

Homework Help 101

Homework is important for students and their academic success, but helping children with homework can be difficult. Here are some ways you can make homework easier for everyone — and remember that your involvement is the key to your child's success, no matter what language you are using!

Help your child get organized and make sure your child has homework supplies, such as:

- Pencils
- Pens
- Writing paper
- A dictionary

Get into a routine

Set a regular time for homework every day, and look for a homework area with good light. Help your child get into the habit of getting homework done before doing other activities.

Limit distractions

Turn off the TV and video games, and restrict phone calls and texting during homework time. If your child is using the computer for homework, check in periodically to make sure he is getting homework done.

Dates to Remember!

November:

5- Saturday Success
9:00 am - 12 noon

7-11 Health Screenings
Grades K, 1, and 3 only

11- Veteran's Day
(VMA is closed)

14- School
Picture Day

17- Q2 PROGRESS
REPORTS Distributed

21-25- Fall Break
(VMA is closed)



SunLight

The Official Monthly Newsletter of Visible Men Academy

November 3, 2016



Great Days
at VMA!

The mission of Visible Men Academy (VMA) is to provide boys with outstanding academic character, and social education in a nurturing school environment.

SELFLESSNESS **H**ONESTY **I**NTEGRITY **N**ICENESS **E**XCELLENCE

Greetings VMA Parents and Families,

We've recently completed a very successful first quarter of the school year. **We knew in August that we were having a wonderful start to our year, and the testing results we are seeing have confirmed that our Suns have made a tremendous amount of progress in Reading and Math.** We are very pleased with the growth they are showing, and we are committed to seeing more of it as the school year continues.

We hope you have found time to review your son's Report Card with him. We also hope that you have had a conference with his teacher to have your questions answered and to be sure that you have a good sense of how you can help support his efforts in the classroom. Finally, we hope that you reviewed your son's iReady information that we provided – it's important to know where he currently stands in his proficiency with Reading and Math.

We are confident that the great academic results we've had so far will continue and that our Suns will continue to demonstrate their commitment to their school work.

As always, thanks for your support.

Neil Phillips

VMA Co Founder and Principal



VISIBLE MEN
ACADEMY

Visible Men Academy

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Health Screenings and RAM Event



Next week we will screen Grades K, 1, and 3 for hearing and vision. If you do not want your son screened, please contact the front office.

Also, on Friday, November 11- Sunday November 13th there will be a FREE family healthcare at the Remote Area Medical (RAM) event located at Manatee Technical College located at 6305 State Road 70 East in Bradenton. For more information call (941) 526-4766 or www.ramusa.org.

**NO SCHOOL on:
Veteran's Day Friday, November 11th
and Fall Break November 21-25**

Parent Reminders

- Cell phones, Tablets, and any electronic devices are NOT allowed at school. Items will be confiscated and returned to parents at the end of the school day. **VMA is NOT responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged electronics.**
- **Pokemon cards are NOT allowed at school.**
- **School is out at 4:00 pm.** You must notify the office or put a note in your son's agenda if you need to pick up your son before 4:00 pm.
- Anyone picking up your son MUST be listed in writing on our official pick up list. We cannot verify identity over the phone. It must be in writing prior to pick up.
- **Please refrain from entering the building during dismissal.** *This is a critical time, and we must ensure our students are being dismissed safely. If you need to speak with your son's teacher, or an administrator, please make an appointment.*

Picture Day- Monday, November 14th

On **Monday, November 14th**, VMA will have our Fall Picture Day. **Students need to wear a VMA logo polo, or a gray, white, or yellow collared shirt.** Picture forms will be distributed, and need to be returned with payment (if you choose) on Picture Day, cash or checks will be accepted. For successful pictures, make sure your son practices a natural smile, and has a fresh haircut.



VMA Parent Success Academy 2016-2017

Join us this year for any of the upcoming **FREE Parent Success Program events:**

- Tuesdays 4:30 pm- 6:30 pm *Mind in the Making* and *Fatherhood Group*
- Thursdays 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm GED and ESOL (English as Second Language)
- Thursdays 4:30 pm Van Wezel Parent Theatre Group
- **Saturday Success, 11/5 9:00 am -11:00 am**, Breakfast and Yoga workshop with the Women's Resource Center of Manatee.

We're thrilled to introduce **Leesa Holmes**, new chair of the Parent Advisory Group. Please join Our upcoming PAG Meeting on **Tuesday, November 8th at 4:45 pm.**

Did you know that VMA is teaching all of our SUNS about Mindfulness and Social Emotional Learning? To learn more please contact our School Social Worker **Peg Hughes!**

Shannon Rohrer-Phillips, MSW
Director of Student & Family Services
srohrer-phillips@vmacademy.org



***PARENTING TIP: Please remember to check your child's binder every day to receive important updates from your child's teacher and track your SUNS homework and progress!**

Literacy on the Lawn

Join us on **Friday, November 4th from 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm for Literacy on the Lawn!** Parents and Volunteers are welcome to come share the joy of reading with our VMA Suns! **Please RSVP to dsingleton@vmacademy.org** if you would like to volunteer.



SPIRIT WEEK at VMA

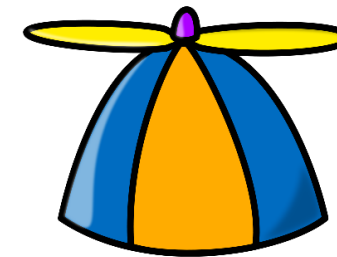
Mon., November 7 - Thurs., November 10

Next week we will celebrate the first VMA Spirit Week! Wear your favorite Pajamas, Hat, Suit, and SHINE wear all next week! **Participation is optional.**

- **Monday- Pajama Day**
- **Tuesday- Hat Day**
- **Wednesday- Personal Presence Day (Wear a suit, tie, or fancy shirt)**
- **Thursday- SHINE Day (Wear your best Yellow and Gray outfit)**



Pajama Day



Hat Day



Personal Presence Day



SPIRIT Day



Saturday Success THIS SATURDAY!

Character development is the cornerstone of the VMA Mission. Visible Men Academy connects students to male role models through our **Saturday Success Program.** This Saturday we welcome **LaTerrence Keys**, who is a former basketball player and currently serves as a guidance counselor at North East High School in St. Pete.

We also have a **Parent Success Workshop** which will feature a "Morning Wellness: Breakfast and Yoga" presented to parents by the Women's Resource Center of Manatee from 9-11am.

Breakfast, and Lunch will be provided for all VMA students.

