

WESTCOT WEEKLY



Principal's Message

Dear Westcot Families,

What a magical week it has been at our school—filled with festive fun, joyful moments, and wonderful learning together.



Thank you so much for your patience and flexibility during the power outages this week. We truly appreciate the support and understanding of our families as we navigated those unexpected moments together.

As we head into the holidays, we wish you all a Happy Holidays filled with rest, connection, and special time with loved ones. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in the new year.

Warmest wishes,
Ms. Martinez & Ms. Morton

Don't Forget
**Early Dismissal
Dec. 19**

[School Website](#)

[District Website](#)

Sing-a-Long

Westcot Holiday Sing-a-Long Friday, Dec. 19th at 11:00am. Join us for our annual Westcot Holiday Sing-a-Long. This year we are once again invited to join in wearing our Pyjamas, Santa Hats, Antlers..., a school wide Pyjama Day and Sing-a-Long! we will wrap up our first term with holiday cheer! All students K - 7 students will be dismissed at 12:00 p.m. following the assembly.



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Westcot Elementary School

Please click on the following private
unlisted links to view the recording of the
Sounds of the Season Holiday Showcase

Part 1 Sounds of the Season

Part 2 - Sounds of the Season

Part 3 - Sounds of the Season



GRADE 7 STUDENTS



SAVE THE DATE!

FOR OUR ANNUAL

INFORMATION NIGHT FOR
INCOMING GRADE 8 STUDENTS AND
FAMILIES



Date: Wednesday, January 7th, 2026
Time: 6:30 - 8:30 pm
Where: Sentinel Secondary
1250 Chartwell Drive, West Vancouver



SAVE THE DATE!

FOR OUR ANNUAL

INFORMATION NIGHT FOR
INCOMING GRADE 8 STUDENTS AND
FAMILIES



Date: Tuesday, January 6th, 2026
Time: 6:30 - 8:30pm
Where: Kay Meek Theatre
1700 Mathers Avenue, West Vancouver



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HOT LUNCH

Ordering Opens September 12



- Tacos on Monday
- White Spot on Tuesday
- Inncognito on Wednesday
- Boston Pizza on Thursday
- Aburi Market on Friday



Community Connections & Events



WHAT'S THE WESTCOT PAC ALL ABOUT?

The Westcot Parent Advisory Council (PAC) is made up of every parent and guardian at Westcot. If you have a child at the school, you're already part of the PAC. Our executive team simply helps coordinate efforts and act as a bridge between families, school staff, and administration — but the PAC is all of us, working together to make Westcot the best it can be for our kids.

We focus on collaboration, inclusivity, and transparency, always keeping students at the heart of what we do. Our fundraising and community-building events are designed to be meaningful, manageable, and aligned with the school's goals. It's not just about raising money — it's about bringing families together and helping every student feel supported and connected.

What does the PAC do?

The PAC helps make school life more fun, connected, and enriching. We've supported learning opportunities like Bollywood dance workshops, ArtStarts performances (including Goh Ballet), and guest speakers for Orange Shirt Day. We also love bringing our community together through events like Courtyard Coffee on the first day of school — welcoming both new and returning families — and showing appreciation for our amazing teachers with World Teachers' Day lunches. And of course, we can't forget the always-popular Spring Fling!

Everything we do is about building community, supporting our students, and celebrating what makes Westcot such a warm and vibrant place to learn and grow.

Want to get involved? You're invited!

Whether you have an hour to spare or want to dive in more regularly, there's a place for you. Every parent is welcome, and every contribution makes a difference.

If you're interested in helping out, you can sign up [here](#).



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Important

Student Privacy



We are so grateful for the strong sense of community at our school and truly appreciate parents and guardians for being present and engaged in school life. To help protect student privacy and ensure that all children feel safe and comfortable, please do not photograph or film other people's children during school activities or on the school property. This includes concerts, assemblies, sports, field trips, the field and the playground. As a school community, we are committed to respecting the privacy of all students and staff. In addition to this, if you have a concern about a student, please speak directly your child's teacher or Ms. Martinez or Ms. Morton. Parents/guardians should not approach or correct other families' children. Thank you for helping us keep every child safe, respected and supported.



WESTCOT TRAFFIC SAFETY



Pick up and Drop Off

Thank you to all the families who help to keep our pick up and drop off as quick and orderly as possible. Thank you for having backpacks ready, coats on and having students exit quickly when you in a Drop only Zone. Thank you for not blocking driveways or parking on sidewalks and curbs and thank you for never stopping to let your children off in the middle of the road. Just a few reminders to keep in mind to keep our students safe, traffic flowing and neighbours happy.

- Please avoid getting out of your car in our 2 drop student zones. We have room for 6 cars in these spots. Move forward and merge quickly to free the spot. (One marked yellow in this photo).
 - Please do not enter the staff driveway at any time - before/after school, when using Before and After School Care or at mid day pick ups....
 - Use the Accessible spaces only if you are entitled to them, we have students and families who need them. Even for a quick stop - it's not ok.
- Do not park in front the cross walk. We need to keep sight-lines clear.
- Please be respectful of the privilege of parking at St. David's Church while we are still able to do so.. Park in designated spots, respect no parking zones and make your pick up and drop of quick.



