

# Viola Rand Elementary School



September 9, 2011

[www.rsu34.org](http://www.rsu34.org)

Bradley, Maine

## *Principal's Message*

This has been such a fun week! It is wonderful to be (re)connecting with the kids. It is very lonely around here in the summer! I hope to see all of our students here, on time, for school each day. It seems obvious, but for teachers to do their jobs of educating students, it is really important that they be here! When students are trying to catch up, whether from coming in late, or missing days, they are at a disadvantage and have a more difficult time at school. Minimizing the number of tardies and absences will help greatly with your child's school success. I thank you in advance for your efforts in reducing lost instructional time for us!

If anyone is interested in a good keyboarding program to use with children, Rose Fowler, our occupational therapist, provided a suggestion. It is an online resource called 'Dance Mat Typing'. It is British, so the URL is long, but if you google it, access will be easier.

There are a couple of housekeeping items I would ask your help with. The first is to please provide a brief note/label with money sent to school, especially for lunch and milk money. A paper trail for cash when the numbers don't quite match up will ensure that accounts get credited appropriately. There are a lot of interruptions in the office and this would be very helpful!

We are having an issue with shoes leaving black marks on the floors. Removing these marks takes a long time out of Mr. Arey's afternoon. If you would check to see that your child's shoes are non-marking that would be a huge help.

**Please note that picture day is Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> this year.**



**FYI**  
*Upcoming Events*

Sept. 8 PRIDE Meeting 6:00  
Sept. 7-26 PRIDE Fundraiser Begins  
Sept. 14 LifeTouch Picture Day

Sept. 13 Parent instrument meeting 7:00  
 Sept. 21 School Board 6:30 LMS library  
 Sept. 22 Open House 5:30-6:30  
 Sept. 23 PRIDE popcorn table at Riverfest  
 Oct. 9 Craft Expo @ Bangor Motor Inn 11:00-3:00

Please come meet the staff and visit your child's classroom. Refreshments will be provided by PRIDE members. We plan to have samples of VRS monogrammed items available to order through Milligan's. We look forward to seeing the VRS families that evening!



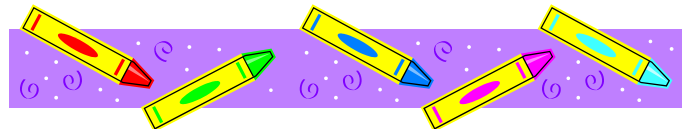
### ***New Playground Equipment***

Last Saturday, Bob Wright and Peter Currier spent a whole day installing the new dual rock climber that PRIDE bought for the playground last spring. It looks great and the kids are having a blast on it! We greatly appreciate the commitment of time, equipment and resources that they made for our students!

On Tuesday, September 13, Viola Rand School students will see a demonstration of instruments by Northern Kingdom Music. All fourth grade students interested in learning to play an instrument and be in the band will be able to use this demo to help choose which instrument they would like to learn to play!



- PRIDE met for the first time this year on September 8<sup>th</sup>
- The Meadow Farms Fundraising packets went home



### **OPEN HOUSE**

Thursday, September 22

yesterday. They will be due back on September 26<sup>th</sup>.

- PRIDE needs volunteers to bring snacks to the Open House on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. If you are able to help, please call Heidi or Cheryl at the school.

- The next PRIDE meeting will be on October 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00.

*We would love to have any and all parents come to the meetings and be involved!*

### Staff Changes

We have a few staff changes this year. Kim Ketch accepted an offer to increase her time from 2 days per week in RSU34 to full time. She will continue to provide guidance in Bradley and Alton, but will now be based primarily at the high school the other three days. She will be working with a new ed tech, Dorothy Dawson-Hall, to plan and deliver chapter 104 (gifted and talented) services in our school. Dorothy is a very welcome addition to our staff. She has a varied and exciting history, which includes growing up in Canada, teaching English in schools in Japan, practicing law, and speaking French and German as well.

Amy Peabody, who has worked in the OTES library, will be the library ed tech at VRS on Mondays and Wednesdays. She will be a nice link between the three elementary school libraries and we are really pleased to be welcoming her to our school!

Reading Recovery/Interventionist	Jennifer Dalessandro
Special Education	James Wohlgemuth
Music	Keri Whitney
Physical Education	Cid Dyjak
Guidance/Ch 104	Kim Ketch
Ch 104 ed tech 3	Dorothy Dawson
Art	Helena Bosse
OT	Rosemarie Fowler
Speech	Sarah Shorette
Nurse	Cece Costello
Library	Amy Peabody
Custodian	Owen Arey
Kitchen Aide	Linda Keene



From September 4<sup>th</sup> - December 3<sup>rd</sup>, our school is collecting *Hannaford Helps Schools* receipts. Please bring them in to the office! The area school that raises the most money will be granted an additional \$1,000. One year, the Viola Rand School won the \$1,000 bonus! That year, we purchased a piece of playground equipment with the extra money. So start sending in your *Hannaford Helps Schools* receipts.

No matter where you shop, you can save Bxotops for Education labels. You can find these labels on a variety of products such as cereal, pizza dough, cookie mixes, etc. Just look for the little Bxotops logos, cut them out, and send them in to the school. With all of

### Viola Rand Staff

Principal	Cheryl Leonard
Secretary	Heidi Gifford
Kindergarten	Stacy Henry
Grade 1	Camilla Doak
Grade 2	Cathy Fox
Grade 3	Laurie Ouellette
Grade 4	Melissa Johnson



us contributing, we end up with a lot of labels and they are worth 10 cents each when we submit them!

Give her words that hold a beat,

Fun to remember, fun to repeat.

Give her words that always flow,

Spoken fast or spoken slow.

Give her friends that entertain,

Give her words that never change.



## Medications

Please note that medications should not be transported by students. Parents need to drop off any medications, which need to be in original containers, and fill out necessary paperwork before meds can be administered at school. This includes over the counter medicines. Cough drops are no longer allowed at school.

Share the wonder

Share the time,

Give your child

The gift of rhyme.

*Jean Warren*



## The Gift of Rhyme

Share the wonder

Share the time,

Give your child the gift of rhyme.

Mrs. Henry, Mrs. Dalessandro and Ms. Leonard, attended a literacy conference this summer. That prompted a plan to incorporate the use of poems, traditional rhymes and songs into our school days. Repeated reading of these fun pieces have been shown to increase fluency, prosody (expression), and vocabulary. It turns out Mother Goose rhymes do play an important role in the development of reading skills! We hope this will be fun for everyone, and

have the additional benefit of strengthening our students' literacy skills.