

VICKERY CREEK ELEMENTARY

A community igniting the joy of learning and inspiring leaders



Leader in Me Lighthouse School

Kristan Riedinger, Principal

Sandy Wells, Assistant Principal

Lindsey Richardson, Assistant Principal

December 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Beginning in January, your child's School Counselors will be presenting a child abuse prevention program, *Think First and Stay Safe*, to all students during their regular Guidance time. This research-based personal safety program is provided to students in grades K-5 in all Forsyth County Elementary Schools. As parents and educators, we want to do our part to help ensure that our children grow up healthy, happy and safe. Our goal is to give students at VCES the knowledge and skills to help them recognize personal safety risks and to speak up about inappropriate or unsafe behaviors. Lessons are presented during our School Counselor's regularly scheduled Classroom Guidance times beginning in January. Below is an overview of what is included in these safety lessons:

- Review of Safety Rules we already know (bike safety, bus safety, etc.)
- Instill a strong sense of body ownership & personal boundaries.
- Introduction or review of the body safety rules to protect students from sexual abuse.
- Educate students on what a "lure" is and how someone might use a lure to try and hurt a child.
- Help students identify their trusted adults & emphasize that all secrets can be told to parents or other trusted adults.

Our School Counselors, Mrs. Ogilvy and Mrs. Remenick, have been trained by prevention specialists to present this information. The VCES Counselor's webpage, <https://www.forsyth.k12.ga.us/domain/1641>, has further information for parents including the PowerPoints which guide the Counselors in their safety lessons. Thank you for your support in our efforts to keep our students safe. If you have any additional questions about this program or if you prefer that your child not participate in the personal safety lessons, please contact your child's School Counselor.

Mrs. Anne Ogilvy (grades K-2)

aogilvy@forsyth.k12.ga.us

Ext. 180401

Mrs. Julie Remenick (grades 3-5)

jremenick@forsyth.k12.ga.us

Ext.180248

Sincerely,

Kristan Riedinger

Principal

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(770) 346-0040

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