



THE WOLF



**WEST BAY
ELEMENTARY**

WEEK BEGINNING MONDAY 23 SEPTEMBER

[West Bay Website](#)

LEAVING EARLIER THAN 3:00 PM

Please email teachers and office first thing in the morning. All students need to be signed out at the office if departing before 3:00 PM.

**STUDENT ABSENCES
PLEASE EMAIL
sbarrie@wvschools.ca**

WELCOME BACK BBQ

Thank you to PAC Co-Chairs Neda Esmati and Kelly Chesko, the PAC Executive, and all of the volunteers for hosting the BBQ. Despite the weather, it was a great opportunity for families to connect and celebrate the new school year!



CROSS COUNTRY MEET #1

The West Bay cross country team showed incredible grit, determination, and team spirit at their first District cross country meet this week. From the starting whistle, every runner pushed through the challenges of the course, overcoming fatigue and tough terrain with perseverance. Whether leading the pack or working their way up from behind, each athlete gave their all, supporting one another with cheers and encouragement along the way. We are so proud of our West Bay Wolves! **Next Practice Monday 23 2 08:15 AM. Meet #2 on Tuesday 24th.**



WHAT CHARACTER TRAITS MADE TERRY FOX A GOOD LEADER?

Terry Fox is a symbol of hope in Canadian history and was pivotal in the battle against cancer. As a lead up to our annual Terry Fox run on October 4th, we are hosting a Poster Contest! Students are encouraged to create a poster that identifies character traits that made Terry Fox a good leader. These posters can be created by hand or digitally. **Submissions are due to the office by Friday September 27th and our winning submissions will demonstrate creativity, effort, and a positive message.**

POSTER CONTEST

FREE ENTRY

WHAT CHARACTER TRAITS MADE TERRY FOX A GOOD LEADER?

WE ARE LOOKING FOR POSTERS THAT DEMONSTRATE:

- CREATIVITY
- EFFORT
- A POSITIVE MESSAGE

POSTERS DUE TO THE OFFICE BY:

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 27TH

WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED ON OCTOBER 1ST

PRIZES FOR THE TOP 5 SUBMISSIONS!

TO DONATE TO THE TERRY FOX FOUNDATION, VISIT:
[HTTPS://SCHOOLS.TERRYFOX.CA/73932](https://schools.terryfox.ca/73932)



SEPTEMBER	
19	First Steamoji Class @ 3:15 PM
20	Professional Development Day #2 - School Not in Session
23	Math Club @ 08:15
23	First Hot Lunch Day
23-25	Grade 6 Students at Camp Summit
24	Cross Country #2 at 3:30
25	First Debate Club for Gr 5-7 begins in Learning Commons -
26	Orange Shirt Day
27	ELL Tea, 9-10 AM in LC Wear your Spirit Wear Individual Photo Day Spirit Wear Order Deadline
30	Truth and Reconciliation Statutory Holiday

DEBATE CLUB - GRADES 4-7 ONLY, Begins Wednesday 25th September @ 08:00 AM in Learning Commons

The Debate Club is back! West Bay alumni students Jason and Jerry Song ran a very popular debate club last year and will continue to do so throughout this year. The Club focuses on public speaking, crafting arguments, and having fun taking various positions on topics.

Registration is required click [here](#).

ORANGE SHIRT DAY Thursday 26 September

The Story of Orange Shirt Day [HERE](#).

Grade 6 students will be sharing more with students about the Pathway to Reconciliation on Thursday 26 September



BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL

MONDAY MATH BEFORE SCHOOL
GRADES 2-7 @ 08:15 IN LC

DEBATE WEDNESDAY BEFORE SCHOOL
GRADES 5-7 @ 08:00 IN LC
BEGINS 25 SEPTEMBER

READING ON THURSDAYS
ALL GRADES @ 08:30 IN LC

STEAMOJI AFTER SCHOOL THURSDAYS
GR 1 AND UP @ 3:15 IN LC
CLASS NOW FULL

USEFUL LINKS

- [WEST BAY WEBSITE](#)
- [SCHOOL NEWS](#)
- [SCHOOL CASH ONLINE](#)
- [MYEDUCATION BC](#)

PHOTO DAY

**COMING UP
FRIDAY 27
SEPTEMBER**



ELL TEA - 27 SEPT

A parent information session about West Bay's English Language Learning (ELL) program will be held on **Friday, September 27th from 9:00 - 10:00 am** in the Learning Commons for all new parents.

