



WESTCOT WEEKLY

Principal's Message

Dear Westcot community,

We have had a wonderful week! Our students brought incredible energy and heart to this year's Terry Fox Run, while our cross-country runners hit the ground running with fantastic participation at practices and meets. Inside the building, classes are enjoying regular visits to the library to foster a love of reading, and our band program is officially up and running with music filling the halls once again. As a reminder, tomorrow is a Pro-D Day, so there will be no school for students—we hope everyone enjoys the extended weekend, and we look forward to seeing everyone back on Monday!

Ms. Morton and Ms. Martinez



WESTCOT
ELEMENTARY

Don't
Forget!

SCHOOL HOURS
8:45AM WARNING BELL
8:50AM SCHOOL DAY BEGINS
2:50PM DISMISSAL

[School Website](#)

[District Website](#)



Hot Lunch Ordering is OPEN
CLICK HERE

Monday: Tacos, from Nornelia Fine Tacos
Tuesday: Burgers and hotdogs from Whitespot
Wednesday: Japanese food from Aburi Market
Thursday: Pizza from Boston Pizza
Friday: Chinese food from B-Box

WPAC Announcements
WhatsApp group



@westcot_school



@westcot_elementary

PHYSICAL LITERACY AT WESTCOT



District Physical Literacy Teachers Visit for Playground Safety

Last Thursday, our district physical literacy teachers Amber and Erin headed out to the playground with our Grades 1–4 classes for a hands-on lesson on playground safety. Working directly on the equipment, they shared three essential rules to help keep our students safe during recess:

- Ask yourself, "Is this safe?" Encouraging students to pause and think before trying new movements or tackling new structures.
- If you can get up, you need to get down. Reminding children that if they climb somewhere independently, they should also be able to safely navigate their way back down.
- Bend your knees when you land. Practicing proper landing techniques right on the play structure to absorb impact and prevent injuries.

A big thank you to Amber and Erin for bringing learning outdoors and equipping our students with these practical safety habits!



Cross Country (Grades 3–7)

Join Westcot Cross Country to build fitness, fun, and school spirit! Parents are welcome to join practice runs.

Schedule

- Practices:
 - Fridays (Sept 11, 18): 7:45–8:20 AM @ John Lawson Park
 - Wednesdays (Sept 16, 23): 8:10–8:40 AM @ Westcot
- Race Meets: Tuesdays (Sept 15, 22, 29) from 3:30–4:45 PM @ Ambleside Park (Pay parking in effect)

Key Info

- Gear: Weather-appropriate clothes, running shoes, water bottle, and a green Westcot shirt (\$10 at the office, required for races).
- Timing: Arrive on time; prompt 8:20 AM pickup at John Lawson is required. Runs happen rain or shine!



@westcot_school



@westcot_elementary

WESTCOT TRAFFIC SAFETY

UNDER
CONSTRUCTION



IMPORTANT NOTICE

Road closure on Westcot Road will continue into September. Please note Westcot Road will be open before 9:00am and after 2:00pm during school days. Please make every effort to arrive at school by 8:45am and utilize the Drive to 5 "park and walk in" as much as possible to help ensure quick and efficient entry to the school

**PLEASE DO NOT
BLOCK THE
CROSSWALKS**



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.

