

Thursday, October 19, 2023

Westcot Weekly Bulletin

School 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.

District Website



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**.

Provincial Professional Development Day No School for students Friday, October 20th.

Opportunity to purchase your WESTCOT Athletic Hoodie Thank you **WPAC** for providing another opportunity to purchase a Westcot Hoodie for those that missed the first deadline. Click [HERE](#), login and Go to Fundraising Open to order and make your payment. This first round of orders will close on Nov 3rd to allow for delivery before Christmas. We have an exciting new offering... Introducing the **WESTCOT Beanie**. Our new Beanie can be ordered [HERE](#) Thank you to our Westcot students for choosing the logo for our Beanies. GO TIGERS all the way!



Bollywood Dancing at Westcot Thank you to our WPAC for sponsoring this amazing opportunity for us at Westcot. **Bollywood Week is Oct. 23 - 27th**. Karima Essa is a three-time Canadian National Dance champion and Vancouver's very own Bollywood star. An incredibly charismatic and passionate performer, choreographer and instructor, she has used her one-of-a-kind Bollywood talent to entertain diverse audiences at festivals, theatres and in schools across Canada.



Diwali: Festival of Lights - November 12, 2023. This year our students at Westcot will have the opportunity to learn about India's biggest holiday of the year. Diwali, or Dipawali, is **India's** biggest and most important holiday of the year. The festival gets its name from the row (*avali*) of clay lamps (*deepa*) that Indians light outside their homes to symbolize the inner light that protects from spiritual darkness. Over the centuries, Diwali has become a national festival that's also enjoyed by non-Hindu communities. For instance, in Jainism, Diwali marks the nirvana, or spiritual awakening, of Lord Mahavira on October 15, 527 B.C.; in Sikhism, it honors the day that Guru Hargobind Ji, the Sixth Sikh Guru, was freed from imprisonment. Buddhists in India celebrate Diwali as well. If you would like to help organize a display of information in the library for our students or have ideas about how we can share Diwali with our Westcot Community please reach out to Karen Parhar karenparhar@hotmail.com (Karina, Rianna and Hannah's Mom)

Westcot After School Ski Group Grouse Mountain conducts group lessons on weekdays for schoolchildren (7+ y.o.) led by certified instructors. The price for a 4-day program is very attractive: \$200-220 per student, including tax, depending on the day of the week. The minimum number of kids in a group is 15. This grants 2 free passes for supervising parents. **It's not too late to join the conversation.**, the parents created the WhatsApp group to coordinate skiing activities for kids. Anyone can join by this link: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/BCZbPQwMrRcLTt3RdsLeq>. The program details are available here: <https://www.grousemountain.com/school-group-lessons>.



Created by Kids Over the next week our students are bringing home their completed art work for our WPAC **Created by Kids** fundraising opportunity. Created by Kids will take the artwork created by our students in class and provide families with an opportunity to order a choice of products where our student creations are featured. The order form is on the back of the page. Orders are submitted online. **Families who have ordered online are asked to return the original art to school.** All orders must be back in the office by Monday, Nov 2nd **** It is very important that original artwork is not folded.**

Westcot Parent Advisory Council (WPAC) Meeting - Wednesday Oct 25th 9:30 am

Please join us virtually for the second Westcot Parent Advisory Committee Meeting of the 2023 – 2024 school year. Meet our WPAC Executive. Hear from our Principal Mrs. Ratz about some of the exciting plans for the first term - Bollywood, Diwali, Family Teams, New Reporting Order, Feeding Futures, Remembrance Day Assembly Learn more about WPAC **Funraising** plans for this school year. Connect with other Westcot parents.



