

# THE VILLAGE BLUEBIRD

VILLAGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## FALL GREETINGS

### IMPORTANT DATES:

- Oct. 3-7: Red Ribbon Week of Respect
- **Oct. 10: Staff Development, Schools Closed**
- Oct. 10-14: Food Allergy Awareness Week
- Oct. 11: BOE Mtg, 7:30, UMS
- Oct. 11-18: MAP Testing
- Oct. 18: Mix-It-Up at Lunch
- Oct. 19: PTA Mtg, 10, VES
- Oct. 19-20: Fire Prevention
- Oct. 21: 4th Gr. Bingo, 4-5:15
- Oct. 24: Picture Retakes
- Oct. 25: BOE Mtg, 7:30, UMS
- Oct. 28th: 3rd Gr. Bingo 4-5:15
- Oct. 31: Halloween Events
- Nov. 4: Dads' Night Out
- **Nov. 4, 7-9: Conferences (1:30 Dismissal)**
- Nov. 8: BOE Mtg, 7:30, UMS
- **Nov.: 10-11: NJEA Convention-Schools Closed**
- Nov. 16: PTA Mtg, 10, OHES
- Nov. 18: Family Fun Night, 6, OHES
- Nov. 22: BOE Mtg, 7:30, UMS
- **Nov. 23: 1:30 Early Dismissal**
- **Nov. 24-25: Thanksgiving Recess-Schools Closed**
- Dec. 7: 4th Grade Choral Concert, 7, VES
- Dec. 13: BOE Mtg, 7:30, UMS
- Dec. 14: PTA Mtg, 10, VES
- Dec. 23: Report Cards Available Online: 1:30 Early Dismissal
- **Dec. 26-Jan. 2, Winter Recess-Schools Closed**
- Jan 3: Return from Winter Recess

Greetings families and friends! The fall season is off to a terrific start at VES! Villagers are taking full advantage of every wonderful learning opportunity and look forward to the upcoming events of the season.

Special thanks to our PTA for organizing a successful Scholastic Book Fair, and providing books for our library and classrooms. Congratulations to the PTA on a successfully festive Kickoff Party. What a wonderful way to bring parents together to celebrate the start of a new year!

October begins with our PTA and Municipal Alliance sponsored *Red Ribbon Week of Respect* learning activities and assemblies, followed by *Food*

*Allergy Awareness Week*, MAP testing, our *Mix-It-Up At Lunch* event, *Fire Prevention* assemblies and smoke room visits with Montgomery Township Firefighters, the end of our first *Box Tops* contest, Bingo parties, Halloween activities and most importantly our *Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF* campaign.

We will kick off November with parent-teacher conferences, the PTA's Dads' Night Out which is a great event for students and the men in their lives to relax and have fun at school, and finally Family Fun Night later in the month.

Please be sure to take note of the important dates to the left. Have a wonderful October and a safe and Happy Thanksgiving in November!

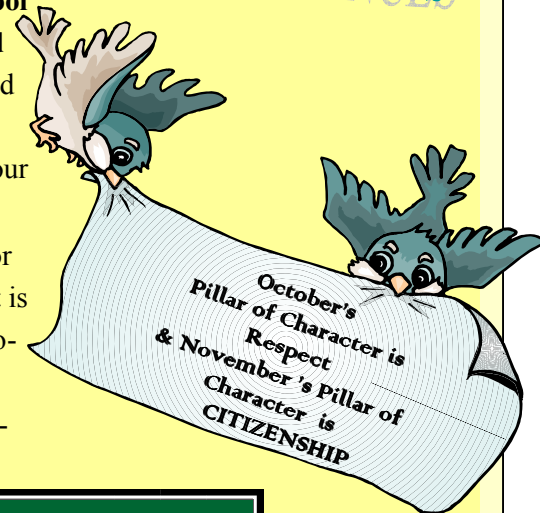
Ms. Lacy and Mr. Hadinger



## PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent conferences will be held from Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup>– Wednesday, November 9<sup>th</sup>. **The school day will conclude at 1:30 and lunch will be served on each of these days.** Each conference is scheduled to last approximately 15 minutes. This time is intended for you and your child's teacher to discuss your child's progress in school.