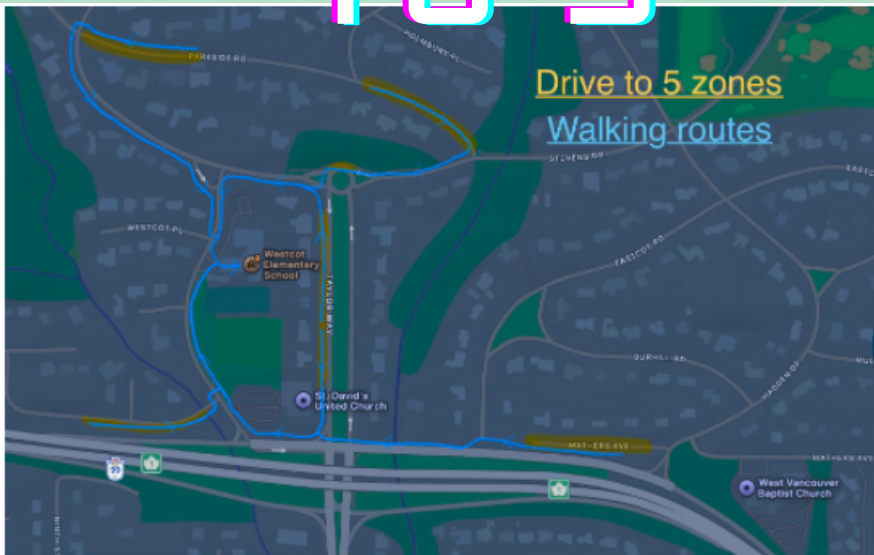
PLEASE
DRIVE
SAFELY AND
RESPECT
SIGNAGE IN
CHURCH
PARKING
LOT

**REMINDER:
NO DROPPING
OFF ON THE
HIGHWAY
ONRAMP**

**THIS IS VERY
UNSAFE**

DRIVE- TO-5

Drive to 5 zones
Walking routes



We're excited to share the Drive-To-5 initiative, a community effort to reduce traffic congestion and get our kids moving a little more each day!

The idea is simple: instead of dropping off and picking up your child at Westcot Rd, drive to a spot about a 5-minute walk away and let your child walk the rest of the way. For younger children, parents are encouraged to walk with them to and from school to where the car is parked.

We've included a map with suggested Drive-To-5 zones and walking routes to help you find the best fit for you.

The more families who join in, the more kids can walk together!



@westcot_school



@westcot_elementary

OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

A safe, welcoming and inclusive school community is something **we create together**. We ask families to review our Codes of Conduct together and talk about what respectful, responsible and caring participation in our community looks like. These expectations apply to **all members of our school community—learners, staff, families and visitors.**

Student Absences

Please Call the Callback Line 604-981-1276. (Not the Office Please) 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.



Conduct For Parents & Guardians

1 Respectful Communication

Parents & guardians are expected to communicate respectfully and constructively with all members of the school community. This includes in person conversations, email, phone calls, etc.



2 Conduct on School Property

To help maintain a safe and welcoming school environment, parents & guardians must model appropriate behaviour for our students by using responsible language and actions. Adults will not approach or engage with another family's child to resolve conflicts, obtain information, or address concerns. Such matters should be directed to school staff or administration.

We ask that parents & guardians:

- Sign in upon arrival in the school
- Follow staff guidance and direction
- Refrain from entering classrooms without permission

3 Online Conduct

Parents & guardians must use digital communications—including email, social media, and school platforms—in a respectful and responsible way. This means not posting or sharing content that could harm others, such as comments that are unkind, misleading, or that share private information about students, families, or staff. Any online communication about members of the school community is expected to follow these same guidelines, no matter what platform is used.

4 Privacy and Confidentiality

Parents & guardians must respect the privacy of all students, families, and staff and must not share personal or identifying information about others without their knowledge and consent. This includes photos and recordings on any school property.



5 Supporting the Resolution of Concerns

When concerns arise, parents & guardians must follow the established resolution process:

1. Always start by discussing the concern with the adult directly involved (start with the source)
2. Engage with respect and in good faith
3. Respect all parties privacy
4. Work collaboratively to seek a resolution
5. Follow the above process before formal escalation



WESTCOT CODE OF CONDUCT

Safe | Kind | Inclusive | Responsible



At Westcot, learning happens best in a safe, orderly and positive environment. Respect and responsibility help every student feel safe, welcome and ready to learn.

1 Our Shared Values

- Respect yourself, others and the environment.
- Be kind, caring, safe and responsible.
- Take responsibility and be a positive bystander.
- Do your personal best and resolve conflicts peacefully.
- Value diversity, inclusion, tolerance and fairness.

2 Visitors & School Spaces

- Enter through the front doors, report to the office and sign in.
- Make arrangements before entering classrooms or other learning spaces.
- This includes the playground during recess, field and courtyard.
- Follow staff guidance to protect safety and learning.