RSVP cjackson@wvschools.ca

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE [HERE](#)

Grade 1 Planner Bag - \$4.00
Payment Due By 27 September
Cross Country Fee Now Due - \$10.00

SPIRIT WEAR SALES - [CLICK HERE TO ORDER](#)

Order Deadline 27 September @ 9:00 PM
Delivery 4-5 Weeks after deadline

24-25 GRAD HOODIES - GRADE 7 STUDENTS [ORDER HERE](#)

Order Deadline 1st October, 2024 @ 9:00PM
Delivery to School in November

WEST VANCOUVER REC CENTRE UPCOMING EVENTS

Indigenous Arts & Culture Workshop [this fall](#).

Small Group Music Classes:

[Ukulele, Acoustic Guitar and Singing Classes are starting in September.](#)

Language Program for Various Ages:

[Give yourself a gift of language skills in French, Spanish, Mandarin, Farsi, Korean, American Sign Language \(ASL\), Ukrainian and English as a Second/Third Language.](#)

[Click here for PD Day Camps](#)

Browse all your recreation activities and programs here:

<https://westvancouver.ca/parks-recreation/recreation-programs-services/recreation-activities>

Are you new in West Vancouver?

Come, discover and join us:

www.westvancouver.ca/newcomers

ADAPTIVE SOCCER PROGRAM

We started this in 2020, and it is a program we are very proud to be able to deliver. If you know of any students who might be interested in this inclusive and fun program, could you please share this information with them? The school district has been supportive of sharing our information over the years, and we have been appreciative of their support.

We hope to reach any players who could enjoy and benefit from this program.

The first session will be next Wednesday, Sept. 18th. [Link to register HERE](#)



The poster features a red top border with seven soccer balls. Below this is a blue section with a rainbow infinity symbol and the West Van Football Club logo. The main yellow section contains the text: "West Van FC Adaptive Soccer for Neurodivergent Players September thru December Ambleside Field D Wednesdays 3:45-4:45PM Ages 4 to 15".

VOLUNTEERS ARE A GIFT TO OUR COMMUNITY

West Bay is a community that thrives with the help of our volunteer parents. We have many jobs, big and small.

If you are able to help out please sign up [HERE](#).



HOT LUNCH PROGRAM

Monday (Foodie Kids/Aburi),
Tuesday (Foodie Kids)
Thursday (Foodie Kids/Panago)
Friday (Foodie Kids)



ORDER HERE - ORDERING IS ONGOING
Returning Parents [Here](#)
New Parents [Here](#)

Cutlery will be available to purchase for \$10 per kit, email westbaypac@gmail.com.

**LAST ORDERING DATE FOR THE YEAR
WILL BE 15 MAY 2025 - LAST LUNCH 20 JUNE 2025**

HARVEST 2024 FUNDRAISER

NATURE'S GREATEST SNACK FOOD

Order deadline:

Wednesday, October 9th
**TO PLACE YOUR ORDER
[CLICK HERE](#).**



Navigating Technology and AI in Education: Where We Are

Over the past year, two significant conversations have gained heightened attention regarding children and technology.

On one side, concerns about screen time and digital dependency are on the rise. Influential works like Jonathan Haidt's *The Anxious Generation* as well as the BC Ministerial Order restricting personal digital devices in schools signal growing unease about children's attachment to devices and social media.

On the other hand, the rapid advancements and potential of Generative AI are reshaping how we think about technology in education. These digital tools have sparked renewed interest in how they can be harnessed to support personalized learning. Digital devices open windows to new perspectives and offer fertile ground for critical thinking and deep inquiry.

Alongside parents, we at West Bay feel we have a role to help guide students' relationships with technology. Our goal is to position digital devices as valuable learning tools—tools that are picked up when useful and set aside when not. We aim to balance the benefits of technology with the importance of knowing when it's time to disconnect.

As partners in shaping our students' relationship with technology, we see this balance as key. West Vancouver Schools Superintendent Chris Kennedy emphasized this, stating, ["We didn't jump into AI because it was trendy. Our goal isn't AI itself, it's the creation of powerful learning experiences."](#)

Students must learn about Generative AI because it's increasingly part of their world. Understanding how AI works, when it's helpful, and when it's not, is crucial. There will always be tension between AI's efficiency and the need to nurture curiosity and celebrate authenticity. But AI also holds immense potential to further inclusive lesson planning and offer personalized learning experiences for students.

