



Vellore Viewpoint

OUR MISSION:

To advance student achievement and well-being through public education, which motivates learners, fosters inclusion, inspires innovation and builds community.

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VOLUME 1

Vellore Woods PS

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Welcome to the 2016-2017 School Year!

Dear Vellore Woods Families,

Welcome to all our new families and welcome back to returning ones!

Our staff have been working hard to get Vellore Woods ready for students. You may have noticed the new shaded areas in the Kindergarten yard and our library looks a little different as well!

This past summer we were very excited to have an Early Years program called **Come and Explore** and are even more excited to have an Early Years program continue this school year. Please stay tuned for more information!

Over the next few weeks, we will be partnering with the City of Vaughan, Transportation Services, Parks and Recreation Services to work on the flow of traffic in and around the school at entry and dismissal times. Please read the information on page 5 in regards to parking, Kiss N' Ride and Bus procedures to ensure that we have a safe environment for all members of our school and community.

We are looking forward to great year of learning together!

Shawna Gates, Principal and Elizabeth Lau, Vice-Principal



Daily Schedule

Students may begin to enter the school at 8:25 am

First Bell	8:35 am
Period 1	8:40-9:20 am
Period 2	9:20-10:20 am
Recess	10:20-10:40 am
Period 3	10:40-11:20 am
Period 4	11:20-12:20 pm
Lunch	12:20-1:20 pm
Period 5	1:20-2:00 pm
Period 6	2:00-3:00 pm
Dismissal	3:00 pm



Busing (Transportation) Eligibility:

Your child's eligibility for the bus may have changed.

All students in Grades JK-3 who live within 1.2 km of their school are not eligible for transportation.

All students in Grades 4-8 who live within 1.6 km of their school are not eligible for transportation.

School Bus Information

Visit www.schoolbuscity.com to check routes and times.

Vellore Woods Staff 2016-2017

Here are the tentative teacher assignments for 2015-2016. These assignments may change based on student enrolment and need and there is a possibility that students and teachers may be reorganized near the end of September.

Classroom Staff		
Grade	Room	
JK/SK	128	Mrs. Shea & Mrs. Di Cristofaro
JK/SK	132	Ms. Roffey & Ms. Virdee
JK/SK	133	Mrs. Paolino & Mrs. DeLuca
SK/1	116	Mrs. Bidaye & Mrs. Veno
1	120	Ms. Braund
1/2	121	Mrs. Gendron
2	119	Mr. Rotstein
2	126	Mr. Topp
2/3	125	Mrs. Gold
3/4	122	Ms. Pietras
3/4	124	Mrs. Gelfand
4	207	Ms. Beck
4/5	224	Mr. Oberoi
5	204	Ms. Lancia
6	201	Ms. Yabko
6	202	Mrs. Olthof
7	222	Mrs. Herman
7	216	Ms. Sterling
8	218	Ms. Burnett
8	217	Mr. McInnis
CCSA	104	Ms. Hishon
CCSB	115	Ms. Zwegers

Specialty Staff	
ELL/Prep	Mrs. Wong
ELL/Prep/SERT	Mrs. Kelenc
French	Ms. Carinci
Library/Prep	Ms. Warrington
Music	Mrs. Weller
Prep (0.5)	Mrs. Basciano
Prep (0.6)	Mrs. Brett
Reading Recovery/ Prep	Ms. Zigah
SSCA/ELL	Mrs. Nacini
SSC/SERT	Ms. Atkins
Assistant DH	Mrs. Fabrizi
Assistant DH	Ms. Hosseinzadeh
CYW	tbc
Health Assistant	Mrs. McKinnon
Spec. EA	Mrs. Cober
Spec. EA	Ms. Wray

Office Staff	
Principal	Ms. Gates
Vice-Principal	Ms. Lau
EOAA	Ms. Labate
Secretary	Mrs. Zuzek

Caretakers	
Lead Caretaker	Mr. Vesanen
Caretaker	Ms. Salkeld
Caretaker	Mr. Martimianakis

Character Trait for the Month of September

RESPECT

We respect ourselves and treat others with courtesy, dignity, and positive regard. We honour the rights of others. We respect their belongings, the environment and the world around us.

Treats

Just a reminder that students may not bring food treats to school for friends and/or classmates.

If are celebrating a special event and you would like to send something to school, please have a conversation with your child's teacher about what an appropriate treat, other than food, might be.

Lunchtime Routines

Students are expected to eat lunch at school and stay on school property at lunch recess. Please help your child by packing a nutritious, **nut-free** and litterless lunch each day. Be sure to include healthy snacks and drinks as well. We do not encourage dropping off fast-food for your child.

If you are dropping off lunch for your child, **you must bring it into the school.** Students are not to go outside and meet parents/guardians to get their lunches.

Students who do go home for lunch must do so all year long, with an adult present to supervise them. The **lunch hour agreement must be signed** and returned indicating that this will be the case. Once the permission form has been signed, the student must sign out in the binder in the office each day.



Allergies

While we take every step to create a risk-free environment, school staff and parents can take important steps to minimize potentially fatal allergic reactions. It is especially important that parents and guardians communicate a life-threatening allergy to the school as soon as they are aware of it. Please notify the secretary and your child's teacher so that we have accurate records and can inform staff of the established protocol.

Communication

Communication between the home and school is very important. As always there are a number of ways in which the Office and Teachers will communicate with parents and guardians.

The administrative team in the office will communicate with you in a variety of ways. We are trying to reduce the amount of paper we send home so, where possible, we will communicate via email. Paper copies are always available in the school Office or you can always call the school and we will be happy to provide you with the information or answer your questions. Families will also receive important paper reminders and information from the Office.

