



# Turtle Tracks

March 13, 2009

A WEEKLY EMAIL NEWSLETTER FOR THE VERMONT COMMONS SCHOOL COMMUNITY

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### MAR 13

VCS Winter Ball  
7:30 pm

### MAR 13

End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter

### MAR 14

College Pathways, St. Michael's College

### MAR 16

Roman/Toga Day

### MAR 17

Formal Day

### MAR 18

Winter Carnival

### MAR 19

Favorite Decade Day

### MAR 20

Favorite Movie Character Day

### MAR 20 - 21

VCS Play & Silent Auction at the Flynn Space

### APRIL 14

2<sup>nd</sup> Evening of Student Readings

## 2009-2010 Enrollment Contracts Deadline

Submitted by Emily Tupper

A serious plan designed by a serious and dedicated faculty and staff! The due date to submit your child's 2009-2010 Enrollment Contract is quickly approaching; in fact it's **Monday, March 16!** Any Tuition Discount Enrollment Contract postmarked after March 16 will NOT be accepted. For any questions about which option may be best for your family, call Emily Tupper at ext. 14 or Hans Manske at ext. 16.



## VCS School Play March 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>

Submitted by Susan Palmer

VERMONT COMMONS SCHOOL PRESENTS  
**THE FOREIGNER**  
by Larry Shue  
At The Flynn Space  
March 20th at 7PM • March 21st at 1PM and 7PM  
Tickets may be purchased through The Flynn Box Office



Designed by Mia Jager

The school play is only one week away and the students are hard at work gathering final props, costumes and furniture items. On Thursday March 19<sup>th</sup>, we make the big move into The Flynn Space where the cast will don costumes and finally step into the stage light to perform this challenging and hilarious show.

If you are unfamiliar with the story, the scene is a fishing lodge in rural Georgia owned by Betty Meeks (played by Tamara Melkumov). The lodge is often visited by Froggy LeSeuer, a British Demolition expert. (Froggy is played by three different students, Seth Evans-Diffenderfer, Baxter Barber and Miles Lamberson, and they will each take a turn over the three performances taking on this part.) This time when Froggy visits the lodge he brings a friend, a pathologically shy young man named Charlie. (Charlie is played by Danial Lissborg and Gabriel Mantegna.) Charlie is overcome with fear at the thought of making conversation, so Froggy, before departing, tells all assembled that Charlie is from an exotic foreign country and speaks no English. Once alone the fun really begins, as Charlie overhears more than he should.... the evil plans of a sinister, two-faced minister (Ali Hanson) and his redneck associate (Dylanger Pittman); the fact that the minister's fiancée (Charlotte Rutz) is pregnant and his half-wit brother Ellard (Drew Dean) may inherit quite a bit of money; and many other damaging revelations all made with the thought that Charlie doesn't understand a word being said. That he actually does understand fuels the nonstop hilarity of the play, and sets up the wildly funny climax.

Come and support the students and enjoy a great night at the theatre! Performances are Friday March 20th at 7PM, and Saturday March 21st at 1PM and 7PM at the Flynn Space in downtown Burlington. Tickets are available through The Flynn Box Office or online @ <http://www.flynntix.org/>. \$9 general admission/\$6 students.

**Head of School:  
Hans Manske**

**FACULTY & STAFF**

Sarah Bertucci

Chance Cardamone-  
Knewstub

Mark Cline Lucey

Jennifer Cohen

Adriana Comtois

Jason Cushner

Leonora Dodge

Conor Driscoll

Glenn Etter

Peter Goff

Xue Li

Shyla Nelson

Susan Palmer

Ben Patrick

Jessica Redmond

Jordan Romm

Jasmine Walker

Dean of Students: Mark  
Cline Lucey

Dean of Faculty:  
Cara Simone Bader

Director of Academic  
Enrichment Center:  
JoAnna Easton

Director of Admissions &  
College Counseling:  
Sarah Soule

Director of Development:  
Jordan Romm

Business Office:  
Emily Tupper

Administrative Assistant,  
Registrar, & Editor of  
Turtle Tracks:  
Allison Fayle

Marketing:  
Wendy McArdle

## Spirit Week at VCS!!

Submitted by Mark Cline Lucey

Next week is Spirit Week at VCS! Win points for your Green/Grey team by dressing up for theme days!

### Monday 3/16: Roman/Toga Day!!



...In honor of the Ides of March.

### Tuesday 3/17: Formal Day!!



Dress sharp!

### Wednesday 3/18: Winter Carnival!



No classes all day.  
Green/Grey contests and Improv Games all morning.  
Bowling after lunch.  
Regular 8:30-3:30 day.

