



Voyager Academy Weekly Newsletter January 29, 2016

Dear Voyager Families,

It was great to see everyone back at school this week! I know that many of the students (staff and parents) had fun playing in the snow!! It is quite likely that we will have more snow and/or ice this winter, so please register for the Voyager app so you can get instant updates and alerts. I added the app to my phone a few weeks ago and it has been terrific! We will continue to follow the DPS winter weather plans, so if DPS closes or changes their operating hours related to weather alerts, we will too. We will post these alerts on our website, send an email and place a phone call, but if you see it on the news for DPS, you can plan accordingly.

Come and join the Voyager High School cheerleaders for an evening of cheerleading on Tuesday, February 2, 2016! All camp participants will attend camp from 4:15-5:45 then cheer during the first half and half-time of the Voyager Academy High School Varsity girl's game against Research Triangle High School. Please see attached flier for more information!

The Voyager Athletic Department is raffling off two pairs of tickets up for the UNC vs. Duke Basketball game on February 17th at 9pm at the Dean Dome. They are lower level seats. The drawing will be held between Girls and Guys Basketball game against Roxboro Community School on either February 12 or 13 (more information regarding the game to come). You do not need to be present to win. The raffle ticket prices are: \$10 = 1 ticket, \$50 = 8 tickets, and \$100 = 20 tickets. For more information, please email Deuce Harris at dharris@voyageracademy.net.

Jennifer Lucas, our Managing Director, is back at work on an abbreviated schedule. She is available via email at jlucas@voyageracademy.net. However, if you have something that needs immediate attention, you can also reach me at lpaynter@voyageracademy.net.

Best,
Leslie



Elementary Update:

Dear VAES Families,

Welcome back to school after our Snow Break! We had our kickoff for Jump Rope for Heart on Wednesday. During the assembly, many of the students and staff raised their hands if they knew someone that had a "sick" heart. This is a fun and exciting event for our entire school as we work together to raise money for the American Heart Association and save lives! Personally, this is a fundraiser near and dear to my heart. My father had a heart attack 23 years ago and I am so grateful that he is still with us!! I told the students that if we reach our goal of \$7,000, I will wear all sorts of Duke apparel. The students enjoyed seeing me in Duke (instead of UNC) gear when we reached our goal last year.

Your student should have brought home a parent letter attached to a collection envelope. We are holding our school's Jump Rope for Heart event during the Physical Education classes February 3-17. I am sure that your students will tell you about the Lifesaver puppies! Each puppy teaches the kids a way to protect their heart and avoid risk factors for heart disease and stroke. Your student can earn all 6! Three of the puppies are given as instant rewards and three will come with the other fundraising prizes. The instant rewards are Super Pup, Ninja Star, and Martia N. Mutley. If you raise \$5 your student will get Super Pup at school the day they turn in their money. If that donation is made online, they will also get a second puppy, Ninja Star. Any student who reaches \$85 online will also get Martia N. Mutley. If you have questions, please contact Mrs. Derrick or Mrs. Flowedawson at bderrick@voyageracademy.net or mflowedawson@voyageracademy.net.

I hope everyone enjoys the lovely weather this weekend!!

Leslie

- **VAES Yearbook Ordering Information**

2015-16 Elementary School Yearbooks are now on sale and can only be ordered online this year. You can order your copy online at www.strawbridge.net. Yearbooks are \$22.00 each and must be ordered by January 31, 2016. After this date, there will be a price increase for additional book orders. Visit www.strawbridge.net, click on Order/Pay, and complete the requested school information for Voyager Elementary and ensure that you choose Yearbook to proceed to your order. Please contact Leslie Jewell (lesliej@mindspring.com) if you have any questions. Order today!!



