

Newsletter
Issue 5 - Week of:
Monday, November 6, 2017

Principal's Message

Hello VMS Family,

A shout-out to Ms. Hudson and Mr. Smith for hosting the parent math tutoring night. There were several families that came to receive tutoring. When I walked into the math classrooms, families were laser focused on the instruction being given by our math team.

The candidate for our science position is still a work in progress; however, I am continuing to meticulously find the best person for our scholars. While there are not a lot of viable options at the moment, I am optimistic that the right person will surface. As for the now, Mrs. Harbin is doing a great job.

As we close out the month of October, let's make a VMS pledge to better in November than we were in October. As a person, I try to live by the same notion. Every day, I try to be a better person than I was the day before. I sometimes fail, but I never stop trying. That's the only way, in my opinion, to get better.

With love,
Will Pickens, Principal
Voyageur Middle School

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, November 7

No School – Staff Professional Development

Thursday, November 16

Noon Dismissal
Report Card Pick Up / Parent Conferences
12:30-6:30 p.m.;
Dinner break 4-5 p.m.

Friday, November 17

Noon Dismissal
Report Card Pick Up / Parent Conferences
12:30-4:00 p.m.;
No dinner break

Wednesday, November 22

Noon Dismissal

Thursday, Nov. 23 & Friday, Nov. 24

No School – Thanksgiving Recess

Monday, November 27

School Resumes

Thursday, November 30

VMS Town Hall Celebration
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 6A, 6B, 6C, 7A, 7B
2:15-3:15 p.m. 7C, 8A, 8B, 8C

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A COMMON GOAL!

How can your child be a contributing member of your family, her class, and her community? By cooperating. Here's how to encourage a spirit of teamwork in your youngster.

At Home

Understanding her role can motivate your child to cooperate. For example, your family's goal every morning is to leave for school and work on time. Explain to your youngster that when she gets up and comes to breakfast without reminders, you can focus on your own morning routine.

At School

When your youngster is assigned a group project for a class, ask her to describe her part to you. Remind her that she has to do her job so that everyone can earn a good grade. If she's supposed to take care of plants for a group science experiment, for instance, she might need to water them daily or measure their growth weekly.



QUESTION: My daughter and her friend haven't been getting along. What advice can I give her?

ANSWER: All friendships have ups and downs. Explain that in good relationships, positive factors—like having fun together—outweigh negative ones, such as dealing with the other person's moodiness. To decide if the friendship is worth saving, suggest that your child ask herself some questions.

- Do they argue over minor issues (which movie to see) or major ones (putting each other down)?
- Do they enjoy the same activities?
- Do they like to talk about the same things?

If *your daughter* decides to try to work it out, encourage her to talk to her friend. She might say things like: ("I feel like we usually do what you want. Sometimes, I'd like to choose.")

A true friend will want to listen and try to solve the problem together.

In the Community

Find a volunteer project to do together. You might sign up for a neighborhood cleanup or serve spaghetti at a fundraising dinner. Your scholar can see how neighbors cooperate to make their community a better place to live.

Tip: Recognizing your youngster's contribution can encourage her to cooperate in the future. Look her in the eye, and thank her for something specific: "I appreciate your help with the leaves. Our yard looks really nice."

Resource: Middle Years, 2009 Resources for Educators, a division of Aspen Publishers, Inc.

Quote of the Week:



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