



**Vernon River Consolidated School
Parent Newsletter #1 – Tuesday, September 14th, 2021**

www.gov.pe.ca/edu/vrcs

Phone: 902-651-8520

David Wood, Principal

Lori Targett, Vice-Principal

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

Update to School Calendar: The Government of PEI has announced that beginning this year PEI will observe September 30th as the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation. **Schools in the Public Schools Branch will be closed on Thursday, September 30th.** Please Note: **Wednesday, September 29th will be Orange Shirt Day.**



Student Drop-Off/Pick-Up: Reminder that students should not be dropped off prior to 8:30am since no supervision is provided before that time. When students are dropped off, they are to wait in the front lobby until they are permitted into the classroom area.

If students are being picked up during the day or at dismissal time, please send a note with your child indicating this – thank you. Reminder - bus passes will be granted to students to travel on alternate buses for child care purposes only.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school (902) 651-8520, or email Mr. Wood dawood@edu.pe.ca or Ms. Targett at latargett@edu.pe.ca

Student Allergies: Due to severe student allergies, we are not permitting strawberries or strawberry products at Vernon River Consolidated School this year. It is our responsibility to provide a safe environment for all students; your cooperation with this is appreciated by the school and the family involved.

Staffing Update: Welcome to the following new and/or returning staff members:

Ashley Paquet (Kindergarten)
Ashley MacDonald (Grade 3)
Nikki Cheverie (Grade 5)
Brynn VanWiechen (Grade 6)
Sarah Adams (Grade 7/8)
Mary-Irene Rooney (Educational Assistant)
Tory Shaw (Educational Assistant)



Thank You: A huge thank you to April Nicholson and Kerry MacPhee for all of their work over the summer getting the school ready for students and staff, with all of the additional protocols in place. The school looks wonderful...we appreciate your effort and hard work - **Thank You!**



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

Home and School: The first Home and School meeting of the year will be held on **Tuesday, September 21st at 6:30pm.**

School Pictures: School pictures are scheduled for **Wednesday, September 22nd**. Picture day flyers will be sent home with students. When you receive your picture proofs, you may order your pictures online at mylifetouch.ca by using your **Portrait ID and Access Code** which can be found on your picture proof package. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, pictures for pre-school children will not be allowed this year.

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

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



School Schedule: A morning bell will ring at 8:50 followed by O'Canada and morning announcements. At 8:55 all regular classes will begin. This year we will again be operating on an elementary schedule (K to grade 6) with a six day cycle, and an intermediate schedule (grade 7-9) with a two day cycle (odd & even).

Elementary Schedule (K-6)

8:45-8:55	Homeroom
8:55-9:25	Period 1
9:25-9:55	Period 2
9:55-10:25	Period 3
10:25-10:35	Snack
10:35-11:05	Period 4
11:05-11:35	Period 5
11:35-12:00	Outdoor Recess
12:00-12:25	Lunch
12:30-1:00	Period 6
1:00-1:30	Period 7
1:30-1:45	Outdoor Recess
1:45-2:15	Period 8
2:15-2:45	Period 9
2:45	Dismissal
2:55	Departure Bell

Intermediate Schedule (7-9)

8:45-8:55	Homeroom
8:55-9:55	Period 1
10:00-11:00	Period 2
11:05-12:05	Period 3
12:05-12:35	Lunch
12:40-1:40	Period 4
1:45-2:45	Period 5
2:45	Dismissal
2:55	Departure Bell

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

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



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

Chocolate: (Small) 237 ml - 75 cents
(Large) 473 ml - \$1.25

Ice Cream: Ice cream products will be sold every Thursday at noon - cost is \$1.00 per item. This is a fundraiser for the grade 9 end of year activities. Please send a spoon with your child if he/she is buying a sundae cup, as no spoons are supplied with these items.



Terry Fox Run/Toonies for Terry: This year's Terry Fox run will be held on Friday, September 17th. The walk/run will be held on the soccer field, in three separate groups (half hour time slots). We are asking each student to please bring in a toonie to donate to cancer research. Thank you for your support!

PEI's Healthy School Food Program: There is a new online ordering platform for the school food program. The system is accessible at www.peischoolfood.org, the program is called BON APPETIT – A program of PEI School Food Program Inc. Families of students new to VRCS, as well as parents who used the former system last year can register at this website, if you have not already done so.

