

VULCAN PRAIRIEVIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

305 – 6 Ave. S., Box 300, Vulcan, Alberta T0L 2B0

Phone: (403) 485-2074 Fax: 485-6352

Principal: Shane Cranston

Dear Parents,

Vulcan Prairieview Elementary Conference Manager

We are pleased to be using the Internet to schedule Parent-Teacher Interviews.

The process for booking interviews is broken into the following steps:

Step 1 – Pre-Register at <https://vulcanelementary.schoolsoft.ca>

You can set up a Parent Account by following the link above. Click the REGISTER NOW button and complete the registration form. Your login credentials (email and password) will remain in the system to make it easy to access the Conference Manager in the future.

Please note that in order to enhance functionality and security, the Conference Manager requires you to use Internet Explorer 7 (or above), Firefox 3 (or above) or Safari 4 (or above). If you are using an older browser, the Conference Manager will automatically prompt you to update your browser and provide you with a link. This is a one-time process and only takes a couple of minutes.

In order to ensure that your email program does not block emails sent from the Conference Manager, we suggest adding appointments@schoolsoft.ca to your address book.

Step 2 – Conference Manager Opens to Parents – Friday, November 1st at 12:00 PM

You can access the Parent Login Page using the link in the Confirmation Email. If you do not receive a Confirmation Email, you can login by going directly to <https://vulcanelementary.schoolsoft.ca>.

If you do not have Internet access, you are welcome to contact the office and we will schedule your conferences on your behalf.

Step 3 – Book your Parent-Teacher interviews

Select the teachers with whom you want to book interviews. You will see each teacher's schedule. After booking your appointments you can print off your schedule. You will also receive an email containing the teacher name, time and location of the conference. You can log into the system at any time to view your bookings, print, cancel or re-schedule appointments. You have the option of submitting comments or questions to the teacher as part of the booking process.

Important Dates:

Anytime – Pre-Registration begins

Friday, November 1st – Start scheduling your interviews at 12:00 PM

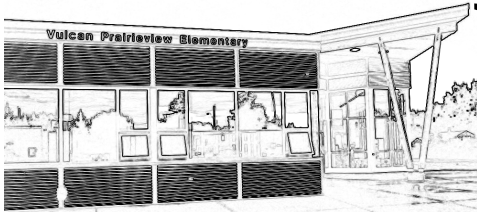
Wednesday November 6th – Conference Manager closes at 3:00 PM

Tuesday November 5th – Parent Teacher Interviews

Wednesday November 6th – Parent Teacher Interviews

If you have any questions or need assistance, please feel free to contact the school.

Shane Cranston



Prairieview Post

Vulcan Prairieview Elementary School
Box 300 Vulcan AB, T0L 2B0 403-485-2074
<http://www.vpes.ca>

November 2013

Together we will ensure learning success for all students to develop their unique potential as caring citizens in a changing world.

In this issue:

- ♦ Calendar of Events
- ♦ Grade Level News
- ♦ Sports News
- ♦ Community information

Parent-Teacher Interviews

Interviews are coming up on Tuesday, November 5th and Wednesday, November 6th. Look forward to a message about booking an interview time online over the weekend. This is a great chance to discuss your child's learning so please plan to attend.

New Student Teachers

Ms. Karli Nelson and Ms. Katelyn Spiess will be here from the University of Lethbridge for their first teaching practicum. They will be here from November 6th to December 10th. We are looking forward to the chance to work with them. Please say

hello to
them when
you see
them in the
hallway!



Principal Message

I hope all of you had a great time last night either out with your children or busy answering the door. Thank you to everyone who came out yesterday for our fashion show. The costumes were awesome!

Our latest provincial achievement tests (P.A.T.) results have been released. As many of you know, P.A.T.'s are provincial standardized tests that are administered to students in Grade Three, Six and Nine in the spring of each year. Students in Grade Three are given a reading, writing and math test and in Grade Six, students write science and social studies, as well. The chart on page two gives a breakdown of how our students did and we are very proud of their results. The scores are broken down into two categories, "acceptable", and "excellent". Basically an acceptable is a pass of over 50% and an excellence is typically over 80%. As you can see, many of our scores are significantly higher than the provincial average; in fact many percentages at our school are double the province. These are tremendous results and credit must be given to the hard work of our students, the efforts of V.P.E. staff and all of your support at home. The academic support you give your child at home pays off!

