



## VALLEY COTTAGE NEWSLETTER

**Valley Cottage Elementary**  
26 Lake Road  
Valley Cottage, NY 10989  
Tel: 845-353-7280  
Fax: 845-353-7287

Nurse: 845-353-7290  
School Hrs: 8:50-3:20

Dear VCE Families,

As we move into the month of November, there are a number of events we would like to share with our VCE families.

Please mark your calendars for the morning of November 16<sup>th</sup>. In recognition of American Education Week, families will be invited into all district schools on that day at various times. In order to maintain the integrity of our instructional day, grade level visits will be 45 minutes in length. A schedule will be sent home during the second week of November. We look forward to sharing part of our instructional day with our families.

As we enter this season of Thanksgiving, we provide opportunities for our students and families to give to others in our school and local community. This year VCE students will be able to participate in a food drive sponsored by our teaching assistants, as well as a sock and glove drive sponsored by our Family Resource Center. The food drive will run through November 14<sup>th</sup>. Students may drop off non-perishable goods during Morning Program.

This year, instead of a pajama drive, we will be collecting new children's socks and gloves. This drive will run from November 28<sup>th</sup> through December 14<sup>th</sup>. Again, students may drop off items during Morning Program.

Finally, I would like to remind everyone that schools will be closed on November 6<sup>th</sup> for Election Day and on Monday, November 12<sup>th</sup> for Veterans Day. On November 21<sup>st</sup>, the day before Thanksgiving, elementary schools will dismiss at 11:45 am. Students should be sent in with a note if there will be changes in normal dismissal arrangements. These notes are important and will prevent us from disrupting instruction by calling the classroom each time there is a dismissal change that is phoned in to the main office.

As we have done in previous years, November 21<sup>st</sup> will also be pajama day at VCE. Students are encouraged to wear their pajamas to school that day. Please have children wear sneakers or shoes rather than slippers for safety reasons. For safe keeping, stuffed animals should be kept at home as well.

On behalf of the entire staff, we are thankful for our VCE families. We are grateful that you share your children with us each day.

Wishing all of our extended VCE family a safe and wonderful Thanksgiving!

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Gina Cappiello  
Principal

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### Daily Events:

- 1 B day, PTA Picture Retake, Stage
- 6 Schools Closed, Election Day/  
Supt. Conf. Day
- 12 Schools Closed, Veterans Day
- 13 School Bd Mtg L 7:30pm
- 14 Nyack Rotary reads to Grade 1
  - PTA Mtg 7:30pm
- 16 American Education Week/Open House
- 21 Half Day, 11:45am Early Dismissal
  - Spirit Day: Pajama Day!
- 22 Schools Closed, Thanksgiving
- 23 Schools Closed
- 30 Lip Sync Battle (cancelled)

Food Drive:

Perishable food donations can be put on the Stage.

Sock and Glove Drive: Drop-off in Morning Program.

The Kindergarten classes enjoyed their trip to Secor Farms in October! The cool air made it clear that it is autumn, as the kindergartners looked for signs of the season in the world around them. The children loved picking out their pumpkin, exploring the corn maze, and feeding the farm animals. Many thanks to the parents who volunteered as chaperones and to the PTA for helping to fund this trip. Many special memories were made!

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From the Library : November Greetings to all of our Book Buddies,

Hope you are warding off the cold by reading a warm book! Pictured here are third graders reading and learning about fiction genres.

On November 14, we will welcome the Nyack Rotary to our library who will be reading to our first grade classes. They also give books to our students to take home for their own library. Check out our library website by clicking Library Media Center on the Quick Links section of the VC webpage. The library schedule, the OPALS library catalog is there, and many other resources for you and your students to utilize. The Book Fair is the first week in December and there is no greater holiday gift than a book!

*Happy Thanksgiving*

*Carolyn Cameron Travers, Library Media Specialist*



### Notes from the Nurse

Remember to notify voicemail at 353-7290 before the start of the school day if your child will be absent due to sickness. Voicemail is on 24/7.

Medical Doctor signature is required for all medications to be administered during the school day. This includes over-the-counter medications such as Tylenol, Advil, etc.

As we enter the cold winter months when it seems more people are sick, I would like to review basic guidelines to help you decide if you should keep your child home or send them to school.

#### **Send to school:**

Vague complaints of aches, pains or fatigue. Sniffles, a runny nose and a mild cough without a fever.

#### **Keep home from school:**

Any physical or emotional condition that would prevent him/her from participating comfortably in class.

**A fever** of 100° or more, coupled with a rash, ear ache, sore throat, sluggishness or nausea. Fever may signal a highly contagious infection. Keep home until fever free for 24 hours. Give Tylenol/Motrin or Advil.

**A persistent, productive cough** and wheezing coupled with a thick or constant nasal discharge. An undiagnosed rash, especially when there is a fever and behavioral change.

**Pinkeye** - in which there is a white or yellow discharge, often with matted eyelids after sleep, eye pain and redness.

**Head lice** - Keep home until treated and all nits are removed.

**Chicken Pox** - Keep home until all blisters are scabbed over and dry.

**Diarrhea or vomiting** more than once or accompanied by fever, rash or general weakness.

**Impetigo** - Keep home for 24 hours after starting antibiotic treatment.

**Ringworm** (contagious fungus infection) - Keep home until treatment is started. Ringworm on the scalp requires an oral medication. Ringworm on the body can be treated with a cream applied directly to the affected area and covered with a Band Aid.

*Patti Kozar, RN, Professional School Nurse*

Si ou bezwen enfòmasyon tradui an kreyòl, rele Jocelyne Abraham nan 353-7044.

Si le hace falta información traducida en español, llame a Yesenia Polanco 353-7047.