

Thursday, November 23, 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**.



Thank you Westcot Community Our Westcot book fair was a whirlwind of activity and was highly successful. Mrs. Hunt and Mrs. McKay are especially grateful to their dedicated team of helpers who handled money, kept things organized and were cheerful book ambassadors! We selected \$1000 of books for the library from the book fair, we have another \$1000 to spend in Scholastic product, and we took \$500 to buy books from other vendors. **Thank you for sharing the joy of reading and for supporting this important library fundraiser.**

Sounds of the Season Concert K - 3 and Choir: Our Westcot choir and Kindergarten - Grade 3 classes will be performing 2 shows on **Thursday, December 14th**, one at 9:15 am and a repeat at 1:15 pm. Kindergarten - Grade 3 families are invited to go to School Cash Online to purchase a maximum of 4 tickets. (2 per show or 4 at either the AM or PM show). Choir students will have the option of purchasing a maximum of 2 tickets (1 per show or 2 at either the AM or PM show).



Annual Christmas Sing a Long: Mr. Mee and Ms. Kwan's Grade 4 class will lead us in all of the Seasonal Favourites **December 22nd** at 11:00 am. Throw in a Pyjama Day and Early Dismissal and we have a perfect way to kick off the holidays.



Grade 7 Food Drive Why is it important to meet the needs of those who need help in society, and how can we use empathy to help us do this? Wednesday of this week our Grade 7 classes met with Joe McGuiness from the Harvest Project. Joe shared that our students could actively help save lives and improve close to home. **In the spirit of giving and giving back our Grade 7 classes will organize a FOOD Drive running from Friday November 24th until Friday December 15th** Non-perishable food items are being collected. Look for the bins in the main lobby. Every grade has its own drop box outside their classroom as well.



“Extending a Hand Up, Not a Hand-Out”

“Helping Families in Need for 30 Years”

MOST NEEDED ITEMS

Canned Fruit and Fruit Cups	Toothbrushes (individually packed)
Peanut Butter & Spreads	Toothpaste (regular size)
Cookies, Crackers, Granola Bars	Soap, Shampoo, Conditioner
Coffee (1lb pack ground)	Toilet Paper
Flour, Sugar, Salt, Pepper (All 1-2lb packs maximum)	Feminine Hygiene Products
Oil, Vinegar (500ml)	Disposable Razors
Breakfast Cereals	Dish Soap
Soup Broth / Bouillon	
Rice (1lb bags)	

Winter Weather and School Closures West Vancouver Schools endeavours to keep schools open on regular instructional days, including those with accumulating snowfall ([Weather Closures and Procedures](#)). Any decision to close schools will be made by the Superintendent and will be based on the safety of students and staff. We aim to communicate any decision to close schools by 6:00 am.

Please check the [school district website](#) for the most current information on school closures.

School closures may also appear on several local news sources including:

News 1130	http://www.news1130.com/
CKNW 98	http://www.cknw.com/news/
Global TV	http://globalnews.ca/live/bc/
CBC	http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia



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 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](#). Please note out of catchment Grade 1-7 registrations and out of district applications for secondary schools are not accepted until January 15, 2024.

As part of the Ministry of Education and Childcare [Feeding Futures initiative](#), the West Vancouver School District has established a food security structure to confidentially assist students and families. The West Vancouver School District Food Security Plan will help students and families by providing confidential financial support for families facing food insecurity. Families are encouraged to reach out directly to their school principal cratz@wvschools.ca if they need support with food-related costs. Please be assured that all requests will be addressed with sensitivity, respect and confidentiality.

Community Connections

Your Input is Important: On behalf of the **Ministry of Education and Child Care**, we are sharing the **survey information** below to help inform the Province's [ChildCareBC](#) initiatives:

We know that many families depend on school-age child care to ensure their children have a quality, affordable, and inclusive place to be during a parent's full work day. That is why the Province's [ChildCareBC plan](#) is working to expand access to child care for all families that want and need it. The Ministry of Education and Child Care is conducting a parent survey to better understand the regional and provincial demand for school age child care. While we know there is unmet demand for school-aged child care, there is no current provincial or regional data quantifying the demand. Your participation will help the Province plan for future school-aged child care expansions. This survey is intended for all parents, regardless of the type of child care you currently use or even if you are not using any child care at all. **Who should fill out this survey?** If you have children attending Kindergarten to Grade 7 at a B.C. school, we want to hear from you about your family's child care needs. **What will this survey be used for?** The survey results will be used to support planning for future initiatives under the ChildCareBC plan. All responses are voluntary and anonymous; you and your child will not be identified as a result of your participation in the survey. Information received will be combined and shared with your school and district as a summary.

How do I complete the survey? The survey is now available online at:

<https://www.awinfosys.com/surveyfull3/minofed/main/SchoolAgeParents.asp?SchoolNumber=1173>

and is available in 18 languages. The survey will take 10-15 minutes to complete and is available starting November 21 Please only complete the survey once. The link is intended especially for you. Please do not share the link with anyone else. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at ChildCareBC.Engagement@gov.bc.ca. If you encounter any technical difficulties, please contact the web survey provider (AWIS) at support@awinfosys.com. We greatly appreciate your input and thank you in advance for your participation.

Sincerely,

Ministry of Education and Child Care

November	29	Westcot Wednesday Feeding Futures K - 3 Snack Hummus and Baby Carrots
December	4	Professional Development Day (No school for students)
	7	Immunization (Grade 6)
	8	Communicating Student Learning Term 1 Reports
	14	K - 3 Sounds of the Season with the Grade 7 Band and Westcot Choir 9:15 and 1:15
	22	Last Day Before Winter Break Dismissal 12:00 Annual Christmas Sing a Long 11:00
January	8	School Reopens
	10	WPAC Meeting 9:30 Virtually
	29	Professional Development Day (No school for students)
February	2	Lunar New Year Event
	16	Reading Break (Schools Closed)
	19	Family Day Holiday (Schools Closed)



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.**