Thanks again to all of you for your continued dedication. Your child's education starts at home and these results are only possible with parents leading the way.

We are also very excited about our "Leader in Me" initiative that we've started at V.P. E.. This program, based upon Stephen Covey's 7 Habits of Highly Effective People, "is an innovative, school wide model that increases teacher effectiveness, student engagement, and academic achievement, while preparing students to be leaders in the 21st century." We have begun to introduce the 7 Habits to your children, so please ask them about Habit 1-Be Proactive. Ideally, we would love to see our students using the 7 Habits in all areas of their lives.

Please take a moment to book a parent teacher interview. They are scheduled for November 5th and November 6th. This is an important piece in the partnership between home and school. A 100% family turnout would be amazing! We welcome everyone to join us for our Remembrance Day service at 10:30 on Thursday, November 7th. Have a great November everyone.






Mr. Shane Cranston

V.PE. Provincial Achievement Test Results May/ June 2013
(percentage of students who reached a level of acceptable or excellence)

			% Achieving Acceptable Standard	% Achieving Standard of Excellence
Grade 3	English Language Arts Total	Our School	100	42.1
		Province	91.3	17.8
	Reading	Our School	97.4	71.
		Province	91.3	40
Grade 3	Writing	Our School	100	28.9
		Province	87.1	14.4
	Math-	Our school	100	65.8
		Province	91.5	25.2
Grade 6	Language Arts Total	Our School	97.4	20.5
		Province	82.5	16.3
	Reading	Our School	97.4	48.7
		Province	89.2	39.4
Grade 6	Writing	Our School	94.9	10.3
		Province	89.2	11.7
	Math	Our School	84.6	30.8
		Province	72.1	16.3
Grade 6	Science	Our School	87.2	28.2
		Provnice	77.1	26.2
	Social Studies	Our School	87.2	30.8
		Province	72.2	19.3

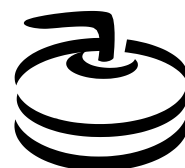
November Calendar of Events



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
28 No School (PD day)	29	30 Basketball (Gr 1-3)	31 Book Fair 8:45-12:00  Halloween Show 1:30 Basketball (Gr 4-6)	1 Book Fair 9:15 to 11:30
4 Book Fair 8:45 to 12:00 Basketball (Gr 1-3) Parents welcome!	5 Hot Lunch Parent-Teacher Interviews (4-7 PM) Family Night at Book Fair 4 to 7 pm	6 Parent-Teacher Interviews (4-7 PM) Student Teachers Begin Today	7 Remembrance Day Ceremony (10:30) Basketball (Gr 4-6) Parents welcome!	8 No School
11 Remembrance Day (No School) 	12	13	14 Jr. Curling Begins 	15  Movember-Moustache and Glasses Day 12:30-2:30 Kids Rock
18	19 Hot Dog Day	20	21 VPE Bank Grand Opening Jr. Curling	22  Report Cards 12:30-2:30 Kids Rock
25	26	27	28 School Council meeting 1:00 Jr. Curling	29 12:30-2:30 Kids Rock

Hurry Hard to Fun!

Junior curling will once again be offered this year. It will take place Thursdays from 3:30-5:00 at the Vulcan curling club. Our season runs from November to March. Miss McBride will meet students in the foyer after school and take them over to practice their skills. It is open for students in Grades 1-6. The cost is \$52.50. Students are welcome to come and try for the first week or two before deciding if they want to commit to the whole season. It is lots of fun each week as well as parties and bonspiels. Come the first week and fill out a registration form!

