

WESTCOT WEEKLY



Principal's Message

Happy New Year, Westcot Families!

It has been such a joy welcoming students and families back to Westcot this week. The energy and positivity in the building have been wonderful to see.

As we look ahead to 2026, we are excited for another year of learning, connection, and community. Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

Warm wishes for a happy and healthy year ahead!

Ms. Martinez & Ms. Morton



Don't
Forget!

**WPAC
Meeting
Jan. 14th**

[School Website](#)

[District Website](#)

PAC MEETING LINK

CLICK
HERE

WPAC Meeting Please join us for our Westcot Parent Advisory Committee VIRTUAL Meeting Wednesday, January 14th at 9:30 a.m. Come to learn more about plans for the Second and Third Terms at Westcot. There are exciting plans for Lunar New Year, Norooz, Spring Fling, and more!

Come learn about how you can get involved.



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West Vancouver Schools

Parent & Guardian's Guide to Personal Digital Devices



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.

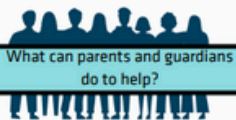
Personal digital devices should only be used with the permission of a teacher or administrator. Additional considerations will be made to provide for student's health and accessibility needs, and accommodation requirements.

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?



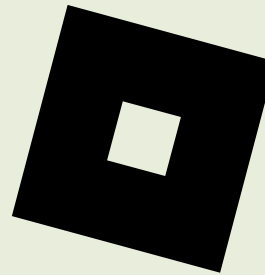
- Understand the digital device expectations at your child's school
- Support and encourage your child's appropriate use of digital devices
- Refrain from contacting your child during the school day. If it's an emergency, contact the school office
- Personally model and encourage digital device boundaries



Social Media & Digital | West Vancouver Schools

Please view our Video Resources for information about WVS throughout the years

westvancouver.schools.ca



Roblox at School

West Vancouver Schools DOES NOT allow students to access Roblox while using school wifi.



Did You Know?

Experts who study sextortion and online predatory behaviour cite Roblox as a prime app for these "bad actors" to use to befriend victims. They will lure a child in by posing as a peer and then convince the child to "meet" them on another platform such as WhatsApp or Discord, where they can be more intimate. Boys between the ages of 9 and 15 are prime targets.



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.](#)



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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](#)



Westcot Elementary School



West Vancouver Schools Admissions Information

K-12 admission applications for both in-district and out-of-district students opens on January 15!
If you have students in your family or network who are looking to join our district, please help
spread the word about this important date.

West Vancouver Schools offer a wonderful opportunity to be part of a community that values
excellence in education. Our schools take pride in creating meaningful learning experiences and
providing opportunities that support the growth, well-being, and success of every student.
To learn more about registration expectations and processes, please visit our admissions page:

[West Vancouver Schools Admissions](#)

We look forward to welcoming new students and families to our
vibrant and supportive school community!



WESTVANRUN

West Van Run! March 7th and 8th

We invite students and families to take part in this fun, community run and
enjoy special discounted registration. Parents and students can register for
\$45 using the code WVSCHOOLS, and children can join the Kids 1K for \$15
using the code WVKIDS. These codes can also be used by other family
members who would like to participate.

Whether you prefer walking, jogging, or running, this event welcomes all
ages and abilities. It's a great way for families to be active together and
supports our shared commitment to health and well-being across West
Vancouver Schools.

Register here - <https://www.westvanrun.com/schools>



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Important

Student Privacy



Westcot Elementary School

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.



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.



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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DPAC

parent evening with Sarah Ward on Executive Functioning

Wednesday, January 28th
\$20 per ticket

Sarah Ward is an internationally recognized expert in executive function. Her practical, research-informed strategies are widely regarded as groundbreaking in supporting student learning and independence.

Drawing from executive function coaching approaches used with elementary, secondary, post-secondary students and adults, this session will help build academic success by exploring time management, task prioritization, long-term project planning and the development of independent learning habits.

REGISTER HERE

KAY MEEK THEATRE
1700 MATHERS AVE
WEST VANCOUVER

6:30 -
8:30 PM



What Parents will Gain From This Evening



Understand

Parents will gain a clear, reassuring understanding of how executive function skills develop over time, why children may struggle with organization and time management, and what is developmentally typical at different ages.



Learn

Parents will learn practical, easy-to-use strategies they can apply at home to strengthen their child's time awareness, organization, study routines and follow-through for academic success.



WEST
VANCOUVER
SCHOOLS

DPAC



HOT LUNCH



Ordering Open! Please note there is a 10 day window between an order and when lunch will begin/ be available at school.

Click
here

- Tacos on Monday
- White Spot on Tuesday
- Inncognato 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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Westcot HIGHLIGHTS



Calendar

January	14	WPAC Meeting 9:30am
	30	Professional Development Day
February	10	Lunar New Year Celebration
	13	Reading Break
	16	Family Day Holiday
	18	WPAC Meeting 9:30am
	25	Pink Shirt Day



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