



# The Viking Voice

## Calendar of Events:

- Oct. 16-23
  - Fall Book Fair
- Oct. 26-30
  - Red Ribbon Week
- Oct. 30
  - 2nd Grade Book Character Parade
  - Fall Family Bingo and Pizza Night
- Nov. 2 & 3
  - Parent-Teacher Conferences
  - Student Holidays
  - Great American Gift Wrap Pick-Up
- Nov. 4
  - PTA Meeting 9:15 a.m.
- Nov. 5
  - Picture Make Up Day

## Articles of Interest:

- Red Ribbon Week
- Victorious Vikings Awards
- Pass, Punt and Kick Top Scores
- Computer News
- Fall Book Fair News
- Clinic Volunteers Thank You
- Cold and Flu Season Has Arrived
- Polynesian Dance Club
- Odyssey of the Mind
- Yearbook Preparation Underway
- 6th Grade Thanks You
- Campbell Soups Labels for Education
- White House Ornament Sale 2009
- Holiday Shoppe
- Passport Club Update
- Box Tops for Education
- Fall Fundraiser Update
- Fall Family Bingo and Pizza Night

Issue 04  
 October 21, 2009  
 Attendance Line: 703-988-8989



Virginia Run Elementary School  
 15450 Martins Hundred Drive  
 Centreville, VA 20120 703-988-8900

## Principal's Corner

Dear Parents,

Parent-Teacher conferences are approaching rapidly. Teachers are looking forward to meeting with parents. They will be prepared to make a presentation of progress to you but don't hesitate to ask questions or give information of which the teachers may not be aware. In preparation for your conference, you might want to jot down any questions you have about procedures, and talk with your children to find out if they have any questions they'd like you to ask. Sometimes it's easier for parents to carry a sensitive message than for a child. Because we conference with all parents, your appointment will be short. If you need more time to talk, please ask the teacher to schedule a follow-up conference in the near future. We are always happy to do so. Please remember to pick up your Great American gift-wrap orders on one of the conference days.

With regard to costumes during the school day, our tradition is that second-grade dresses up for their Character Parade on Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 a.m., and the rest of us watch them. Some staff members do dress up as a treat for their students, but costumes are not encouraged for the student body as a whole.



RED RIBBON WEEK AT VIRGINIA RUN ELEMENTARY  
 OCTOBER 26-30, 2009



Red Ribbon week began in 1986 by parents all across America in memory of Agent Enrique Camarena. He was a drug enforcement agent with the United States DEA.

Mr. Camarena was killed by drug traffickers in Mexico while serving in the fight against illegal drugs in the U.S. Students at Virginia Run will honor him by celebrating Red Ribbon Week, and will be reminded about the importance of avoiding the use of illegal drugs and alcohol.

Help us to recognize this important national event by talking about this issue with your child/children.



# VICTORIOUS VIKINGS AWARDS

**Congratulations to these students for being  
KIND, SAFE, and RESPONSIBLE**

- Kindergarten: Colin S., Ana S., Faris H., Jillian H.
- First Grade: Sedona M., Ava Q., Jacob S., Gabe R.
- Second Grade: Mary Kate T., Drew L., Alice Y., Noah S.
- Third Grade: Jack T., Megan V., Sam M., Cailin B.
- Fourth Grade: Ken R., Jacob L., Lily W., Abby B.
- Fifth Grade: Catherine C., DaHea C., Quinn R., Kyle T.
- Sixth Grade: Collin M., Andy S., Suzanna J., Jared B.

Names are selected by random drawing at each grade level from all Victorious Viking slips earned by students each week. Names may not be drawn on weeks shortened by holidays.



## Virginia Run Annual Pass, Punt and Kick Top Scores



We had over 500 students participate in this year's Pepsi Pass, Punt & Kick competition. We are proud of everyone who gave it a shot. This year's top scores (by age and gender) are listed below. Way to go!

### CONGRATULATIONS

#### Boys 12-13

1. Shane M.-270
2. Chris L.-220
3. Ben M.-200

#### Boys 10-11

1. Jack C.-240
2. Greg D.-235
3. A. J. N.-230

#### Boys 8-9

1. Gavin K.-200
2. Nathaniel P.-190
3. Joe C.-180
4. Blake P.-180

#### Girls 12-13

1. Caroline C.-180
2. Elisabeth A.-160
3. Claire E.-160

#### Girls 10-11

1. Isabel K.-200
2. Kelsey K.-190
3. Tory M.-170

#### Girls 8-9

1. Poppy M.-120
2. Nicki M.-120
3. Molly V.-100

Mr. Ginger and Mr. Antoncic

# THE "READ AROUND THE WORLD" BOOK FAIR



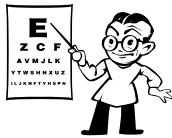
**Come Support the Virginia Run Book Fair... Only 2 More Days!**

The "Read Around the World" Book Fair is happening now and there are still many great new books for everyone to enjoy. Please stop by the Library before this Friday at noon to purchase books. Can't come to the fair? Just return your child's completed Book Order Form to his/her teacher (**checks made payable to Virginia Run Elementary School**). Thanks for supporting this important event and Happy Reading!

