



Father Vachon School

We Grow: In knowledge. In love. In faith.

Mrs. D. Côté
Principal

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www.scs.sk.ca/vac

Mr. B. Harper
Vice-Principal

Newsletter #1

September 8, 2006

WELCOME BACK – A big welcome back to all our students and a special welcome to those who are attending Father Vachon for the first time this year. Communication between school and home is important. Teachers will be sending their own classroom notes throughout the year. A school newsletter will be issued every second Friday. Some of our families were receiving our newsletter by email last year. Thank you for helping us reduce costs. Please feel welcome to call or drop in to see me at any time. ~ Mrs. Côté ~

IMPORTANT INFO - There is a great deal of information coming your way today (see attachment list). Please take the time to read this and I promise that the rest of the newsletters for this year will be shorter. Each family should be receiving a blue **Family Handbook**. There is information within it regarding procedures at the school plus a calendar for your reference. We know that we have asked you to complete many forms but all are important for us to have on file. Thanks for your patience.

A lime green Family Information Form was distributed at Registration. The information on this form is used for emergency situations, as well as on a daily basis. If we do not receive this form, the students cannot participate in Learning Activities outside the school. If you did not receive one of these forms (one per family), please contact the school secretary at 659-7210. The students should also have brought home 3 more forms for you to sign. These forms are regarding use of the internet, lunchroom privileges and a release from parents regarding using pictures of your child for various media opportunities. The teachers will have discussed these forms with your child prior to you receiving them.

WHAT'S HAPPENING??

Tuesday, Sept. 12	PICTURE DAY
Monday, Sept. 18	Meet the Staff Night/Parent Association Meeting & Social
Sept. 18-Sept 21	Welcome Week
Wednesday, Sept. 20	School Opening Mass @ St. Patrick's Parish 9:30/Peace Day Walk; Kindergarten PM & Grade 1K to Robertson's Pumpkin Patch
Thursday, September 21	Welcome Week Breakfast – 7:30- 9:00 A.M.
Monday, September 26	Parent Association Annual Meeting/Bullying Presentation 7:00 P.M.
Friday, Sept. 22	COMMON DISMISSAL DAY – NO SCHOOL
October 15 – 21	Education Week



FATHER VACHON SCHOOL STAFF - 2006 - 2007

Welcome to all our staff. We have many new faces that are on view on the front door bulletin board.

Mrs. D. Cote	Principal	Ms. T. Anderson	Band
Mr. B. Harper	V.P./TADT	Ms. K. Troesch	Student Services
Mrs. J. Wist	K.P.M./Pre-Kind.	Mrs. G. Blazeiko	Teacher Assistant
Mrs. J. Joceyln-Mewis	K.A.M.	Mr. W. Craig	Teacher Assistant
Mrs. K. Ketterer/Mrs.D.Clatney	Gr. 1	Mrs. C. Mulhall	Teacher Assistant
Miss C. Perry	Gr. 1/2	Mrs. S. McLaughlin	Teacher Assistant
Mrs. J. Noonan	Gr. 2	Mrs. C. Zipchen	Teacher Assistant
Mrs. S. Gabruch/Mrs.M.Hildebrandt	Gr. 3	Ms. B. Kovitch	Teacher Assistant
Ms J. Engele	Gr. 3/4	Ms. M. Upton	Teacher Assistant
Mrs. D Czarnota/Mrs. L. Kwasnica-Doll	Gr. 4/5	Mrs. K. Walker	Teacher Assistant
Mrs. K Bucsis	Gr. 5	Mrs. N. Ilic	Teacher Assistant
Mr. R. Strawson	Gr. 6	Mrs. M. Hill	Teacher Assistant
Mrs. D. Blyth	Gr. 6/7	Mr. S. Couture	Teacher Assistant
Mr. S. Chaisson	Gr. 7/8	Miss B. Elder	Teacher Assistant
Mr. J. Siba	Gr. 8	Ms. L. Swystun	Office Coordinator
Mrs. T. Scheck	E.I.P.	Mr. C. Pinel	Caretaker
Mrs. L. Domsolai	L.A.T.	Mrs. P. Weinberger	Evening Caretaker
Mrs. M. Dunbar	L.A.T.	Mrs. B. Hanson	Acting Director (659-7001)
Mrs. R. Blacklock	L.A.T.	Mr. G. Martell	Superintendent (659-7056)
Mrs. M. Meschishnick	Teacher/Librarian		
Mrs. C. Nolin	TADT		

Note: Ms. Laliberte, our grade 1/2 teacher is currently away on medical leave. She has been diagnosed with leukemia and is currently receiving treatment. She asks for your prayers.