Teachers will contact you through a notice or email to schedule your conference during a time that is mutually convenient. If you would like to make a donation to your child's classroom, please refer to the Classroom Wish List posted outside of the room during your conference visit.



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Sleep Article	2
Food Allergy Awareness	3
Flu Prevention Tips	4
Halloween Events	5
PTA Corner	6-7
Mix-It-Up at	8

### MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT

*Our mission as a forward-thinking community is to ensure that students grow into confident, compassionate, and successful learners in a global society by providing engaging and challenging educational experiences in a student-centered environment.*

## SLEEP FROM MRS. FORNAL IN GUIDANCE

Now that it is October, many of you are probably settling in to your before school and after school schedules. Homework, dinner, and bedtime routines most likely occupy your afternoon and evenings when school lets out for the day. However, it is what is happening at night, during your child's sleeping hours, that can greatly impact how he is able to perform or function during his daily tasks. Sleep is especially important for children as it directly impacts mental and physical development.

During the deep states of Non-Rapid Eye Movement (NREM) or "quiet" sleep, blood supply to the muscles is increased, energy is restored, tissue growth and repair occur, and important hormones are released for growth and development. During Rapid Eye Movement (REM) or "active" sleep, our brains are active and dreaming occurs. Our bodies become immobile, breathing and heart rates are irregular.

Below are some sleep Facts for school-aged Children (5-12 years). These facts help to demonstrate the importance of healthy sleeping habits as well as the severe negative impact for children who do not get enough sleep.

### Sleep Facts

- Children aged five to twelve need 10-11 hours of sleep.
- Watching TV close to bedtime has been associated with bedtime resistance, difficulty falling asleep, anxiety around sleep and sleeping fewer hours.
- Sleep deprivation impacts health, academic performance (Cognitive problems, concentration, attention), and behavior (mood swings, behavioral problems such as hyperactivity)
- Several studies report that more total sleep, earlier bedtimes, and later weekday rise time are associated with better grades in school.
- Those with poor grades are more likely to sleep less, go to bed later, and have more irregular sleep/wake habits.
- Sleep deprivation may present itself in many ways other than daytime sleepiness -- inattention, poor concentration, moodiness, behavioral problems, and poor academic performance and social skills.



*Sleep, sleep, it's a funny old feeling  
You just lie down, stare at the ceiling,  
Count from one to ten and back  
And - before you know it - whack!  
Sleep has got you, sleep has won  
It's caught you out, it's spoilt your fun  
Sometimes you think "Tonight I'm fine,  
I'll stay awake till half past nine,  
Old Sleep won't make me disappear  
But drowsy, snoozy, sleep is here*

Sam Taplin &  
Anna Luraschi

### Sleep Tips

- Teach school-aged children about healthy sleep habits.
- Model good sleeping habits for your children.
- Create and implement a consistent sleep schedule and bedtime routine.
- Make your child's bedroom conducive to sleep – dark, cool and quiet. Keep TV and computers out of the bedroom.
- Avoid caffeine.



*If you are concerned about your child's sleep habits, please consult with your family doctor. Also, feel free to reach out to me and I will assist you any way I can.*

## FOOD ALLERGY AWARENESS WEEK

### October 10-14, 2011



Dear Families,

Every year Village Elementary School participates in the Be A PAL: Protect A Life from food allergies educational awareness program. In Health class students will watch a video, read books and participate in activities that will raise their awareness about how to help their fellow classmates stay healthy and safe. Below is helpful information for parents to read in order to help your child or their friends who might be afflicted with food allergies.

*Mrs. Melissa Podell, Parent Volunteer*

**Three Ways Parents of *Non-Food Allergic Children* can Help Food Allergic Children**  
*F.A.C.E.S Food Allergy Committee for Education and Safety*

### Communication is key!

- Your child's teacher will inform the class if there is a food allergy in the classroom. Sometimes a food restriction is necessary. For example, no peanut butter in the classroom. Your support and understanding is appreciated because you are keeping the food allergic children safe.
- Your child's teacher will inform you of guidelines regarding birthdays and classroom celebrations. For example, some teachers will provide a safe snack list, some teachers may read a birthday book, or some may have parents send in a treat of their choice. By understanding the teachers' guidelines you are keeping the child not only safe but also included.
- Parents can discuss ways their child can help their friends who have food allergies. Talk about how food allergic children feel different and embarrassed because of their allergy. Explain that sometimes they are bullied and teased because of their allergies. Whether it be a derogatory comment, or even a physically threatening gesture, explain the seriousness of bullying. If they see a friend being teased inform a teacher.

