



The Viking Voice

Calendar of Events:

- Oct. 7 at 7:00 p.m.
- PTA Meeting
Oct. 12
- Columbus Day Holiday
No School
Oct. 16-23
- Fall Book Fair
Oct. 19
- Walk for the Homeless
Oct. 30
- Fall Family Bingo and
Pizza Night
Nov. 2 & 3
- Student Holidays
No School

Articles of Interest:

- Victorious Vikings Awards
- PTA General Membership Meeting
- Second Grade News
- Fall Book Fair News
- Building Use Reminder
- Fall Picture Days—Thank You
- Yearbook Preparation Underway
- Virginia Run R.E.A.D.S. Awards Luncheon
- Campbell Soups Labels for Education
- Family Story Night and Dedication
- White House Ornament Sale 2009
- FLEX News
- Box Tops for Education
- AAP (GT) Programs
- Help the Homeless Mini-Walk
- Parenting Class Information
- Fall Family Bingo
- Giant Bonus Bucks Program

Issue 03
October 7, 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,

During the first few weeks of school, several reports from parents and teachers were made regarding unsafe driving practices at Kiss 'n Ride. Drivers were traveling too quickly, leaving students in a non-designated/unsafe area for drop off, and passing in front of other cars creating a very unsafe area for students. Parents should not drop off students in the bus lanes. If students forget their coats or an item they need, please park your car in the parking lot and come into the school so that the office staff may deliver the needed item.

The rules for Kiss 'n Ride are as follows:

- Do Not Pass
- Do Not Park
- Do Not Leave Your Car
- Do Not Speed on School Grounds
- Students Must Exit and Enter from the Passenger Side in Front of the SACC Door
- Students Are Not Allowed to Cross in Front of the Kiss 'n Ride Traffic Line (i.e., to go to a parent who is waiting in the parking lot)

At dismissal if a parent is holding up the Kiss 'n Ride line because their child is late coming out of the building, the parent is to move up along the curb area in front of the SACC door. This allows the rest of the cars to flow through the Kiss 'n Ride line and gives the parent the opportunity to wait by the curb for their child.

Throughout Fairfax County, the Police department adopted a program entitled: "Keep Our Pupil Safe" (KOPS). This program states that any driver observed displaying unsafe driving practices is to be reported to the Fairfax County Police Department immediately. The license plate of the car will be reported to the police department and after the first offense a letter will be sent to the owner of the car. With the second offense, the owner of the car will receive a ticket. As a result of this safety enforcement policy, teachers in the Kiss 'n Ride will record unsafe driving to the office. A call will be made to the Fairfax County Police department as soon as possible.

Thank you for driving safely and keeping our students and staff safe at all times.



VICTORIOUS VIKINGS AWARDS

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

Kindergarten: Laura M., Sydney A., Shannon V., Nicholas C.

First Grade: Haley C., Bromley G., Kelsey K., Rachel I.

Second Grade: Halle B., Jade H., Chase W., Brandon A.

Third Grade: Ashwin S., Marc H., Jacob F., Michael H.

Fourth Grade: Echo F., Nancy M., Kyra W., Poppy M.

Fifth Grade: Eirenn V., Veronica H., Allison F., Paola G.

Sixth Grade: Kelley L., Mitchell S., Frederick L., Sarah H.

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.

Building Use Reminder:

Please remind children to keep their voices down while you are using the school building for your community activity. We will have to cancel the building use if we receive complaints from the teachers because you are too loud. Also, any destruction of school property/items will be an immediate cancellation.



SECOND GRADE NEWS

Second graders have been hard at work getting to know their classmates, teachers and new routines. They have been learning about civics and who our leaders are. They have been working hard on place value in math and understanding how numbers are written. And recently they have been really excited about starting the science unit on “Matter and Magnets”. They have become “scientists” who observe, predict, measure and write down their observations while learning about mass, attributes, change, constancy and tools that scientists use. They have been using these tools to measure volume, mass, temperature and length. Second graders love the hands-on learning!

P.S. Look for information to come home this month about our “Book Character Parade”. That is always a second grade favorite!!

THE "READ AROUND THE WORLD" BOOK FAIR IS COMING!



FUN FACT:

Did you know Virginia Run earns a profit of 25% from the total sales of the Book Fair? This helps with the purchasing of items like computers, audio visual equipment, and helps fund library enrichment programs like Virginia Run R.E.A.D.S., author visits, Read Across America Celebrations and more.

The "Read Around the World" Book Fair is coming soon to the Virginia Run Library! Please help support our school by attending this exciting event. We will have extended hours on Monday, October 19th after the Homeless Walk and one Family Night on Tuesday, October 20th. Here are a few reminders to help make our Book Fair a great success:

1. Review your child's Wish List. Children will have a chance to preview books at school.
2. Complete the Book Order Form that will be in the October 14th, Wednesday Envelope and send the completed form and payment, back to school with your child (**checks payable to Virginia Run Elementary School**).
3. Stop by the Library any day of the Book Fair to purchase books
4. Come to Family Night and get some new books for all to read
5. Do your holiday shopping now...Books make Great Gifts!
6. All sales from the Book Fair are FINAL. There will be No Returns.

HOURS:

Friday, 10/16 -	9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	
Monday, 10/19 -	9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	* Extended Hours!
Tuesday, 10/20 -	9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	** Family Night - 6:00-8:00 p.m.
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

If you are interested in helping with the Book Fair, please contact Kelly Carper at kellycarper@hotmail.com. We need volunteers to work morning or afternoon shifts each day of the Book Fair as well as on both Family Nights. Thank You!

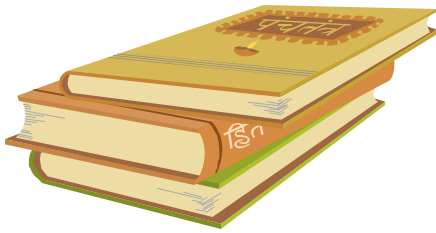
YEARBOOK PREPARATION IS ALREADY UNDERWAY!



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



Columbus Day—Holiday!
No School on Monday,
October 12, 2009



Virginia Run R.E.A.D.S. Awards Luncheon

On Monday, October 5th, an Awards Luncheon was held to recognize the students who participated in the Virginia Run R.E.A.D.S. summer reading program. This year, 175 students participated in the program which represents almost 25% of the school. The program challenged students to read both fiction and non-fiction books over the summer. **Our summer readers did an outstanding job, reading a total of 4,883 books!** Students enjoyed a delicious catered lunch from Foster's Grille in Chantilly and received t-shirts, award certificates and Foster's Grille Kids Meal Cards in recognition of their efforts.

The following lucky students were winners in our prize drawing and received Scholastic Certificates for the upcoming Virginia Run Book Fair: *Brendan B., Abby B., Max C., Connor C., Michael H., Michelle J., Grant J., Jacob L., Katie L., Anna M., Shannon M., Erin M., Scott P., Cammy S., Luke S., Eirenn V., Andrew W., Carrie W., Jack W. and Kyra W.*

The following three students were Grand Prize winners of Foster's Grille gift certificates: *Madison C., Geoffrey E. and Jack T.*

We would like to thank the following volunteers who helped make the luncheon a huge success: *Heather Barnett, Mary Bidingler, Amanda Bremer, Kelly Carper, Barb Castro, Tracy Cheifetz, Lori Damers, Lori Dennis, Monica Hale, Sharon Heffron, Andrea Jacobs, Amy Jeffries, Julie LeVine, Debbie Marshall, Laura Preston, Cathy Pisarcik and Mary Rubens.* Thank you to *Lisa Hart*, for counting award tickets and to *Mrs. Conley*, for her dedication and support of this program.

A special "thank you" goes to Foster's Grille in Chantilly and the Reston Shirt Company in Herndon, for helping support our summer reading initiative. Great job summer readers!



Campbell's Soups Labels for Education

Virginia Run is again participating in the Campbell's Soups Labels for Education program this school year. Thank you to everyone who collected UPC labels last year. We have accumulated over 1900 points and are hoping to earn even more this year! Participating products include Campbell's soups, Swanson broths, and V8 Splash. For a complete list of participating products, visit labelsforeducation.com. Questions? Contact Julie Ann Weston at jewel192@aol.com.

Viking Voice Newsletter



The Viking Voice newsletter will be printed bi-weekly instead of weekly. Paper copies will be sent home with the oldest and only student. However, the Wednesday envelope will continue to be sent home weekly.

Family Story Night and Dedication TOMORROW, October 8th at 7pm

**Space is limited so reservations are
required!**



Please come and bring the family for an evening of stories and refreshments to dedicate the Becky Parsons Memorial Reading Nook at the Virginia Run Library. Becky Parsons was passionate about quality children's literature and had a long history of working with children's books in Fairfax County. Her granddaughter, Savannah J., is a second grader here at Virginia Run.

Email Amy Jeffries (amyjeffries@cox.net) to reserve a space. Hope to see you there!

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 24th 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 can be found on the VRES website or in the school office. For more information, contact **Sandy Johnson @ sajohnson5@verizon.net or at (703) 968-6997.**

THANK YOU SCHOOL PICTURE VOLUNTEERS!!!

Thank you to the following parents who helped make school picture day run smoothly: Shelley Moore, Lynn Katchmark, Leslie Fitzgerald, Sally Cope, Marcia Pokrant, Joan Rollins, Cheryl Folmer, Sandy Johnson, Terry Orcutt, Barb McIntosh, Holly Cameron, Karen Lenotti, Jennifer Masterson, Jill Sullender, Kurt Andulson and Andrea Proper.

Make-ups will be taken on
Thursday, November 5.

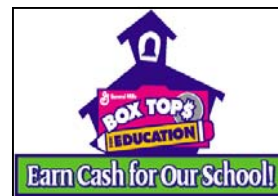
FLEX (Foreign Language Experience) Classes Start This Week!

October 6th through October 9th

Here are the room numbers for the FLEX classes:

Spanish 2, Tuesday/Thursday – Little Theatre with Nancy Smith
German 2, Wednesday – Little Theatre with Andrea Jacobs
Spanish 1, Thursday – Room 117 with Samantha Scala-Burley
Spanish 2, Thursday – Trailer #3 with Laura Calizzi
Spanish 1 PM Kindergarten, Thursday – Trailer #3 with Laura Calizzi
Spanish 1 AM Kindergarten, Thursday – Trailer #3 with Laura Calizzi
Spanish 3, Friday – Little Theatre with Nancy Smith
French 1, Friday – Room 200 with Wema Howard

Please bring in your emergency form on the first day of class. They can be found at www.fcps.edu/VirginiaRunES (click on the FLEX link)



Let's start 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). 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. 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 if you have any questions.

ADVANCED ACADEMIC PROGRAMS (AAP) [formerly GT] CONTINUUM OF SERVICES



Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) offers a continuum of advanced academic services for all students in grades K-8. Learning experiences are designed to develop higher-level thinking through enrichment, acceleration, and extension of the Program of Studies. Teachers, administrators, and Advanced Academic Resource Teachers (AARTs) work together to provide the following Levels of Service:

Critical and Creative Thinking Strategies, Grades K-6 (Level I)

The Advanced Academic Resource Teacher and classroom teachers teach nine higher order thinking strategies across all subject areas and grade levels.

Differentiated Lessons in Areas of Academic Strength, Grades K-6 (Level II)

The Advanced Academic Resource Teacher collaborates with classroom teachers to provide additional challenges and resources within the general education program. The Young Scholars Model included in this level is designed to find and nurture advanced academic potential in students from historically underrepresented populations.

Part-Time Advanced Academic Program, Grades 3-6 (Level III)

Students identified by a local school screening committee for advanced academic services (Level III) are challenged through models and strategies designed to extend and enrich the POS in the four core subject areas.