- **mClass Mid-Year Reading Assessment Window:** Jan. 19 - Feb. 12
- **Elementary Tours:**
 - K Tour: Feb. 12 @ 10:30
 - K - 3rd Tour: Feb. 26 @ 10:30
- Progress Reports go home on Friday, February 5
- Monday, February 15: NO SCHOOL for students/REQUIRED Teacher Workday
- Monday, February 29: Buddy Class activity with HS and MS students @8:45 AM
- **3rd Quarter Project Celebration Dates:**
 - First Grade:** Thursday, March 3 @ 1:00 PM
 - Kindergarten:** Friday, March 4 @ 11:00 AM
 - 2nd Grade:** Friday, March 4 @ 12:00 PM
 - Third Grade:** Friday, March 4 @ 1:00 PM

Middle School Update:

Happy Winter,

I don't know about you, but I was glad to return to school after a few days at home. The sledding was great but once the ice/snow started melting that fun ended. The students returned eager to learn and the staff returned eager to teach!

We met with our National Junior Honor Society yesterday (Thursday). If your child did not attend the meeting, he/she needs to see me Monday morning!

Next week our School Store will open. Our National Junior Honor Society students will work with Mrs. Lauren Allen's class as they sell items. The store will visit our fourth graders next week. There will be a few school items and a few snack items for sale. The following week the store will visit fifth grade!

Our Spelling Bee is Wednesday at 9:00. If you want to watch, we will broadcast live at: <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/voyageracademy>.

Yesterday we held our Geography Bee. Congratulations to Will Vance! He will complete the test next week to qualify for state competition. Good luck, Will!

Calendar for the Week

February 1 School Store opens - 4th graders will visit this week!

February 1 Voyager vs Roxboro Community at Voyager. Please come and support our players. Our 8th grade players and 8th grade cheerleaders will be recognized!

February 2 PTA Hospitality Lunch



February 2 Group picture of all staff and students at 8:20. This will be in the yearbook!

February 4 6th grade reading benchmark

February 5 6th grade math benchmark

February 5 Mid-quarter progress reports

Enjoy the warm weekend,

Gwen

Interim Principal

gjohnson@voyageracademy.net

High School Update:

Hopefully we've seen the last of the winter weather for the year. It was good to see students back at school this week and we look forward to getting back into full swing. Remember to sign up for a Canvas account using the instructions in my video here: <https://youtu.be/o4STIy6w9bM>. Teachers will enter all assignments in Canvas and you will be able to view the assignments and feedback through your parent Canvas account. All teachers will also enter grades into PowerSchool on Monday each week. This way, our community can count on PowerSchool as the accurate source for student grade information each week.

Cory Draughon

Principal, VAHS

"Persist for Meaning"

--We are completely out of Kleenex and Clorox Wipes! Please drop off any you can spare at the front office.

--Kayla Roberts and Julia Rosemond of Durham, N.C., have been awarded the Girl Scout Silver Award by Girl Scouts - North Carolina Coastal Pines. The Girl Scout Silver Award is the second highest achievement in Girl Scouting. The award symbolizes a Girl Scout Cadette's accomplishments in Girl Scouting and her community as she discovers her strengths and takes action to make the world a better place.

For their Girl Scout Silver Award project, the recipients volunteered at Book Harvest, a non-profit organization focused on distributing books to Triangle children in need. They collected and donated 230 books to local children and 70 books to local libraries. Additionally they created 12 posters as an effort to generate awareness about literacy.



--One of our students participates in a Rugby Club, if you are interested please go here for more information: <http://www.highlandersrffc.org>. You can read more about the culture of rugby on our parent's page (<http://www.highlandersrffc.org/Pages/parents.aspx>).

--It's Prom Time!!

Planning has started and we are getting ready to celebrate our 2016 VAHS Prom in Old Hollywood style!

VAHS Junior/Senior Prom will be held on April 9, 2016 at Umstead Pines Country Club. Tickets are on sale now in the high school front office.

Ticket Prices: \$45 individual/\$80 couple until March 1, 2016. A free ticket raffle will be held for students who have purchased tickets by March 1st!!!

On and after March 2, 2016 tickets will be \$50 individual/\$90 couple.