Meals will continue to be ordered on a bi-weekly basis; ordering will open on Saturday at 12:00 AM and close on the following Thursday at 12:00 PM (noon) for meals to begin the following Monday. The program will continue to offer a pay what you can payment model, allowing families to choose the amount they can pay:

- 1) I can pay the entire meal amount
- 2) I can pay a partial amount of the meal value
- 3) I cannot pay the meal value

School Therapy Occupational Therapy (OT) Program: Please see the attached introduction letter from Shianna Cormier, Occupational Therapist, School Therapy OT Program.

Montague Family of Schools: Student Well-being Team (SWT) News: The team members of the Montague Family of Schools wish all students and their families/caregivers a wonderful school year. We look forward to offering service and programs this school year!

Did You Know? You can self-refer to our program using the online referral form using link <https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/service/make-a-student-well-being-team-referral>

To request more information on the types of services we offer, you can email our team using MontagueSWTReferrals@edu.pe.ca or call 902-361-2416.

The Montague Student Well-being Team is now on social media! Check it out and find out what activities are being offered in your area.

Parenting Information: What is Triple P? Triple P is a free Positive Parenting Program that is regularly offered in your school area by the Student Well-being Team! It gives parents simple tips to help manage the big and small problems of family life! Triple P is one of the few parenting programs in the world with evidence to show it works for most families.

Each newsletter we will be offering some helpful take home messages to parents of children aged 0-12, and teen. Check out the information for parents of children aged 0-12 and teen in this newsletter.

The Power of Positive Parenting Take Home Messages for parents of children aged 0-12: Create a warm, loving, safe environment for your child.

- Use positive strategies to encourage your child's learning.
- Use assertive discipline to help your child take responsibility for their actions.

- Have reasonable expectations of both your child and yourself.
- Take care of yourself by looking after your own needs, balancing work and family responsibilities, challenging negative thinking, and working as a team.

Raising Responsible Teenagers Take Home Messages: Help your teenage to become more responsible by encouraging them to:

- Take part in family decision making
- Be respectful and considerate
- Be involved in family activities
- Develop a healthy lifestyle
- Be reliable
- Be assertive.

Want more information, check out the next program offer, and/or visit the link <https://www.triple-parenting.ca/can-en/find-help/triple-p-parenting-in-prince-edward-island/>

From The PEI Home and School Federation - Home & School News, September 2021:

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

Home & School Contact Info. - Presidents: Fill out the Home & School contact information form and email to the Federation office at: peihsf@edu.pe.ca.

Treasurers: Submit Home and School 2021-2022 Membership fees to the PEIHSF office online at: https://peihsf.ca/become_a_member/ OR mail a cheque. Membership Fee Form can be downloaded at: https://peihsf.ca/become_a_member/

Semi-Annual Meeting - The 2021 Semi-Annual will be an in-person meeting held Tuesday, October 21st, 6:00 PM, Gulf Shore Consolidated School, Rustico, PEI. More details to follow.

Back to School Plans - Following feedback from education stakeholders and a planning exercise, the Public Schools Branch (PSB) and La Commission scolaire de langue française (CSLF) are acting on the advice of the Chief Public Health Office and will implement policy to ensure compliance with masking to support a safe return to school this fall. More details at: <https://edu.princeedwardisland.ca/psb/>

PEI's Healthy School Lunch Program - It's a new school year and everyone is invited to sign up your child for healthy school food meals that will be served daily in schools. Register early here: <https://peischoolfood.org>

NuWelcom App - Download the NuWelcom App that translates PEI school and community news into twelve different languages.

Vernon River Community School: Pre-registration by phone or email by September 27th Geraldine at 902-651-2562 or Ann at 902-651-2179

Betty: bwichers@hotmail.ca or Donna: donna.jean777@hayoo.ca

First Class – Monday, October 4th, 2021 from 7-8:30pm - registration at 6:30pm @ Vernon River School
Registration fee - \$15 (additional fees for some classes); 50/50 draw each night

Open to ages 17 years and over; Bring your own drinks this year due to Covid restrictions

Courses Offered:	Rug hooking with Charlene	Yoga with Kate
	Acrylic Painting with Donna	Swedish Weaving with Betty
	Knitting with Cathy	Local History with David
	Embroidery/Crocheting with Geraldine	Game-A-Night with Gwenda
	Craft-A-Night with Laura	Crokinole with Lawson (need 8)
	Texas Holdum-Poker with Rob	Basic Guitar with Barry
	Ukelele – seeking instructor	Guitar Jamming with George & Mike
	Quilting Bee	Line Dancing with Karen

Masks will have to be worn until you are seated in your classroom. Most classes require a minimum of 6 people.