HELLO RETURNING AND PLEBE PARENTS, GUARDIANS & SPONSORS:

Classes for VFMAC began on Monday. The cadets look sharp in their school uniforms as do the residential students in their khakis and VFMAC polo shirts. What a neat school we have!

OPENING DAY CEREMONY - SEPTEMBER 10:
On Thursday, 10 September, at 5:00 PM please join us for the Presentation of Colors to the Color Guard in the Chapel symbolizing the beginning of Academic Year 2015-2016. Plebes and the Corps of Cadets will attend and depart to enjoy their dinner in the Mess Hall directly following the Ceremony. Residential students are always welcome but not required to attend.

A reception will follow at 6:00 PM in Eisenhower Hall for guests. All are welcome!

PARENTS WEEKEND AND RECEPTION - OCT. 2 - 3:
Save the Date:
Please look for a packet in your mailbox containing information about the upcoming Parents Reception in Eisenhower Hall on Friday, 2 October from 7:30 – 10:00 PM, the Academy “Back to School” Morning in Shannon Hall and College Open House in Hart Hall South on Saturday, 3 October from 8:30 – 11:00 AM.

The Mess Hall will be open for lunch at 11:30 AM for $5 per guest. The Corps of Cadets is required to attend the first football game of the season which is VFMC vs West Point Prep. You are also welcome to join us for that exciting occasion and directly following the game, the cadets may depart with you for overnight leave. They must sign out with their TACS in their barracks prior to leave. Return time is 9:00 PM on Sunday, 4 October. Cadets must sign back in with their TAC in their barracks.

For our Academy Seniors and College Sophomores, following the game at 6:30 PM, the Ring Ceremony will take place in the Chapel, followed by the Ring Dinner in Mellon Hall. Family members and ring presenters who are joining their sons and daughters for the Ring Ceremony may also join them for dinner in Mellon Hall. Each cadet/student will receive two tickets for guests. There will be a charge of $15 each for additional guests. Invitations will be publicized the week of September 7th please RSVP as soon as you receive the invitation.
Cadets without visiting family members will have “walk-out” leave until 9:00 PM on Saturday evening and again on Sunday until 9:00 PM.

Residential students may opt to stay for the events or depart campus when they do not have conflicting duty or obligation.

PARENTS CADETS’ RECOGNITION WEEKEND FOR CADETS - OCT. 31 - NOV. 1:
Save the Date:
Plebe and cadet parents, please plan on attending a milestone in your son or daughter’s life. This milestone is called the Join the Ranks ceremony and will take place from 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM on Saturday, 31 October. This ceremony will mark the end of plebe period for your plebe and the beginning of his or her life at VFMAC as a New Cadet in the 88th Corps of Cadets. Details will be forthcoming.

CADET AND STUDENT PARENTS:
An updated version of the printable Parents Handbook is now on the website. It contains information on the Plebe System, leave policies, travel and more. Residential Student parents, most of the information is for cadet parents however, it contains basic campus information, basic rules, significant dates and “Where Do I Call” for all parents. On the VF website, please go to “Parents” and scroll down to find. Or click on this link for easy access:

WELCOME FROM VFMC DEAN OF STUDENT SERVICES:
Hello, my name is Todd Zachary, the new Dean of Student Services at Valley Forge Military College. On behalf of our President, Dr. Stacey R. Sauchuk and the entire faculty and administrative staff, we are very excited to welcome back our returning students, cadets and parents, while embracing our new families to the Valley Forge Community.

This is a great time to be a part of the College as this academic year ushers in a number of new initiatives and programs. While we traverse our path forward, we do so remaining steadfast in our dedication to our missions and Five Cornerstones of Academic Excellence, Personal Motivation, Character Development, Leadership and Physical Development.

I am excited to share with you that one of the newest initiatives within the College this year is the expansion of our student body to include a residential student program. In direct response to the feedback from our college students and their families, Valley Forge has expanded its paths for students to earn the VFMC degree. There are now three paths for VFMAC cadet/student to a diploma: as a member of the Corps of Cadets, as a commuter student, or as a residential student. While cadets in the Corps and students in the residential program both reside on campus, the residential student program provides an opportunity for young men and women outside of the Corps of Cadets to take full advantage of our exceptional faculty, curriculum, degree programs and student success supports. This is all available within a nurturing environment that encourages students to strive for excellence, develop leadership skills, a sense of individual responsibility, and key marketable skills they will need as they further their education for their future careers. These three paths continue
our commitment to our missions of building leaders of character for our community, country and the world.

Over the months to come, we will be introducing you to a wide range of exciting programs occurring throughout the College. From a new cyber-security program to an expanded partnership with the Pennsylvania National Guard, Valley Forge is on the move. As part of the Valley Forge team, we are committed to assisting each student to succeed, but also are cognizant of the change that college life brings to the entire family.

If I can help ease this transition in any way, please do not hesitate to contact me at tmzachary@vfmac.edu or at 610-989-1257.

Welcome back to an exciting new year!

All the best

Todd Zachary
VFMC
Dean of Student Services

**IS YOUR CADET/STUDENT HAVING A BIRTHDAY?**

If so, Sodexo Dining Services has cookie cakes and sheet cakes available for your birthday boy or girl. Just call the Cadet Store at 610-989-1540 or 1543 for details and to place the order.

Lini Stevens
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Valley Forge Military Academy & College
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