Thank you for your support and help.

*MTSD Policy #5331 addresses the Management of Life-Threatening Allergies in School. In addition, Ms. Lacy and Mr. Hadinger review general safety expectations with students that require them to refrain from sharing food and eating or drinking on the bus. Students are reminded of the importance of being a PAL to their fellow school and bus mates!*

### **10 Things Every Child with Food Allergies Wishes You Knew!** By Gina Clowes

- 1. I long to be included.** I would like to look, act and eat like everyone else. I'd like to buy my lunch and sit wherever I want. I know I can't, but I am so happy inside when someone cares enough to provide a safe potato chip, cookie or Popsicle for me. It's nice when I can have something similar to what others are eating but *I love it* when I can eat the same thing as everyone else. Whenever it's possible, please think to include me!
- 2. I'm scared I could die from my food allergies.** I've heard my parents and teachers mention "life-threatening" food allergies and I remember having some reactions where I felt very sick and really scared. I could see how frightened my parents were too. Sometimes, I could use a little reassurance that I will be okay.
- 3. I feel like I'm the only one sometimes.** If you have a support group or another way to arrange for me to meet other children who have food allergies, I would really like to know that I am not the only kid who has food allergies. Having another friend with food allergies in my classroom or at lunch time helps too.
- 4. I get confused when grown-ups offer me food.** I know I'm supposed to be polite and listen to grown-ups, but my parents have told me I am only supposed to take food from them. When you offer me food or especially candy, I'd like to take it but I'm not sure about what I am supposed to do.
- 5. I get itchy spots sometimes when grown-ups kiss me after they've eaten something I'm allergic to. I get itchy spots when your dog licks me too.** I'm not quite brave enough to tell you this so I'm hoping you will remember that if you have just eaten something that I'm allergic to, I may get hives if you kiss me soon afterward.
- 6. I'm embarrassed when people fuss over what I'm eating.** I know I have to eat my own safe food, but it's easier for me when I'm not singled out. Sometimes, it's embarrassing when grown-ups ask lots of questions. I love to fit in more than anything.
- 7. I hear all adult conversations about my food allergies.** My ears perk up when I hear grown-ups mention my name or food allergies, so don't pity me or act terrified because then I get scared. Food allergies are just one part of me. Let me overhear you talk about all the other wonderful things about me!
- 8. Sometimes I'm sad about having food allergies.** It's hard to be the only kid in class not having a cupcake and eating something different from my box of "safe treats" especially when there are about 20 other birthdays in my class. I know it's not the end of the world, but from my perspective, it's tough at times.
- 9. I'm watching you—Mom and Dad!** You may think that I'm too little to notice, but I see that you went back home to get my Epi-Pen® when you forgot it. I see that you read the ingredients on the Smarties every time. You are my role models and I am learning how to manage my food allergies from you!
- 10. I will do about as well as you do.** My parents "can-do" attitude will help me cope with the challenges of living with allergies and ensure that food allergies don't stop me from being everything I was meant to be!



Reprinted by AASG with permission from AllergyMoms  
**Allergy & Asthma Support Group of Central New Jersey All rights reserved.**  
 © 2008 AllergyMoms LLC



## Montgomery Township Health Department

With Cold & Flu season approaching, Montgomery Township Health Department and the Centers for Disease Control remind you:

**Clean Hands Save Lives!** Keeping hands clean is one of the most important steps we can take to avoid getting sick and spreading germs to others. Many diseases and conditions are spread by not washing hands with soap and water. However, if soap and water are not accessible, use soap and an alcohol-based product containing at least 60% alcohol to clean hands.

