grade 3 & 6 EQAO** assessment dates are May 22nd to May 31st. Please refrain from making any appointments for your child during this time.

Graduation is fast approaching for our grade 8's. Please mark **Tuesday, June 26th** on your calendar for our grade 8 graduation ceremony.

New Date: Welcome to Kindergarten Evening at VK Greer



Our 'Welcome to Kindergarten' evening will take place on **Tuesday May 29th from 6-7:00 pm**. Our new students will have the opportunity to see their future classrooms and participate in some fun hands-on activities. Parents will receive information regarding VKG routines, as well as additional tips for preparing their child for September.



Don't Miss The Emperor's New Clothes!

This humorous fairy tale production is based on the story written by Hans Christian Andersen. You and your family will

enjoy watching the antics of the conniving shysters Guido and Luigi as they convince an entire royal court that their exquisite cloth is fit for a king. Show dates are Tuesday, May 15 at 7:00 PM, Wednesday, May 16 at 7:00 PM and Thursday, May 17 in the afternoon (time to be announced). Admission is by donation to the V.K. Greer Arts Fund.



Music Monday!

Join us on Monday, May 7th at 2 pm for our Music Monday Celebration! VK's concert band, primary choir, rock band, and individual Vipers will be entertaining us with their musical talents!

VK's Calendar is Filling Up:

May 4 th	Pizza Lunch, Star Wars Spirit Day
May 7 th	Music Monday Celebration Assembly 2 pm
May 10 th	`Just Dance' at VKG for all grades
May 15 th	Mass Band in Gravenhurst
May 15 th & 16 th	Play Performance 7 pm
May 17 th	Play Performance Matinée
May 18 th	`Royalty' Spirit Day
May 21 st	Victoria Day (holiday)
May 22 nd -31 st	EQAO for grades 3 & 6
May 29 th	Welcome to Kindergarten 6-7 pm
May 31 st	VKG Track and Field (RD June 4 th)
June 1 st	PA Day
June 5 th	VK Concert Band to Wonderland
June 7 th	Talent Show 12 pm and 6:30 pm
June 8 th	Rockfest at VKG!
June 11 th	Amazing Race at VKG!
June 14 th	Regional Track and Field Meet
June 26 th	Graduation
June 28 th	Last Day of School!

Please note: Our VK Google Calendar is constantly updated with new activities on our website!



Shout Outs!

Congratulations to our Junior Battle of the Books team *The Bubble Books* for placing 1st in all of TLDSB! Their

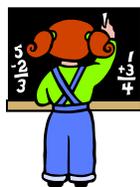
knowledge of the books and teamwork was exceptional! Kudos to Savannah Hrbak, Alex Perlock, and Warren Knox!



Viper Badminton

The following students participated in the regional badminton tournament and are to be commended for their performance on and off

the court: **Junior Team** - Carter Legault, Alex Perlock, Bronwen Petch, Drew Atherton, Ella Brown, Kianna Bailey, Leah Richter, Madeleine Stevenson, Michael Evans, Nadelle Leeder, Nathan Bishop, Savannah Hrbak, Shane Buitenhuis, Tyler Bishop. **Intermediate Team** - Sam Richter, Daniel Clarke, Jenna Gill, Sydney Brinklow, Baron Seifried, Wesley Brown, Cole Anderson, Will Vanderhorn, Madison Flaxman, Alissa Cripps, Mackenzie Ritchie, Jadyne Heath, Tanner Heath, Owen Evans. A big thank you to coaches Mr. Marshall and Mrs. Pitts for all of their time, extra efforts, and expertise!



Evaluation Happens Every Day!

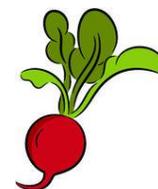
In addition to testing, teachers informally assess skills on a regular basis. Your child's report card may have gaps in it if they miss school. Improve your child's grades through regular attendance. Help make sure they are here on time, every day, and please wait until the bell rings at 3:10 pm to pick them up.

Going on Your Child's Class Trip?

All school volunteers (including those just going on class trips) need to complete a criminal record check through the school office. There is no charge to get one done but the process can take a few weeks. Contact the office for more information.

Garden Program

VKG has a wonderful garden program that allows students to learn firsthand how to grow, harvest, and prepare vegetables. If you have any seeds or starter plants that you would like to donate, or would like to volunteer for this program, please contact the office. Many hands make light work!!



Dress Code

As warmer weather approaches, this is a good time to remind students and parents about our dress code. Highlights include the following:

- ★ Spaghetti straps, muscle shirts, and low-scooped necklines are unacceptable, as are bare midriffs (3 fingers-width rule for straps)
- ★ Shirts must be tuckable and shorts/skirts must **a reasonable length**
- ★ Undergarments should not be visible

Thank you for supporting a positive learning environment!

Help Wanted!

The Healthy Snack program needs a volunteer for Friday mornings. If you are interested in helping out, please contact the school office.



Student Placement for September 2018

During the month of June, teachers will be meeting to discuss student placement for next year. As we begin to organize the process, we thought you might be interested in how this important task is approached. Our School Staffing Committee has proposed a school organization based on the number of teachers we have been allotted (actual teacher names for classes have not yet been finalized.) Due to movement and growth, final decisions about class placement are not made until the end of the summer. **In September, students will return to this year's teacher on the first day to greet a familiar face before moving on to next year's class.**



In the meantime, teachers have division (primary/junior/intermediate) placement meetings. Students are grouped so there is a variety of academic

abilities in each class. This allows for equity in access to the teacher's time and provides the flexibility to create a reasonable, limited number of reading, writing, and math groups. Furthermore, there are many other variables to consider. For example, teachers sometime recommend that students be kept together or separated because of the positive or negative influence on each other's learning. Other issues requiring careful thought include: special needs such as health concerns, resource/withdrawal needs, and male/female role models (where a choice exists).