STUDENT NEWS

BEGINNER BAND WORKSHOPS - The Beginner Band Workshop for schools west of the river will take place on Saturday, September 23 from 8:30 a.m. to 11: 45 a.m. Please look for the flyer or go to www.scs.sk.ca/arts.

NUT ALERT – We have a number of students at our school that are highly allergic to peanuts and nut products. Anaphylaxis is a medical condition that causes a severe reaction to specific foods and can result in death within minutes. Because of the seriousness of this danger, we ask that you are careful to avoid sending food to school that contain nuts. A reminder that if you have a child that needs medical treatment that is life threatening, please contact the principal at the school. Thanks for your understanding and cooperation.

WESTERN WEEK FUN! – SEPTEMBER 18-21 – Dress up in Western Style!

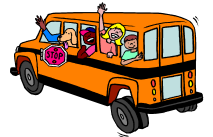
Monday, September 18	Jeans, Vest
Tuesday, September 19	Jeans, Vest & Bandana
Wednesday, September 20	Jeans, vest, bandana, hat/western/plaid shirt
Thursday, September 21	Complete Western Wear and join us for our Pancake Breakfast

CROSS COUNTRY – Sign up in the library on Monday, September 11 at the last recess. Two meets are on Wednesday, September 27 and Wednesday, October 4 – both at Diefenbaker Park. Information about practice times will follow sign up.

EDUCATIONAL MATTERS

SCHOOL FEES – We would appreciate if you are able to pay your school fees during the month of September. These fees are essential for many of the activities that the students enjoy in the classrooms. If you are experiencing difficulties with paying the school fees, please let us know. I know we can work out some arrangement to accommodate your situation. All fees are set at \$35.00.

FIRST BUS RIDERS – This is the first year that Father Vachon has been allocated a bus to assist students in our attendance area. Students must live a minimum distance from the school to qualify. If you are one of these families you should have received a call from the bus driver. It is also important that First Bus has your bus registration form. If you have not turned one into the office at school, please do so as soon as possible. This is a new service and we are still working on the wrinkles so please be patient. We will be extending our No Parking zone in front of the school to accommodate the addition of this bus.



ROOM PARENTS - We will be looking for Room Parents for each classroom. Room parents serve as a link to our Parent Association and to assist the teacher if needed in the planning of special classroom events. Please let your classroom teacher know or the front office if you could help out by serving in this capacity.

SCHOOL WINS TWICE RAFFLE – Father Vachon School has participated in the Catholic Schools Foundation Schools Win Twice Raffle the past six years. We have been fortunate to have a school community who has supported this worthwhile project. Our school has benefited in the past and will continue to with your support. Students were given a book of tickets to sell. Once the book is sold, we ask that it be returned in a sealed baggie or envelope. Thank you for your participation and good luck! Prizes will be announced at a later date. ****Please make sure that your child's name and room number are on their ticket books. Please put the tickets and money in a bag or envelope. Note that all books must be accounted for sold or unsold. The last day of ticket sales is September 29th.**

MEET THE STAFF/PARENT ASSOCIATION MEETING EVENING – This year we would like to invite you to meet your child's teacher on Monday, September 18th. The evening will begin with two classroom sessions at 6:30 and 6:45. The school division is continuing to expand the introduction to a new math program. It will be taught this year in Kindergarten, Grades one through four and Mr. Strawson's grade six class. You will want to find out about this program. These sessions will be followed by a short Parent Association meeting in the gym, which will include an introduction of all staff. Constable Pat Rathwell, our school resource officer will then provide us with a presentation on Internet Safety. This is a current topic of concern in our world. A **Wine & Cheese** social will follow. Please come out to meet the staff and have some social time together. We will be providing some childcare that evening by grade eight students, but children will need to stay in the childcare area.

