Dear VMC Families,

   As we approach the end of November and wait for the Government’s announcement this afternoon the following are some updates from VMC:

CHANGES TO TERMS:

   The Government announced earlier in the academic year that the three terms would be reduced to two.  Therefore the grading structure would change from 20%-20%-60% to 50%-50%.  As the Government has determined that the new reporting date to parents is January 22nd, 2020, VMC’s new end of term date is December 18th, 2020.

   In order to allow for two terms in semestered courses (ending January 29th), the first term for Semester 1 classes will end December 4th, 2020 and a final mark attributed January 29th, 2020.

MID-YEAR EXAMS

   The Mid-year exam week has been cancelled, therefore December 14th to the 18th will be regular school days.  Teachers will continue to evaluate students until the end of term.

NEW PROGRESS REPORT

   Although VMC has already issued a progress report we will be issuing a new progress report on Mozaik this Friday.  If you would like to keep a copy of the October 2nd progress report you must print it or save it today.  The new progress report will override the previous one.

   The NEW progress report was designed to give you a more detailed accounting of your child’s progress so far this term.  Please refer to the legend below which describes the grading scheme used to indicate how students are progressing in the course as we approach the end of term 1.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Progress Report Letter Grade | Description | Percentage Mark Represented |
| A+ | Exceptional | 95-100 |
| A | Excellent | 90-94 |
| B+ | Very Good | 80-89 |
| B | Good | 75-79 |
| C+ | Satisfactory | 70-74 |
| C | Adequate | 65-69 |
| D | Marginal | 60-64 |
| F | Failure | < 60 |

PARENT-TEACHER INTERVIEWS

  Linked with the new progress report are the VIRTUAL Parent-Teacher Interviews that will take place on Thursday, November 26th, 2020.  The interview appointments will be accessible in two phases through an online booking app.  Teachers will be requesting an interview with specific parents by email.  These parents will receive an invite later today and will have until Sunday evening to reserve their appointment with teachers.  The second phase, starting Monday, will all other parents to reserve an appointment.  Detailed instructions will be sent with the invitation to book your P-T Interview appointment.  Furthermore, the information will also be published in the ‘updates’ section of our website as of Monday.

WORKSHOP FOR VMC FAMILIES – Students, Parents and Staff

   On December 3rd:  [*Welcome! You are invited to join a webinar sponsored by Vincent Massey Collegiate: Worried Sick: What Parents Need to Know About Kids and Anxiety. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email about joining the webinar.*](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/AaCn7MjYUjvauuGYfmCM5A~~/AAAAAQA~-6Rtl8YQLZlUhJzZHVmb3J0QGVtc2IucWMuY2FYBAAAAAI~)

It’s a commonly traded truism among parents today that this generation of children is struggling with significantly higher rates of anxiety, depression and other mental health problems. The research seems to bear this out. In fact, preliminary research suggests it's been amplified to even more concerning levels since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted our lives. Why is anxiety such an issue for kids and teens and what can we do about it? This workshop for parents will offer an overview of anxiety and related mental health issues in kids, with a focus on prevention and support. We will look at: • What is anxiety? • How do I know if my kid is dealing with it or if they are just acting like a typical tween/ teenager? • How does anxiety relate to other mental health issues? • Is there an “anxiety epidemic” in today’s kids? What do the facts show? • Dealing with stigma around mental health issues • Why might this be happening - where does anxiety come from? • How can we support kids?

Registration:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\_mkXhzTyIQeKAO-XCj60R8w](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/xUBz6kvUlRKu0pZnkT2g0w~~/AAAAAQA~-6Rtl8YQLZlUhJzZHVmb3J0QGVtc2IucWMuY2FYBAAAAAI~)

CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES @ LUNCH

We are in the process of offering lunch time activities in a bubble format due to red zone restrictions.  Students will be asked to give us ideas for classroom games they would like to have and animation will be added to the lunch-time program on a weekly basis.  We are just starting and hope to offer a variety of activities that meet the safety protocols designated for red zone.

In addition, classes who would like to make improvements to the aesthetics of their classrooms will be given financial support to do so.  Students can come up with a plan to be approved by admin and will be given up to a $200 budget to accomplish their goal.

Sincerest Regards,

Franca Cristiano  
Principal