



## September, 2015 Family Newsletter



### UPCOMING EVENTS

Greetings NCS Families,  
 We are off to an amazing start to the school year. Thanks to you for being aware and ready for Picture Day, various swim days, and library days. We understand the 6 day rotation of special classes like PE, Integrated Arts/Music, and Library may offer some organizational challenges, but our students really do benefit from not losing out on Integrated Arts/Music time and have actually increased the amount of PE time with the 6 day cycle. Thanks again.

Please be sure to mark next Thursday, Sept. 17, at 6:00 pm for our NCS Back to School Night in the Step Room. Please continue reading for a section in this newsletter titled "Back to School Night" that provides important details on Back to School Night.

Please consider reading, discussing, signing and returning the NCS Learning Pledge with your child on or before Back to School Night as well. That document is attached to the paper copy and email with this newsletter.

Thanks again for being a member of the NCS community and everything you do to support your children, each other, and our staff.

Sincerely, Jim Ruder, NCS Director

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| Sept. 16 | Swimming for Mr.Lohr's, Mrs. Klawiter's, and Ms. Austen's classes                            |
| Sept. 17 | <b>NCS BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT from 6:00-7:20 pm</b>  |
| Sept. 18 | Swimming for Mrs. Konop's, Mr. Gundlach's, and Mrs. Schneider's classes                      |
| Sept. 22 | Swimming for Mr.Lohr's, Mrs. Klawiter's, and Ms. Austen's classes                            |
| Sept. 24 | Swimming for Mrs. Konop's, Mr. Gundlach's, and Mrs. Schneider's classes                      |
| Sept. 26 | <b>FALL MUD RUN (Tri 4 Schools)</b>  |
| Sept. 30 | Swimming for Mr.Lohr's, Mrs. Klawiter's, and Ms. Austen's classes                            |
| Oct. 2   | <b>DWARFISM EVENT</b>  |
| Oct. 2   | Swimming for Mrs. Konop's, Mr. Gundlach's, and Mrs. Schneider's classes                      |
| Oct. 6   | Swimming for Mrs. Konop's, Mr. Gundlach's, and Mrs. Schneider's classes                      |
| Oct. 7   | <b>NCS Community Gathering (7:35-8:06 am Step Room)<br/>Families are welcome to join us!</b> |
| Oct. 8   | Swimming for Mr.Lohr's, Mrs. Klawiter's, and Ms. Austen's classes                            |

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| Oct. 9  | <b>PICTURE RETAKE DAY</b>  |
| Oct. 14 | <b>Swimming for Mrs. Konop's, Mr. Gundlach's, and Mrs. Schneider's classes</b> |
| Oct. 16 | <b>Swimming for Mr.Lohr's, Mrs. Klawiter's, and Ms. Austen's classes</b>       |
| Oct. 20 | <b>Swimming for Mr.Lohr's, Mrs. Klawiter's, and Ms. Austen's classes</b>       |
| Oct. 22 | <b>Swimming for Mrs. Konop's, Mr. Gundlach's, and Mrs. Schneider's classes</b> |
| Oct. 23 | <b>REPORT CARDS GO HOME</b>  |
| Oct. 26 | <b>RETURN "GOAL SETTING SHEET"</b>   |
| Oct. 27 | <b>Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences (3:30-7:20 pm)</b>                       |
| Oct. 29 | <b><u>NO SCHOOL</u> and Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences (7:30-11:15 am)</b> |
| Oct. 30 | <b><u>NO SCHOOL</u></b>  |

PLEASE CONTINUE TO REFER TO THE NCS PARENT GOOGLE CALENDAR AND THE NCS WEB PAGE ON THE DISTRICT WEBSITE ([nccs.verona.k12.wi.us](http://nccs.verona.k12.wi.us)) FOR INFORMATION ON WHEN CLASSES HAVE SWIMMING, GYM, AND LIBRARY, AND FOR OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS AND MEETINGS AT NCS.



SCHOOLMESSENGER®

**HAVE YOU OPTED-IN YET TO SCHOOLMESSENGER?**

Verona Area School District is using SchoolMessenger for our family communications system. In the case of an emergency, you will receive emails, text messages and possible phone calls from our school office and the district. If you "opted-in" last school year, you do NOT have to do it again this year. Who needs to "opt-in"?

\*If you are new to the Verona Area School District this year

\*If you didn't "opt-in" last year when we activated SchoolMessenger as a new system

\*If you have a new cell phone number

How to you "opt-in"? TEXT Y to 68453

You MUST "opt-in" to receive emergency text messages from our school and district. For a quick summary of this system, including a few ways to ensure you receive the communications most efficiently, please press Ctrl and click on the link below:

[http://www.verona.k12.wi.us/links/for\\_parents/information\\_about\\_schoolreach](http://www.verona.k12.wi.us/links/for_parents/information_about_schoolreach)



**DISTRICT-WIDE VISITOR PROCEDURE (RAPTOR)**

VASD has a visitor procedure at all of the district schools to better enhance the safety of our students and staff. For identity verification, this system, called Raptor, accepts all state drivers' licenses as well as other state and federal ID cards and checks visitors against known sexual offender databases and school-created alerts.

