



HILLTOP HIGHLITES
VANKLEEK HILL COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE
5814 Highway 34, Vankleek Hill, Ontario K0B 1R0
Tel: (613) 678-2023 Fax: (613) 678-6490
<http://vci.ucdsb.on.ca>



November 26th, 2010

Dear Parents/Guardians,

MID-SEMESTER REPORT CARDS

We are enclosing with this newsletter the mid-semester report card for your son, daughter or ward. It gives an evaluation of the work accomplished from September 7th to November 11th, 2010 in each course.

Students who are doing well deserve our congratulations; those who could do better must be encouraged to try harder to achieve their potential; those who are having problems should seek extra help from their teachers. Studies have shown that students who receive encouragement and support at home with their school work tend to do better academically. Please be assured that the staff of Vankleek Hill Collegiate Institute remain committed to helping and encouraging students to reach their potential.

If you have any questions or concerns about this report card, please contact the subject teacher(s), Student Services or the School Administration.

NEW BEGINNING – NEW VCI

We are very proud to say that students started classes in our new \$14.5 million facility on Monday, November 15th, 2010. Our new 58,000 square foot school, built by Robert J. Bourgon and Associates is a state of the art facility which will help to enhance student learning.

Our new school offers a spacious library with computer stations for web-based research, a special education life skills room, two computer labs, a chemistry lab, a biology lab, an automotive shop, a woodworking shop, a cafeteria and a modern visual art room with drafting desks. Many of the classrooms in our new school have SMART technology with ceiling mounted LCD projectors, a teaching tool to support all of the great work our teaching staff do to support student learning.

Special thanks to all students and staff who worked hard in the early months of this school year to ensure a smooth transition to our new school. Please be sure to take some time out of your schedules to visit the new VCI and see what it has to offer our students.

FOR PARENTS OF GRADUATING STUDENTS

You should be aware of the following:

University Applications Deadline January 12th, 2011 **\$120.00 Fee**

(This covers applications to 3 Universities or 3 programs)

College Applications Deadline February 1st, 2011 **\$ 95.00 Fee**

(This covers applications to 5 Colleges or 5 programs)

At this time students have been attending presentations from Universities and Colleges. They will also be participating in tutorials on the On-Line Application Process to post-secondary institutions. A reminder that Community Involvement is a diploma requirement for graduating students. It is important that students double check their number of credits earned and also review the potential graduates' list posted at the general office.

2010-2011 Leadership Council

Commissioner of the Arts
Commissioner of Athletics
Commissioner of Graduating Class
Commissioner of School Affairs
Commissioner of Social Events
Commissioner of Student Morale

Tyler Holmwood
Liz Turner
Trisha Overvest &
Megan MacCallum
Stephanie Legg
Josh Bissonette
Andrea Allen

House Leaders

Black House

Gr. 9 Bradley Morris
Gr. 10 Alamin Mollack
Gr. 11 Frazer McIntyre
Gr. 12 Courtney Haas

Red House

Gr. 9 Jacob Liutkus
Gr. 10 Alyssa McIntyre
Gr. 11 Ashley Albright
Gr. 12 Paige Henderson

Blue House

Gr. 9 Samantha Gray
Gr. 10 Shayla DeVita
Gr. 11 Morgan Allen
Gr. 12 Kenny McRae

Green House

Gr. 9 Robbyn Picard
Gr. 10 Nick Rizzo
Gr. 11 Laura Barton
Gr. 12 Parker MacDonald



REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY

November 11th was not only Remembrance Day, but it was also for us, our last day in the old VCI. Mrs. Hinse and Mr. Hamel presided over a Remembrance Day Ceremony early in the morning. O Canada was sung by Michele Babbage Morin who was accompanied on keyboards by Mr. Banhardt. This set the tone of respect and reverence. The Principal, Mr. Jeff Campbell, opened the ceremony with a few words from a Holocaust survivor Eva Olsson who was a guest in our school a few years ago. Constable Patrick MacCulloch was our Guest Speaker. He is a veteran of several missions in Bosnia and Afghanistan. He shared his wealth of experience with the student body. He paid tribute to all war veterans who fought to keep Canada a peaceful and free country. Constable MacCulloch who is now working for the OPP, conveyed a clear message: "You must strive to get your Secondary School Diploma. Education is essential." Our VCI Concert Band under the direction of Mr. Charles Banhardt played a choice selection called: "Spirit of the Wolf". Other participants were Cedrick Guy, a grade 11 VCI student who talked about his involvement as an Officer Cadet; Mr. David Nieman, Annie Allen and Tyler Holmwood laid the wreaths on behalf of staff and student body and Charles Hinse-MacCulloch piped in the processional to the gymnasium and led it outside to the Cenotaph. "A Day to Remember and a farewell to the 1954 building."

