



# THE BLACKBIRD BUGLER

JEFFREY P. VIVENZIO, PRINCIPAL

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## WELCOME TO 2019!!



Kindergarten Holiday Program



Welcome back everyone and Happy New Year!! I hope everyone had a wonderful break and had the opportunity to enjoy some time with their family and friends.

Your children continued to work very hard leading up to the break and we ended with some cheer and fun opportunities before the holiday break. In December, the VES Handchime Choir had a few performances. Below you will find a picture of the choir performing at Crossgates Mall. They did an incredible job as always. Great work everyone!!



The Kindergarten students put on another great show for their families with the Kindergarten Holiday Concert. They had a follow up

performance for the whole school on December 21st, and it ended with a few songs where the whole school performed together. Look for some of the videos on the website in January.

Our strongest spellers in grades 4 & 5 will represent VES at our District Wide Spelling Bee on January 8th at 12:15 pm in the Lydia C. Tobler Performing Arts Center at the High School. Below you will find a list of participants for this year.

### 5th Grade:

Dominic Tillou, Miya Peason, Katharine Stapf, Riley Eckels, Joseph Viscio and Alexandra Golden.

Alternates for 5th grade:

Chryceis Hollars, Lily Nopper-Shatraw and Wynn Wikstrom.

### 4th Grade:

Gwen Davis, Elise Rodriguez, Cailyn Deeb, Benjamin Purington, Samuel Willoughby, Paige Huntsman, Nora Reilly and Claire Hotaling.

Alternates for 4th Grade:

Jack Fitzgerald, Talia Marshall, Timothy Martin and Tierney Audi.

Please be sure to wish them luck!!

Our fifth grade winter concert will take place on **Thursday, January 17th at 7:00 p.m.** Thanks to the direction of Dr. Morgan and Mrs. Beauregard, all of our students will have the opportunity to hear the concert line up of our chorus and band at our in school assembly on January 16th. Our students have been working hard all year and we look forward to the concert.

We look forward to another great year at VES. Thank you for all that you do to support your children and our school. VES is an amazing place to be. See you soon.

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at any time.

JEFFREY P. VIVENZIO  
PRINCIPAL

### Upcoming Dates of Interest

**January 4th**– Cheepers K-2

**January 7th**– BOE Meeting 7 p.m. in VHS Library

**January 8th**– District Wide Spelling Bee 12:15 p.m. PAC (Snow date will be Jan. 9th)

**January 14th**– PTA Meeting 7 p.m. in HS Commons

**January 17th**– 5th grade Winter Concert 7 p.m. in the large gym.

**January 18th**– Cheepers 3-5

**January 21st**– No School (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)

**January 28th**– Special BOE Budget Meeting & Regular BOE 7 p.m. in HS Library

**February 8th**– 5th Grade Activity Night

**February 11th**– BOE Meeting 7 p.m. HS Library

**February 12th**– PTA Meeting

**February 18-22**– February Recess

## Mr. Keenan

THE BUGLER JUNIOR

Personally, I think Mr. Keenan, (a third grade teacher at Voorheesville Elementary School) is a very interesting and cool person. He is very funny and loves to tell jokes. He loves the Red Sox and he loves working with kids. This is his story.

Mr. Keenan loves being a teacher. Mr. Keenan says, "When you are a teacher, everyday is a new day." Another reason Mr. Keenan loves to teach is because, he loves school. I think, Mr. Keenan loves school because, he

gets to work with a big group of kids but, not only a big group of kids, a big group of personalities.

If Mr. Keenan could have any other job, he would choose to be a contractor. Technically, Mr. Keenan is already a contractor because, that is his summer job. Mr. Keenan's uncle is a contractor with his own business.

Mr. Keenan loves the Red Sox. He is one of the biggest Red Sox fans I know! Mr. Keenan says, if he could travel anywhere he

would go to Boston. Boston is the home of the Red Sox' field, Fenway Park.

Those are some cool facts that I found out about Mr. Keenan and now you know them too!

Personally, I had Mr. Keenan for 4th grade and I chose to write about Mr. Keenan because I had such a great year with him.



The piece was written by:

*Riley Eckels*

## Mrs. Riccio

THE BUGLER JUNIOR

Have you ever wondered what Mrs. Riccio is thinking or what her opinion is on some topics? Do you wonder where she went to school? Well, I'm going to tell you some things about Mrs. Riccio that you might not know. You will know about Mrs. Riccio's life before she became a permanent 5th grade teacher.

Mrs. Riccio is a 5th grade teacher and she said the reason why she likes teaching 5th grade is because it is exciting every day. 5th graders are a pleasure to work with. They are independent but when they need help they know to ask for help. Also they are always excited to learn new things.

