



# Valley Way Public School

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## MAY VIPER UPDATE

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

As we enter the home stretch of the school year, many significant events will be planned for students including track and field, class trips and graduation. It is a good time for students to review their goals, stay focussed on their learning, and finish the year strong. We are looking forward to a lot of fun and learning during the last couple of months of school. More information will be shared with classes regarding upcoming events as details are finalized.

In order to assist us with making the best decisions possible with respect to class organization and student placements for Valley Way Public School for the 2023/2024 school year, we would appreciate if you would let the office know if your family is planning to move in the next few months. Providing us with this information in the spring will help us in making the best decisions for students during class development. We thank you in advance for keeping us informed! School and classroom organization begins now, so sharing this information with us now is very helpful for our planning for next year!

### EQAO UPDATE

Students in Grades 3 and 6 will begin writing the provincial EQAO assessments on May 23 until June 14. Classes will write a portion of the assessment on scheduled days within this time frame. It is essential that students attend school during testing and arrive on time at the beginning of the day so that they are able to participate fully in the testing. We encourage our students to try their best on the tests and to put great effort into showing what they know!

### IMPORTANT DATES

- May 9- SAC Final Meeting 5:00
- May 10- Pizza Day
- May 11- Gr. 7/ 8 Vaccine Clinic
- May 16-May 16- JK/SK Dental Screening
- May 16- DSBN Support Staff Day
- May 18- School Spirit Day (Spirit wear or school colours)
- May 19- PD Day
- May 22- Victoria Day (Schools Closed)
- May 24- Pizza Day
- May 26- Spirit Day (classes select their own theme)
- May 31- Track Date
- June 13- Special Olympics
- June 14- DSBN District Meet
- June 27- Grad
- June 29- last day of classes
- June 30 - PD Day

### **Reminder!**

**Schools Closed:**

**May 19th - PD Day**

**May 22nd - Victoria Day**

## STAMFORD MARKET



## DSBN SUPPORT STAFF DAY

Please mark your calendars for May 16<sup>th</sup> as it is DSBN Support Staff Day. I would like to thank our amazing support staff team for all they do to ensure our students have a safe and caring school. Thank you to Mrs. Mahoney, Mr. Dunne, Ms. MacDonald, Ms. O'Toole, Mrs Sargeson, Ms. MacKeller, Mrs. Doney, and Mrs. Myers. If you would like to send a special greeting for our support staff, please email it to [vw@dsbn.org](mailto:vw@dsbn.org) and we will make sure they receive your "Thanks".

## PUBLIC HEALTH MESSAGE

**Over 15,000 students in Niagara region still need to provide an up-to-date immunization record or valid exemption to Public Health.**

To help students catch-up with their immunizations, Niagara Region Public Health is offering vaccination clinics in various locations and many appointments are available. Please book an appointment with Public Health by calling 905-688-8248 ext. 7425. Individuals can also visit the "[Where to Get Vaccinated](http://niagararegion.ca/vaccines)" webpage at [niagararegion.ca/vaccines](http://niagararegion.ca/vaccines) for more information.

## **Gino Pizza Days**

If you would like to order pizza for your child(ren), please copy and paste the link to place an order 72 hours in advance. <https://www.jotform.com/app/222637168576264>

Remaining Pizza Days will be on May 10, May 24, and June 7.

## **DAYS OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Niagara Region is growing more diverse in creed and/or religious beliefs and practices. The District School Board of Niagara (DSBN) is committed to fostering diverse, equitable, and inclusive learning and working environments that promote acceptance and protect individuals from discrimination and harassment based on the protected grounds under the Ontario Human Rights Code. Creed and/or religion is one of the grounds that is both an individual right and a collective responsibility. The DSBN recognizes and embraces the creed diversity represented in its students, staff, and community members.

We invite you to share with us your family's most significant creed-based holiday(s). We will work together through the accommodation request process as Valley Way School recognizes the importance of families celebrating their creed and/or religious beliefs and practices. Please email us at [vyw@dsbn.org](mailto:vyw@dsbn.org).

The DSBN has created a [Family Guide: Recognizing and Respecting Creed Diversity](#) to support families in requesting accommodations. This guide has also been translated into the following languages; Arabic, French, Hungarian, Korean, Mandarin, Spanish, Urdu and Vietnamese, which can be viewed on the [DSBN Equity webpage](#). For a list of Days of Significance, please refer to the [Days of Significance Calendar](#)

## **SCHOOL CASH ONLINE**

Throughout the year important forms will be posted on School Cash Online. Even if you do not use school Cash Online to make payments, you will need to create an account to complete to access permission forms and other information that will be shared throughout the year. It takes just five minutes to register for this service. You will be able to access the service by visiting our school website and clicking "School Cash Online". You'll find more information about the system and links to registration and support there. It is a safe and secure portal.



## **PREVALENT MEDICAL CONDITIONS**

If you have a child with a prevalent medical condition (Anaphylaxis, Asthma, Diabetes, Epilepsy and or other conditions) we want to make sure we have a current Plan of Care to support your child. All parents of children with prevalent medical conditions are asked to fill out a new Plan of Care and submit it to the

school. You can download forms at <https://www.dsbn.org/prevalent-medical-conditions>



**ALLERGIES** We strongly encourage parents and students to respect those who have an anaphylactic condition. We are asking students to bring snacks that are free from nuts. Peanut and nut allergies are usually severe and can be fatal. Even tiny amounts of nut particles or residue can cause someone with a nut allergy to have a strong reaction.

## REPORTING AN ABSENCE

To report an absence please use the Safe Arrival System <https://www.dsbn.org/safearrival/> or call 1-866-606-5567. If you cannot access Safe Arrival System, please call the school. Any unexplained absence will be checked using our call-back system. This means we will call home/ work to find out where your child is.

## SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Our final School Advisory Council meeting of the 2022-2023 school year will be held on Tuesday, May 9, 2023 at 5:00 pm. A special 'Thank you' to our School Advisory Council Chairs Ryan Morris and Vice-Chair Kristy Korten.

## STAY CONNECTED

In our busy lives, events can sometimes be overlooked. Technology allows us multiple ways to connect with families. The following is a list of ways we use to connect with families to ensure all families are aware of the many events happening throughout the year.

### SCHOOL WEBSITE - [valleyway.dsbn.org](http://valleyway.dsbn.org)

Our website includes links to relevant information and our most recent Tweets.

**SCHOOL MESSENGER** - Using the School Messenger program, all families will receive an email with reminders about events or other important information. If you are not receiving these emails, please check your contact information with the office to ensure we have the most current information.

**SOCIAL MEDIA** - Please follow us on [Twitter](#) to see updates on exciting events. All tweets are linked to our school website as well.