3 Personal Digital Devices

Phones, smartwatches and other personal devices must be used appropriately throughout the school day, including before school, after school and break times. Staff may permit devices for learning, medical, accessibility or accommodation needs.

4 Conduct That Causes Harm

Conduct is unacceptable when it disrupts learning, disrespects others or creates unsafe conditions. Examples include intimidation, exclusion, bullying, offensive language, violence, theft or damage, weapons, and restricted substances.

5 Reflect, Repair & Restore

Westcot uses a restorative approach. When harm occurs, students are supported to:

- Identify who was affected and involve those who can help resolve the problem;
- Take responsibility, understand the impact and repair the harm;
- Reflect, self-correct and plan what to do differently next time.



Expectations rise with age, maturity, responsibility and self-control.

Expectations consider the student's age, circumstances and individual needs. | Source: Westcot Code of Conduct 2022



@westcot_school @westcot_elementary

K registration for
the 27/28 year
opens on Thursday,
October 15th, 2026

Kindergarten Information Session



WELCOME TO YOUR FUTURE

Parents & Guardians of children entering Kindergarten in September 2027 (children born in 2022) are invited to join us for our K info session.

Please join us for an evening with our school district staff to learn about the Kindergarten registration process and how West Vancouver Schools is committed to excellence—focusing on life skills for an ever-changing world.

This event is for parents and guardians only, please note that *child care will not be available*.

West Vancouver Schools invites
you to our Kindergarten
Information Session!



PLEASE REGISTER HERE

Date: Thursday, October 1st, 2026 6:00–7:00 pm

Location: Kay Meek Studio Theatre,
1700 Mathers Avenue, West Vancouver



www.wvschools.ca

Welcome to Our Parent's Monthly Physical Literacy Newsletter!

We are excited to share our Parent's Monthly Newsletter, created to support families in understanding the importance of physical literacy and the role movement plays in a child's development. As educators, we know that movement is about more than exercise—it is a foundation for confidence, creativity, connection, and lifelong well-being.

Thank you for your continued dedication to helping your children grow, learn, and thrive through movement, exploration, and play. Together, we can inspire a lifelong love of being active!

Jina Taylor

SD#71, Physical Literacy Lead
Teacher, Learning in Motion Program
Workshop Facilitator and Physical Literacy Lead

Dwayne Roberts

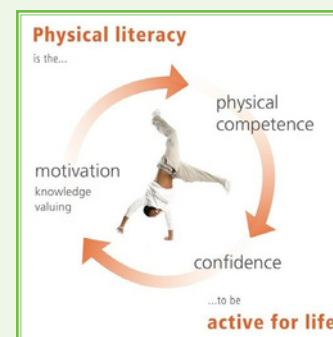
Program Manager, Indigenous Programs, Learning in Motion Program



What is Physical Literacy

"Physical literacy is the motivation, confidence, physical competence, knowledge, and understanding to value and take responsibility for engagement in physical activities for life."

— *The International Physical Literacy Association, May 2014*



How is Physical Literacy Developed?

Kids develop physical literacy gradually through a variety of structured and unstructured activities. The nature of these activities grow as kids grow in age and ability.



What We Can Do to Develop Physical Literacy

ROLE MODEL BEING ACTIVE

Children learn from what they see others do, so if you're active they'll see the behavior as normal. Chances are they'll want to be active too.



FIND THE SPACE

Children need space to run around and be active. Maybe it's in the house with furniture to the side or maybe it is outside in nature, but they need a safe space to build their skills.

EXPOSE CHILDREN TO A VARIETY OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES

Being active can mean playing sports such as soccer, hockey or basketball, but can also mean skateboarding, yoga, dance, walking, cycling or hiking. The idea is to provide a variety of opportunities and different ways to be active and children will choose to continue doing what they enjoy.



WE ALL NEED ENCOURAGEMENT

Just like with reading and math, physical literacy will take time to develop. Be patient and supportive while your child's brain and muscles grow and provide opportunities for practice.





Westcot Elementary School

Medication at School

It is critical that you inform the school about serious medical conditions or allergies that may affect your child. For your child's safety, please don't assume we've already been told about your child's medical condition.