Where Does West Bay Stand Today?

Many of our teachers are starting to use [Magic School](#)—Generative AI provided by West Vancouver Schools—to see where it can enhance their teaching. This includes modifying reading materials to suit different learning levels, creating exemplars and non-exemplars, developing varied assignments to reflect student understanding, and crafting decodable texts to focus on foundational literacy skills. Teachers can also use AI to predict and address student misconceptions, particularly in our Themes of Inquiry.

While students are gradually introduced to what Generative AI is, they're learning how it works and how it can assist in their studies. Though students are not actively using AI tools yet, many will start, as developmentally appropriate, utilizing them this year. Tasks such as translating, summarizing, leveling texts, comparing writing samples, and seeking alternative perspectives will be supported by AI, further enriching their learning.

A Purposeful Approach

While we are excited for the benefits of our well-established tools like the Google Suite of Education and exploring the benefits of Generative AI for teachers and students, we are reaffirming our expectations regarding the purposeful use of technology. Our expectations are in the table below.

In six months, this post may feel very dated as I am sharing our starting point with Generative AI as new tools and ways to support learning continuously emerge. The landscape is changing quickly, and this is an exciting time to be a learner and educator.

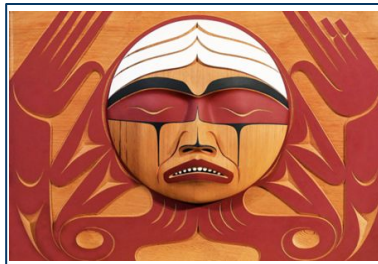
Scott Slater



8:00 AM – 9:00 AM Student Arrival	Students can send text messages and make phone calls on their mobile phone. Students cannot play video games, use social media, take or view photos or videos, etc. No laptop or tablet use.
9:00 AM – 3:00 PM + School Events	Students are only allowed to use their device when given permission by a staff member. Devices are to be stored in silent mode or off.
3:00 PM – 4:00 PM Student Departure	Students can send text messages and make phone calls on their mobile phone. Students cannot play video games, use social media, take or view photos or videos, etc. No laptop or tablet use.

CELEBRATING STUDENT BIRTHDAYS

We ask that families refrain from bringing in cakes and cookies to celebrate student birthdays - you are more than welcome to bring in fruit or popcorn to celebrate in class. If inviting the whole class to parties teachers will hand out invites. If you are not inviting everyone, please distribute invitations on playdates.



PATH TO RECONCILIATION
Special programming to mark the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on 30 September

As the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation approaches on September 30, the West Vancouver Memorial Library invites you to attend a series of powerful programs and explore essential resources dedicated to education and action.

- **Celebrate the launch of the Skw'shítsut/Skw'shétsut – Skwxwú7mesh Sníchim Language Kits**
Tuesday, September 24, 10 – 11:30 a.m.
Join us on our rooftop garden, Swáýwi temíxw, for traditional storytelling with Tsitsáyxemaat, bannock, and prizes!
- **Art Talk featuring Aaron Nelson-Moody (aka Splash)**
Thursday, September 26, 7 – 8 p.m.
Join West Vancouver Art Museum Assistant Curator Alison Powell for a conversation with artist Aaron Nelson-Moody/Tawx'sin Yexwulla about his activism and advocacy work and the collaborative nature of his working style.
- **Storytelling, Songs, and Crafts with Lisa Lewis | Ages 5-9**
Saturday, September 28, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Spend Saturday morning with Squamish Nation author Lisa Lewis. She will share the story of *Tsunaxen's Journey*, teach traditional songs, and guide children through a craft activity.
- **Movie Matinée Double_Feature: Beyond Being Silenced and WAAYDANAA**
Saturday, September 28, 2 – 3 p.m.
This double-feature screening explores Haida culture and resilience through two impactful films. *Beyond Being Silenced: Gyaa Isdlaa* follows Haida artist Robert Davidson as he stages a potlatch to honour Indigenous resilience, acknowledging past abuses while celebrating cultural renewal. *Waaydanaa: Now is the Time* revisits the historic moment when 22-year-old Davidson carved and raised the first new totem pole on Haida Gwaii in nearly a century, marking the rebirth of the Haida spirit.
- **Movie Matinée: Bones of Crows**
Monday, September 30, 2 – 4:15 p.m.
Bones of Crows tells the epic story of Cree matriarch Aline Spears, chronicling her experiences in the residential school system and the intergenerational impact on her family. This film offers an unflinching portrayal of the long-lasting effects of systemic injustice on Indigenous communities.

