

Hello Viper Families,

Happy New Year. 2019 is off to an exciting start. The playground is full of exciting outdoor activities and our Vipers are out working together to create giant snowmen, forts, fast slides and exciting hockey games. Our cross country ski trials will soon be groomed and our snowshoe adventures have begun.

As I get to know the staff and students, I am amazed by the continued kindness that I see. It was very inspiring to see children taking the initiative to compliment, help, and be kind to each other. There is something very gentle and empowering about children helping children. I am grateful to be joining this team at VK Greer.

We continue to work on providing families with several ways to stay informed. We have been working to update the VK Greer website - <https://vkg.tlidsb.on.ca/> including the calendar so you know when new events are coming up or you can take a break from packing a lunch on a pizza day. You can follow us on Twitter @vkgreerps, and receive regular posts or tweets about events and updates about the exciting things we are doing. Also, you should be receiving periodic contact with your child's classroom teacher about learning in the classroom. If you have any questions or would have any suggestions on how we can improve our parent communication, please let us know. Let's work together to stay in touch and keep up to date.

I have been meeting lots of families and I look forward to getting to know all of you. If you are picking someone up or dropping something off, stop in and say hello.

This winter the weather seems to change quickly. Please make sure your children are bringing their winter gear to be ready for adventures outside. Have a safe and happy January.

Trudi MacKinnon - Principal



How did pirates get to be such heroic figures in our modern world? They're dishonest, selfish, smelly, naughty and well, a whole lot of fun. That's how. They are so popular that they have their very own holiday - "Talk like a Pirate Day".

VK Greer is proud to present Pirates: The Musical in May of 2019. Auditions are on Monday, January 14, Tuesday, January 15 and Wednesday, January 16. Students interested in speaking parts have been provided with a script to practice over the weekend. Students interested in non-speaking parts are asked to come prepared to show non-verbal actions such as laughing, swabbing the deck, clanking glasses and general rowdiness.

Encourage your students to listen to announcements and read the white board to know about practices and meetings.

Dress for the Weather!

The winter months are upon us so I would like to take a moment to remind everyone to come to school prepared for the weather. We regularly go outside for recess and some physical education classes in the winter months. The only



time we would stay inside is when the temperature (with or without the windchill) reaches -21°C or below. **Students are required to wear shoes indoors. Please ensure that they have a pair of shoes at school.**

Dates to Remember:

Jan. 10th - Grade 7/8 trip to Huntsville HS Guidance Visit



Huntsville HS
HAVING THE COURAGE TO SUCCEED

Jan. 11th - Ms. Amussen's, Kirkpatrick's, Pitt's Classes trip to Huntsville Curling Club



Jan. 17th Grade 7/8 Classes trip to Huntsville HS Music Workshop

Jan. 18th - Assembly a.m.

Jan. 23rd - Mr. Marshall's Class trip to Huntsville Curling Club



Jan. 25th - Ms. Amussen's, Kirkpatrick's, Pitt's Classes trip to Huntsville Curling Club

Jan. 31st - Pizza Lunch

BOOK FAIR! The Scholastic Book Fair was a great success. The net sales were, \$2,659.56. We are able to purchase many new books for our Library. A big thank you to Mrs. Wilkins and Mrs. Thompson for all their hard work. Mark your calendars, the next Book Fair being held on April 3, 4, and 8th.

Winter Electives

This year VK Greer Winter Electives will be a little different. Information will be going home in the near future.

We are in search of...

knitting needles, wool, and volunteers to help with a knitting club!

We knit to keep ourselves from



unravelling!

Arrowhead Nordic Ski Club has great programs for kids! Arrowheadnordic.ca

TLAC 2019

TLAC 2019 Student Registration Forms are now available online!



What is TLAC? TLAC is an arts camp for Grade 7 through 12 students that will take place on May 19 to 24, 2019 at Camp White Pine in Haliburton. TLAC offers specialized instruction for Music, Drama, Musical Theatre, Dance, and Visual Art within an exciting camp experience.

The deadline for all registrations is January 18, 2019.

Registrations are available online or in your school office. Visit <http://tldsb.ca/tlac> for a link to the online registration. For more information, contact Wendy Browne at 1(888)526-5552 x22104 or email at TLAC@tldsb.on.ca. Registrations are accepted on a first come, first served basis, so be sure to register early!

Winter Fun at VKG



It looks like it is going to be a snowy winter! We are fortunate to have the playgrounds and trails to encourage physical activity throughout the winter and to promote a healthy lifestyle in Muskoka! Through the TLDSB Program Enhancement program, we have been able to purchase 20 new junior sized snowshoes! Mr. Marshall will soon be grooming the trails and we are looking forward to getting our students out cross-country skiing! If you have any equipment that you would like to donate, please give Mr. Marshall a call at extension 75116.



STUDENTS START YOUR READING

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

2018-2019

INTERMEDIATE BOOKLIST

- ❖ **The Forgetting**
S. Cameron
- ❖ **Refugee**
A. Gratz
- ❖ **Flush**
C. Hiassen
- ❖ **The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind**
B. Mealer & W. Kamkwamba
- ❖ **Schooled**
G. Korman
- ❖ **The Golden Compass**
P. Pullman
- ❖ **Life As We Knew It**
S. B. Pfeffer
- ❖ **Run**
E. Walters
- ❖ **Shannen & The Dream for a School**
J. Wilson
- ❖ **Wolf Hollow**
L. Wolk

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

2018-2019

JUNIOR BOOKLIST

- ❖ **Crenshaw**
K. Applegate
- ❖ **The Thing About Jellyfish**
A. Benjamin
- ❖ **The Birchbark House**
L. Erdrich
- ❖ **Among the Hidden**
M. Peterson Haddix
- ❖ **The Secret of Platform 13**
E. Ibbotson
- ❖ **Wonder**
R.J. Palacio
- ❖ **Percy Jackson & The Lightning Thief**
R. Riordan
- ❖ **Safe As Houses**
E. Walters
- ❖ **Sting**
J. Watson
- ❖ **Survival: Hurricane! The Fury of Hurricane Hazel**
F. Wishinsky