**BOOK FAIR HOURS:**

Wednesday, 10/21 -	9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	
Thursday, 10/22 -	9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	
Friday, 10/23 -	9:30 a.m. – NOON	* Fair Closes

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## Clinic Volunteers for Vision and Hearing Screening

Thank you to Andrea Jacobs, Jennifer Craig and Jennifer Masterson for helping with the third grade vision and hearing screening last week.

*Thank you*

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## COLD AND FLU SEASON HAS ARRIVED!



To reduce the spread of infection we ask that you keep your child home for 24 hours following a fever, vomiting or diarrhea. Remind your children to always wash their hands after using the bathroom, coughing, sneezing and before eating.

**COUGH OR SNEEZE INTO YOUR SLEEVE OR A TISSUE!!**

**WASH YOUR HANDS:**

- #1: wet your hands with warm water
- #2: use soap and lather
- #3: rub and scrub front, back, and between fingers for 20 seconds
- #4: rinse well, use paper towel to turn off water
- #5: dry hands completely with paper towel.

**Teacher Workdays!**  
**November 2nd & 3rd**  
**No school for students!**

### Computer Lab News

October is Computer Learning month! All students have now visited the lab. They have seen an introduction and talked about the new year in the computer lab. All students have created their new passwords for Blackboard and all upper classes have logged on and explored their classroom site as well as other information available through this site during their class lab time. Mrs. Dull will continue to work with the classroom teacher to present lessons and help the students with writing\drawing\researching and exploring Fairfax County approved programs. We are very excited to have our interactive Smartboard to enhance lessons, and laptops for our students to utilize. We are looking forward to an exciting year.

## Virginia Run Elementary School Presents



### Polynesian Dance Club for Fitness, Fun and Facts



**Polynesian dance** promotes physical fitness and self-discipline while increasing self-esteem. The primary emphasis of the club will be on the dances, music and language of Hawai'i, but will also include exploration into the lands of Tahiti and New Zealand. Polynesian Club is open to students in grades 1-6. **Meetings will be held on Tuesday mornings from 8:00-9:00 and Wednesday afternoons from 3:50-4:50. To sign up please contact Mrs. Bundens at 703-988-8900 or [spbundens@fcps.edu](mailto:spbundens@fcps.edu).**

### Odyssey of the Mind

Odyssey of the Mind is a competitive program, but it's nothing like your typical sporting event. The competitive element encourages kids to be the best they can be. It's a competition about creativity. It's a place where kids are rewarded for how they apply their knowledge, skills, and talents, and not for coming up with the right answer.



While anyone is invited to sign up for a team, I particularly want to encourage those kids who really think differently, who love to invent, build, or to perform, to consider the opportunities that Odyssey of the Mind offers.

Forms are included with this week's Viking Voice.

If you have questions or would like additional information, please contact [suemurphy@cox.net](mailto:suemurphy@cox.net)

OotM is sponsored by VRES PTA

### YEARBOOK PREPARATION IS ALREADY UNDERWAY!

Don't forget to submit pictures that you've taken at school for parties, lunches, at the playground, etc. that can be used in the yearbook. This request will be in effect until March 2010 when the final submission of the yearbook is due so you have plenty of time to get those photos turned in. Please only submit pictures that do NOT have to be returned to you. Pictures can be put in an envelope marked "yearbook pictures" and given to your child's teacher or turned into the office. Any questions, please contact Mo Nieves at [kelllex@aol.com](mailto:kelllex@aol.com).



**Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour on  
November 1st**



The 6th grade class would like to thank everyone who generously donated items to their yard sale fundraiser. The sale was a HUGE success...even with the rainy weather!! The kids appreciate your support !!

Thank you all!!

### Campbell's Soups Labels for Education



Thank you for continuing to collect and send in those labels for education! Your child should have received a collection form in a recent Wednesday envelope, but if not, please pick one up from the parents table in front of the main office. Labels can be turned in to your child's teacher or deposited in the Campbell's pop-up collection bin located right next to the parents table. Questions? Contact Julie Ann Weston at [jewel192@aol.com](mailto:jewel192@aol.com).

### White House Ornament Sale 2009



Pre-orders for the 2009 White House Ornaments are now going on. All proceeds from the sale will aid our PTA in their continued support of our school's programs. The 2009 ornament commemorates the 24<sup>th</sup> presidency and it's the second of two produced in Grover Cleveland's honor. Ornaments are \$18.00 each or \$16.00 each for orders of 15 or more.

