

School Website

District Website



Daily Health Check It is important that parents **continue** to do a thorough **DAILY HEALTH CHECK**. At school we have always followed the same procedures regarding student illnesses - when children are sick and not well enough to be at school and participate **fully in all aspects of the day**, for any reason, parents will be contacted and asked to pick up their child. The purpose of this has always been to ensure the child receives the care they need and that the illness is not spread at the school.

Student Absent from School? Please Call the Callback Line 604-981-1276. (Not the Office) before 8:00 am

As part of the Westcot safety program all students are accounted for each day as either absent or present. A Call Back program is in place to check on students who are absent if no contact with the school has been made. We will continue to carefully monitor all absences and ask that you use this central communication rather than or as well as emailing individual classroom teachers. Parents can help with the overall efficiency of this process by informing the school if your child is going to be absent. Simply call the callback line at **604-981-1276**.

Parent Teacher Intake Interviews are scheduled for Wednesday, October 4th and Thursday, October 5th. **Early dismissal will be at 11:30 pm for our Kindergarten – Grade 7 students.** Thank you for signing up with your classroom teachers for your virtual or in person appointments.

World Teachers Day Thursday October 5th is World Teachers' Day, an opportunity to celebrate the profession and a chance to acknowledge the influence teachers have in the lives of their students. Thank you to our incredible staff at Westcot. You are valued. You are appreciated. Today and each day we are grateful for your work. **Thank you in advance to our Westcot Parent Advisory Committee who will bring in lunch for our staff on Tuesday.**



Our WPAC needs you... Would you like to get involved in some of the exciting events at Westcot? We'd love to have you. Please sign up [HERE](#).

Foundational Skills Assessment Foundational Skills Assessments

(FSAs) are for Grade 4 and 7 students. From October 2 to November 10 students across the province in Grades 4 and 7 will be completing the FSA in their respective schools. This set of assessments measures how well students are progressing in the areas of literacy (understanding and communicating with language) and numeracy (understanding and working with numbers). The FSA provides the Ministry of Education, school districts and schools with information for continuous academic growth and insight into student achievement. These assessments are similar to activities students do on a daily basis in the classroom. The link to practice materials and more information for families can be found [HERE](#). If you have any questions or concerns about the FSAs, please contact Mrs. Ratz



Arrive on Time It is imperative that students arrive at school on time. Arriving to school on time is an important aspect of being a responsible and successful student. Here are some tips to help you arrive at school punctually:

- **Set a Routine:** Establish a daily routine that includes a set time for waking up, getting ready, and leaving for school. Stick to this routine consistently.
- **Prepare the Night Before:** Before going to bed, ensure that backpack is packed with all the necessary snacks, lunch, water bottle, assignments, and supplies. **Limit Morning Distractions:** Avoid distractions like TV, video games, or social media in the morning. Focus on getting ready and having breakfast.
- **Account for Traffic:** Account for traffic conditions and plan to leave a few minutes earlier if necessary.
- **Promote Independence:** Encourage your child to take on age-appropriate responsibilities in their morning routine. This can include getting dressed on their own, making their bed, or preparing a simple breakfast.
- **Check the School Schedule:** Be aware of any special events or early start times at the school. Make sure your child is informed and prepared for these exceptions.
- **Be a Role Model:** Children often learn by example. Demonstrate punctuality and good time management yourself so that your child sees the importance of arriving on time.



Your support and guidance as a parent are essential in allowing the day in our classrooms to begin on time, with no distractions to students ready to learn. **We would also ask that you try to make appointments outside of school time.**



Opportunity to purchase your WESTCOT Athletic Hoodie Thank you **WPAC** for providing an opportunity to purchase a Westcot Hoodie. Click [HERE](#), login and Go to Fundraising Open to order and make your payment. The first round of orders **closes Saturday!** Sweatshirts will be delivered in late October.