Tips: When washing hands with soap and water:

Wet your hands with warm running water and apply soap.

Rub hands together to make a lather and scrub all surfaces.

Continue rubbing hands for 20 seconds. Need a timer? Hum the "Happy Birthday" song from beginning to end twice.

Rinse hands well under running water.

Dry your hands using a paper towel or air dryer. If possible, use your paper towel to turn off the faucet.

When should you wash your hands?

Before and after preparing food

Before and after eating food

After using the toilet

After changing diapers or cleaning up a child who has used the toilet

Before and after tending to someone who is sick

After blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing

After handling an animal or animal waste

After handling garbage

Before and after treating a cut or wound

**Remember:** If soap and water are not available, use alcohol-based gel (at least 60% alcohol) to clean hands.

When using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer:

Apply product to the palm of one hand.

Rub hands together.

Rub the product over all surfaces of hands and fingers until hands are dry.

(Adapted from the Centers for Disease Control, [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov))

## FLU SEASON UPDATE FROM OUR NURSES

Dear Parents,

Now that the weather is getting cooler, and we are spending more time indoors, viruses are on the increase! Please remember to get your flu shots. Health departments, many pharmacies, and most physicians have the vaccine. There is no shortage this year!

Also the vaccine contains both the seasonal flu vaccine plus the H1N1 vaccine. Adults and children 10 years of age and up will need one dose of vaccine, while children 6 mos. to 9 yrs. who have never been immunized against the flu, will need two doses which should be given approximately 4 weeks apart.

Above all, students should be free of fever, vomiting and diarrhea for at least 24 hrs. before returning to school. Please continue to remind your children to wash their hands frequently, especially after using the restroom, before eating, and after being in public areas. A good hand washing with soap and water is still our number one defense against bacteria and viruses.

VES Nurses, Mrs. McGuirk and Mrs. Woodard



# Halloween Events at VES

As Halloween approaches, we would like to inform you of upcoming activities in which your children are welcomed to participate. On October 31st, we will hold our annual interactive Halloween Harvest Readers' Theater Assemblies! VES students will be entertained by several teachers, Ms. Lacy, and Mr. Hadinger as they use their silliest voices to read Halloween stories. Students will join in with lots of sound effects!



Halloween parties will also take place on October 31st in every classroom. Parties will be planned, facilitated and attended by room parents and their designees only. Designated parent participants are required to check in at sign-in stations at the main entrance or rear entrance upon arrival.

Students are welcome to wear costumes for their class parties. We ask that children carry their costumes to school. Teachers will arrange time for students to change into their costumes just before their class parties begin. Costumes should be quick and easy to change into and be free of props or difficult make-up applications. Your child's teacher/room parents will provide classroom party details. Thank you for your support and cooperation in making Halloween organized, safe, and fun for everyone!

## Villagers Support UNICEF Campaign

VES students will have the power to change the world again this year through Trick or Treat for UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Education Fund). Trick or Treat for UNICEF educates American children about their global peers and the value of helping others. In October, students will learn about the campaign during a morning news video. Our Fourth Grade Peer Partners under the guidance of Ms. Ciosek, Mrs. Pignataro, and I will be speaking to classes about what they can do to improve the lives of children around the world.

Students will receive orange boxes that they can take trick-or-treating to raise money for UNICEF and return them to school. Peer Partners and their advisors will collect the boxes and sort the money. Mr. Hadinger and I will donate the money to UNICEF through Coinstar and a local bank. Monies collected are used to provide medicine, clean water, improved nutrition and education to the world's neediest children. This voluntary program will help students feel a sense of accomplishment, knowing that they are exemplifying the pillars of character, specifically caring and citizenship. With just a little spare change, we can make a difference! To learn more about UNICEF, visit their website [www.unicefusa.com](http://www.unicefusa.com).

