



Vanier Catholic Secondary

16 Duke Road, Whitehorse, YT Y1A 4M2

Phone: (867) 667-5901 Fax: (867) 393-6370

www.vcss.ca

Ryan Sikkes, principal Kyle Janzen, vice-principal

October 2013

Principal's Message

As we approach Thanksgiving, we have so much to be thankful for as a school community:

- **Great kids:** Every day, we have many positive interactions with our students in the hallways and classrooms - as educators, interacting every day with those who will become the future of our city, our territory and our country is truly a gratifying experience. Seeing our kids out in the community sharing their musical and artistic talents, playing sports, or performing community service only adds to our pride in our school community.
- **Great parents and guardians:** Parents and guardians are our first partners in the education and development of our students. We have many involved parents who communicate often with the school to share their appreciation and concerns - both make our school community a better place.
- **Great staff:** We are blessed with a committed group of staff members - teachers, educational assistants, remedial tutors, office administrators and custodians who support each other in living out our vocations in education. We are a diverse group, but all share the same primary concerns for the safety, well-being and success of each learner.
- **Great resources:** It's sometimes easy to forget the wonderful benefits our students receive simply by being Yukon students - well resourced schools, up-to-date technology, incredible travel and experiential opportunities are just some of the many benefits our students take direct advantage of. In the background, the staff at Yukon Education and the diocesan pastoral staff are constantly supporting our work as well.
- **Great faith:** Further to last month's Principal's Message, our spiritual message for this year is taking root: "We are one in the spirit, we are one in the Lord...And they'll know we are Christians by our love". We are all moving forward

on our journeys in faith, working together and supporting each other - when we have questions or doubts and when we experience the joy of God's love in our lives.

Parents and guardians, I thank you for your support so far this year and look forward to meeting many of you during parent-teacher interviews next week.

Sincerely,

Ryan Sikkes

Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians
5: 16-18



Dates to note for Semester I (Sept.-Jan.)

The official 2013-2014 School Calendar can be accessed online at



- October 17/18—Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews
- Monday, October 21—Grade 8 Retreat
- Tuesday, October 22—Religion 10 Retreat
- Wednesday, October 23—Religion 11 Retreat
- Monday, October 28—November 1—Review Week
- Tuesday, October 29—Grade 9 Retreat
- Friday, November 1—Term I Ends
- Friday, November 1—Gr. 8 Hallowe'en Dance
- Monday, November 4—Term II Begins
- Friday, November 8—Remembrance Day Ceremony
- Monday, November 11—Remembrance Day (No School)
- Wednesday, November 13—Report Cards Mailed
- Thursday, November 21—Young Women in Trades Workshop
- Friday, November 22—Sea of Pink Day
- Sunday, December 1—Advent Begins
- Tuesday, December 10—Pancake Breakfast.
- Friday, December 20—Christmas Celebration and
Last Day of School Before Christmas Break
- Monday, January 6—Return to School from Christmas Break
- Tuesday, January 21—Last Day of Semester I / Term II
- Wednesday, January 22—Friday, January 24—Exams Begin
- Monday, January 27—PD Day (No School)
- Tuesday, January 28—First Day of Semester II / Term III

From the Office

Forms Packages

Please return your forms and fee package to the office as soon as possible. Congratulations to the Moses/Scherman family—the winner of the draw for the iPad Mini. The draw was open to all who returned their forms and fees to the office before September 30.

Morning Late Policy

In order to help reduce the number of students who have unexcused lates for the first block, the office will automatically assign lunchtime detentions to those students who are late more than two times in one week to their first block classes. Please call the school to excuse your child if you know they will be late or absent.

Parking

Drivers are reminded that there is a pick-up loop near the student parking lot. Please do not park along the edge of the staff parking lot as this causes much congestion and also blocks the fire lane. Thanks for your cooperation!

Phone Us...Please!!

The office will be telephoning the parents of each student who has an unexcused absence for the first block each morning. Parents are reminded that to keep proper attendance records for students, absences must be phoned in or they may be recorded as unexcused. Please call the school in the morning at 667-5901 if your child will be absent or late for school. For students who are sick, we would appreciate a phone call each day they are sick.

Cell Phones and Music Players

Parents are also reminded of our policies on cell phones and music players which can be found in the student handbook (in each student's agenda or available on the website). These items, when collected by teachers, are sent to the office. After the first offence, parents are required to come and claim the items.



Vanier Catholic Secondary School's Parent/Teacher Interview Scheduling vanier.schoolappointments.com

Parent Registration

Parents click on the "Register" tab and fill in the registration form to create an account. Once parents have successfully registered, they can login to the system and then must register their students by name.

