



# Turbo Talk



September 7, 2017

Vauxhall Elementary School Newsletter

## Principals Message

A Turbo Charged “Back to School” welcome to all students, families and staff. It’s the happiest time of year for everyone. Great to hear that so many students had a great summer and are ready to “Git r done” at school this year. A special shout out to all of the new families that have joined our school community this year. Glad to have you.

Our enrollment is where we expected it to be with about 195 students. However, over the last several years we have been slowly declining in numbers so we were reduced by one teacher this year. This year we have a grade 1, grade 2 and a split grade 1/2 class, a grade 3, grade 4 and split grade 3/4 class, a grade 5, grade 6 and a split grade 5/6 class. Students in the split class will receive the same quality instruction as in the single grades and research shows that split classes have the same if not sometimes better achievement than a single grade.

We are continuing to use the “Daily five” structure in our language arts classes as well as other subjects. Stamina, focus lesson, word work and read to self are some terms you are becoming familiar with. The report cards that were introduced last year will again be used this year. Teachers will again be communicating to you regarding classroom assessment. Our new hydration station, water bottle filling stations have been installed and are wonderful. Thank you School Council for providing the funding for those.

By now most of you should have received a welcome letter from your child’s teacher as well as a brief yearly outline of what will be taught in the core subjects. Communication between home and school is vital to the success of a child in school. Please keep in regular contact with your child’s teacher whether it be through conferencing, phone calls, emails or texting. We now live in a very fast paced world and we are involved in many, many things. Please try to make school as much a priority as non-school related activities. Develop a structure at home that will allow for children to play, be involved in extra things, visit family and friends and still have time for reading, homework and studying.

Should you have any questions, concerns, ideas please do not hesitate to call me at school – 403-654-2422, home – 403-654-2349 or email me at [dale.cummings@horizon.ab.ca](mailto:dale.cummings@horizon.ab.ca).

Dale Cummings, Principal

**Cookie Dough Sales: We are trying to raise money for year-end field trips and plan on only two major fundraisers this year. Please support the cookie dough sales. It is fresh made in Rolling Hills and comes in an ice-cream pail so should make a lot of cookies. Orders are due back on Sept. 18.**

## Spirit Week

To help kick the school year off by building school climate we have planned our annual spirit week activities.

**Monday, Sept. 11- Unveiling of new team names and time to meet your team**

**Tuesday, Sept. 12 – Hat Day** – Students are encouraged to wear a hat to school. The more creative the hat the more climate team points they will earn.

**Wednesday, Sept. 13 – Team Challenge Day.** Students are to wear their team colors and will be involved in some challenge events against the other teams. This will take place from 12:35 until 2:05. Ask your child what color their team is and help them find a shirt or dress that is that color.

**Thursday, Sept. 14 – Tornado Day.** Students are to wear school colors which are predominantly orange with black and white trim. We have t-shirts for sale for those needing a shirt.

**- Back to School BBQ.** This annual event is scheduled for the evening beginning at 5:30 and ending around 7:00. Hotdogs, chips and ice cream will be served to all families for a donation to the Terry Fox fund. Around 6:30 parents and students will head in to the classroom to meet their child’s teacher and check out the décor.

**Friday, Sept. 15 – Terry Fox run @ 11:15.** Parents are welcome to join us and students are asked to bring a toonie to help support the fight against cancer.

**School Pictures:** this year our school pictures will be on October 16 and 17.



## New Staff at VES

**Sarah Kropf** – Mrs. Kropf is teaching grade 5 at VES this year. She has spent the last two years teaching at Rolling Hills. She is a graduate of the University of Lethbridge. Originally from Rosemary, Alberta she now resides in Vauxhall. Sarah is married to Titus and they have a daughter named Harley. In her spare time Sarah loves to rodeo, golf, cook, and enjoy the great outdoors.

**Matt Hawke** – Mr. Hawke is teaching grade 5 and 6 at VES this year. He has a nursing degree from the University of Lethbridge and an education degree from Concordia University. He is originally from Fort Steele B.C. and now lives in Vauxhall with his wife Kristen and their two children, Tommy and Fylo. Mr. Hawke likes to spend time with his family and really enjoys playing “Frisbee golf”.



**Kayli O'Donnell** – Ms. O'Donnell is a recent graduate from the University of Lethbridge. Kayli grew up in Bow Island and now lives in Lethbridge. In her spare time, she enjoys hiking, softball and volleyball. Ms. O'Donnell is teaching physical education and science 1 and 2.

## Turbo Twists



- VES students attended The Vauxhall Academy Jets opening season baseball game. It is always wonderful when VES, VHS and MAP students can all gather in one place. Ours



students had a lot of fun doing the wave, chanting “Go Jets Go” and holding up banners they had made.

- Our school handbook will be out next week. Please make sure you read through it as it is filled with a lot of info about the school. It also contains the fair notice letter from Horizon School Division regarding bullying, threats and harassment.
- School Council will be holding their first meeting on September 18 beginning at 7:00. Please watch for the notice and try to attend these very informative meetings. It is a chance to ask questions and to keep up to date with changes happening in Alberta Education, Horizon School Division and VES.



In the morning first day.  
Happy faces!



After school first day.  
Sad Faces!

### Help Wanted: German School Teachers

VES is looking for a German School Teacher. German School is on Friday's from 8:30 -12:00. It is approximately 30 Fridays. The pay is between \$16.00 and \$17.00 per hour. Training will be available. If you are interested, please contact the school at 403-654-2422 or come to the school to meet with Mr. Cummings (Principal) and Mrs. Vogel. (German school lead teacher) We currently have two teachers in place and are seeking one more to help with the large number of kids taking German.

*Inspire Us and We Will Inspire Others*