UNICEF donations are due by **November 4th**. Thank you for your support! ~Ms. Lucas



## COMMUNITY-WIDE HALLOWEEN HAPPENINGS!

Montgomery High School's Annual Fall Festival  
Saturday October 29, 2011, 10:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

This event is a wonderful opportunity for school and community to come together and enjoy a fun-filled day of games, activities and great food. Location: Front of the MHS. Rain location: MHS Commons. The Recreation Department, which is co-sponsoring the event, will hold their annual **Halloween Bash** in conjunction with the festival. Children age 12 and under are invited to come in their Halloween costumes and participate in their own "**Halloween Parade**". In addition to the parade, the Recreation Department will have **arts and crafts** activities as well as a **professional storyteller**. Moonwalk Adventures will be there with **blow up rides** for a nominal fee. Bring the whole family out to enjoy the festivities!

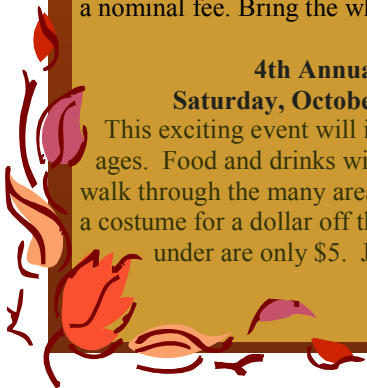
4th Annual Haunted High School  
Saturday, October 29, 2011, 6:00 P.M. -8:30 P.M.

This exciting event will include a variety of activities for all ages. Food and drinks will also be available as students and adults walk through the many areas at the High School. Join us and wear a costume for a dollar off the admission price. Students 10 and under are only \$5. Join us and have an **eerie-good time!**

## Halloween Safety Tips

If your child is planning on trick-or-treating this year, there are some important safety tips that should be followed to ensure a memorable Halloween experience.

- Children should wear light-colored clothing - short enough to prevent tripping and reflective tape should be added to the sides, front and back of the costume.
- Keep costumed children away from pets. The pet may not recognize the child and become frightened.
- Adults should accompany young children.
- Go out in daylight and carry a flashlight in case of delay.
- Stay within the neighborhood. Only visit homes you know.
- Watch for traffic.
- Only give and accept wrapped or packaged candy. Examine all candy before allowing children to eat it.



# MES PTA CORNER



## Kids Art

The MES PTA is pleased to support our Kids Art project this fall which will raise funds for programs and activities at VES. You will have the opportunity to choose from a variety of items imprinted with your child's artwork. SilverGraphics has many exciting products this school year.

- a variety of **environmentally friendly products** including grocery totes, popular drawstring backpacks and a set of note cards printed on recycled paper;
- **display products** such as art plaques with an easel back for tabletop display, 8"x10" matted prints ready for framing, ceramic ornaments and our popular refrigerator magnets;
- **kitchen products** including potholders, multi-use flour sack dishtowels, glass cutting boards and trivets;
- beautiful **wood gift products** including pencil/paint brush holders and felt lined keepsake boxes.

Combine coffee mugs with our coaster sets, pencil/paint brush holders with sketch books, water bottles with t-shirts or create your own combination to make great **gift sets**. Photographs of these products and **other favorites** can be viewed at [www.silvergraphics.com](http://www.silvergraphics.com). Samples of a selection of the available items are exhibited at school.

Your children will be working on their artwork over the next few weeks. Order forms will be sent home in late October. We expect to have products by December 14th, in time for holiday gift giving. We are looking forward to this celebration of our children's creativity. **Please feel free to contact Jill Fraticelli at [jillfraticelli@comcast.net](mailto:jillfraticelli@comcast.net) if you have any questions.**

## Dates to Remember

10/19 PTA Meeting @ VES 9:30 am  
10/21 4th grade Bingo, 4:00  
10/28 3rd grade Bingo, 4:00  
11/4 Dad's Night Out  
11/16 PTA Meeting, OHES 9:30 am  
11/18 Family Fun Night, OHES-all are welcome!

## VES ROOM PARENTS NEEDED!

Please consider being a Room Parent for your child's classroom. As of right now, many classrooms only have one volunteer, and many do not have any at all. If you would like to be a room parent, please fill out the form on the [vespta.org](http://vespta.org) website.

Should you have any questions about responsibilities, or if your child's classroom needs a room parent, please contact Amy Berk at [dasb9999@yahoo.com](mailto:dasb9999@yahoo.com)

## FALL BOX TOPS CONTEST

Be one of our weekly winners and win a gift certificate to Thomas Sweet!