When I heard that she had taught for 13 years as a fifth grade teacher I

wanted to know more. I found out that she was a teaching assistant in a middle school for a year and she also student taught in 3rd and 5th grade. I think when Mrs. Riccio worked as a teaching assistant she was finding out that teaching was her thing.

I realized that Mrs. Riccio was really enthusiastic in math and I wanted to know if that was her favorite subject and if she had any others. It turns out that math is one of her favorite subjects but the others are reading, writing, and social studies.

I also wondered what college you can go to in order to become a teacher. It turns out that Mrs. Riccio went to Saint Rose and she majored in elementary

education/special education, had a concentration in history, and a Master's Degree in Literacy.

If that was not enough info for you then here's some more: her favorite season is fall, she loves the Red Sox, and if she could travel to any place, she would travel to Europe. Lastly, two of her favorite books are A Wrinkle in Time and The Hobbit.

When I asked her when she knew she wanted to become a teacher, her answer was:

She always knew.



The piece was written by:  
*Fiona Cramer*

# Mrs. Vitelli

THE BUGLER JUNIOR

Have you wanted to know about an artist becoming a teacher? Well if you didn't already know this she is super cool and fun and everyone should like her! She makes all the projects in school seem so fun and exciting. She grew up in NYC, Staten Island. She went to two colleges, one in SUNY New Paltz and the other in SUNY Potsdam. Here is the story of Mrs. Vitelli and it is a good one.

She wanted to become an art teacher because she at first wanted to become an elementary school teacher but when she didn't get that job so she became an art teacher instead. She realized that her middle school art teacher had inspired her to make great art and pass that incredible gift down to her

students.

I was wondering why Mrs. Vitelli decided to become an art teacher instead of becoming someone who is famous from their art, and Mrs. Vitelli told me that if she new she couldn't fail she would become a painter in an art gallery in NYC but she said that she just wants to work on her second dream and said "My second dream is not dead but just on hold." I find that quite fantastic and I personally would use that as a quote for things I can accomplish but want to wait on, and that's why I look up to her so much.

Besides VES being awesome, she likes the area and that's why she decided to work at our school. Mrs. Vitelli said that her number one

goal is for students to make things they are proud of and things they like to do. She thinks that the hardest project we do is either clay or 3 dimensional projects. The most exciting things she thinks we do is Picasso or what the kids get excited about because they are all fun and exciting.

Before I had the interview with Mrs. Vitelli I didn't know anything about her besides the fact that she was an art teacher and now I know so much about her and I look up to her even more, I also think she is so much cooler now!



The piece was written by:

*Wynn Wikstrom*

**IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION**

Please use the following directory for your convenience:

**Voorheesville Elementary School**

Jeffrey P. Vivencio Principal 765-2382

**School Nurse:**

Colleen Brackett 765-2382 Ext. 506

**Attendance Office:**

[cparker@voorheesville.org](mailto:cparker@voorheesville.org) or 765-2382 Ext. 514

**Kid's Club Program (afterschool)**

Christine Vielkind, Director 765-2043

**Transportation Department:**

Mike Goyer 765-2382 Ext. 508

Priscilla Clark 765-2382 Ext. 521



**Remember to sign-up for SNN!**

Now that the cold weather has arrived, we all know bad weather can't be far behind. Please take the time to sign-up for SNN (School News Notifier). You will receive emails about early dismissals or closings due to inclement weather. This will allow immediate email updates about events and procedures at V.E.S. Please visit <http://snn.neric.org/vcsd/> for further information. You will see the icon on the home page of the school district website.



If you have an incoming Kindergarten student for the 2019-2020 school year and you have not already contacted us, please contact Ms. Parker in the main office at 518-765-2382 x504.



Our students have had the opportunity to get outside and play in the snow already!! Please note that we will go outside for recess as long as the temperatures are at or above 20 degrees.

Please be sure to send your children with the appropriate clothing (hats, gloves, jacket, snow pants and boots) in order for them to stay warm and to have the opportunity to play in the snow!!

**PARKING REMINDER**

Please do not park behind the school, as this parking lot is only for Maintenance Vehicles. We ask that you continue to park in the lot across the bridge, and also drop your children off with our staff at this location. Please remember that it is not safe to drop your child out of the left side of your car at the bridge. We have other cars driving by and this is a safety risk for your children. Please let them out the right side of your car. If you want to walk them to the bridge, we ask that you park your car and walk them to alleviate congestion. Thank you for helping us with this matter.



Parents - please remember to call the attendance line before 9:00 AM if your child is sick or will be late to school. This will eliminate receiving a verification phone call. *You may also send an email to [cparker@voorheesville.org](mailto:cparker@voorheesville.org)*

**Also if your child is coming in late, please don't forget to come in to the main office and sign them in.**