For those parents of kindergarteners and other students who are new to New Century School, please bring your driver's license with you the next time you come to NCS for us to scan it into our Raptor system. Once your license is scanned, you do not need to bring it again, as your identity is saved in the system.

For all of those parents who did this last school year, you do NOT need to do it again this school year because you are

still in the Raptor system. Please note also that the use of Raptor is NOT required if you are only dropping off or picking up your child or invited to an all-school performance.



### **WHAT'S FOR SCHOOL BREAKFAST AND SCHOOL LUNCH TODAY?**

Our district has a long history of putting our customers first when it comes to school food service. That's part of why we've gone to online school menus for more complete information and more convenience for you:

- More information about each food, including a photo and description, there's a menu website: <http://verona.nutrislice.com/>
- A FREE Smartphone app for iPhone and Android, **School Lunch by Nutrislice**. <http://verona.nutrislice.com/mobile/>
- And you can still print a PDF of the menu by visiting the menus website above.



### **PICTURE RETAKE DAY IS FRIDAY, OCT. 9<sup>TH</sup>**

Picture Day was on Friday, September 4<sup>th</sup>. If your child missed school on Picture Day or you would like to have your child's picture retaken, we have Picture Retake Day on Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>.



### **BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT**

NCS Back-to-School Night on Thursday Sept. 17 begins at 6:00 pm. Parents will meet in the Sugar Creek Step Room to kick off our evening. Then we will transition to the classrooms for our first session from 6:20 to 6:50 pm. We will be reviewing academic and behavioral expectations in the classroom and how families can support these expectations at home. Teachers will share the same information from 6:50 to 7:20 pm for families who may have other children across different grades. This year we will need a parent/guardian of 4/5 students to devote the full hour from 6:20-7:20 pm to stay with 4/5 business as Melissa Ruder, our Technology Coordinator, will be on hand to share important information about the 4/5 grade 1:1 iPad roll out.

If you need to bring your children, supervision will be provided on the playground with high school volunteers from 6:00-7:20 pm, weather permitting.



### **REPORT CARDS COMING HOME OCT. 23<sup>RD</sup>/COMPLETE AND RETURN GOAL SETTING SHEETS OCT. 26<sup>TH</sup>**

On Friday, Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup>, NCS teachers will be sending home Fall Assessment Summaries/Report Cards for all students in their Friday Folders. Enclosed in the manila envelope with the Fall Assessment Summary will be a "Goal Setting Sheet" for you to complete with your child and return to your child's teacher on Monday, Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>.



## PARENT/TEACHER/STUDENT GOALS

### SETTING CONFERENCES:

OCT 27<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>

Parent/Teacher/Student Goals Setting Conferences will be held on Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> from 3:30-7:20 pm and on Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> from 7:30-11:15 am. We will be having Sign-Up sheets at your student's classroom on Back to School Night. If you cannot attend Back to School Night, please call the NCS office after Back to School Night to schedule your conference.



## DISCUSS, SIGN AND RETURN

### THE LEARNING PLEDGE

NCS has a Learning Pledge that we would like for you to read and discuss with your child that outlines some guidelines for students, parents/guardians, and NCS staff to create a good learning environment for all students. Attached to the paper copy of this newsletter is the New Century School Learning Pledge. Please sign it with your student after discussing it. Please return it to your child's teacher prior to or at Back to School Night.

If you are reading this newsletter electronically and need a paper copy, please email or call the school office at [tammy.stump@verona.k12.wi.us](mailto:tammy.stump@verona.k12.wi.us) or (608) 845-4905 to let us know and we will send one home with your child.



## DIVERSITY AND EQUITY

### COMMITTEE UPCOMING EVENTS

Our committee has officially kicked off for the 2015-2016 year and we are excited to share our plans for this year! October is Dwarfism Awareness Month, and NCS is celebrating with a Dwarfism event on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Presenters **Shari Ferolie** (mother of Parker in Mr. Gundlach's class) and **Dan Verscha** (District President, Little People of America) will share information about dwarfism to help create more understanding of the more than 200 medical conditions known as dwarfism.

<http://www.lpaonline.org/>

In an effort to make the presentations age-suitable, the presenters' schedule is:

10:40-11:25 am – 4/5 classes

12:40-1:20 pm – 2/3 classes

1:30-2:00 pm – K/1 classes

As with all Diversity and Equity events, parents are welcomed and encouraged to attend!

Topics for 2015-2016 Diversity & Equity events include:

- Celebration of the Asian Continent
- Autism Awareness
- Exploration of Social Justice Issues

We would love your input on future events. Please consider joining the Diversity & Equity Committee and help make our mission a success!