The school code which is needed for registering is: **vanier2013**

To Book Appointments

Select Teachers

Parents can schedule appointments for any student that they have added to the system by clicking on the "Appointments" button beside the student's name. The parent is then taken to a page where they can select the teachers with whom they wish to meet. Multiple teachers can be selected by using the "Ctrl" key on a PC keyboard or the "Command" key on a Macintosh keyboard.

Teacher Appointment Calendars

Parents are shown the calendars of the selected teachers. It also shows them appointment times that are unavailable for booking. Parents can select appointment times by simply clicking the check boxes or by clicking in the time block beside the check box. Once an appointment time has been selected it will change to green. If no appointments are available, click on the *call back* button at the top of the list.

It is not possible for parents to select more than one appointment at the same time or to select more than one appointment with the same teacher. Javascript enabled browsers are required for validation on the screen.

Appointments Booked Successfully

Once the appointments are booked the screen will display the list of appointments for the student. When the parent clicks on the "Return to Home Page" button, they will return to the home page with their students and their appointments listed. They can book additional appointments, or they can book appointments for another student.

Parents with More Than One Student

If a parent has more than one student at the school, the teacher

appointment calendars will have an additional feature displayed when the second (or third, etc.) student bookings are made. If a sibling has an appointment booked, the student's name will be displayed for a parent, thus making it easier to book adjacent appointments.

Printing Parent Appointment Schedule

From the home page it is possible for you to generate a PDF document with the list of your appointments. By clicking on the "Print Appointments" button a window will pop-up asking the parent what they wish to do with the document. In Internet Explorer, it is recommended that people click the "Save" button, save the file and then click "Open" to view the file. Ie. sometimes has a problem downloading and opening PDF documents that are generated from web sites.

Click "Open" after the download is complete to view the PDF.

Parent Schedule PDF

The generated PDF will list the appointment times, the student and the teacher with whom the appointment is booked.

If you are having difficulties, you may choose to call the school at 667-5901 to book appointments over the phone.

LIBRARY NEWS

If you love a book, set it free...

If it comes back, it's yours...

**If it is from the Vanier School Library,
it was never yours so BRING IT BACK!!**

New Books for YOU!

We have a large shipment of new books at the Vanier Library so head right down and pick one (or two) up today! If you would like to request a

book for us to purchase, drop by and fill out a request form. We are preparing an order right now and would love to include your title.



Social Justice Club News

Shaking it on Second Ave!



On Wednesday, September 18, members of the Vanier Social Justice Club had a fantastic noon hour of zumba dancing at Lepage Park as part of the Zumba Dance Event for AIDS put on by Blood Ties Four Directions Centre. It was a great way to get some

exercise and raise some money for a great cause! We were the institution who raised the most money so we won a gift certificate from Java Connection. Way to go dancers!!

Thank you Vegetable Eaters!

We would like to thank everyone who purchased a box of Yukon produce through the **From the Ground Up** fundraiser. We sold over 40 boxes, raising over \$700.00. This was the pilot year for Vanier with this fundraiser so stay tuned for more vegetables next year!

We immediately put our money to good use and donated a

portion to the AfriKids Bike Event to purchase bikes to send to rural Kenya so students have a way of commuting long distances to attend school. Thank you everyone for your support!



Because I am a Girl Celebration

In celebration of the **United Nations International Day of the Girl**, Yukon Women in Music present the **Because I am a Girl** concert on **Friday, October 11 at 8 pm at Mount McIntyre Rec Centre**. This concert features fantastic music by Vanier students Julia Frasher, Kathleen Limpio, Madison Dixon, Emily Ross, Sarah Ott and Kevin McLachlan. Tickets are \$10 and are available in advance from Sophia Ross at Vanier, at Dean Strings or Unitech. All proceeds support "Because I am a Girl".

Whitehorse Connects – call for warm clothing and blankets

During Poverty and Homelessness Awareness Week, members of the Social Justice Club will be helping out at Whitehorse Connects on September 22. There is always need for warm adult clothing and blankets so if you have some to donate, please bring them in to school before September 20th.

Vanier Catholic Secondary School's Parent/Teacher Interview Scheduling

vanier.schoolappointments.com or call 667-5901 starting October 10

Thursday, Oct 17, 4:00—8:00 pm, Friday, Oct. 18, 8:30 am—12:00 pm

For the latest news, school information and homework assignments, visit our informative school website:

www.vcss.ca