Please remember you must:

At the beginning of each school year (or when medication is to start), complete and return to the school a medication administration card signed by the physician. Cards are available from the school from Mrs.

Satchell. Please contact her if you require a Medication form.

rsatchell@wvschools.ca.



Westcot Wednesdays

Westcot Wednesdays: September 10th Start Date. Let's continue to show Westcot spirit and pride each Wednesday Tigers - special announcements, joke of the day, schoolyard beautification. Join staff and students in wearing green and gold.

Westcot T-shirts will be available for \$10.00 cash at the Courtyard Cafe. There will also be Westcot Beanies and Hoodies for Sale by our WPAC.



Feeding Futures

As part of the Ministry of Education and Child Care 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.



@westcot_school



@westcot_elementary

COMMUNITY GUIDELINES & SAFETY

**PARENT CHAT
GROUPS (EG.
WHAT'S APP)**

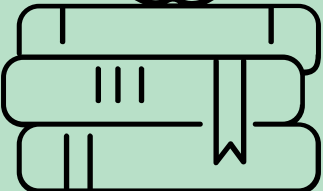


COMMUNITY GUIDELINES

- **Keep it positive.** Think of this classroom chat group as a public space with your friends and neighbours.
- **Zero tolerance for hate.** Racist, abusive or otherwise harmful/hateful speech will not be permitted and will result in expulsion from the chat.
- **Do not target people.** This chat is not the right forum for raising problems involving students or other parents. Raise such matters privately and/or with the Principal.
- **Respect children and staff.** Do not use these chat groups to discuss other people's children, teachers or school staff. Raise concerns directly with the teacher and/or Principal.
- **Stay on topic.** Keep conversations focused on our shared school community and contributing positively to it.



**ATTENTION
PLEASE!**



E-TRANSPORT: Know Before You Buy or Ride

Not all small or electric transportation is treated the same.
Know the Micromobility rules for Personal Electric Vehicles in West Vancouver.

Vehicle Type	Where Can I Ride?	How Old Do I Need To Be?	Max Speed	License & Insurance?	Other Important Rules
e-bike	Anywhere bicycles can ride	14+ for light e-bikes 16+ for standard e-bikes	Light bikes: 25 km/h Standard: 32 km/h	No license or insurance required	Must have fully operable pedals
e-scooter	Anywhere bicycles can ride in West Van	16+	25 km/h	No license or insurance required	Solo riders only
moped/LSM	Public Roads Only	16+	70 km/h	License & insurance required	BC licence plate required
e-dirt bike	Not on roads, sidewalks, or bike lanes	Not legal at any age on public roads	Not permitted on public roads	Cannot be registered or insured	Not legal on public roads
mini-motorcycle	Not on roads, sidewalks, or bike lanes	Not legal at any age on public roads	Not permitted on public roads	Cannot be registered or insured	Not legal on public roads



@westcot_school @westcot_elementary



Settlement Workers in Schools (SWIS)

Support for you and your family as you
navigate the Canadian school system

**CHECK OUT THE
UPCOMING WORKSHOPS
& EVENTS!**



SWIS hosts a variety of workshops for newcomers and community events. Our newcomer workshops explore topics such as Canadian culture and systems, employment options, English language, parenting, health and so much more. Our community events explore themes of immigrant inclusion, belonging, and anti-racism.

<https://impactnorthshore.ca/immigrant-service-centre/settlement-workers-in-schools/>





Parent's Guide to Snapchat

General Information

Snapchat is a social media app where people share photos, videos and messages. It also has a location feature and now has AI built in.

13 Snapchat's own policy states that users must be 13 or older. For a person who is younger than 13 to create a Snapchat account, they have LIED about their age.

Unfortunately, students as young as 10 and 11 years have gotten caught up in cyber-bullying and exploitation on Snapchat

"Friends"

People you connect with on Snapchat are called "friends" but the app itself will push you to connect with people you do not know. This is not safe.

Disappearing Snaps

Messages and images (snaps) get deleted after being viewed (or 24 hours after being sent). But there are ways people can screen shot snaps and continue to share around the world.