The WVML September/October e-newsletter for kids, families and educators is here! We have lots to offer after school, weekends and on School's Out days As usual, storytimes are all still drop-in (and we currently have French storytime running on Saturdays!). [West Van Schools Update September + October 2024 \(patronpoint.com\)](https://www.wvml.ca/2024/09/16/west-van-schools-update-september-october-2024-patronpoint-com)

VOLUNTARY ABSENCES FROM SCHOOL

Please understand that if you are choosing to take extended holidays when classes are in session, teachers cannot replicate the learning that happens within the classroom and are not able to provide online learning opportunities.

Our teachers do their very best to support students during required absences due to illness, however, when the absence is voluntary and a family's choice (such as extending a weekend, holiday, or vacation), it is a family's responsibility to maintain academic learning at home. Please take time to read with your child, have them write in a "holiday" journal, do Math IXL online, participate in any assignments shared via Google Classroom (intermediate students), and take advantage of other emergent opportunities to practise foundational skills (e.g. following instructions and using math while cooking).

Families may email their child's teacher(s) to see if there is other work their child can do, however, our teachers' energy and focus continues to be on the learning of students within the classroom

PARKING DOS AND DON'TS



Click [here](#) for more information.

Only Kindergarten families are permitted to park in the upper field lot at the beginning and end of the school day. For special events, the upper field will be open for parking as per the maps [here](#).

Kindergarten families need to display their parking pass on their dashboard.

KINDERGARTEN PAC EXEC NOMINATION FORM

ACCESS FORM [HERE](#).

Please email forms by **October 16, 2024**, to westbaypac@gmail.com

PAC SURVEY - CLICK [HERE](#) TO COMPLETE



Share your feedback and ideas re your preferred times for online PAC meetings and Educational/Guest Speaker Components for monthly meetings

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMMING - KUNG-FU KIDS

West Coast Kung-Fu Academy is offering workshops for West Bay students (K-2; 3-7) on Mondays in the West Bay Gym from 3-5 PM. Primaries (K-3) from 3:00-3:40 PM and Intermediates (4-7) from 3:45-5:00 PM.

BEGINS MONDAY 7 OCTOBER, ENDS 16 DECEMBER

Please click [here](#) to learn more and to register.



WEST COAST KUNG-FU ACADEMY

WHEN SHOULD I KEEP MY SICK CHILD HOME FROM SCHOOL? INFORMATION FROM VANCOUVER COASTAL HEALTH

Things to consider if your child feels unwell:

1. The wellbeing of your child. Without proper rest, a child may have a hard time fighting an illness or be at risk for other illnesses.
2. The ability of your child to actively take part and learn at school.
3. The school staff cannot care for a sick child and give them the support that they may need.
4. The protection of other children.

Please keep your child home if they:

1. Have a fever.
2. Are too sick to take part in normal school activities.
3. Have a suspected or known communicable disease (i.e. strep throat, chicken pox, measles).
4. Is vomiting or has diarrhea. It is recommended that students be symptom free at least 24 hours before returning to school.

Where can I find more information

- Health Link BC - by calling 8-1-1, you can speak to a health service navigator, who can help you find information and services, or connect you with a health professional. You can also find information online at www.healthlinkbc.ca
- Sneezes and Diseases - online at www.sneezesdiseases.com
- BCCDC - online at schools.bccdc.ca
- [Vancouver Coastal Health](#)
- VCH - online at [Children and Youth health - Vancouver Coastal Health](#)
- School Administrators can also contact their School Public Health Nurse

Scott Slater

Principal
West Bay Elementary | Cypress Park Primary
IB World Schools
Pronouns: He/Him/His
Office 604 981 1260 Direct 604 981 1264



I acknowledge and am thankful to live, learn, and work on the territory of the Coast Salish people, specifically the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) Nation, on whose territory West Vancouver Schools resides.