Contest runs from Sept. 26-Oct. 21. Bring your box tops to school in a baggie labeled with your child's name, their teacher's name and the number of box tops. Collection bins are set up outside the front office and by the cafeteria. Each week three winners will be chosen- 1 for the most box tops brought in that week, and 2 randomly chosen names. Good Luck!! Let's see a Village of box tops!



## BOOK FAIR EVENING EVENT BECOME YOUR DREAMS!

Join us in the OHES cafeteria on 10/6 at 7 pm for a free hip hop performance! With incredible energy and personalities, the dancers of Illstyle and Peace demonstrate that through perseverance and paying attention, you can reach your highest goals. Tracing hip-hop dance styles from the late 60s through today, this acclaimed ensemble teaches positive messages including "Think It- Do It- and Become It!" Also, fun giveaways that are out of this world!! (The OHES Book Fair will be open during this time as well).



## DAD'S NIGHT OUT 11/4/11

Come out to VES for a fun night with your child!!  
To help, please contact Greg Swerdlow at [greg.swerdlow@gmail.com](mailto:greg.swerdlow@gmail.com)

**MEMBERSHIP AND VOLUNTEERS**

The PTA membership drive is still on! If you haven't completed your forms, it's not too late!! Online memberships are being accepted at [vespta.org](http://vespta.org). Be a part of the PTA team!!

If you are interested in a specific committee, please look on the website under Committee Chairs and emails the chairperson directly. Everyone has something to contribute, and we need you to have a successful year!!

**MES PTA CORNER****FAMILY FUN NIGHT 11/18/11**

Please mark your calendars for our first annual Family Fun Night! Bring the whole family to try to win classroom baskets, bid on the teacher auction, enjoy face painting, food, a DJ, magician, crafts, and more!! The event will take place in the OHES cafeteria. For more info or to volunteer to help, please contact Tiffani Shovlin at [tiffanishovlin@yahoo.com](mailto:tiffanishovlin@yahoo.com).

**Family Photo Fundraiser!**

**Ambient light photo studio will be coming to Montgomery to photograph families for only \$10.00 a session! You will be able to sign up for your portrait session online, and for only \$10 your family will receive a portrait photography session and one 8 x 10 portrait of your favorite pose. You will have the opportunity to view your images, select your free 8x10, and purchase additional portraits and products, if desired, immediately following your session. MES PTA will make 10% of all portrait sales as well as the \$10 fee. Get those holiday cards out of the way early! Ambient Light will be at the school every day from October 17th through the 28th. You can schedule your appointment online at <https://ambientlight.acuityscheduling.com>**

**MARKET DAY!**

Are you feeling stressed and overscheduled? Simplify your life and your errands by shopping through Market Day for groceries! Look for the Market Day flyer in backpack mail, go online at [www.marketday.com](http://www.marketday.com), or

contact Cathy Mallon at [catmallon@live.com](mailto:catmallon@live.com) for more details.

**VES Yearbook**

Creative people needed! Get involved to capture grade school memories for your child! Several experienced photographers needed for each grade to take digital pictures at key events during the school year. Please contact Andrea Krowiak to volunteer at [akrowiak@yahoo.com](mailto:akrowiak@yahoo.com)

**Invention Convention****February 11, 2012**

Help us make the 2nd Annual Invention Convention an even greater success!

The team planning this fun non-competitive event for our 3rd-6th grade student scientists and innovators needs volunteers! If you are interested or have questions please contact Amy Gomez at [amyhab5@gmail.com](mailto:amyhab5@gmail.com)

**UPCOMING EVENTS -VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Montgomery's Got Talent- please email Lauri Loiza at [montymom2020@comcast.net](mailto:montymom2020@comcast.net)

New Years Around the World- please email Laurie Zydel at [lzydel@comcast.net](mailto:lzydel@comcast.net)

Parent's Night Out- please email Patty Edelstein at [edelfoos@aol.com](mailto:edelfoos@aol.com)

**Stay Informed!**

1. Come to PTA meetings; you can find the dates on our calendar at [vespta.org](http://vespta.org)
2. Check out the PTA page [vespta.org](http://vespta.org) for updates and information. It is updated frequently.
3. Join the VES Email network; send an email with your child's name and grade to [cmzoff@aol.com](mailto:cmzoff@aol.com)

THANK YOU FOR HELPING TO MAKE  
THE START OF SCHOOL A SUCCESS!