Fun Lunch Fun Lunch ordering at Westcot is now open for hot lunch orders that will be delivered to school every Monday ~ Thursday with a rotating menu in each week. To order, click [HERE](#). After making your selections please go the very last menu > click 'Finished' > Next > Submit. Then follow the steps to make your online payment. **Please note that only paid orders will be processed.** Please only create an order if you are prepared to pay at the same time. In order to receive lunch on Oct 3rd, you will need to finish the order by Sep 23rd. Please note there is a 10 day window between an order and when lunch will begin at school.



If you have any questions, please email westcotlunch@gmail.com. Please remember to send all necessary cutlery with your child. Cutlery will not be provided. Thank-you for supporting Westcot PAC!

■ First lunch day: Tuesday, October 3rd 2023

Bringing Your Own Cutlery Please make sure your child is bringing their own cutlery. We also want to remind you that the "pack-it-in/pack-it-out" policy is in effect which means that students are expected to pack out their lunch waste, such as leftover food and lunch containers. Students must bring their own food and drink at the start of the school day; this includes snacks, lunch, and water bottles. There will be no sharing of food or drink and there will be no mid-day drop offs and deliveries of food items (or any other items). We are a Nut Aware school. Please do not send nut based foods in students snacks or lunches.

Orange Shirt Day – September 29th Orange Shirt Day will take place on September 29. We encourage all students to wear an Orange Shirt. Orange Shirt Day is an Indigenous-led grassroots commemorative day that honours the children who survived Indian Residential Schools and remembers those who did not. This day relates to the experience of Phyllis Webstad, a Northern Secwepemc (Shuswap) from the Stswecem'c Xgat'tem First Nation, on her first day of school, where she arrived dressed in a new orange shirt, which was taken from her. It is now a symbol of the stripping away of culture, freedom and self-esteem experienced by Indigenous children over generations. Canadians are invited to wear an orange shirt to acknowledge the painful legacy of residential schools and the harm that Canada's residential school system continues to have on generations of Indigenous families and their communities. ([Government of Canada](#))



At Westcot, CH'TL'AM, many of our students will have their own Westcot Orange Shirt designed to reflect our commitment to recognize that Every Child Matters in our school community. We will continue to develop and culture that understanding this week with all of our students. Our Welcome Garden and plaque at the front of our school details the work done by our community on June 1st, 2020 calling to mind the precious lives of children tragically lost. We commit to ongoing stewardship by the Westcot community.



Spakwus Siolem, (translated, "Eagle Song Dancers"), are members of the Squamish Nation. We are grateful to have **Spakwus Siolem** present songs and dances of yesterday, with all of our students at an Assembly in the afternoon.

District Events



Kindergarten Information Session

WELCOME TO YOUR FUTURE

Opportunity awaits!

Parents & Guardians of children entering Kindergarten in September 2024 (children born in 2019) are invited to join us for our K Info session.

Please join us for an evening with community partners and school district staff to learn about the Kindergarten registration process and early Learning offerings in our community.

This event is for parents and guardians only, please note that child care will not be available.

PLEASE REGISTER HERE

Date: Thursday, October 5th, 2023 6:30-7:30 pm
Location: Kay Meek Studio Theatre, 1700 Mathers Avenue, West Vancouver

K registration for the 24/25 year opens on Monday, October 16th

www.wvschools.ca

Community Connections



The WVML September / October 2023 e-newsletter for kids, families and educators is here!

[September/October 2023 Update from WVML \(patronpoint.com\)](#)

This issue features programs and resources related to the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, an exciting Youth Department space planning project and so much more! **Everything is free, open to all and no library card is required.**

September	29	Orange Shirt Day	1:15 pm Assembly with The Eagle Song Dancers
October	2	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (Schools Closed)	
	4	Parent Teacher Interviews 11:30 Dismissal	
	5	Parent Teacher Interviews 11:30 Dismissal	
	9	Thanksgiving Day Holiday (Schools Closed)	
	19	Shake Out BC Earthquake Drill	
	20	Provincial Professional Development Day (No school for students)	
	23- 27	Bollywood Workshops	
	25	WPAC Meeting 9:30 am (Virtual)	
	27	Photo Retakes	
	31	Halloween	



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