

THE VILLAGE BLUEBIRD

VILLAGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

FALL GREETINGS

Important Dates

- Nov. 4: Election Day
- Nov.: 6-7: NJEA Convention-Schools Closed
- Nov. 11 School photos makeup day. BOE Mtg., 7:30, UMS
- Nov. 17: 4th Grade BRAVO Percussion assemblies
- Nov. 19: PTA Mtg, OHES 9:45
- Nov. 20, 21, 24, 25: Parent/Teacher Conferences, 1:15 Early Dismissal
- Nov. 25: BOE Mtg., 7:30, UMS
- Nov. 26: 1:15 Early Dismissal
- Nov. 27-28: Thanksgiving Recess-Schools Closed
- Dec. 2-4: VES PTA Holiday Gift Fair
- Dec. 4: Fall Chorus Concert, 7, VES
- Dec. 5: Dads' Night Out, 6:30
- Dec. 16: BOE Mtg., 7:30, UMS
- Dec. 17: PTA Mtg, 9:45, VES
- Dec. 23: Parties, Report Cards Available Online
- Dec. 24-Jan. 2, Winter Recess-Schools Closed
- Jan 5: Return from Winter Recess
- Jan 21: PTA Mtg, 9:45, OHES

Greetings families and friends!

The fall season is off to a terrific start at VES!

Villagers are taking full advantage of every wonderful learning opportunity and look forward to the upcoming events of the season. Thank you for your ongoing support!

Ms. Lacy and Mr. Hadinger

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PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent conferences will be held from Thursday, November 20th – Tuesday, November 25th. **The school day will conclude at 1:30 (parent pick-up begins at 1:15) and lunch will be served on each of these days.** Each conference is scheduled to last approximately 15 minutes. This time is intended for you and your child's teacher to discuss your child's progress in school. Teachers will contact you through a notice or email to schedule your conference during a time that is mutually convenient.

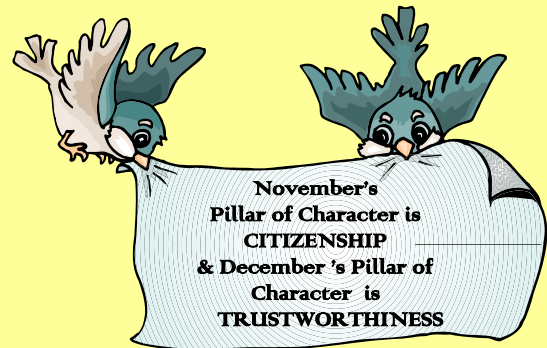
Dear VES Community,

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for welcoming me into the VES family. It has been my pleasure and privilege to work with the exemplary administration and staff in support of your wonderful children I will remain at VES through Friday, October 31st, 2014 while Mrs. Fornal returns on November 3, 2014 from maternity leave. Mrs. Fornal rejoins Mrs. McCarthy, our part-time school counselor in delivering to our students a comprehensive school counseling program. I will work closely with them to make the transition seamless. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at: esternbach@mtsd.us or 609-466-7606 x2246.

I wish you and your children a wonderful school year ahead.

Warm regards,

Liz Sternbach



**MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
MISSION STATEMENT**

Our mission as a forward-thinking community is to ensure that students grow into confident, compassionate, and successful learners in a global society by providing engaging and challenging educational experiences in a student-centered environment.



When your child doesn't feel well....

Many parents struggle with the decision of whether or not to send their possibly sick child to school. Juggling the demands of work and the demands of their students school work may make the decision even more difficult. It's tempting to give a dose of Tylenol or Motrin and hope for the best. However, school age children are especially good at spreading germs and children cannot learn as effectively if they are sick. How do you know if it's just a cold or if your child is really too sick to go to school? Here are some strategies to guide you through these murky waters:

FEVER:

First and foremost, purchase a thermometer and use it to check your child for fever before deciding to send them to school.

Do not send a child to school with a fever of 100 or more. They will feel increasing miserable throughout the day and are most infectious when they are febrile. Doses of Tylenol or Motrin will not decrease their contagiousness.

Montgomery Township School District policy states a student must be fever free without the use of fever reducing medication for 24 hours before they can return to school. If your child is sent home from school with a fever, they must stay at home the following day even if they are fever free.

VOMITING/DIARRHEA:

Do not send your child to school if they are vomiting or have diarrhea. If your child begins to vomit or experience diarrhea they must stay at home. Do not assume because your child feels better after vomiting that they are better.