DATES TO REMEMBER



2010

Tues., Nov. 30th
Fri., Dec. 17th
Wed., Dec. 22nd
Thurs., Dec. 23rd
Fri., Dec. 24th
Mon. To Fri., Dec. 27th to
Jan 7th (Inclusive)

7:00 p.m. – VCI School Council Mtg, Library
A.M. - Grad Photos Retakes, Library
7:00 p.m. - Music Dept. Christmas Concert
7:00 p.m. – Weather Date for Music Dept. Christmas Concert
Non-Instructional Day – no classes

Christmas HOLIDAYS for students - no classes

2011

Mon., Jan. 10th
Tues., Jan. 25th
Thurs., Jan. 27th to Wed., Feb. 2nd
Thurs., Feb 3rd
Fri., Feb 4th
Tues., Feb. 15th
Fri., Feb 18th
Mon., Feb. 21st
Tues., Mar. 8th
Fri., March 11th
Sun., Mar. 13th
Mon. to Fri., Mar. 14th to 18th
Thurs., Mar. 24th
Fri., Mar. 25th
Thurs., Mar. 31st
Mon. Apr. 4th to Apr. 10th
Thurs., Apr. 21st
Fri., April 22nd
Mon., April 25th
Tues., May 17th
Mon., May 23rd
Fri., May 27th
May 29th – June 4th
DTD
Thurs., to Wed., June 23-29th
Wed., June 29th
Thurs., June 30th
Fri., July 1st
Fri., July 8th
July 12-26th

Classes Commence (Day 1)
7:00 p.m. – VCI School Council Mtg, Library
EXAMINATIONS
2nd Semester Classes Begin (Day 1)
Professional Activity Day - no classes
Grade 8 Information Night – 7:00 p.m.-Cafetorium
1st Semester Final Reports Distributed
Family Day Holiday – no classes
7:00 p.m. – VCI School Council Mtg
Preliminary Progress Reports Distributed
Daylight Savings Time Begins
MARCH BREAK - no classes
Parent/Teacher Interviews (2:30-4:00 & 5:00-7:00)
Blood Donor Clinic, VCI Cafetorium
A.M. only- Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test – Gr. 10
VCI Girls Rugby Team Exchange to Kamloops, B.C.
Mid-Term Prov. Reports Distributed
Good Friday Holiday – no classes
Easter Monday Holiday – no classes
7:00 p.m. – VCI School Council Mtg - Library
Victoria Day HOLIDAY - no classes
Professional Activity Day – no classes
VCI Rugby Girls Host team from Kamloops, B.C.
PROM – Olde Stanley Maple Lane Farm, Edwards, On
EXAMINATIONS
Graduation CEREMONY – 7 p.m. Cafetorium
Professional Activity Day
Canada Day HOLIDAY
2nd Semester Final Reports Mailed
Honduras Trip

“A reminder not to plan any appointments during Exam Periods”

A student who misses an exam requires a medical note, specifically stating that the student was sick on the day of the exam and that the student was seen by the doctor on or before the day of the exam. The student may be expected to write the exam at a later date.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

We strongly encourage students to take the opportunity to participate in the multitude of activities offered at VCI. Thank you to the following staff members who are making these activities possible.