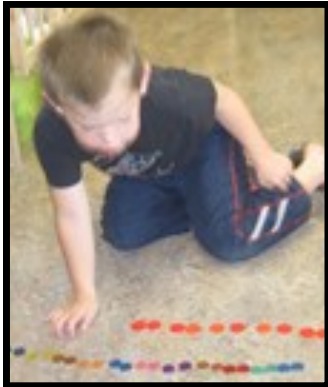


Intramural Update

Soccer wrapped up with Chelsea taking on Manchester. These two teams finished first and second after the regular season. In the finals, both teams came out ready to play. It was a close game with Chelsea winning 2-0. Everyone came out to cheer on both teams. After the game, the teams decided to combine to take on the staff on the following day. The game started out with the students ahead, and then the teachers scored twice before the game ended as a tie. We decided to go to a shoot-out. There were some great shots and saves but it was finally the staff team that won it. It was an exciting game and we are already looking ahead to floor hockey coming up next.

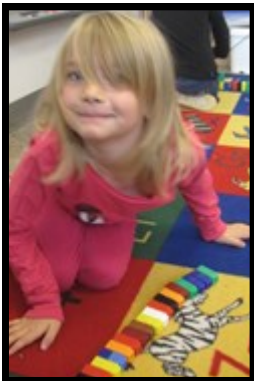


Kindergarten Happenings



We would love to have parents join us for Student Led Conferences on Nov. 5 and 6. Join us for a half hour. between 4 and 7 pm. Online booking is available. Your child will show you a variety of activities we work and play at during our day.

Using math manipulatives to make number sets is one of our numeracy activities.



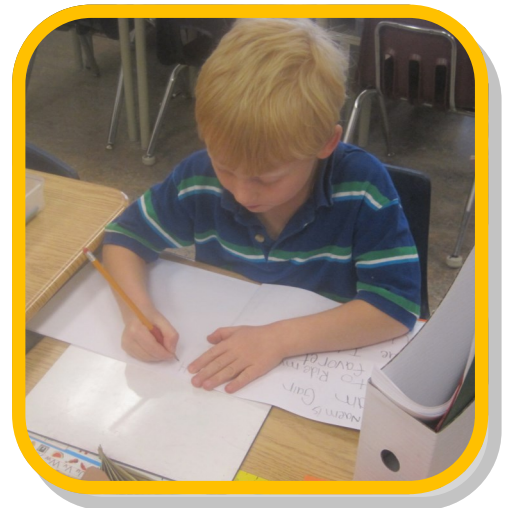
During Fire Safety week, we went on a fabulous field trip to the Fire Station. We learned about phoning 911 in an emergency. We got to see all the equipment firefighters wear and we checked out the cool fire and rescue trucks. Trying on the kid sized outfits was fun too. We hope everyone checked their smoke detectors and practiced your escape plan.



Grade 1/2

Mrs. Bianchini, Miss Honess, Mrs. Kirk

October has brought a lot of smiles and memories! The Grade 1's and 2's took part in the Terry Fox Run at the end of September. As a result of meeting our fundraising goal we got to watch Mr. Cranston dress up as a girl in a dress and make-up bringing lots of laughter! Throughout October we have been working on building our reading and writing stamina! The Grade 1's and 2's have been doing a fantastic job and we have been able to read and write for longer and longer periods. In Math we have been working on developing our number sense using 'Chunk Itz', solving problems and doing other hands-on math activities. In social we have been talking about changes and how we have changed since we were babies. In science we have been observing our season tree and sketching observations of in the different seasons (we have sketched summer and autumn), along with learning all kinds of things about colours. We are looking forward to another great month!



Grade 3/4

Mrs. Booker, Miss Kubik, Miss McBride

It is already November and what a busy month we have had. During the last month we completed our study of 'Rocks and Minerals' and started social studies. Students enjoyed having the chance to make their own 'homemade rocks' with play-dough and a variety of minerals. Many students continue to look for interesting rocks to share with their friends and teachers. We have just begun our social studies program. This year is all about quality of life and looking at how people live in 4 distinct countries: Peru, India, Ukraine and Tunisia. It will be interesting to learn about these places and compare them to our lives here in Alberta.

In writing we are working on descriptive paragraphs. Students have been using a template to create exciting paragraphs with fantastic word choices. We look forward to sharing these with you at Interview Night!