Order forms will be included in this week's Wednesday envelope. Order forms are also available on the VRES website or in the school office. For more information, contact **Sandy Johnson @ [sajohnson5@verizon.net](mailto:sajohnson5@verizon.net)** or at (703) 968-6997.

### Passport Club Update

Adult group leaders and helpers should plan on attending one of the following kick off meetings: Monday, October 26 at 11:30 a.m. in Room 200 or Thursday, October 29 at 9:30 a.m. in Trailer 2.

Passport Club groups will begin meeting in November. If your child signed up for Passport Club you will hear from their group leader before the first meeting.

We are still looking for group leaders for the following classes: Lybarger, Antoncic, Herbert, Bucci, and all 6th grade classes. These groups can not meet without a parent volunteer and are at risk of being canceled.

Interested in volunteering? Passport Club meets in small groups one day per month during lunch to learn about countries around the world. The volunteer time commitment is about 2-3 hours per month. Experienced group leaders are available to help you get started. This is a great way to become involved with your child's education!

If you are interested in volunteering or want more information, contact Mark Cutlip at [markcutlip@yahoo.com](mailto:markcutlip@yahoo.com).



## The holidays are right around the corner.... So is the *Holiday Shoppe!*

The Holiday Shoppe is a “store” set up in our cafeteria where students can shop with a helper and have their gifts wrapped all in secret!

The Holiday Shoppe will be here 12/9 and 12/10 from 5:30-8:00pm – with special hours for our younger students.

### We need quite a few volunteers to help with the shop:

Set Up  
Cashiers

Table helpers  
Gift Wrap



We also need older student volunteers to escort our younger clients through the Shoppe.



If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Jennifer Tongarm at [jalls@cox.net](mailto:jalls@cox.net)

## Save the Date!



PTA General Membership Meeting, November 4  
at 9:15 a.m.



## Keep clipping...



Welcome to another great year at Virginia Run! As we've all settled in for the new school year, I would like to remind you about **BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION!**

**Did you know that last year our school raised \$2,018.00 through the Box Tops for Education Program? And, that was just by clipping! Our goal this school year is to raise \$2,422.00!!! In addition to clipping, there are other ways to earn money for our school through the Box Tops for Education program:**

**Shop — Shop at your favorite online stores through the Box Tops ([btfe.com/marketplace](http://btfe.com/marketplace)). Up to 8% of each qualifying purchase is automatically donated to our school. There is no additional cost to your purchase and many exclusive deals and discounts can be found!**

**Buy books — Purchase books online at Barnes & Noble through the Box Tops Reading. Our school will receive 6% of your new book purchases and 3% of all other online purchases.**

**One of the easiest ways you can help is to sign up to support our school at [btfe.com](http://btfe.com). You will learn about new and easy ways to help our school earn the extra cash it needs.**

**We'll begin collecting box tops in January, but don't wait 'til then...start clipping and saving them now, because...the classes with the most collected box tops will receive a free McDonald's or pizza lunch! And, the teacher of those two classes will also receive a lunch of their choice!! So, get clippin'!!! Please contact me at [christinedomas@msn.com](mailto:christinedomas@msn.com) if you have any questions.**



# Fall Fundraiser Update



The PTA would like to thank all the families who participated in our fundraiser. Through your generosity we were able to raise approximately \$13,000 that will directly benefit each and every VRES student. As soon as the final numbers and sales reports are received from Great American we will schedule the limo to lunch and other prizes. The Rick Smith Jr. Show is tentatively scheduled for December 15<sup>th</sup> so mark your calendars, more information to follow.

If you have a few hours to spare on the afternoon of Oct 30<sup>th</sup> to help with the delivery of the orders, please call or email Mary Setash at 703-815-1337 or [msetash@aol.com](mailto:msetash@aol.com). 10 volunteers are needed to help unload the truck, group orders by class, and distribute orders to classrooms upon dismissal.

**Orders will be available for pick up in your child's classroom at teacher conferences, November 2nd & 3rd.**

**Come join the fun!**

**Fall Family Bingo and Pizza Night**

If you have not submitted your registration form, please do so. Sign up early for this popular Virginia Run tradition.

Friday, October 30th  
Pizza served 6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
Bingo begins at 7:00 p.m.

The 6<sup>th</sup> graders will be sponsoring the pizza sales.

To volunteer to help with bingo, please contact Lynn Shawkey at [ldjm@hotmail.com](mailto:ldjm@hotmail.com) or 703-322-0744. We need volunteers to set up on the day of the event and to work half-hour shifts.

To volunteer to help with pizza sales, please contact Lynn Heick at [lynnheick@gmail.com](mailto:lynnheick@gmail.com) or 703-830-5350.