Full-Time Advanced Academic Placement, Grades 3-8 (Level IV)

Students found eligible for placement in a full-time Advanced Academic Program (Level IV) through a central selection process receive a highly challenging instructional program in the four core subject areas.

IBMYP: Selected Schools, Grades 6-10

The International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program is designed for students ages 11-16. The program helps students develop the knowledge, understanding, attitudes, and skills necessary to participate actively and responsibly in a changing world.

Honors, Grades 7-8

Students who demonstrate high achievement in one or more areas of academic strength may participate in honors courses in any of the four core academic subject areas.

SCREENING

Multiple criteria are reviewed to determine eligibility for all FCPS Advanced Academic Programs. Formal identification begins with Level III services. The local school AAP committee determines student eligibility for school-based services. The countywide AAP Central Selection Committee determines eligibility for full-time AAP (Level IV) placement.

TESTING

Each fall all FCPS second grade students, as well as students in third through seventh grades who do not have ability test scores, are administered the Cognitive Abilities Test and/or the Naglieri Nonverbal Test. A second grade screening pool is established using these test results. Students in the second grade pool are automatically screened for full-time AAP (Level IV) placement. Parents/guardians may exercise their one-time retest option during the September-October testing cycle.

REFERRALS for FULL-TIME ADVANCED ACADEMIC PLACEMENT LEVEL IV (Grades 2-7)

Parents/guardians of students not in the second grade screening pool may initiate the full-time AAP (Level IV) screening process by completing and submitting an **AAP Level IV Referral Form to the local school principal no later than February 5, 2010**. No late referrals will be accepted. Second graders **not** in the pool and **all** third through seventh graders are screened only by referral. Forms are available on the AAP website and in the *Parent Information Packet* available at the local school.

2009 PARENT INFORMATION NIGHTS

Thursday, October 8 McLean HS 1633 Davidson Road, McLean, VA 22101
Tuesday, October 13 Oakton HS 2900 Sutton Road, Vienna, VA 22181
Thursday, October 15 Annandale HS 4700 Medford Drive, Annandale, VA 22003
Monday, October 19 West Potomac HS 6500 Quander Road, Alexandria, VA 22307

Meetings will be held in the auditorium from 7:30 to 9 p.m. and are open to the public; no registration is required. Directions are available at www.mapquest.com.

For additional information contact:

Local FCPS elementary or middle school

Advanced Academic Programs Office at Lacey Center 703-846-8670

Advanced Academic Programs Office web site: <http://www.fcps.edu/DIS/gt>



**Virginia Run Elementary
 Help the Homeless Mini-Walk
 Monday, October 19, 2009
 1:20 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.**

In order to raise awareness of the needs of the homeless in our community, the Virginia Run PTA, in partnership with the Fannie Mae Foundation, will sponsor the Help the Homeless Mini-Walk. The Proceeds from our walk will go to Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM), a local organization that provides life essential support to those in need in western Fairfax County and to Northern Virginia Coalition of Churches and Businesses (NOVACO), a local organization that supplies housing and services to victims of domestic abuse.

It is not too late to sign up. October 7th was the deadline for receiving your t-shirt the day of the walk. However we would still love your child to participate, they will just receive their t-shirt the following week. To participate, just **sign** and return the enclosed permission slip along with the registration fee (\$15 for children, \$25 for adults). **Each child must have a signed permission slip in order to participate.** Please place the check (made out to "Help the Homeless") and permission slip in an envelope marked "Help the Homeless" to receive a "Help the Homeless" t-shirt.

Additional forms can be found on-line at the VR Web site: <http://www.fcps.edu/VirginiaRunES/permissionslip09.pdf>

Would you like to help with the Walk in any way? Contact Boo Glowacki (jjglowacki@verizon.net) or Melissa McKee (mckee20120@verizon.net)



Remember...Every foot counts!



I give permission for my child _____ to participate in the Help the Homeless Mini-Walk on Monday, October 19, 2009 at 1:20 p.m. His/her teacher is _____.