Many of our students competed in soccer intramurals and are looking forward to floor hockey next at lunch time. There are some additional sports this year, so we will have to see what they are! Please be sure to book an Interview as we hope to see you all on November 5th or 6th to discuss your child's progress in more detail.



Tasty sedimentary rocks!

gress



Sharing a good book!



Edible metamorphic rocks!

Writing All About it!

By Megan, Connor and Jenni



The writing class for the Grade 5/6 is awesome! They're learning how to write a newspaper article. So far, they have learned how to write a strong lead paragraph. They have also learned how to pick out the 5w's in newspaper articles.

The Grade 5/6 students write almost everyday from 1:10-2:10. Their teachers usually start out by giving their class an information worksheet that they must use to make a lead paragraph.

Grade 6 student Lexy had this to say "I love learning about newspaper articles because it informs me about current events and it is also fun".

The writing for the Grade 5/6 classes is already awesome and it is just going to get better and more fun for the rest of the year.

Social Studies

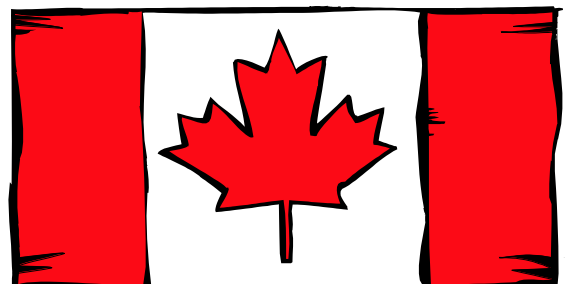
By Parker, Rachel and Reid

In Miss Colborne's 5/6 Social class the students are expanding their knowledge of Canada. They are learning about the Maritime Provinces and Atlantic Regions. Every morning the 5/6's have social.

They have been learning about climate, landforms, jobs and who first settled in the Maritime Provinces. New Brunswick, P.E.I. and Nova Scotia are the three islands that the 5/6's are learning about.

Grade 6 student Rachel Smith stated "I think that learning about the Vikings is a cool experience".

The past two months have been very productive for the 5/6 students and they are looking forward to the next unit.



Grade 6 Math

By C'Jay, Kaya and Connor

Through the month of October Grade 6 VPE students have been busy in math. They have been learning about decimals and how to add them together. They also have been dividing numbers and learning place value. They even learned how to say numbers out loud to the hundred billions!

The Grade 6 students think that their teacher Mrs. Booth is an awesome and fun teacher. They think math is good exercise for their brains. They have done a test and hope that they get good marks.

Math expert and Grade 6 student, C' Jay, when asked if she struggles in this subject said "No it's fun and I like having to work my brain".

In the next two months, the Grade 6 students will be learning division and fractions.

$$\begin{array}{r} 3.21 \\ + 4.5 \\ \hline 7.71 \end{array}$$

Grade 5 Math

By Tyler, Kira and Jaden

In math the spectacular Grade 5 students have been recently learning about place value and big numbers. Surprisingly, they have already had two tests and three assessments. The Grade 5 students can say and represent large numbers up to a million.

To start the math class, the Grade Fives have been doing mystery number questions that go up to a million. This week they have also been introduced to rounding numbers. One of the two math teachers, Miss Edmonds, said "The Grade 5's have been grasping concepts very quickly and it is a very fun class to teach".

The Grade Fives are now looking forward to their next unit of decimals!

THOUSANDS				ONES		.	DECIMALS			
millions	hundred thousands	ten thousands	thousands	hundreds	tens	ones	tenths	hundredths	thousandths	ten thousandths
6	5	8	4	7	9	1	0	3	2	4

Physical Education

By Jaiden, Travis & Jordan

To enhance volleyball skills, the Grade 5/6 students at VPE have discovered how to bump, set and serve in their P.E unit in the month of October.

One of the new 5/6 teachers, Miss Edmonds, is the P.E teacher for the year. She has been preparing students for the volleyball tournament on November 15th, where they will be playing against other schools from around the County.

"My students are going to be the champions at their volleyball tournament!" Miss Edmonds announced. 5/6 students are looking forward to their volleyball tournament. Also, they are excited for their next unit of floor hockey.

