



Vankleek Hill Collegiate Institute

Rebels Warriors

September 2017 - Newsletter

Principal: Trevor Wheeler

Vice-Principal: Jana Kilger

For more information, please visit our website at: <http://vci/ucdsb.on.ca>

Vankleek Hill Collegiate Institute
5814 Hwy 34, Vankleek Hill, Ontario, K0B 1R0

An Exciting Year Ahead!

Mr. Wheeler and the entire Vankleek Hill Collegiate Institute staff would like to welcome all new students and all returning students to VCI for the 2017-18 school year. We will continue to provide our students with excellent academic programs and innovative learning experiences while ensuring that they have the opportunity to participate in many different extra-curricular activities. All staff strive to provide our students with the knowledge, skills, and character values necessary to be successful in the next stage of their lives. All staff are committed to the academic success and wellness of our students. We would like all of our parents and guardians to know that their child or children will receive an excellent education in a safe and caring learning environment where equity and accessibility for all of our students is our priority. We encourage our students to get involved in the school and in the many different extra-curricular activities that we have to offer at Vankleek Hill Collegiate Institute. We are very excited about the new school year ahead! Have a great year Rebels & Warriors!

Grade Nine Orientation Day

On Wednesday, August 30 our Link Crew Team met with our grade nine students. Our grade nine students worked closely with our Link Crew Team on this day as they participated in many engaging team building and leadership activities. Our grade nines were able to see their schedules, find their classes and set up their lockers. Thank you student

leaders! We had an excellent day with our new grade nine VCI students who all enjoyed their orientation experience with our Link Crew Team. Our Link leaders did a fabulous job welcoming our newest Rebels and Warriors! Thank you Ms. Dagg, Mrs. Lintell, Mrs. Seay, Mrs. Filiatrault, Ms. Baker, Mrs. Whinfield, Mrs. Sauve, Mrs. Collard, Mrs. Drouin, and Mr. Gauthier for all of your efforts preparing for the day!



Dynamic Student Leadership and Mentoring Opportunities at VCI!!

Once again, VCI has a dynamic group of student leaders this year. Link Crew, led by Ms. Dagg, is an interdisciplinary program that promotes the philosophy of students helping students succeed. It is a structured program that provides senior students with leadership training and opportunities as they mentor Grade 9 students in order to help

facilitate the transition into secondary school. Previous experience with the program shows that the more contact a grade nine group has with a Link Leader, the more successful the students will be. The benefits for all participants include a sense of community and friendship, as well as successful transitions for new students. In 2017-18 our Link Crew Team will work with grade nine students as these young Rebels and Warriors make their transition into credit bearing programs.

School Photos



School photos will take place all day on **Friday, September 15th on the stage.**

The **photo retakes will take place on Thursday, October 12.** In order to ensure the best picture possible **Students should NOT wear green.**

Student Information Forms – Very Important!!

The following forms were sent home on September 05.

- A Student Info Verification Form
- Please check to ensure the information is accurate. If changes need to be made please make the changes on the form.**

- A Computer User Agreement
- A Media Consent Form
- Serious Medical Condition Information

All of these forms MUST be signed and returned to the main office.



Guidance News:

Student Services have been working hard to finalize student timetables. The last day for course changes will be Tuesday, September 19th. Please note Guidance appointments for course changes will not take place until Friday, September 8. We will be meeting with all graduating students before the end of September to discuss and to begin planning for their post-secondary options. If you have any questions regarding your child's

educational pathways, no matter what grade, please do not hesitate to contact the guidance office. Please continue to access the MyBlueprint.ca site to further your investigations of career and post-secondary pathways. **If students have done community hours over the summer, make sure to drop by Guidance to fill out the paperwork and get them recorded. Students need 40 hours of community service to obtain a diploma.**

Attendance, Punctuality and Safe Arrival

Students must attend school daily in order to have the best chance at being successful. **Parents or guardians, if your child is going to be absent from school or late, please contact the general office by 7:45 am.** If we have not heard from a parent or guardian, we will contact the home of any student who is not in school when the attendance is taken. If a student is going to be absent for more than one day it is very important to call the school and request that work be sent home for the student. Please register to MyFamilyRoom if you have not done so already.

Bell Schedules

7:50 am – Buses Arrive
7:55 a.m. – Warning Bell
8:00 – 9:15 am (75 min)
9:15 – 9:25 am (Break)
9:25 – 10:40 (75 min)
10:40 – 11:30 am (LUNCH)
11:25 Warning Bell
11:30 – 12:45 pm (75 min)
12:45–12:55 pm (Break)
12:55 – 2:10 pm (75 min)
2:15 p.m. – Buses Depart

Terry Fox Run

The National Terry Fox School Run Day takes place on Thursday, September 28. Our run will take place close to that date. We look forward to excellent school participation for this worthwhile event. Terry Fox is a Canadian hero who inspires Canadians to be courageous, generous, resilient,



responsible and so much, much more. All students will receive a permission form. Let us raise some money for an excellent cause. All of the money raised will be donated for cancer research.

Tobacco and Smoking

Please be reminded that all grade nine and ten students are not to be in possession of tobacco or tobacco products at VCI – including VAPES.

School Council

Our first School Council meeting will be held in the Learning Commons on **Tuesday, September 26th at 7:00 pm**. All parents are encouraged to attend and become an active member of the Vankleek Hill Collegiate Institute School Parent Council.

As a school council member, parents and guardians can help your school council discover new and exciting ways to contribute to the education of students at VCI. Education is a partnership involving parents, students, teachers, principals, school boards, government, and the community. Your involvement in the council gives you the opportunity to strengthen that partnership, and to be part of a dedicated team working to ensure a high quality of education. Your participation can make a difference. **Join Parent Council!**

Personal Property



The school will not be responsible for the loss, theft or damage to any personal items brought to the school. Bicycles should be locked, while skateboards, iPods, Smartphones, laptops, tablets and MP3 players should be safely stored in a locker.