### Thurs. 3/19: Favorite Decade Day!



Will it be the 20's? 70's? 80's?

### Fri. 3/20: Movie Character Day!



Dress as your favorite! (Who doesn't love Darth Vader?)



## Vermont Commons School

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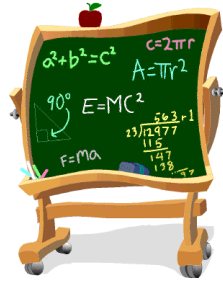
Fax: 802-865-2429

Email: [info@vermontcommons.org](mailto:info@vermontcommons.org)

Website: <http://www.vermontcommons.org>

## This Week in...The Math Department!!

Submitted by Jason Cushner and Jasmine Walker



This week in Math, the **AP Calculus Class** figured out the alarming rate at which their cars are depreciating using differential equations (some as high as 20-30% per year!).

The **Advanced Math Class** has been studying ecological footprints. An ecological footprint is how much land it takes to sustain a person or population for a year. We started by looking at how much water, electricity, and gas we consume as individuals in a year, and many of the students were shocked to see those numbers. We then calculated our ecological footprints. Ecological footprints are normally measured in hectares (about 2.5 acres or 2.5 football fields). We discovered that the average American has a footprint of 9.9 hectares (ha), someone from the Netherlands has a footprint of about 3.3 ha, and someone from Madagascar has a footprint of 1.1 ha. Students then analyzed the global data on footprints and found many interesting conclusions. For example, the U.S. uses 2.5 times the amount of our actual land, the Netherlands uses 15 times their actual land, and Madagascar uses 1/3 of their land. The US and China both use about 20% of the world's resources annually, although China also has about 20% of the world's population. The students then finished up by creating action plans describing what they would do if they were head of the UN and in charge of deciding if there is an issue and if so what should be done.



To calculate your ecological footprint go to:

<http://www.earthday.net/footprint/index.html>

## VCS "The Foreigner" Silent Auction March 20th-24th

Submitted by Sarah McGarghan



Tired of cutting back on discretionary expenses? Check out the AMAZING deals offered through the Vermont Commons School on-line auction. From guided adventures and language lessons offered by our talented faculty to upscale goods and services donated by our generous parents, we invite you to check out the 60+ auction items listed at:

<http://sites.google.com/site/vcssilentauction>

Bidding starts Friday, March 20 at 8:00 am and ends Tuesday, March 24th at 5:00 pm.

You may also bid "live" at the Vermont Commons production of "The Foreigner" on March 20th and 21st at the Flynn Space in Burlington. More info at [www.vermontcommons.org/news](http://www.vermontcommons.org/news).

## Parent Workshop Offered

Submitted by JoAnna Easton

WHAT: A PARENT WORKSHOP: How Do Parents Best Support Their Child/Student at Home?

We will cover strategies to support overall academic growth and success including suggestions in the following areas: Cognition, Time Management & Organization, Writing, Reading Comprehension, Active Learning, Motivation, Self Regulation, Studying, Test Taking etc.

WHEN: Four Friday afternoons (8 hours total) : 3/27; 4/3; 4/10; 4/17/ 2009 // From 12-2 p.m.

WHERE: LittleWing Learning Center; 1988 Hinesburg Road; Charlotte, Vermont

REGISTRATION & COST: By March 15, 2009 // Maximum 10 participants // \$320.00

## VCS Sweatpants- Deadline Extended One Week!

Submitted by Cara Simone Bader



The students traveling to Rome are happy to announce that they are selling sweatpants with the VCS logo on them. They are available in a wide range of colors and sizes.

**Colors available:** Birch (very light grey), Black, Forest Green, Maroon, Oxford (dark grey), True Navy, True Red, and True Royal (blue).

**Sizes:** small to extra large.

**Cost:** \$30. Money must be submitted by March 20th. If no money is received by the deadline, that particular order **will not** be sent in.

To order a pair, talk to Leynah McGarghan, Mikéla Boudette, or Shana Wolfstein. Thank you for your support and school spirit!

## Coin Drop Fundraiser for Rome R&S

submitted by Jack Homer

The Rome Research and Service group is directing a new fundraising project aimed at supporting our trip while fostering a long-range competition between the Green and Grey teams. This competition is a coin drop. Every day at morning meeting, members of the Rome R&S will have two collection boxes, one for each team. Students and faculty can drop in any spare change they happen to have to support their team in the competition. After several weeks of collection, the money will be counted, and point awards given for most overall change value and most change by weight. The competition began on Monday, February 9th, so bring in your spare change and stand behind your team!