We appreciate your trust in our professional judgement for balancing all the considerations mentioned above. If, however, you have a special request (i.e. female/male role model, a health or social issue), be sure to put your request in writing to Erika Black as soon as possible so we can consider your input during placement meetings.

Keep in mind that academic groupings are our highest priority, so sometimes requests cannot be accommodated. Requests to be placed with a particular friend is the lowest priority since social times - recess and special events - are generally grade-wide.



Attendance Matters!

Researchers found that students who miss an average of 2 days a month in kindergarten and grade 1 are more likely to struggle with reading and other academic subjects. (Education Update, ASCD March 2014)

Regular attendance not only supports academic growth, it develops appropriate social/emotional development, perseverance, and self-confidence.

Please encourage your child to attend every day and to be on time.



Tips for Packing Lunches and Smiles!

Create your own fancy packaging with colourful reusable containers. Pack with fun choices such as:

- ✓ Cubes of cheese and/or rolled up sliced meat
- ✓ Baby carrots, cucumber, green pepper slices
- ✓ Plain popcorn seasoned with flavourings such as parmesan cheese
- ✓ Whole wheat pita cut into triangles

Veggies and Fruit to Grow on

Few children get enough vegetables and fruits each day. Include some in your child's lunch. Try:

- ✓ Wrapping cucumber pieces with flavoured cream cheese in a whole grain tortilla
- ✓ Papaya, mango, or kiwi cut into slices
- ✓ Melons, such as watermelon and cantaloupe with chunks of ham
- ✓ Freeze an orange (cut into quarters), strawberries, blueberries and grapes

Snacks to Avoid... Here are some items that are 'poor' lunch bag choices due to sugar, fat, or salt content.

- Drinks such as Kool-Aid Jammers, Power Aid/Gator Aid and Fruitopia
- Lunchmates/Lunchables
- Dry instant noodles, mini-cracker & cheese kits
- Real Fruit Gummies, Fruit Rollups, Fruit to Go, Juicy Gels, Fruit by the Foot



Silver Standing at Kiwanis!

VK's concert band performed at the Kiwanis Music Festival for the first time and received a Silver standing with 84%! As the adjudicator said "Simply Remarkable!"

Run, Run, as Fast as You Can!

Junior and Intermediate students are reminded that a change of gym clothing and proper fitting running shoes are required for safe, full participation in our school's physical education program.



Please note that **flip flops are not safe** on the yard or playground equipment. All students should be wearing proper footwear while at school.

Home Away From Home Please remind your child(ren) to help keep our school clean and tidy by putting their garbage where it belongs, taking care of their belongings (hang clothes on the hooks, place footwear under the rack) and to always be respectful when using the washrooms and equipment.

We would also like you to emphasize the importance of respecting the property of others. Everyone in our Viper community should feel that their belongings are safe. Thank you!

VK's Bus Lane

If you are dropping off your child in the morning (kiss and ride) please pull in past the school so that the buses can pull in behind you. Ask your child to walk along the sidewalk, past the buses. If you are coming into the school or picking your child up, please park in the parking lot. **Never leave your car in the bus lane - this is a fire route and you could be fined.** Thank you for helping us keep VK safe for everyone.

VK Greer's Got Talent

Join us on Thursday, June 7th from 4:00-6:00 pm for our Talent Show! The event will include a variety of student talents as well as VK's Bands and choir performances!



VKG Track and Field



Track and Field season is upon us and we need your assistance to have a smooth-running day. Volunteers are needed on Thursday, May 31st (rain date June 4th) to assist with running and field events. If you can help us out, please call the office.

Math Olympics 2018

Kudos to our VKG Silver Medalists!



Baron Seifried
Daniel Clarke
Madison Marshall
Jadyn Heath

VIPER SPIRIT DAYS

Dress Up To Earn Snake Pit Points!



Friday, May 4th - Star Wars Day



Friday, May 18th - Royalty Day

Join the 19th Annual Port Sydney Village-Wide

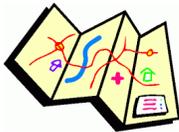
Yard Sale

Saturday, June 2, 2018 - Rain or Shine!

Presented by V.K. Greer School Council

Here are three ways to participate!

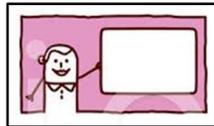
Vendor Registration



Register your sale and have it marked on the free map that will be distributed throughout the community. You'll also receive a sign to post at your sale, confirming your participation.

\$25

Map Advertising



Advertise your business card on the back of the map!

\$15

Trunk Sale at Port Sydney Beach



Book a parking spot at the Port Sydney Beach and sell your items there.

\$25

Drop off by Fri. May 18th at:

Jamieson's General Store – Thurs. May 3rd or Tuesday, May 8th, 5-8 pm
or V.K. Greer Memorial Public School - any weekday, 8:30 am – 3:30 pm

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

VENDOR
REGISTRATION

MAP
ADVERTISING

BUSINESS CARD
ATTACHED

TRUNK
SALE

PAYMENT \$ _____
 CASH CHEQUE