SCHOOL COUNSELLOR – Welcome back to another great school year! My name is Kim Troesch. I am the new school counselor who will be replacing Dani Gibson at Father Vachon School. I am very pleased and excited to be at such a wonderful school. I will be at Father Vachon School Monday - 1:00 – 3:30 p.m., Thursdays – 8:30 – 3:30 and Fridays – 12:30 – 3:30 p.m. Please feel welcome to call or come meet me at any of these times. Please call the main office number @ 659-7210 to speak with me. I look forward to meeting you! Kim Troesch, School Counsellor.

STUDENT INSURANCE – Please see the attached IAP Kids Plus Accident Insurance Plan. This plan has replaced the Rayner Insurance Plan.

SPEED ZONES - The 30 km/h speed limit is in effect from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, September to June – including statutory holidays. School zones are marked by reflective, fluorescent yellow-green signs, and begin at these signs, and end at a sign indicating a greater speed limit (normally 50 km/h). The city will be monitoring the effectiveness of school zone speed limits to allow for additional education and enforcement in problem areas. It's up to you to obey the rules of the road and drive courteously. Twelve seconds – the difference could save a life.

FATHER VACHON SCHOOL MASS – Father Murray Chatlain will be celebrating a school opening mass with us on Wednesday, September 20th at 9:30 a.m.. We will be walking to the church as a school. You are most welcome to join us.

TUESDAY MORNING MEETINGS – Every Tuesday morning our staff meets for prayer and to collaborate for student learning. We ask that on Tuesdays, student arrive at the school a little later – 8:45 a.m. The door from the mudroom will be locked until that time. Thank you for supporting us in better serving your children.

PARENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES


Any help we receive from parents is valued. Don't be shy and consider the following ways of becoming involved.

- **BASKETBALL COACH** - Basketball season isn't until January but we are in need of a parent that could help us coach boys basketball. A teacher would be there at all times to supervise and organize but we could use some expertise. If this is something you could help us with, please let Mrs. Côté know at the school.
- **ROSARY CLUB** – We are looking at beginning a Rosary Club. This would be a weekly gathering of student interested in learning about and praying the rosary. Activities will vary weekly. We have a teacher interested in taking this on who could use some help.

- **READING WITH STUDENTS** – The best way to improve reading is to read. We can always use parents to assist us with this. We will set it up so it can work around your schedule. A half hour a week would be a gift to us.
- **HOMEWORK CLUB** – We are once again offering our Homework Club on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursdays after school until 4:00. Students are welcome to attend and get their homework done before leaving the school, or just receive some extra help. The Homework Room is staffed by a teacher but parent help would be welcome.

COMMUNITY NEWS

ARMY CADET RECRUITMENT - Looking for fun, friendship, adventure, and activity? 2293 Army Cadet Corps is starting its training program for the 2006 – 2007 year. Anyone aged 12 – 18 can join. The program runs on Monday night every week that school is in session, with a lot of weekend activities. There is absolutely no cost to join, for uniforms, or activities. To register, come out to the Hugh Cairns Armoury, 930 Idylwyld Dr. N., right next to Harry Bailey, at 6:00 PM on any Monday night. Our official registration night and open house is on the 11th of September. For more information, call 934-8542, or check out our website at www.regions.cadets.ca/pr/2293Army/.

CATHOLIC FAMILY SERVICES PROGRAMS -  **Reaching Out: When Teens Go Beyond the Limits** - These two groups are for parents whose adolescent is having severe behaviour and/or relational difficulties. Thursdays, Sept. 14 - Nov. 16, 7:00 - 9:00 pm (10 week program) **“Bridging the Gap: A Group for Parents of Out-of-Control Teens”** Ongoing group Thursday evenings, 7:00 - 9:00 pm. For more information or to register call 244-7773. Visit our website at www.cfssaskatoon.sk.ca Email: staff@cfssaskatoon.sk.ca

CAN-AM GYMNASTICS FALL SESSION - Register for RECREATIONAL OR COMPETITIVE PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES including competitive Power Tumbling/Trampoline. Drop in classes or Birthday Party celebrations are available Call 931 4033 for more information or www.canamgymnastics.ca 2715B Millar Ave.

