



Village Elementary School | (609) 466-7606 | 100 Main Blvd.,
Skillman, NJ 08558



The First Day of School Will Be Thursday, September 5th!

Student School Day Hours: 9:35 - 3:55

Dear Village School Families,

We hope you are having an enjoyable and restful summer! The Village School team is excited about the beginning of a new school year and looks forward to welcoming our new and returning Villagers to VES, home of Blazer the Bluebird! VES is a great place to learn and grow and we are so excited about all that this new school year will bring!

Parent/Guardian participation is encouraged and appreciated. One way to stay connected is through PTA involvement. The Montgomery Elementary School PTA (MESPTA) president, Mrs. Danielle O'Connor, her executive board and team of volunteers are assisting us in planning for a terrific school year. Please visit the PTA link on our website for more information. You are also encouraged to sign up to receive PTA emails via Genesis-Parent Access in order to stay informed about membership, volunteering and special school community events.

On our first few days of school, our staff and PTA volunteers will help guide students to classrooms in the morning and to their buses during dismissal. Color coded maps at each entrance will also help students navigate the building. Join us for the Open House on September 4th for a building preview!

Please review this issue of the Bluebird for important dates and links. Most importantly, take some time to review our newly updated [2024-2025 School](#)

Enjoy the remaining days of summer!

Ms. Susan Lacy, Principal

Mrs. Lia Camuto, Vice Principal



UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, September 2nd
Schools Closed

Tuesday, September 3rd
Schools Closed for
Students (Staff In-Service)

Wednesday, September 4th
3rd Grade Open House:
12:20 - 1 PM

4th Grade Open House:
1:20 - 2 PM

Thursday, September 5th
First Day of School!

Wednesday, September 25th
3rd Grade Back to School
Night: 6 - 7:30 PM

Thursday, September 26th
4th Grade Back to School
Night: 6 - 7:30 PM

Wednesday, October 9th
Picture Day

Thursday, October 10th
Picture Day

Student Identification Cards

As part of our ongoing effort to increase safety, security and efficiency in our schools, all students in grades PK through 12 must wear their Montgomery Township School District Identification Card at all times on the exterior of their clothing, on the bus and when in the building or on school property. Students must have their IDs in their possession when attending school-related activities (after school and on weekends).



An ID is a school-issued item, which must be kept in the same condition in which it was issued. The first set (ID card & lanyard) were given to all students before the end of June 2024. If you are brand new to the district, please expect more information from our main office about how to receive your child's temporary ID card.

In the event that any portion is lost (lanyard or ID card) there will be a \$5.00 replacement fee. Payment must be made through your PaySchools Account.

Students will scan their ID barcodes upon entering and exiting their buses for bus attendance to ensure each student is on the correct bus. Additionally, these cards will be used in the cafeteria to pay for lunch and in the school library for book checkouts.

New cards will NOT be issued until after picture day each school year, so we kindly ask for your cooperation in ensuring that your child retains their ID card for use each September.



Join Us - VES Open House: Wednesday, Sept. 4th!

Come visit your classroom and meet your teachers!

Please have your child wear his/her district issued ID badge and lanyard to the Open House. A new Bus Tag will be available in your child's classroom during your visit and must be added to the back of the ID Badge holder, facing out. If you are unable to attend the Open House, the bus tag will be given to students on the first day of school.

If you are brand new to our district, please expect more information from our main office about how to receive your child's temporary ID card.

Any medications and forms will be accepted in the VES Health Office during the Open House.

Parking is available in the front, side and rear lots or the lot across the street from the school. You may enter the building through the main and rear parking lot entrances. Our PTA volunteers will be at the school to greet and direct you. They will also have school spirit wear and other items available for purchase. We look forward to your visit and welcoming students to VES!

Open House Schedule:

- 3rd Grade: 12:20-1:00
 - 4th Grade: 1:20-2:00
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Placement and Supply List Information

Friday, August 23rd after 5 PM, you will have access to the following information in Genesis-Parent Access: the name of your child's teacher(s), classroom number and teacher welcome letters.

General grade level supply lists were shared in our June and can be found on the [VES home page](#). Teacher welcome letters may include a request for supplies in addition to those listed on our general grade level supply lists. Keep in mind that teacher websites may continue to be updated until school begins.



Please note that you will only be able to access teacher welcome letters once all required forms are completed. Please review the district email regarding required forms sent from the school district to all families on Friday, August 16th.

As noted in our June edition, 4th graders may happen to be placed in classes where they will have one teacher for language arts and another teacher for mathematics/science/social studies. Students will travel as a homeroom class between the two teachers who will work as a collaborative team.

We have worked diligently to place your child in the best possible setting. Please know that at this time we will not be able to accommodate any requests for classroom changes. Thank you for understanding.

To View Student Placement Information:

1. Visit <https://parents.mtsd.k12.nj.us>
2. Enter your username, which is your email address, and your password. If you forget your password, use the "Forgot My Password" link. Your password will then be sent by email. If you are unable to log in or do not have an account, please contact genesissupport@mtsd.us
3. Click on *Documents* and view the teacher's welcome letter.