## COMMUNITY BUILDING WITH PEERS ON

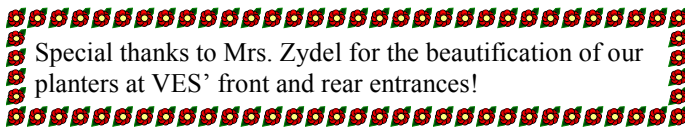
# Mix-it Up At Lunch Day



Village School Students will be joining an estimated four million students at 9,000 schools across the United States in this year's Mix It Up at Lunch Day on October 18th. The goals of this event are to give our students an opportunity to spend lunch time with other VES children and in the process learn to become more comfortable and open to interacting with their peers from other classrooms. This in turn will get our students ready for the middle school lunch experience where children will no longer have assigned tables.

Our teachers will prepare our students for this day by giving them conversation starters and other strategies for talking with new tablemates. On the day of the event, clusters of children from every class will sit at newly assigned tables with a few familiar classmates and many new ones. Hopefully, they will then make some new friends. Last year's event was well received by our students and staff.

In addition to Mix It Up at Lunch Day, towards the end of the school year we plan to allow our fourth graders to have open seating days at lunch to help them transition to the middle school cafeteria procedures.



Special thanks to Mrs. Zydel for the beautification of our planters at VES' front and rear entrances!



VES supports Monty's Team in the Walk Now for Autism on Sunday, October 9, 2011 at Mercer County Community College. Registration starts at 12 noon. Walk starts at 2 PM. A collection box is in the cafeteria this week for students and families who would like to make donations.

### VES FAMILIES:

*In the event of an emergency school closing, the 6-day rotation cycle will remain unchanged. For example: If we have an emergency closing/snow day on day 1, the following school day will remain day 2. Missed days will be made up later in the school year. Please see the district calendar for details.*

Village Elementary School  
Home of Blazer the Bluebird



100 Main Boulevard  
Skillman, NJ 08558

Susan Lacy, Principal  
slacy@mtsd.us  
Alfred Hadinger, Vice Principal  
ahadinger@mtsd.us  
Phone: 609-466-7606  
Fax: 609-4667196

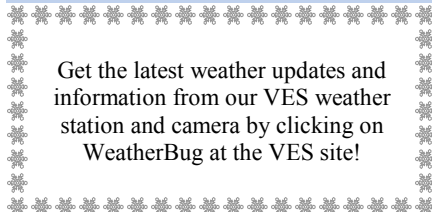
### Emergency School Closing Information

*In the event of inclement weather, hazardous road conditions, or any other emergencies requiring us to close schools for one day, **AlertNow phone messages** will be used to notify families. You may also check the following:*

- **Message Line: 609-466-7610**
- **District Website: [www.mtsd.k12.nj.us](http://www.mtsd.k12.nj.us)**
- **NJ 101.5 FM**
- **Channel 14 (Local Access Cable)**

### **VES Families:**

*In the event of an emergency school closing, the 6-day rotation cycle will remain unchanged. For example: If we have an emergency closing/snow day on Day 1, the following school day will remain Day 2. Missed days will be made up later in the school year. Please see the district calendar for details.*



Get the latest weather updates and information from our VES weather station and camera by clicking on WeatherBug at the VES site!

### *YWCA After School Program at VES*

The YWCA of Princeton provides childcare before and after school for children who attend VES. The YWCA tailors its hours to accommodate working families, and offers children diverse and enriching activities in a safe and nurturing environment. Registration packets will be available in the main office. For more information, you may visit our website at: [www.ywcaprinceton.org](http://www.ywcaprinceton.org) or call the YWCA After School Program Office at: 609-497-2100 X327. Please clearly state your name, your child's name, and a phone number where we can return your phone call.