TRAINING PROGRAM FOR 11TH ANNUAL RACE FOR RECOVERY - The HOPE Cancer Help Centre and Brainsport, The running store, are offering a five (5) week basic training program that will prepare beginner runners to run 5km at the 11th Annual Race for Recovery to be held on October 1, 2006. The free 5-week basic training program will commence August 29, 2006. The program is designed to train one day per week with a local runner at Brainsport The Running Store and two days per week on your own. You will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Tuesday. The training program consists of 30-minute walk/run segments, three days per week during the five-week training. Run for HOPE and Health is for all people interested in running. The program is meant to inspire, teach, and encourage as you begin your journey of learning to run 5K. But please, for the sake of your health and well-being, check with your physician before beginning this program then listen to your body as you proceed. Complete programs are available at the HOPE Centre and Brainsport. The Running Store.

ORCA SYNCHRO CLUB - is now accepting registrations for our Fall Synchronized Swimming Programs. All ages welcome from 5+. These classes range from 1-2 hours. We have programs for recreational or competitive swimmers. Subsidies available. Come and try Synchro for Free on Sept. 11 and 18. Contact Crystal Meakin for details @ 651-1581 or orcasyndch@yahoo.ca Website: www.geocities.com/orcasyndch

THE SASKATOON NORWEGIAN LANGUAGE SCHOOL - is offering classes in language, dance, culture and music for ages 5 years to adult. Children classes (beginners, intermediate, folk dancing) and adult classes (beginners, conversation, folk dancing) are held every Monday evening from 6:30 – 8:30 at Aden Bowmen Collegiate from September to April. Open house and registration will be Monday, Sept. 11, 2006 at 6:30 P.M. in the Aden Bowmen cafeteria. Phone 373-3992 or online www.heritagelanguages.sk.ca

ASPIRING YOUNG ARTISTS' PROGRAM - If you are an artzy kid or teen who oozes talent and who just can't stop creating stuff, take a look at this! AYAP is committed to providing young artists with the tools to develop their visual art skills. This 22-week course is once a week and runs from September to April, set up as two terms, the final art exhibition will be held at the end of the course in April.

Level I - Ages 6-12 Artist in Training Primaries Ages 6-8: This level encompasses an introduction to art and art history, drawing, painting, color, design, mixed media, basic printmaking, sculpture and multi-media art. Term 1: 11 Saturdays, Sept. 16–Dec. 9, 2006, Term 2: 11 Saturdays, Jan. 20–April 14, 2007, Time: 9:00–10:30 a.m.

Artist in Training Secondaries Ages 9-12: This course continues to build on the foundation of the Artist in Training Program. Term 1: 11 Saturdays, Sept. 16–Dec. 9, 2006, Term 2: 11 Saturdays, Jan. 20–April 14, 2007, Time: 11:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Level II - Ages 8-13 – Intermediate: Drawing & Painting I : In this class students will develop and strengthen creative skills and self expression while learning the fundamentals of drawing and painting. Students will work with a wide range of materials including charcoal, oil pastel, ink, chalk pastels, acrylics, watercolour and collage. Term 1:

11 Wednesdays, Sept. 20–Dec. 6, 2006, Term 2: 11 Wednesdays, Jan. 24–April 18, 2007, Time: 4:00–5:30 pm

Level II - Ages 11-15 – Intermediate: Photography/Graphic Arts I : This course combines hands-on photography, some darkroom techniques with digital photography. The student will learn to scan and download photos and work on Photoshop. The class will be project based looking at multimedia work, Photoshop collage techniques, combining images and developing projects. Term 1: 11 Mondays, Sept. 18–Dec. 4, 2006 Term 2 : 11 Mondays, Jan. 22–Apr. 16, 2007, Time: 6:30–8:00 p.m.

