



# NORTHERN EXPOSURE

The Newsletter of Village Academy North, Inc.

The holidays are upon us, and we are already through 3 months of the school year! Have you noticed the changes in your children? We hope so - because we certainly see them. We look forward to a host of activities during the holiday season - starting with this week's feast and including next month's Make and Take night. We love spending the holiday season with your children. Thank you for your trust.

## VILLAGE ACADEMY NORTH

H1N1 UPDATE

MAKE & TAKE

CHRISTMAS EVE  
CLOSING

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## H1N1 NEWS!

The Health Department still has never returned my calls or emails, so I guess their offer of giving shots here at the school has disappeared.

However, we did get an email last Friday morning that announced that H1N1 shots are now available for free at the Health Department. The email stated:

Vaccine is available for the CDC recommended priority groups while supplies last.

For more information on H1N1 Swine Flu and Vaccine availability, please call the St. Johns County Health Department or our website at:  
[www.StJohnsCHD.org](http://www.StJohnsCHD.org)

Please check out the website for further details. We urge you to have your children vaccinated. Although we are seeing reports that the disease has peaked, if that is a normal distribution it means we still have half the cases to go!

We all need to continue to practice good hygiene. Here at the school, we wash hands frequently, use sanitizer, and teach the children to blow their nose into their sleeve.

We are seeing less sickness at the school, but we still need to be vigilant. Make sure you keep a bottle of sanitizer with you!

## HOLIDAY "MAKE AND TAKE"

We are going to try something new (for *North*) this year. Instead of the brief holiday shows we have held in the past (in a very crowded multi-purpose room), we are going to do "Make and Take" nights. Our JPK and VPK classes will be doing crafts (such as tree ornaments), cookie decorating, and singing. We have done this for years at our main campus, and it is really fun for the whole family.

The schedule for the JPK and VPK classes is:

JPK 1&2: Dec 15 @6:30 pm

VPK 1&2: Dec 16 @6:30 pm

VPK 3&4: Dec 17 @6:30 pm

Please mark it on your calendar!

## EARLY CLOSING

Just like last year, we will be closing early on Christmas Eve. We will keep reminding you, but we **close at 4:00 pm** on Thursday, December 25th.

## CHRISTMAS KINDNESS

We are "adopting" a local family in need for the Christmas holidays. We will post the information about the family as soon as we have it. We appreciate your help in teaching the children that it is truly more blessed to give than to receive.

## SAVING LIDS TO SAVE LIVES

We are still collecting Yoplait Yogurt “pink” lids to help fight breast cancer. Yoplait will donate 10 cents per lid to the Susan G. Komen Foundation. So parents, please don’t throw those lids away. Bring them to us, and put them in the Pink Donation Box at the front desk. We will mail them off on December 16.

<b>DATES TO REMEMBER</b>	<b>NOV 26-27</b> Village North Closed (Thanksgiving)	<b>DEC 15</b> JPK 1&2 Make and Take	<b>DEC 16/17</b> VPK 1/2 (16) VPK 3/4 (17) Make and Take	<b>DEC 24</b> Village North Closes at 4:00 (Christmas Eve)
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## DCF HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

We thought we should review with you the Department of Children and Families communicable disease control requirements. These are not suggested guidelines; it is policy with which we must conform. The policy states, in part: “Any child...suspected of having a communicable disease shall be removed from the facility or placed in an isolation area until removed. Such person may not return without medical authorization, or until the signs and symptoms of the disease are no longer present. Signs and symptoms of a suspected communicable disease include the following:

1. Sever coughing;
2. Difficult or rapid breathing
3. Stiff neck;
4. Diarrhea (more than one abnormally loose stool within a 24-hour period)
5. Temperature of 101 degrees F or higher when in conjunction with any other signs of illness; (note: the Health Department has specified 100 degrees during the swine flu season)
6. Pink Eye
7. Green nasal discharge

There’s more, but we think that makes the point. If we call you and tell you that your child has presented with certain symptoms and that you must pick your child up, please understand that we are not being arbitrary. We are simply conforming to state-mandated policies which are designed, in part, to protect the other children.

## AFTER-SCHOOLER NOT JOINING US? PLEASE CALL!!

When your elementary school child does not show up for their St Johns County school bus, the bus leaves anyway. We operate under different rules. We can’t leave the school until school personnel certify to us that your child left the school a different way - parent pick-up, early, etc., and sometimes that takes them quite a while. So please call us prior to 1:30 in the afternoon if your child won’t be joining us for the After School program that day.

## ADMIN NOTES

Thank you for participating in the food drive to benefit the St. Francis House...I mostly just give up, but we still have a major problem with Toddlers, JPS, and SPS students arriving by 9:00...We are a non-smoking campus, *including* the parking lot...Have you brought in sufficient changes of warm clothes for your child - and marked them with their name?