I understand that it is my responsibility to pick up my child after the walk at 2:30 in the Virginia Run Elementary School gym. If my child is in grades K-2, I understand that I must chaperone my child on the walk or designate another adult chaperone.

Parent/guardian's signature _____ Date _____

For children in grades K, 1 & 2, my child's chaperone is (please check one):

___Parent/Guardian ___Other (Name): _____


 Fall
2009

Parenting Class Information

All parents are welcome; you do not need to be in a court case to attend any of the following classes.

Co-Parenting: Two Parents, Two Homes (in English or Spanish)

This class meets the parent education guidelines developed by the Supreme Court of Virginia.

This four-hour class is designed to help parents focus on the responsibilities of parenting from separate households and keep children out of the middle as they negotiate custody, visitation, child support, or divorce.

Class fee: \$40.00 per person or \$60.00 per couple (includes book)

Classes are held weekly in English and once a month in Spanish.

Call 703-277-2666 for the current schedule.

Strengthening Your Parenting Skills (in English, Spanish, or Korean)

This class meets certain court requirements; call for details.

This ten-hour, four-session parenting skills class is designed for parents or guardians of children from infancy through age eleven. The class focuses on basic knowledge for more effective parenting. Topics include: child safety, positive discipline, child development, effective communication, parenting styles, and setting limits and boundaries.

Class fee: \$60.00 per person or \$90.00 per couple

English class dates:

Thursdays:	September 10, 17, 24, & October 1, 2009	7-9:30 p.m.
	October 29 & November 5, 12, 19, 2009	

Spanish class dates:

Thursdays:	October 1, 8, 15, & 22, 2009	7-9:30 p.m.
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Korean class dates:

Tuesdays:	October 27, November 3, 10, & 17, 2009	7-9:30 p.m.
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Parenting Teens

This class meets certain court requirements; call for details.

This 12-hour, six-session class is for parents or guardians of adolescents from 12 to 18 years old. The class focuses on helping parents learn strategies to communicate more effectively with their teen and maintain that important parent-child connection. Topics include: communication, discipline, developing responsibility, growing independence, decision making, curfews, dating, school work, and alcohol, tobacco, and drug use.

Class fee: \$85.00 per person or \$125.00 per couple (includes one book)

Wednesdays:	September 30, & October 7, 14, 21, 28, & November 4, 2009	7-9 p.m.
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All classes are held at The Brown Building - 9735 Main Street - Fairfax, Virginia 22031

Advanced registration is required.

Call Susie Johnson at 703-277-2666

Continued

Parenting Class Information

2009



Talk More... Fight Less

Many conflicts in families could be prevented or quickly resolved through effective communication. This 2 ½-hour class will focus on strategies for improving communication and respectfully resolving conflicts when misunderstandings arise.

Class fee: \$20.00 per person

Tuesdays: October 13, 2009
 December 8, 2009

7-9:30 p.m.

Advanced registration is required.

Classes are for adults only. Please do not bring children.

*Discounts are available if you take more than
one class or if you are an FCPS employee .*

Please visit our website at <http://www.fcps.edu/cco/fam>.

For class and registration information,
contact **Susie Johnson at 703-277-2666.**

All classes are held at the Brown Building - 9735 Main Street - Fairfax, Virginia 22031



Come join the fun!



Fall Family Bingo and Pizza Night

Look for the registration form in today's Wednesday folder and 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 6th graders will be sponsoring the pizza sales.

To volunteer to help with bingo, please contact Lynn Shawkey at 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 or 703-830-5350.



LET'S BREAK THE RECORD!



Right now we only have about 350 out of the 750 families who have linked their Giant Bonus Bucks to Virginia Run Elementary School.

**LET'S BREAK THE RECORD WITH
400 families!**

If you haven't linked your card to VRES yet — **DO IT NOW!**
It's the easiest way to support your child.

Deadline is this Friday, October 9th

Last Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ **AND/OR**

Giant Bonus Bucks Number _____