Grade 5/6 Science

By Jaxon, William, Lexy and Amber

VPE Grade 5/6 students are in anticipation of finally blowing something up during their classroom chemistry unit. Classroom chemistry teaches kids about chemical reactions and mixtures.

So far in the classroom chemistry unit, the students' favourite experiment they have done is filling a cup up without it over flowing.

William is a student attending VPE school learning about the wonderful facts of science. William stated "Science has been helping me out throughout my life".

The Grade 5/6 students are awaiting their crystals to form and are excited for their next science unit, weather!

Leadership Class

The Grade 5/6s have finished up with Habit #1-Be Proactive and have just begun to explore Habit #2-Begin with the End in Mind. This teaches about setting goals and having a plan. Be sure to ask about the activities that they have been doing on Wednesdays in class in order to better understand and use the habits in their everyday life.

Fine Arts

~Mrs. Helland

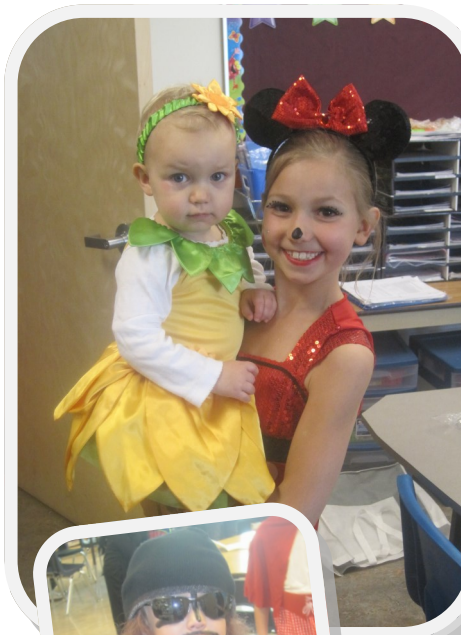
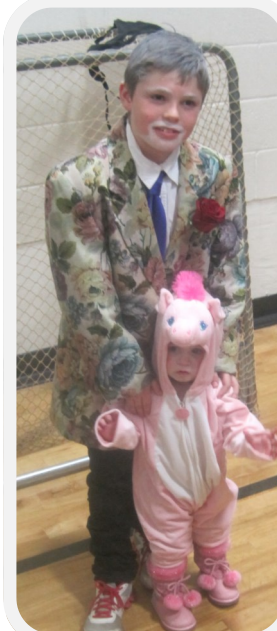
This month I would like to focus on the weekly music program we do here at VPE. All of the students are busy learning and getting ready for this year's, Christmas Concert. This year we have incorporated lots of hand instruments and even a little bit of Drama to add to the singing that we already do in music. The kids are excited to share their songs but we still have lots of polishing that needs to happen before the big night! Please mark December 18th off on your calendars and we hope to see you there!

The students and staff would like to say a big thank-you to the volunteers that have taken their time to help get the students ready for the big night: Diane Smith, Jalena Charko, Terri-Lynn Cranston, Terry Lanktree, Julia Charko and Karen Humphrey.... THANK-YOU!



Halloween Fashion Show

Everyone had a chance to show off their costumes at our annual Halloween Fashion Show on Thursday. There were many amazing and unique costumes. Thank you to Miss Colborne and Miss Edmonds for organizing the event.



After-school basketball is wrapping up for another season. For the last session (November 4th and November 7th) parents are welcome to come and play with us. It has been great watching everyone improve their skills!



Happy November, everyone, a month of remembrance.

Remembrance Day ceremonies are just one example of the kinds of community activities in our schools. Whether it's a community barbecue, a Christmas concert, a drama production, it's clear that our schools build community through shared activities and traditions.

This sense of community, this acknowledgement of the schools as a hub for neighbours and friends, is important not just to the health of our neighbourhoods, but to our students and their learning.

When the community is invested in the school, when people from all walks of life show support to their school, it reinforces a message to our young people. School is important. Stay in school because it matters. Your success in school is relevant to your success in life.

