

Voyager News

DECEMBER 2023



Principal's Message

Greetings, VES Parents and Guardians,

While teachers work hard to keep the focus on academic goals throughout the year, we also understand the importance of teaching the “whole child.” To that end, we have a number of programs that have more to do with character than academics, such as Terrific Kids. Programs like these, in conjunction with our Code of Conduct, help our students learn the importance of making wise choices, treating others with kindness and respect, and serving others.

Voyager teachers also utilize our Social Emotional Learning Scope and Sequence to help give students the social skills they need to succeed. Through accessible and age-appropriate books, students have an opportunity to learn and practice the skills necessary for our Code of Conduct. In December, we focus specifically on Respect, with the following expectations:

- Know how to accept another person's ideas
- Know how to resolve a disagreement, repair relationships, and move on
- Know how to monitor and adjust behavior with others in mind
- Know how to recognize and consider one's own, others, and school property
- Know how to respond appropriately to adult directions and feedback
- Know how to carry oneself with confidence and demonstrate positive self-respect

This skill instruction is an excellent supplement to our existing positive behavior support and provides reminders to students of how we should treat our Voyager friends.

Please know that I am ever grateful for the continued strong parent support of Voyager Elementary. I sincerely wish that this holiday season is for you and your family, as Washington Irving writes, “a season for kindling the fire for hospitality in the hall, and the genial flame of charity in the heart.”

Warm Regards,

Dana

Mark Your Calendar

Kindergarten Holiday Festival, 12:45-1:45 PM.....	12/15
First Grade Nutcracker Parent Performance, 8:30-9:30 AM.....	12/19
No School; Winter Break.....	12/22-1/2/2024
School Resumes.....	1/3
PAC Meeting - Festival Planning, 6:30 PM in Media Center.....	1/9
No School; Martin Luther King Jr. Day.....	1/15
Two Hour Late Start	2/4
No School.....	2/16
No School - Professional Development Day.....	2/19

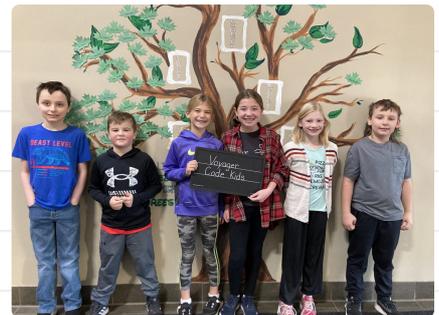
VES Exemplary Students Earn Code Kid Recognition

Let's celebrate these Voyager students who have earned November Code of Conduct Awards! They were seen demonstrating our Code of Conduct traits of responsibility, honesty, respect, fairness, and kindness. Thank you, students!



Code Kids

Jack Carpenter, Logan Sebek,
Layni Randt, Hensli Randt,
Sawyer Anderson, Ruby Eken,
Lacey Jones & Andrew
Kappmeyer



Code Kids

Sebastian Coler, Bennett
Brakke, Adi Boike, Eli
Amundson, Elizabeth Wiita &
Brody Hittle



Code Kids

Remi Pressgrove & Mackenzie
McQueen



Code Cash Winners

Canyon Wiarda, Loucinda
Griffith, Jackson Neumann,
Orrin Pennig, Riley Sutherland &

Rowan Kittelson. Not pictured:
Noa Mattson

World's Finest Chocolate Fundraiser Results Are In!

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, our World's Finest Chocolate Fundraiser was a huge success, and the final numbers have now been tallied. Voyager students raised almost \$20,000 in just over two weeks, which is so impressive. These funds will sustain much of our classroom technology. Thanks once again to students and parents for their truly remarkable effort. The following students each sold over ten boxes: Corbin Cimbura, Colton Walberg, Jackson Smith, Monica Keating, and Johnathan Hanak. Our overall top seller was Corbin Cimbura, who sold 26 boxes! Close behind was Colton Walberg with 25! Thanks to all for supporting our fundraiser!



Yearbook Cover Contest Winners Announced

Nearly 100 students in grades 1-5 entered the yearbook cover contest. Grade level winners in grades 1-4 will have their artwork displayed on the back cover of the yearbook and the fifth grade winner's artwork will grace the front cover. Winners were Ella Webber, Damian Cortez-M, Ruby Eken, Brynn Lorentz and Weston Denne. Congratulations to all the students who submitted artwork!

Order your child's yearbook today!

It's not too early to start thinking about ordering your child's yearbook. See adjoining flier.

Voyager Elementary School ORDER YEARBOOK

SO MANY MEMORIES
ONE LOW PRICE

Good deal. Order a yearbook by November 17, 2023 to get it for only \$12.00 – that's the lowest price of the year.

[SAVE NOW](#)

A collage of four photos showing students in various school settings. The top left photo shows a girl in a locker with the text 'SAVE TODAY'. The top right photo shows two girls sitting on a bench. The bottom left photo shows a group of girls in blue soccer uniforms. The bottom right photo shows two girls smiling.

Book Donations Sought

The Alexandria branch of AAUW, American Association of University Women, is sponsoring its annual Project Bookshelf. New, donated books are being collected for children from preschool age to young adult. They are then sorted by age and delivered through Jingle Bells. You may bring any donated books to the VES office by Monday, December 4.

Mak Art Exhibition on Display

Several students who attend elementary art class in Alexandria Public Schools were selected for a juried art competition and exhibition at the Alexandria Tech and Community College. The show will be on display from Nov 17 - Jan 19 at Gallery 300 on second floor at ATCC.

The MAK Art Exhibition will be on display in Gallery 300 at Alexandria College from November 17 - January 18.

Elementary reception will be on Tuesday, December 5 from 4:00-6:00pm with judges remarks at 4:30. Refreshments will be served.

The art teachers look forward to seeing you and your families at the reception!

Gallery 300 Address is: Alexandria Technical & Community College 861 Jefferson Street, Alexandria, MN 56008

Māk
a Gallery300 exhibit



Around the World showcases exceptional work by students in grades K-5 from area elementary schools. Alexandria College faculty selected work that demonstrates standout creative qualities and features anything from cultures around the world - patterns, materials, techniques, people, places or animals. Participating schools include Alexandria Area, Ashby, Brandon-Evansville and Minnewaska Area.

Dress for the Weather

Now that the winter months are upon us, please make sure that students are coming to school with appropriate winter gear: boots, snow pants, gloves, and caps. We go outside for recess unless the "feels like" temperature is colder than -10, so it's important that students are safely dressed. If providing appropriate winter gear is a challenge, please contact our school social worker Jen Jurchenko.



Voyager Elementary School

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Voyager Elementary does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, sexual orientation, or disability.



Mary Ronning

Mary is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters