Monday September 25, 2023

\*\*WEAR AN ORANGE SHIRT AND/OR ACCESSORY ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH INCORPORATED INTO REGULAR UNIFORM.\*\*

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Every year, Canadians across the country mark September 30th as Orange Shirt Day. It is a day designed to commemorate the residential school experience, to witness and honor the healing journey of the survivors and their families, and to commit to the ongoing process of reconciliation. The origins of this day came from the residential school experience of Phyllis Webstad, who on her very first day of school had her brand new shiny orange shirt taken away, never to be seen again. Her story is reflective of many children, where harm was inflicted upon the self-esteem and well-being of these residential school survivors.

On Thursday September 28th, we are encouraging all students to wear an orange shirt and or accessory as an affirmation of our commitment to ensure that everyone around us matters. Please join us as we focus on the hope for a better future in which children are empowered to support, encourage, and help each other. Thank you!

Sincerely,

On behalf of Vincent Massey Collegiate Staff,

Veronica D’Agata, Spiritual and Community Involvement Animator