Students must be free of vomiting and/or diarrhea for 24 hours and able to tolerate a normal diet before they can return to school.

POSITIVE CULTURES AT MD:

Strep throat is a highly contagious condition caused by bacteria. If your child complains of a sore throat, fever, and often a headache and stomach ache, they should see a doctor for a diagnosis and treatment. If the strep culture is positive, your child should remain out of school until he/she is fever free and has been on antibiotics for 24 hours.

Pink Eye (conjunctivitis) can be caused by an allergy, a virus or bacteria and is highly contagious. The eye will be reddened and a yellow discharge is usually present. Eyelashes may be stuck together when your child wakes up. Consult with your child's doctor to see if antibiotic eye drops are indicated. Your child should stay home until symptoms subside and he/she has been on antibiotic drops for at least 24 hours.

Rashes can be tricky to interpret. Consult your child's doctor prior to sending them to school to discuss treatment options and length of time your child should be out of school.

Please notify the VES health office if your child is diagnosed with any of the above.

COUGHS AND COLDS:

Check your child's temperature before deciding to send them to school. If your child is not coughing, does not complain of trouble breathing and does not have a fever it's generally okay to send them to school. The health office does not stock nasal or chest decongestants, cough suppressants, throat lozenges, or allergy medications so make sure you address that prior to putting them on the bus.

Check with your child's physician as to the best way to manage your child's cold or cough.

Please do not give Tylenol or Motrin to cover chills or body aches and then send them to school. If your child is feeling badly enough to require this level of intervention, a day of rest at home is in order.

Persistent coughing can indicate a worsening cold, asthma or secondary infection such as pneumonia. Please consult your child's physician for advice. Children with persistent cough should be kept at home.

All of these illnesses can spread easily and rapidly in school and at home. Hand washing is the single most important thing you can do and teach your child to do to help prevent the spread of infection. If you are in doubt as to whether to send your child to school, please call your child's doctor before doing so.

Remember, the best way to protect your child this winter is to make sure that your whole family gets flu shots.

Cleaning out closets??

The health office at VES supplies many students with a change of clothes throughout the year for various reasons such as a slip in the mud at recess or spilled milk in the cafeteria. We don't always get back what we loan out and our supplies are getting low. We would gladly take any clothing that you are able to donate. We are in need of gently used sweatpants or jeans (sizes 8-10) or new, unopened socks and underwear (no boxers please).

Patricia Cizin, RN, CSN
Janis Woodard, RN

THANK YOU FOR HELPING TO MAKE
THE START OF SCHOOL A SUCCESS!



VES FAMILIES:

In the event of an emergency school closing, the 6-day rotation cycle will remain unchanged. For example: If we have an emergency closing/snow day on day 1, the following school day will remain day 2. Missed days will be made up later in the school year. Please see the district calendar for details.

Village Elementary School
Home of Blazer the Bluebird



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Principal
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Emergency School Closing Information

*In the event of inclement weather, hazardous road conditions, or any other emergencies requiring us to close schools for one day, **AlertNow phone messages** will be used to notify families. You may also check the following:*

- **Message Line: 609-466-7610**
- **District Website:**
www.mtsd.k12.nj.us
- **NJ 101.5 FM**
- **Channel 27 (Local Access Cable)**

Get the latest weather updates and information from our VES weather station by clicking on WeatherBug at the VES website!

Mix-it Up At Lunch Day



Village School Students will be joining millions of students across the United States in this year's Mix It Up at Lunch Day in November. The goals of this event are to give our students an opportunity to spend lunch time with other VES children and in the process learn to become more comfortable and open to interacting with their peers from other classrooms.

Young Scholars Institute

The Village School staff will be participating in our annual service learning project to support the Young Scholars Institute fundraising project starting in mid November. Young Scholars a community-based support and mentoring program for students in Trenton. We will be sending a letter with more information in a few weeks.



YMCA After School Program at VES

The YMCA of Princeton provides childcare before and after school for children who attend VES. The YMCA tailors its hours to accommodate working families, and offers children diverse and enriching activities in a safe and nurturing environment. Registration packets will be available in the main office. For more information, you may visit our website at: Princetonymca.org or call the YMCA After School Program Office at: 609-497-9622. Please clearly state your name, your child's name, and a phone number where we can return your phone call.