Level III - Ages 13-15: Drawing II : This course focuses on expanding the knowledge gained in Drawing & Painting I through the introduction of new drawing media and will also explore the fundamentals of 2-D design. Term 1: 11 Mondays, Sept. 18–Dec. 4, 2006, Time: 4:00–5:30 p.m.

Painting II: Building on the foundation of Drawing & Painting I, students may choose to use only one of the following: either oil, acrylic or watercolour paints, and work on developing their skills with still life, or clothed model studies with the focus on composition. Term 2: 11 Mondays, Jan. 22–April 16, 2007, Time: 4:00–5:30 p.m. For information www.communityarts.usask.ca or Ph: 966-5530.

SASKATOON LIONS SPEED SKATING CLUB - Fall Registration for Learn to Skate and Speed Skating programs Wednesday, September 6th, 2006 6:00 – 8:00 pm Clarence Downey Speed Skating Oval, (11th Street & Avenue R South (in Gordon Howe Complex). For more information go to the Saskatoon Lions Speed Skating Club website www.slssc.ca or contact Carl Waterer 374-5973.

SUSC INDOOR SOCCER REGISTRATION – Sept 7, 2006 at Confederation Mall from 7 – 9 p.m. Cash, Debit, Credit Cards, and Monthly withdrawal plans available. Registration is for recreational and competitive leagues for kids born from 1988 – 1995. If you were born after 1995, check with your community association for times for their registration. SUSC will also be at many of the Community Registration Nights. Play in the new Soccer Center!!! Premier U18 teams planned!!! Call 384-7872 or 683-0679 for more

information, or see www.susc.ca for times and locations. Website is constantly updating so if info is unavailable, check back later.
Deadline for Registration – Sept 30, 2006

GAIL ADAMS SCHOOL OF ART – is offering weekly art classes for children and adults. For more information call Carey-Lynn at 955-6362 or visit us online at www.gailadamsartschool.com

P.H.C.A. SOCIAL COORDINATORS REPORT – On behalf of the Social Coordinator (Sheila Herbers) and Pacific Heights Community Association, we would like to welcome everyone back to a new school year and exciting events. We are going to start this year off with a Fundraiser Event. On Sept 30/06 we are hosting a Fun In The Sun – an old fashion fair. All proceeds will go towards the Umbrella Fundraising. The Umbrella Fundraising was established by the Pacific Heights Community Association to host 6 fundraisers within 3 years to raise money for the Park Enhancement, Repairing the Rink and Replacing the Play Apparatus. Please come out and show your support on Sept 30/06 from 2:00 – 6:00 p.m. at Pacific Park. Located behind Lester B. Pearson and Father Vachon Schools. Some of the events that we will be hosting in the park are as follows: Donation Booth, Dunk Tank, Slip N' Slide, 3-Legged Race, Gunny Sack Race, Face Painting, Petting Zoo, Super Ron Show and Balloon Fun. These are just some of the events. For those that cannot make the event but would like to make a donation you can do so at the front offices of Lester B. Pearson School and/or Father Vachon School. Thank you in advance for your support. If you are interested and able to help out please contact Sheila Herbers @ 384-2614 as soon as possible.

ATTACHMENTS TO THIS NEWSLETTER: Parent Handbook, Student Insurance Forms, Life Touch Picture Information Sheet, Saskatoon Catholic Schools Foundation Newsletter, Water Polo Flyer.

You are invited to a

**Staff/Parent Evening
Monday, September 18th, 2006**

**Classroom Presentations
6:30 p.m. & 6:45 p.m.**

**Come find out about
"New Math Program"
for
Kindergarten, Grades 1 to 4/5**

**Parent Association Annual Meeting
7:00 p.m. in the gym**

followed by

**Internet Safety Presentation
7:30 p.m.**

Wine & Cheese Social to follow!

**We will be providing some childcare that evening by
grade eight students,
but children will need to stay in the childcare area.**

WELCOME BACK!!