



Grade 9 English Students 2017 – 2018 Options Sign-up: Term 1 and 2

All students in Grade 9 will have to choose a total of 4 classes (two in Term 1 and two in Term 2) for the 2017 – 2018 school year. Please ensure that your name and homeroom are on the sign-up sheet.

Band Students: All students taking Band will be required to sign-up for Band in Term 1, which will take place during the Grade 8 Option block. During the first term, students will be required to maintain a Fitness Log to their Grade 9 PE teachers, to make up for the days missed when they are in Band. There will NOT be a scheduled Band class in Term 2; however, **your commitment to Band includes mandatory practices after school hours (Wednesday 2:30 – 3:30 pm or Friday 12:30 – 1:30 pm) throughout Term 2.**

Please place a ranking from 1 - 4 beside each course under T1 A and B. Place a 1 beside your top **choice** and a 4 beside your **last choice**. Please repeat this same process for Term 2. Make sure that your choices reflect your own interests and not those of your friends. We will do our best to accommodate your top requests. Below is a description of all the courses being offered during the 2017-2018 school year.

Course Descriptions: Term 1 & 2

Band - This option will require students to rent an instrument from the school, unless you own one or rent privately, and commit to regular practices and performances at a variety of functions. Focus will be on skill and technical development and performance, both alone and in groups. **Please see note above regarding band commitment in Term 2.** All students taking Band must sign-up on the forms in addition to the option they are choosing to ensure they are enrolled.

Industrial Arts - The purpose of this course is to expose students to the fundamentals of construction and design. Student projects may include the construction of items such as pottery, jewelry, and small wood products.

Visual Media – Students will be learning many techniques involved in making visual media pieces, from learning to make a website to becoming familiar with the many tools in the Adobe creative suite. Students will learn to use the same tools as the experts.

Fantasy Sports - Research, create and use a variety of different statistical categories to help you draft and manage your fantasy sports teams. Balance your team’s budget by balancing the salaries of your superstars and role players. Review statistical trends for the week’s hottest players and the analysis of any trades or waiver-wire pick-ups will be analyzed weekly.

Art - Student skill and interest in art will be used to determine the direction of the course. Beginning with the elements of art, students will look for inspiration from other artists to guide their exploration of a medium and create either a 2-D or 3-D art piece. Projects will be student directed, teacher supported and adapted for different entry points for all aspiring artists.

Video Broadcasting – Students will learn about what is required to make a video/film. Students will investigate the significance of films in society, and learn various techniques used by professional filmmakers. Students will also be creating their own short videos, learning about pre-production planning, camera holding and operation, shooting techniques, on-camera performance, and editing.

Foods 2.0/Bakery Boss – This course will be a combination of a revised, rebooted, reinvented version of the Foods class you’ve come to know and love along with elements of Bakery Boss. For the first part of the term you will be able to work with a team to create a variety of recipes of your own choosing. The second part of the term will focus on learning how to make and decorate cupcakes, fancy cookies, cake pops and other decorative baked goods.

Sports Performance – This class will focus on effective training to help students maintain optimal cardio and strength training. Students will need to come prepared to go outside at the teacher’s discretion, weather permitting.

Guitar - Come and learn to play the guitar, or improve on your previous skills. From learning the basics of what a chord is, to stringing together your favorite riffs. All levels are welcome! Students may rent guitars from the school.

Photography/Publishing (Yearbook) – This course will combine elements of both digital photography and yearbook publication. Students will begin by exploring the digital camera and its many capabilities while considering light, composition, photo editing and enhancement before printing. Next, students will engage in the digital design process and learn how to navigate an online publishing program in order to create their own photo book that will serve as a portfolio of their own photographic art from in-class assignments. The artistic design of these photo books will be determined by the students’ own photos and photography interests. The portfolio creation will act as a stepping stone to the end goal of the course, the creation of Valley Creek’s 2017-2018 yearbook. Students will be assigned specific yearbook pages and work collaboratively to craft page layouts that look best using pictures that they have also captured throughout this course of various school wide events and groups. Students will also engage deeply in editing their pages and those of their peers, as a means of modeling the actual publishing process. **Please note that this course will require a \$30-35 materials fee for the individual photo book portfolio each student will create.**

App Development – Ever wanted to know how to make an app for your iPhone or iPad? Students of all levels are welcome, from students who have never written a line of code in their life, to those who are already fluent in various coding languages, and everyone in between.

Leadership

Students will participate in a variety of activities that enhance communication and teamwork skills. They will take on organizational roles within the school for events including the Grade 4 Orientation, Grade 9 Farewell, and VCS Mental Health Day, among others. This option will be for one term only, but students will be required to offer support throughout the year.

Drama / Performing Arts

Explore creativity through movement, speech, improvisation, and acting! Students will produce their own short pieces to be performed at the end of the term.

Grade 9 Students 2017 – 2018 Options Sign-up: Term 1

Name _____ Grade 8 Homeroom _____
 (Last) (First)

Term 1: September – January

Rating (1 - 4)	Course Title: T1 A	Rating (1 - 4)	Course Title: T1 B
	Leadership		
	Foods/Bakery Boss		Guitar
	Fantasy Sports		Visual Media
	Performing Arts		Art
	Video Broadcasting		IA
	IA		
	Band (During Grade 8 Option Block) - Please sign up for Band and number your other option choices accordingly		

Parent Signature: _____

***** Please return this form to your Homeroom teacher by Tuesday, June 20th *****

Grade 9 Students 2017 – 2018 Options Sign-up: Term 2

Name _____ Grade 8 Homeroom _____
 (Last) (First)

Term 2: February - June

Rating (1 - 4)	Course Title: T2A	Rating (1 - 4)	Course Title: T2B
	App Development		
	Foods/Bakery Boss		Sports Performance
	Art		Photography/Publishing
	Performing Arts		Video Broadcasting
	Guitar		Foods/Bakery Boss
	IA		

Parent Signature: _____

***** Please return this form to your Homeroom teacher by Tuesday, June 20th *****