

School Website

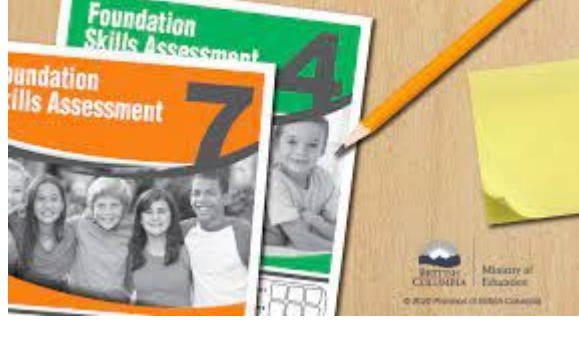
District Website



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.

Foundational Skills Assessment Foundational Skills Assessments (FSAs)

are for Grade 4 and 7 students. From October 2 to November 8 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



Typing Pal What is it? Typing Pal School Edition is a web-based application that encourages keyboarding practice for students, from beginner to intermediate. We are making this available to all students from Kindergarten to Grade 9.

Students should go to the unique url for their school: [Typing Pal](#) and choose "Log in with Google." If students have more than one Google account, they will be asked to choose their account - they should choose the school one. When students first log in they are prompted to take a diagnostic type of test that will give the program an idea of where to start them. From there, the program will cater to each students' speed/ability. **Happy typing!**



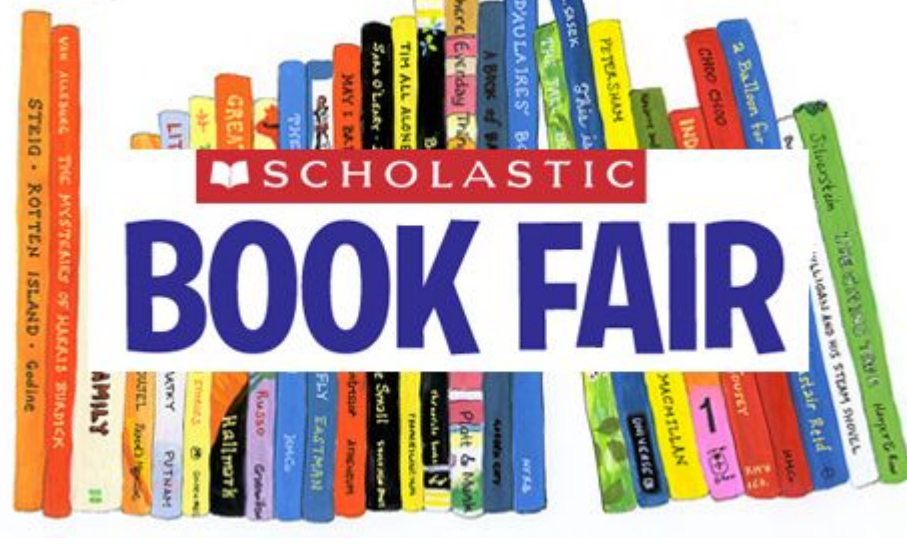
Caribou Math Updates Congratulations Westcot! We have a record number of students Kindergarten - Grade 7 who wish to participate in Caribou Math Contests this year. By now all students will have an access code and are able to visit the site and access previous tests in preparation for our First test on October 16th. Practise tests can be accessed [HERE](#). Written and visual solutions are also available. Before test day all students are advised to login and explore the site. On test days, contests will be completed at home with the test opening at 7:30 am. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to reach out to Mrs. Ratz. cratz@wvschools.ca

Our WPAC Westcot Parent Advisory Committee depends on the kindness of many volunteers to run the various events and programs offered to enhance learning and opportunities. Thank you to the parents who have volunteered to share a Welcome Back Courtyard Cafe on Opening Day, make our Hot Lunch Program roll out so smoothly, coordinate Sweatshirt, Band and Choir orders, inventory our Emergency Preparedness sheds, organize Created by Kids (stay tuned), prepared the WPAC budget reports, attended our first WPAC meeting and arranged a staff lunch for World Teachers Day. WPAC will be putting out calls for volunteers as the need arises. There are big jobs and small jobs; ongoing or one-time; day and evening. There is no obligation to add your name to the Volunteer Form. This list will be used as events and opportunities arise. Would you like to get involved in some of the exciting events at Westcot? We'd love to have you. Please sign up [HERE](#).



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 5th 8:40 - 12:20
- Tuesday, November 5th 12:45- 2:40
- Tuesday, November 5th 2:30 - 4:15
- Thursday, November 7th 8:40 - 12:20
- Thursday, November 7th 12:45- 2:40
- Friday, November 9th 8:40 - 12:20
- Friday, November 9th 12:45 - 2:40



Westcot Parent Advisory Council (WPAC) Meeting - Wednesday Oct 16th 9:30 am

Please join us virtually for the second Westcot Parent Advisory Committee Meeting of the 2024 – 2025 school year. Meet our WPAC Executive. Hear from our Principal Mrs. Ratz about some of the exciting plans for the first term - Family Teams, Feeding Futures/Grab and Grow, Caribou Math, Band, Choir, Cross Country, Volleyball, Primary Halloween Parade, Remembrance Day Assembly, Learn more about WPAC **Funraising** (Sweatshirts, Created by Kids) in progress as well as plans for this school year. Connect with other Westcot parents.

Microsoft Teams meeting [Join the meeting now](#)

Diwali: Festival of Lights - November 1, 2024.

This year our students at Westcot will have the opportunity to learn more 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 (Rianna and Hannah's Mom)



Fun Lunch Fun Lunch ordering at Westcot is open for hot lunch orders that will be delivered to school every Monday ~ Friday 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/ be available 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

Feeding Futures 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 or to feedingfutures@wvschools.ca if they need support with food-related costs. Please be assured that all requests will be addressed with sensitivity, respect, and confidentiality.

West Vancouver Schools Admissions 2025/2026 admissions opens on Tuesday October 15th at 8:00 am for all Kindergarten students and all Grade 1 –12 In-catchment students. Admissions for Out-of-Catchment and Out-of-District students opens on at 8:00 am on Wednesday, January 15th, 2025. For more information about admissions dates, guidelines and information, please visit <https://westvancouver.schools.ca/admissions/> **Please carefully read the information regarding new documentation procedures before starting the application process.**

Community Connections

We are changing how we share community news and events. Starting now, individual "Community Connections" will no longer be included in our school bulletins. Instead, all local programs, events, and resources will be found in one convenient location, accessible through a [single link](#) that our District will update and share each week.

All school-specific information will continue to be featured in our regular ebulletin.

October	14	Thanksgiving Day Holiday (Schools Closed)
	16	WPAC Meeting 9:30 am VIRTUAL
	17	Earthquake Drill Shake Out BC
	24	Photo Retake Day
	25	Provincial Professional Development Day (No school for students)
November	4-7	Scholastic Book Fair
	8	Remembrance Day Assembly 11:00 am
	11	Remembrance Day Holiday (Schools Closed)
	12	Professional Development Day (No school for students)
	20	WPAC Meeting 9:30 am VIRTUAL
December	6	Communicating Student Learning Term 1 Report Cards
	16	Grade 6 Immunizations
	20	Last Day Before Winter Holiday Early Dismissal 12:00 pm