Back to School with Maschio's

Please visit the link for information from [Maschio's Food Services](#) to help you plan for the school year and learn about our school lunch program and offerings.

Snacks and Food Allergies

Please send your child with a healthy nut-free snack and water (no glass containers please) every day. According to district regulations (5531), all classrooms will be nut-free and no students or staff will share food. All classroom celebrations will include methods that do not involve food. For more information, please [click here](#) for the Guidelines for the Management of Life Threatening Health Conditions in School.





A Note from the Health Office

If your child requires medication at school either administered daily or as needed for an emergency (this includes Epi Pens), please make sure that all medication is brought into the Health Office before the first day of school and that all required medical forms are completed for administration of the medication.

The forms are found on the VES website under Health forms and include: the Allergy Action Plan, Asthma Treatment Plans and Medication Administration form. Medications and forms will be accepted in the Health Office during the Open House on September 4th.

If your child is new to the school district, please provide the Health Office with a current physical exam completed by his or her physician and a copy of your child's immunization record before the first day of school. Please have the physician complete the Child Health Form also found on the VES website under forms. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the Health Office.

Busing, Parent/Guardian Drop Off, and Pickup

Students are encouraged to ride the bus to and from school. Specific information about your child's bus route and number can be found on your Genesis-Parent Access account. Bus tags with important identification and bus route information will be provided during our Open House. Please add this tag to the back of the ID Badge holder, facing out. Please review the bus rules in our [Handbook](#) with your child and visit the [Transportation website](#) for more information. Should you need to transport your child, please review these drop off and pick up procedures carefully to help us create a safe and smooth process.



Morning Drop Off:

If you need to drive your child to school, please use the driveway on the right side of the school to travel to the **rear** entrance. **This entrance will be open from 9:25 a.m. - 9:35 a.m. Please do not drop your child off early as the doors will be locked until 9:25 and there is no supervision.** Upon arriving at the rear of the school please follow the guidelines below.

1. Travel as far forward as possible along the sidewalk on your left.
2. Have your child ready to exit the car when you reach the sidewalk.
3. Stop your vehicle next to the school sidewalk.
4. Your child may exit on his or her own on the driver's side of the car, along any part of the sidewalk. Children are not permitted to exit from the passenger side without assistance from an adult.
5. Two doors will be open and supervised for your child's convenience and to assist with the flow of traffic.
6. Please remain in the line of cars in front of you and wait for traffic to move. Do not dart around any cars to avoid colliding with those exiting at the front of the line. **Should you need to pass another car to exit, please do so with extreme caution!**
7. DO NOT park in the Fire Lane for any reason.
8. Continue to follow the roadway back to Main Blvd.

9. Please do not drop students off in the front of Village School at any time, except for before school programs.

End of Day Pick Up:

Please note the main entrance will be inaccessible for pick-up between 3:30 and 4:00 PM.

Please send a note to your child's teacher if you plan on picking up your child in the afternoons or if your child is attending an after school activity. Include in the note, the name of the person picking up your child. **Without a note, children will be sent to their buses.** The person picking up your child will be asked to produce identification (valid driver's license) when they come to pick your child up. All parents/designees should be prepared to produce identification at any given time, upon request, and they must sign children out before leaving the school building.

1. Use the driveway on the right side of the school to travel to the rear entrance of the school. Turn left into the first entrance of the large parking lot.
2. Park in the designated spaces and enter through the cafeteria doors. **All adults must enter through the rear cafeteria doors and must sign children out in the cafeteria.**
3. Students will be dismissed to the cafeteria waiting area with their parent pick up-notes at 3:50 p.m. as instruction takes place up until this time.
4. Upon exiting the parking lot, please use the rear exit on the far side of the lot.

Please review our school [handbook](#) for additional details regarding our morning, end of day and midday drop off and pick up procedures and the best way to communicate same day changes to your dismissal needs. Your assistance in following these guidelines will help us and help you, keep all children and visitors safe. Thank you for your cooperation!



School Counselor Offerings

Our counselors, Mrs. Fornal and Mrs. Schantz, are excited to start the school year. They are available to provide social, emotional and academic support to any VES student. Throughout the school year, they offer individual and small group counseling to students who would benefit from additional support. To begin the year, they will be hosting groups to support our newcomers so they can acclimate and develop friendships within our learning community.

Feel free to reach out to them with any questions. Mrs. Fornal will be the third grade counselor and can be reached at lfornal@mtsd.us. Mrs. Schantz will be the fourth grade counselor and can be reached at jschantz@mtsd.us. You may also call 609-466-7606 and press 5 for the counseling office. If you have any questions or concerns that require immediate attention, please contact the main office. Our counselors will be available for assistance once school resumes in September.

YMCA Before and After School Programs at VES

The YMCA of Princeton provides childcare before and after school for children who attend VES. The YMCA tailors its hours to accommodate working families, and offers children diverse and enriching activities in a safe and nurturing environment. Visit their website at <https://www.gscymca.org/locations/princeton-ymca/> or call the YMCA After School Program Office at: 609-497-9622 for more information.