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DISTRICT WEATHER PROCEDURES

With winter approaching, please be aware of our weather-related closure process. The district aims to keep schools open. Any decision to close schools for the safety of children will be made by the Superintendent. Parents, students, and staff will be informed of the Superintendent's decision via the school district website at www.westvancouver.schools.ca and a School Messenger email. We endeavour to communicate this information to parents and staff by 6:00 a.m. on the day of closure.

West Vancouver Schools
Parent & Guardian's Guide to Personal Digital Devices

Personal Digital Devices include any personal electronic device that can be used to communicate or to access the Internet, such as cell phones, phones, laptops, tablets, smartwatches and any other portable technology device.

Laptops are the preferred device for school use.

While digital devices can enhance learning in many ways, allowing students to collaborate, create and communicate, it is important that they are used in a mindful and meaningful way.


Personal digital devices should only be used with the permission of a teacher or administrator. Additional considerations will be made to provide for student's health and accessibility needs, and accommodation requirements.

Elementary
Cell phones should NOT be used in elementary school.

Secondary
Cell phones should only be used in class if specifically required for a learning task.

What can parents and guardians do to help?

- Understand the digital device expectations at your child's school
- Support and encourage your child's appropriate use of digital devices
- Refrain from contacting your child during the school day. If it's an emergency, contact the school office
- Personally model and encourage digital device boundaries



Personal Digital Devices Reminders

Over the first term, students and staff have worked hard to follow the West Vancouver Schools Personal Digital Device (PDD) expectations. Classrooms are more focused, transitions are smoother, and students tell us they can concentrate better without the pull of their phones. Thank you to families for reinforcing these habits at home. As we return to school after the winter break, please help us keep this momentum going by reminding your children of the digital device expectations while at school.

What's expected at school:

- Elementary (K-7): Cell phones are not used during the school day, including before and after school and at recess and lunch times. Laptops may be used to support learning during instructional time, only with explicit staff permission.
- Secondary (8-12): Cell phones and other digital devices should only be used during instructional time with explicit staff permission. Device use should be intentional, supervised, and tied to learning.

How families can help:

Parents and guardians are encouraged to support schools by demonstrating these expectations whenever possible. This includes limiting adult cell phone use in and around school and refraining from contacting your child during school hours.

For a one-page overview of expectations, [see our Parent & Guardian Infographic](#).





Westcot HIGHLIGHTS



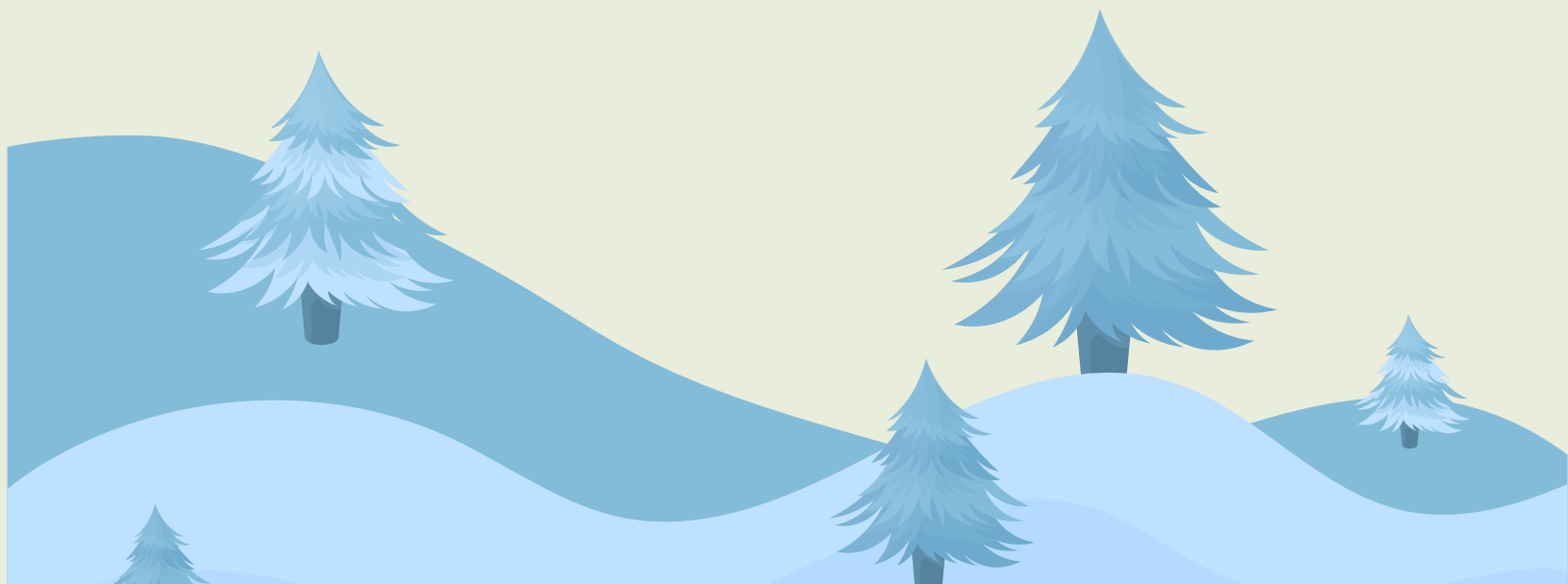
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Calendar



December	19	Last day before Winter Break - School Wide PJ Day! (early dismissal 12:00pm)
January	5	School reopens
	14	WPAC Meeting 9:30am
	30	Professional Development Day
February	10	Lunar New Year Celebration
	13	Reading Break
	16	Family Day Holiday



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