"When schools, parents, families and communities work together to support learning, students tend to earn higher grades, attend school more regularly, stay in school longer and enroll in higher level programs," reads a U.S. National Education Association policy brief (2008), urging broad participation in schools at all grade levels.

That engagement can take many forms. It might involve individuals volunteering, businesses partnering in work experience programs, or citizens participating in stakeholders meetings to share ideas or learn more about what's happening in schools. School councils are an obvious way to engage in a school.

On Oct. 21, we witnessed elections for two of six seats on Palliser's Board of Trustees. Running for public office is a courageous way to demonstrate the importance of education!

Congratulations to all of our trustees: newly elected Joan Boras and Debbie Laturnus; and the acclaimed Colleen Deitz, Robert Strauss, Esther Willms and Don Zech. Colleen Deitz will serve as Board Chair; Don Zech as vice-chair this year.

Not sure how you can support your school? Start a conversation —with your child's teacher, with the school council, with the principal, or with me.

I can be reached by email at kevin.gietz@pallisersd.ab.ca

Kevin Gietz, Superintendent
Palliser Regional Schools

VULCAN MUNICIPAL LIBRARY LEGO BUILDING CONTEST

PLEASE JOIN US IN OUR FIRST LEGO BUILDING CONTEST

PARTICIPANTS MUST REGISTER BY NOVEMBER 8 AT THE LIBRARY AND PICK UP THE GUIDELINES FOR THE CONTEST.

CONTEST OPEN TO PARTICIPANTS OF ALL AGES

**CREATIONS WILL BE ON DISPLAY IN THE LIBRARY FROM NOVEMBER 22 – 29.
WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29 AT 4 P.M. AT THE LIBRARY.**

THE THEME OF THIS CONTEST IS "OUTDOOR ADVENTURES"



Healthy drinks, healthy kids

Children and youth need fluids to prevent dehydration and to stay healthy.

However, what your child drinks can have a big impact on his or her health.

Drinks to choose most often...

- **Water:** Offer throughout the day. Encourage your children to carry their own water bottle during active play, sports, and on the go. Wash water bottles daily in hot, soapy water.

- **Milk or plain fortified soy beverage:** Send milk in their lunch or include with breakfast or dinner to help your child get enough protein, calcium, and vitamin D. Kids need two cups (500mL) of milk per day.

- **100-per cent juice:** Choose 100-per cent juice and limit juice to a half-cup (125 mL) per day. Ideally, kids should eat their fruit instead of drinking it.

Juice has vitamins and minerals, but is also high in natural sugar. If kids drink

too much juice, they may not be hungry for healthy meals and snacks.

Drinks to choose sometimes...

- **Flavoured milks or flavoured soy beverage:** These drinks have the same bone-building nutrients as milk or fortified soy beverages but also have added sugar.

Drinks to choose least often...

- **Drinks with added sugar:** Did you know that fruit-flavoured beverages such as 'drinks', 'punches', and '-ades' are made up of mostly sugar and water? Limit drinks that are high in added sugar. Examples of these drinks are sugar-sweetened pop, fruit-flavoured drinks, punches, and ice slushes.

- **Specialty waters:** These waters often have added sugar, sugar substitutes and herbs. Specialty waters are not recommended for kids.

For more information about healthy drinks, please visit



Children should have two cups (500mL) of milk per day.

www.albertahealthservices.ca and search for "Healthy Drinks, Healthy Kids."

Make influenza immunization a part of your routine

Influenza season has just begun and is very contagious in the winter months. The influenza immunization should be part of your routine health care.

Here's why:

- The influenza shot is the best protection against respiratory influenza.
- Influenza causes a respiratory illness that can last for seven to 10 days. It does not cause the stomach 'flu' or a cold.
- Children and adults with chronic conditions are at greater

risk for complications of influenza.

- Influenza can account for 2,000 to 8,000 deaths every year in Canada.
- The influenza shot is available in two forms: Nose spray (Flumist) and injection (Agrimiflu and Fluviral).
- Flumist requires no needles. Children 2-17 years of age and adults afraid of needles should consider this form of immunizations.

Check with your local public health unit for dates and times of flu clinics in your area.