Bernard's FormalWear on Ninth Street is offering Voyager students a tuxedo rental for \$40 and also an opportunity for a free tuxedo. Students, make sure you let them know that you are from Voyager and we will get money back for prom expenses. Coupons are attached. Questions: please contact Amey Hendriks or Ashleigh Eisch

--National college admissions expert Susan Goodkin will present an informative webinar to help students and parents understand how to search for college scholarships. The webinar will address the most common questions and concerns about finding scholarships as well as the not-so-common tips and tricks to make your search easier, faster, and more productive.

Register by clicking on your date of choice:

Thursday, Feb. 4, 12-1 p.m. (EST) Sunday, Feb. 7, 2-3 p.m. (EST)

Topics to be covered:

Why You Should Start Thinking About Scholarships When Your Child is in Middle School
The Scholarship Search

- What to do before you start looking to search most efficiently
- Why your child's GPA is less important for many scholarships than you think
- What students can start doing when they're young to improve their odds of winning scholarships
- The best order in which to search for scholarships
- How to search beyond the usual suspects
- Tricky ways to find local scholarships
- How to find scholarships for students with quirky interests

Merit Scholarships Awarded by Colleges (scholarships not based on financial need)

- Who gets merit scholarships?



- Some great colleges that offer big scholarships (full tuition or more!)
- Tips for figuring out how much merit aid your child might be offered

National Merit Scholarship Competition

- How it works
- How you can improve your child's odds of winning one, and why you should be thinking about this the summer after sophomore year!
- How merit scholarship recognition can help your child get merit aid at many colleges

The Scholarship Application

- How to write a great scholarship application
- Tips from students who have won scholarships, including National Merit Scholars, Coca-Cola Scholars, and more.

Athletic Update:

Important Announcement

Please note all changes made to basketball schedules on our website voyageracademyathletics.com. Additionally, you will be able to pay all spring sports fees on orgsonline.com starting February 2nd.

Duke at UNC Basketball Tickets Raffle

Thanks to a generous donation the athletic department has been given two pair of tickets to the Duke v. North Carolina game in Chapel Hill on February 17th. Raffle tickets are now on sale, 1 ticket for \$10, 8 tickets for \$50 or 20 tickets for \$100 dollars. If you are willing to help sale these raffle tickets or are interested in purchasing raffle tickets please contact Deuce Harris at 919.433.3301 x 229 or dharris@voyageracademy.net. The athletic department will be holding a raffle, February 12th, at the Roxboro Community home game.

Supporters

Voyager Families we ask that you continue to support those that support our athletic programs. The companies below have made huge contributions to allow our student-athletes the opportunity to participate in educational driven athletics:

North Durham Orthodontics- Where a smile is always in style

Triangle Orthopedics- who work hard to keep our athletes on the court and fields

The Law Offices of Shelley Campen Brown - there to assist you with any of your legal needs

Roxboro Road Chick-Fil-A who helps us feed the fire and can provide catering for any of your gatherings



Upchurch Drugs and Gift Shoppe - there to help with all your medication, or optical needs while providing a place to find a perfect gift to just show someone you care.

Fundraiser

Voyager Athletics is now offering a way to comfortably enjoy your son or daughters sporting event. Buy a one of a kind stadium seat now available for purchase on orgsonline.com (School Code: 375VASNC). Select "Stadium Seat" and for \$35 one of these seats can be yours!

After School/Enrichment Update:

Enrichment Courses

Enrichment classes will be back to the regular schedule on Monday, February 1, 2016.

Summer Camp

Information regarding our summer camps is now posted on the summer camp webpage on our website. Here is the link: www.voyageracademy.net/resources/summer-camps

Please note that registration for summer camps is in 2 parts. The first step is to complete the respective form found on the summer camp webpage. The second step is to log on to www.orgsonline.com to submit payment for the camp(s) of your choice. Should you have any questions, please email lboney@voyageracademy.net.