Microsoft Teams meeting

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Calling for Scholastic Book Fair Volunteers Parents, our Scholastic Book Fair is fast approaching. This is always a very exciting time in our school, but it takes a whole team to pull it off successfully. Mrs. Hunt and Mrs. McKay are hoping for parent volunteers to help us with book fair sales during this happy, busy time. Please let us know if you can help on any of these dates by emailing Mrs. Hunt: jhunt@wvschools.ca

Tuesday, November 7th 8:40-12

Tuesday, November 7th 12:30 - 3:00

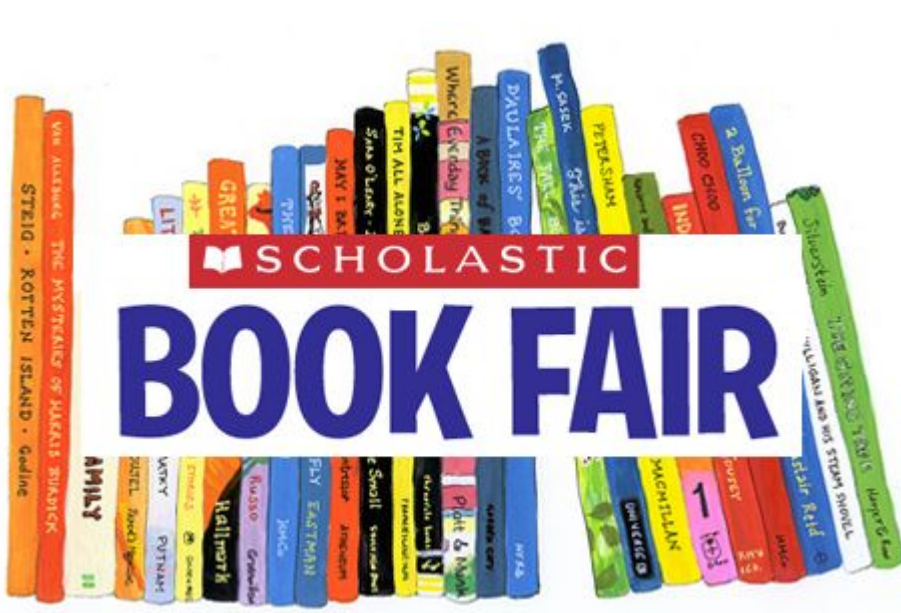
Tuesday, November 7th 2:45 - 4:15

Thursday, November 9th 8:40 - 12

Thursday, November 9th 12:30 - 3:00

Friday, November 10th 8:40 - 11:00

Friday, November 10th 12:30 - 3:00



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. 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!



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.**

District Events

Kindergarten and In-Catchment Gr 1-7 Registration For 2024-25 School Year Opens October 16th

If you, or anyone you know, has a child born in 2019, please note that registration for Kindergarten 2024/25 opens at 8:00am, Monday October 16th. Registration also opens at this time for any in-catchment families with children going into Grades 1-7. The online registration application can be found [HERE](#) after 8:00 am on October 16th. Please note out of catchment Grade 1-7 registrations and out of district applications for secondary schools are not accepted until January 15, 2024.

Community Connections



West Vancouver Minor Hockey Association's 3rd annual 'Girl Power' event is Friday, October 20th from 1 - 4 p.m. at West Van Arena. This **FREE** event is open to all girls living in West Van from 5 - 18 years of age. No experience is necessary! There will be on-ice and off-ice sessions and even a pizza party! Gear will be provided for those new to the sport. That evening all interested girls can attend a UBC Thunderbirds female hockey game vs Trinity Western (transportation not provided). Tickets are free for Girl Power participants + 1 adult each! Please register [HERE](#) by October 16th or as soon as possible to secure your spot.

October	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
November	6-10	Scholastic Book Fair
	10	Remembrance Day Assembly 11:00
	13	Remembrance Day Holiday (Schools Closed)
	14	Reading Break (Schools Closed)
December	4	Professional Development Day (No school for students)
	7	Immunization (Grade 6)
	8	Communicating Student Learning Term 1 Reports



Follow us on X (formerly twitter) Check out our Westcot page: https://twitter.com/westcot_school . **Follow us to share in the stories of our learning.**