Students should NOT bring valuables to the gym locker room at any time. **Students must have permission from their teacher to use devices in the classroom – curriculum and learning purposes only.**

After School Club – 2017

Beginning on September 11 VCI will open the After School Club in the learning commons. This is available to all grades. The After School Club will operate in the learning commons after school every afternoon (except Fridays) from 2:15 pm until 3:00 pm. The space is available for those students who would like to complete their work in a quiet environment, who need to access computers or for those students who need some assistance or supervision in order to complete their school work and/or class assignments.

Transportation News



Students living farther away than 2.0 km will be transported by bus to VCI. Students who ride the school bus must follow the Bus Regulations of the Upper Canada District School Board. We will notify the parent or guardian of any student who misbehaves on a bus. If a student continues to misbehave on a bus then the privilege of riding the bus may be lost. For more information, please visit the transportation website at <http://www.steo.ca/> or contact STEO at their office at 1-855-925-0022.

Student Parking

All students must park in the designated student parking area near the "tennis court" end of the parking lot. All student vehicles must be registered at the General Office.



GET INVOLVED! VCI Athletics

Students are welcome and encouraged to try out for **soccer, girls' basketball, Sr & Jr boys' volleyball, cross-country running, football** and more.



**GO Rebels &
Warriors GO!!**

Clubs and Other Activities

At VCI we have many great clubs and activities that will keep everybody interested and active. Listen to the announcements, access our Facebook page, watch the bulletin boards or check with your homeroom teacher for more information!



Stratford Festival

On Thursday, Sept. 28th VCI students, along with Ms Dagg and Mme Kouao will be travelling to The Stratford Festival to see world class productions of Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*, a family favourite, *Treasure Island* and the fantastic lively musical, *Guys and Dolls*. The three day road trip to Canada's premier live theatre festival is a long standing tradition at VCI and students get the opportunity to see their classroom stories brought to life. They are never disappointed and often go again. The trip was planned last spring, however, there are two vacant spots available at this point. If you are interested, please contact Ms Dagg at the school asap. A payment plan can be coordinated if necessary.

Student-Parent Handbook

All students will receive a student-parent handbook that they should review thoroughly together to ensure all rules and policies are understood. The handbook will be posted on our website and Facebook sites.



My Family Room represents the interface that parents use to set their contact preferences like phone numbers and email addresses. Parents can also view their sons' and daughters' Office 365 calendar through this interface.

It is important to emphasize that this service is for parent use only – in other words, *staff do not go into My Family Room to post or send information to parents*. To contact parents electronically, staff may use Office 365 (for routine class or school emails, to look up contact information or send calendar invitations to students) or alternatively, MIR3 for urgent notifications. MIR3 is a system (website or mobile app) for principals, vice-

principals, office staff and central staff to send *urgent notifications directly to parents*. MIR3 has the capability to make tens of thousands of phone calls, emails or text messages in minutes and therefore is intended to contact parents in *urgent situations*. Specifically, we consider urgent communications to be:

- **Unexplained Student Absences:** MIR3 is now automatically making phone calls, emails and SMS text messages (as per the parent's preference) to notify parents when their son or daughter is absent without explanation, for both elementary and secondary students at all schools. You don't need to do anything for this to happen.

To Register for My Family Room call the general office at 613-678-2023 and ask to be added to MyFamilyRoom. All you need is an email address to register.



Office 365 is a service available to all students and staff in the Upper Canada District School Board. You can access your email by logging in to Office 365 from any web browser, on virtually any device, by going to <http://office.ucdsb.ca>, even on home computers! Office Online is a free product suite which allows you to create and edit files using lightweight, web-based versions of Word, Excel, OneNote and PowerPoint. No installation is required. **In addition, Office 365 allows each student one free download of the entire suite of programs on his/her personal computer.**

- 1) Log in to the Outlook Web App (OWA) by going to <http://office.ucdsb.ca>
- 2) Click the  Office 365 logo in the top-left corner of the screen.
- 3) Click one of the following icons to launch the application you want.

My.ucdsb.ca

Students can access My UCDSB from any location that has internet connection. Step #1: Open your browser window and enter the following URL – my.ucdsb.ca. Step #2: Log into your My UCDSB account with your student number and password. Or, you can open your browser and enter the following URL – www.ucdsb.on.ca. Then, click on My UCDSB image at the bottom right hand side of the main page. Then, log into your My UCDSB account.

September 2017

VCI

Sun.	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	Sat.
		GO VCI GO!!			Sept 1 Professional Development Day	2
3	4 Labour Day	5 First Day of School	6	7 Grade Level Assemblies!	8	9
10	11 After School Club (2:15-3:00 pm)	12 After School Club (2:15-3:00 pm)	13 After School Club (2:15-3:00 pm)	14 After School Club (2:15-3:00 pm)	15 General Population Photo Day	16
17	18 After School Club (2:15-3:00 pm)	19 Deadline for Course Changes After School Club (2:15-3:00 pm)	20 After School Club (2:15-3:00 pm)	21 Bus Evacuation After School Club (2:15-3:00 pm)	22	23
24	25 After School Club (2:15-3:00 pm)	26 Terry Fox Run (rain date Oct 4) Parent Council Elections & Meeting 7:00 pm After School Club (2:15-3:00 pm)	27 After School Club (2:15-3:00 pm)	28 Stratford Trip After School Club (2:15-3:00 pm)	29 Stratford Trip	30

