

New Family Committee:

Welcome to Vanderlyn new families! We had over 60 new families join Vanderlyn last school year, and we expect an even greater number of families to join us in 2009-2010. Because we know enrolling in a new school can be a tough transition for most families, Vanderlyn created a committee to help!

Vanderlyn's New Families Committee is dedicated to making sure you feel welcome at Vanderlyn and in the Dunwoody community. We want Vanderlyn to be more than just an educational setting for new families. We realize it can be overwhelming to join a new school in an existing community with a wonderful and unique culture.

Our goal is to make you feel welcomed by navigating you and your family through your first year. Being a new family, we know you will have personal needs beyond registration that the committee can assist you with in order to make your first year at Vanderlyn successful!

Here is how you can take advantage of our committee:

Look for the New Families Banner throughout the year at PTA meetings and other functions. This signifies a place where you can say hi, meet other new families, and ask your questions. We may not have the answers, but we can help direct you to the right place! Use us all year if you need to. Some transitions are easy, some take more time. The New Family Committee considers you a "new" family for the year. Contact the chair or co-chair with any questions or concerns you have during your first year with Vanderlyn.

Don't forget a great way to be plugged into the school is to volunteer. If you are new, then you are perfect to volunteer on the New Families Committee!!

Committee Chair: Stacy Rush

e✉: srush1970@live.com

Committee Co-Chair: Melissa Fincher

e✉: melissaf@printdirection.com

Helpful Hints:

- **Registration/Open House:** it is overwhelming, hot and hectic! Bring water and patience. Try to attend when crowds die down, around 10:30 a.m.
- **Online Assistance:** Registration/Kindergarten Round Up/Open House etc. Most information can be found at www.vanderlyn.com under the PTA tab.
- **Sign up for Viking Views:** A weekly email used as the main communication instrument for Vanderlyn families.
 - www.vanderlyn.com, select PTA link, select Viking Views tab, select subscribe to Viking Views link. (email address required)
- **Bus Routes:**
<http://www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/~transportation/schools.asp>
- **School Hours:** Class begins at 7:30 a.m., but you can drop off as early as 7:00 a.m., instruction begins at 7:45 a.m. Early check out is 2 p.m. and earlier.
- **Traffic/Carpool/Parking:** Traffic is nuts, try to arrive early, carpool or ride the bus. Use carpool lane nearest to Dunwoody High School. If walking child into school park on Vanderlyn side of the street between Vermack Road and Hensley Drive (3-way stop).
- **Walkers:** Enter at the front door of the school.
- **Late Arrival:** If you arrive after 7:45 you must check in at the front office.
- **After school Programs:** Available until 6:00 pm. Sign up in the main office, but there is typically a wait list.
- **Lunch:** Lunch can be pre-paid by going to www.mylunchmoney.com, a link is provided on the Vanderlyn website. Your child's ID number is needed and will be sent home to you by your child's teacher.
- **Child(ren) School ID number:** Your child(ren) will punch this number in to pay for lunch, (cash for Friday ice cream only). Keep Child's ID number handy, it will be theirs the entire time they attend Vanderlyn.
- **First 2 weeks:** is dedicated to routines and rules-- Curriculum night is held 2 weeks after school begins! Try to relax, as long as your kids are happy, you should be too!

VANDERLYN
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL

Vanderlyn 101



*Navigating new families
through their first year with
Vanderlyn.*

All about.... Vanderlyn

Did you know?

While Vanderlyn is consistently ranked within the top 10 elementary schools in Georgia, we strive to be the #1 elementary school in the nation! The 2009 – 2010 school year will be an exciting time for Vanderlyn. This is the first school year of Pre K – 3 classes only. While this will be an exciting time for Vanderlyn, we continue to expect record attendance which presents some challenges, but it also brings with it many opportunities for our school and community.

In 2008 we were fortunate to gain Mr. Noel Maloof as our principal. Mr. Maloof has close ties with the community, most recently serving as the assistant principal for Dunwoody High School. He continues to make a positive impression with the teachers, staff and parents. Come meet Mr. Maloof at the Welcome Coffee on August 19th, or the Principal's Coffee on September 10th!

The Vanderlyn website (www.vanderlyn.com) is a wonderful resource for new parents and we encourage you to take some time to explore it. A new family can find information about the monthly lunch menu, your child(ren)s bus route, your teacher's contact information, the registration procedure, parent teacher conferences, PTA information, and the school year calendar, just to name a few! When in doubt check it out, and call the school with any questions

Vanderlyn Elementary School

www.vanderlyn.com

✉ 1877 Vanderlyn Drive, Dunwoody, GA 30338

☎ 678-874-9002

Fax - 678-874-9010

✉ webmaster@vanderlyn.com

Principal: Noel Maloof

✉: noel_1_maloof@fc.dekalb.k12.ga.us

Asst. Principal – Amy Gamble

✉: Amy_1_gamble@fc.dekalb.k12.ga.us

Asst. Principal – Tracey Crenshaw

✉: tracey_a_crenshaw@fc.dekalb.k12.ga.us

Office Staff: Kelly McDaniel, Angelica Horton, Andrea Gillett

Your Child's Class

Class Contact Information:

Teacher: _____

Class ☎: _____

Class e✉: _____

Room Parent: _____

Room Parent ☎: _____

Room Parent e✉: _____

Bus
Route: _____

Carpool
Number: _____

Student ID
Number: _____

Lunch
Time: _____

Next Parent/Teacher Conference
week: _____



Schedule your specific conference date and time!

Want a play date? Here are a few ideas from a new parent that worked: Create a 'play date' card for your child using blank business cards. Include your child's name and contact information. They can hand it out to new friends who can then ask their parents for a play date. Send something cool in their lunch like a sports trading cards, it can be a conversation starter with new friends. Meeting new friends can be as easy as volunteering for a PTA committee or in your child's class!

The PTA

Would you like to know the best kept secret to meeting new families at Vanderlyn????

Join the PTA!!!!

By becoming a member parents can:

- become connected with what is going on at their child(ren)s school.
- find resources and network with other parents to discuss issues that are on your mind
- have an opportunity to effectively suggest change at your school
- utilize your skills and hobbies for a good cause
- BE A ROLE MODEL. By being involved

Important Dates to get you through the remainder of 2009:

8.7	1:00 p.m. Meet the Teacher
8.7	1:30 p.m. Kindergarten Popsicle Social
8.10	First Day of School
8.19	Welcome Coffee "Tears and Cheers"
8.20	Curriculum Night K&1/General PTA Meeting
8.26	PTA Board of Directors Meeting
8.27	Curriculum Night 2&3/General PTA Meeting
9.10	Principals Coffee
9.15	School Pictures
9.17	Progress Reports Issued
9.23	Parent /Teacher Conferences
10.2	Fall Social
10.5	Norm Reference Testing Begins
10.21	COGAT Testing Begins
10.21	PTA Board of Directors Meeting
10.22	International Potluck Dinner
10.22	Progress Reports Issued
10.30	Fall Fun Day
11.5	Cornucopia 1 st Grade
11.12	Cornucopia Kindergarten
11.18	Parent Teacher Conferences
11.30	Toy Drive Begins
12.17	Holiday Parties