From time to time, you will school-wide voicemails with important alerts and information. Please note that these calls will be sent to all Vellore Woods families and do not require a call back to the school.

To ensure voice and electronic messages are received, please be certain that the school office has an up to date phone number and email address for your family.

Information about Vellore Woods PS and YRDSB can be found online:

York Region District School Board website: www.yrdsb.ca

School Website: www.vellorewoods.ps.yrdsb.ca

School Blog: vellorewoods.wordpress.com

Twitter: @VelloreWoods

We will post/share most school information and news on the school blog including a monthly calendar of events as opposed to a monthly newsletter. We encourage you to follow us for cool snapshots and quotes that will spark discussion at the dinner table!

Vellore Vision

**At Vellore Woods, we value our learning and our community
We appreciate others' beliefs and treat everyone the way we want to be treated
We respect people's personal space and belongings
We support and care for one another and help those in need
With open arms, we welcome others to our school,
Striving to make everyone feel respected and accepted
Working together to the best of our ability and celebrating each other's strengths
We ACHIEVE because we BELIEVE we can SUCCEED
Don't Mess with the Best! Go Wolves!**

Vellore Woods School Song

Helpful Hint!

What should my child bring to school each day?

- ◆ Backpack (snug and proper fit)
- ◆ Lunch, drink and snacks
- ◆ Non-marking, rubber soled shoes for gym
- ◆ Agenda Planner
- ◆ Hat for recess on sunny days and sweater or jacket for recess on cool days
- ◆ A smile!



Chorus:

Vellore Woods!
We're the school to remember – in the Woods.
We know we are the future.
And you know we've got the way – today.
We're the school to remember.

Verse 1:

Fetons nos talents,
Les petits et les grands.
Fetons la vie!
Tout le monde est ici,
Nous sommes unis
Dans notre grande famille.

-Chorus-

Verse 2:

We have journeyed far,
To get to where we are
There is so much more to do
We've got what it takes
To make the world a better place
It starts with me and you!

Cheer:

Don't mess with the best 'cuz the best don't mess
Don't fool with the cool 'cuz the cool don't fool.
Hey, hey - check us out.
Hey, hey - check us out.
Yay, Wolves!

-Chorus-

Lyrics: Mary Braund, Susie Carinci, Lisa Sherer, Jessica Owen, Michele Urciuoli
Music: James Clark and Jessica Owen



Photo Day!

Mark your calendars...Edge Imaging will be at Vellore Woods PS on **Tuesday, October 18, 2016** for Photo Day! The company provides a variety of products to capture your child's true personality whether or not it's their first year at school or their tenth! Your child will bring home a flyer with more details or you may visit their website:

www.edgeimaging.com for answers to frequently asked questions.

Parking Lot and Bus Procedures

At Vellore Woods, we work diligently to ensure safety and to protect class time. Arriving at school on time is necessary to promote the positive educational development of all students. When a child is late, they miss important pieces of the instructional program and disrupt the learning of other children in the class. We encourage students to walk to school with friends or siblings to instill a sense of responsibility and to develop social skills upon arrival to the schoolyard. If you must drive your child to school, please abide by the following guidelines.



Do not use the bus-loop to drop off your child!

Morning:

- ◆ Students may begin entering the school at 8:25 am. There is no outdoor supervision provided outside in the morning as staff are supervising students inside the school.
- ◆ If you are using the car-loop do not park or stop your vehicle, pull up to the very front loop near the bike racks and drop off your children
- ◆ If you wish to park, do so legally in the parking lot or on a street and then walk your child to the playground entrance (parents/guardians should not be waiting on school property after 8:25 am). Please park on the correct side of the street.

Dismissal:

- ◆ The bell rings at 3:00 pm, students begin to exit the building a few minutes thereafter and are supervised by teachers on duty
- ◆ If you are using the Kiss N' Ride, do not park or stop your vehicle, continue circling around the loop until you see your child waiting at the bike racks and then wait your turn to pull up to the front of the loop near the bike racks
- ◆ Always stay in the yellow lane and never pass another car when in the car-loop
- ◆ Only have your children enter the vehicle on the passenger-side
- ◆ Never walk your child across the parking lot or bus loop—students should cross at the thick yellow line with the aid of the teacher on duty

School Council

Successful education requires co-operative partnerships between the school, the home and the community. Effective relationships between the education system and our community are promoted through consultation, collaboration and strong communication. These relationships are strengthened through the establishment of a School Council which advises and supports student learning and school effectiveness.

It is the policy of the Board that each school establish and maintain a School Council.

We Need You!

Are you interested in participating in Vellore Woods School Council? Come out to our first meeting on **Monday, September 19, 2016** from 7 to 8 pm in the library.,

September 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5 Labour Day	6 First Day of School! <i>Day 1</i>	7 <i>Day 2</i>	8 <i>Day 3</i>	9 <i>Day 4</i>	10
11	12 <i>Day 5</i>	13 <i>Day 1</i>	14 <i>Day 2</i>	15 <i>Day 3</i>	16 <i>Day 4</i>	17
18	19 School Council (7-8 pm, library) <i>Day 5</i>	20 Assembly <i>Day 1</i>	21 <i>Day 2</i>	22 <i>Day 3</i>	23 Terry Fox Run <i>Day 4</i>	24
25	26 PA Day (no school)	27 <i>Day 5</i>	28 Meet the Teacher Night (6-7 pm) <i>Day 1</i>	29 <i>Day 2</i>	30 <i>Day 3</i>	

Upcoming Dates and Events

Friday, October 7	Gr. 7 & 8 Immunization—Hep B and HPV
Monday, October 10	Thanksgiving (No School)
Tuesday, October 18	Photo Day
Tuesday, October 25	Assembly
Friday, October 28	PA Day (No School)