Sr. Boys Volleyball - Mrs.L. MacKinnon

Jr. Girls Volleyball – Mrs.L. MacKinnon

St. Girls Volleyball – Ms. D. Rogers

Jr. Boys Basketball – Mr. M. Williams

Sr. Boys Basketball – Mr. W. Lee

Jr. Girls Basketball – Mrs. T. Myre

Sr. Girls Basketball – Mrs. C. Sauve

Jr. Boys Soccer –

Sr. Boys Soccer – Mr. R. Cunning

Jr. Girls Soccer – Mrs. S. Dagg/ Ms S. Seguin

Sr. Girls Soccer – Mrs. S. Dagg,/ Ms S. Seguin

Boys & Girls Rugby – Mr. W. Lee

Boys Hockey – Mr. R. Cunning

Cross Country – Mr. W. Lee

Eco-Club – Ms D. Rogers

Math Competitions – Mr. S. Vaillancourt

Green Day – Ms. N. Kouao

Year book – Mrs. T. Whinfield

Book Club – Mrs. J. McKechnie/J.MacLeod

Concert Band – Mr. C. Banhardt

Jazz Band – Mr. C. Banhardt

Symphonic Band – Mr. C. Banhardt

School Reach – Ms. J. MacLeod



MUSIC NOTES by Mr. C. Banhardt, Music Teacher

This has been a very busy semester as preparations for our move to our new building has taken up quite a load of energy. We are by all means, charging forward with our plans for up-and-coming concerts.

Our beginning concert band has made their debut by playing in our November 11th Remembrance Day Service. Our three selections ‘aired” very well with our audience. Our next “gig” will be our Parade of Lights march through the streets of Vankleek Hill on Fri., December 3rd. Pray for great weather!

Our final 2010 concert will be none other than “*Music at Christmas*” concert to be held the night of Wednesday, December 22nd at 7:00 p.m. This will be a major fund-raising event to purchase risers, rugs and helpful items for our new music room. This will be our first major performance in our new cafetorium, so please come out in “droves” to support our efforts. Tickets will be sold at the door.

Thanks to all parents who helped support our two fund-raising endeavors – namely citrus and chocolate bars. Our students made a grand effort to get out and campaign for our musical causes. There will be further fund-raising in the future.

Thanks again for your wonderful support.

VCI SCHOOL COUNCIL – by Charles Simpkin, Chair

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all of the people responsible for getting us into our new school. This work started well over a decade ago and involved many successive school councils, our community, the board, teachers and administration. You overcame many obstacles along the way, never giving up, even when things looked hopeless and now, thanks to your vision and perseverance we can begin to use and enjoy the fruits of your labor.

We recently hosted a sneak preview which was extremely well attended and elicited many positive comments from the SMART boards and projectors in every classroom to the new gym and cafeteria, visitors got a first glimpse of a truly excellent facility that will serve our students and the community at large for years to come. I would especially like to thank Mr. Campbell and his staff for organizing the event during what must have been an incredibly hectic week and also for the smooth transition to the new facility.

Although we appreciate the new “bricks and mortar” I would also like to remind you that it is what we do with this facility that will make it truly great. To this end I would encourage all of you to become involved and help us to continue to mould and improve VCI, because with your input it will be so much more than just a great building it will continue to be a great institution.

The members of the 2010-2011 VCI School Council are:

Jeff Campbell (Principal)
Beth Fanning (Secretary)
Stephanie Legg (Student Rep)
Linda MacKinnon (Teacher Rep)
Shigi Walz (Parent Rep)

Charles Simpkin (Chair)
Lisa Henderson (Vice-Chair)
Susan Pilon (Community Rep)
Lois Linttell (Non-Teaching Rep)
Brenda Bettridge (Parent Rep)

Meetings are open and we welcome your attendance at anytime. The 7:00 p.m. Council Meetings are as follows, subject to date changes as required:

Tuesday, November 30th, 2010
Tuesday, March 8th, 2011

Tuesday, January 25th, 2011
Tuesday, May 17th, 2011

TO ALL PARENTS OF OUR GRADE 10 STUDENTS – by Mrs. N. Hinse

The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) is on Thursday, March 31st, 2011 (a.m. only). If you have never heard of it or you want to know more about this diploma requirement, please go on: www.eqao.com and find your way to the OSSLT. You can also go under “parent resource”. As parents, you can help us by making sure your child is taking this test **seriously**. It is mandatory to pass this test in order to graduate in grade 12.

Practices will start soon in order to review the skills needed. We plan to schedule these practice sessions once a week until the date of the test. A “mock test” will be administered before the end of this semester. Any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to phone the school.

Jeffrey Campbell
Principal

:lkl

Accompanying the report cards, response forms and the Hilltop Highlites Newsletter please find:

- **“Place a Recognition Ad in the yearbook” order form**