If interested, please email Isabel Agasie [isabel.agasie@gmail.com](mailto:isabel.agasie@gmail.com) or Karen Pings [kpings@live.com](mailto:kpings@live.com) to help.



**NCS SWIMMING LESSONS AT THE NATATORIUM CONTINUE THROUGH OCT 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Swimming lessons for New Century School students continue through Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>. A huge THANK YOU to those parents who volunteer to help with the K/1 classes before and after swimming!! Your help is much appreciated and needed! As a reminder, here is the swim schedule for the remaining NCS swim classes:

SWIM SCHEDULE: The bus will load about 5 minutes before the printed times and leave NCS at the printed times below:

Sept. 16, 22, and 30

Oct. 8, 16, and 20:

Mr. Lohr's class: 8:00 am

Mrs. Klawiter's class: 9:00 am

Ms. Austen's class: 10:00 am

Sept. 18, and 24

Oct. 2, 6, 14, and 22:

Mrs. Konop's class: 8:00 am

Mr. Gundlach's class: 9:00 am

Mrs. Schneider's class: 10:00 am



**GO ONLINE NOW TO SEE UPCOMING COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

You will no longer be receiving district-wide fliers in your child's Friday folder... The Verona Area School District offers school-related groups or community non-

profit organizations the opportunity to provide information/dates to families about upcoming community activities that fit within the district's mission. To eliminate some unwanted emails or countless district-wide fliers being sorted by teachers and sent home with elementary students, it is our district's continued focus to:

- reduce paper
- reduce staff time
- reduce printing costs
- allow for MORE local organizations to post great things happening in our communities for your family ALL IN ONE SPOT!

Visit the VASD website at:

<http://www.verona.k12.wi.us/cms/One.aspx?portalId=139771&pageId=6204885>

to see year-round activities or to inquire about posting a new one!

Please note that NCS teachers will continue to send classroom-specific items home and NCS will continue to send school-related items home in Friday Folders.



**IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER FOR SPANISH CLASS**

Swing into Spanish with an all new Spanish adventure, "Let's Play and Let's Go Camping in Spanish!" Theme-based learning is developmentally beneficial with practical real world Spanish conversation skills. To register online, go to: [www.FuturaAdventures.com](http://www.FuturaAdventures.com)

The class meets Monday mornings from 8:15-9:15 am on 10/12, 10/19, 10/26, 11/2, 11/9, 11/16, 11/23, 11/30 – Winter Break – 2/8, 2/15, 2/22, 2/29, 3/7, 3/14, 3/21, (skip 3/28), 4/4

Tuition: \$225 for 16 Weeks

Deadline to register is: 10/5/15

*(Open to students in Grades K-5.*

*Appropriate for students with or without previous Spanish experience.)*



## **SOCIAL WORKER SNIPPETS**



## **LET'S HAVE A WARM VERONA WINTER BY DONATING AND DISTRIBUTING WINTER WEAR!**

The Verona Kiwanis Club is collecting new and gently used winter coats, gloves, hats, and snowpants to be distributed to Verona Area School District children and families in need. To make a donation, please bring your items to one of the many collection bins throughout Verona and Fitchburg. Collection bins will also be placed at the following schools: Sugar Creek, New Century, Savanna Oaks, Stoner Prairie, Glacier Edge, Badger Ridge, and Core Knowledge. We ask that all donations be clean and in good condition. Donations will be collected through Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

Donated items will be available for Verona Area School District families in need on Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup> from 3:00-6:00pm at the Badger Prairie Needs Network at 1200 E. Verona Avenue, Verona. Families who need transportation should contact Chris Mand, VASD Social Worker at 845-4733.

Families do not need to register or bring identification to participate. This is a FREE event that helps families get the winter apparel they need to stay warm during our cold months!



## **COME AND JOIN US AT OUR MONTHLY NCS COMMUNITY GATHERINGS!**

New Century School celebrates the general success of students each month when we assemble in the Step room for about 15-20 minutes to start a given day (around 7:35 am). The next Community Gathering is on Wednesday, October 7.

Future ones are listed each month on the NCS PARENT GOOGLE CALENDAR and are on the calendar on the NCS web page of the district site

([nccs.verona.k12.wi.us](http://nccs.verona.k12.wi.us)). It has been common for individual students and/or small groups of students to share their greatness as demonstrated by recent writing, singing, reading, drawing, dancing, etc. Any family members are welcome to attend and even participate. We have enjoyed several parent/child contributions in the past.



## **FALL MUD RUN ON SEPT. 26<sup>TH</sup>**

Don't miss the Tri 4 Schools Mud Run on Saturday, Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>!! Students can do it as an individual or you can do this as a whole family! It is a fun fitness event for all ages! Be sure to list NCS as your child's school, as Tri 4 Schools will donate nearly all of the registration fees back to NCS Physical Education to purchase new equipment or replace equipment that has been broken or worn-out. The race is Saturday, Sept. 26th.

For more information and to register, click on or go to the following link:

<http://www.tri4schools.org/events/mudrun/>