Did You Know?

In Canada, cyberbullying and child pornography can be criminal offenses. If your child participates in either of these, while using Snapchat (or other social media), you, as the parent, can be held liable for what they have done, and be prosecuted by law.

Snapchat at School

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

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 limitations (boundaries?)




LITERACY SCREENING INFORMATION

What is Early Literacy Screening?

Early literacy screening is a quick check that helps teachers understand how your child is developing early reading skills, an important part of literacy development. It's not a diagnosis or academic assessment.

It looks at skills such as letter knowledge, sound awareness, and word reading.

Early literacy screening tools are:

- Brief and easy to use
- Developed using research and student data
- Used by classroom teachers
- Designed to help keep children on track with reading

Early literacy screening provides a snapshot of where your child is in their reading journey.



How Does Early Literacy Screening Help My Child?

Early literacy screening helps teachers understand each child's reading skills and learning needs.

Screening helps teachers:

- Identify students who may need extra reading support
- Plan reading instruction for the whole class, small groups, or individual students
- Track student progress in reading over time
- Adjust teaching to better support student learning

Early literacy screening helps identify reading challenges early so support can begin right away.

This gives your child the best opportunity to build strong literacy skills and a solid foundation for future learning.

For more information and resources visit:
<https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/literacy-screening>



Early Literacy Screening

Information for
Parents and
Caregivers



Ministry of
Education and
Child Care

What is Literacy?

Literacy is your child's ability to understand language and communicate in a variety of ways.

Literacy includes:

- Speaking and listening
- Building vocabulary
- Reading and understanding text
- Expressing ideas in writing
- Understanding stories and information

Literacy skills are tools that open doors to learning throughout life.



Why is Literacy Important?

Strong literacy skills support lifelong learning and wellness.

Success in Learning

Children with strong literacy skills are better able to:

- Understand classroom lessons
- Learn new subjects
- Share their thinking through speaking and writing
- Complete assignments independently
- Stay engaged and motivated in school

Health & Well-Being

Children with strong literacy skills are also more likely to:

- Build confidence and self-esteem
- Understand health and safety information
- Build independence and problem-solving skills
- Strengthen skills such as memory, attention, and focus

Later in life, literacy helps people:

- Apply for jobs
- Continue learning new skills
- Build social connections with others
- Participate fully in their communities

How Do Children Learn Literacy Skills?

Literacy development takes time, teaching, and practice.

Children will:

- Learn at different speeds
- Find some parts of literacy easier than others
- Build skills over time
- Show progress in different ways

Some children need more time and practice.

This does *not* mean they won't develop strong literacy skills over time.

Early support makes a big difference, and schools are there to help!

Literacy development can also happen at home. Reading together is a great way to build these skills.



@westcot_school



@westcot_elementary

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Mr. Bee's FUNDamental Sports

Running Fundamentals, Soccer, Volleyball, and Basketball

Come join Mr. B after school in the gym to develop your running, soccer, volleyball and basketball skills.

Registration links:

[Mondays Fall 2026 – Grade 4–5 Boys](#)

[Wednesdays Fall 2026 – Grade 3–4 Boys & Girls](#)

[Thursdays Fall 2026 – Grade 5–7 Boys](#)

[Fridays Fall 2026 – Grade 5–7 Girls](#)



CHESS CLUB WESTCOT LUNCH TIME

STARTING WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 30
At LUNCH TIME

FOR GRADE 2 TO 4

STUDENTS BRING THEIR LUNCH TO THE LIBRARY ASAP
TO PLAY CHESS AND RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS FROM
A NATIONAL CHESS MASTER CERTIFIED.
ANY LEVELS WELCOME..

FROM Sept. 30 for 8 lunch sessions

FEE: \$64

TO REGISTER, SEND AN EMAIL TO LUC POITRAS

CHESSINSCHOOL@YAHOO.COM



@westcot_school @westcot_elementary



LIGHTS UP MUSICAL THEATRE AFTERSCHOOL AT WESTCOT ELEMENTARY

Sing. Dance. Act. Shine!

At Lights Up Afterschool, your child can experience the joys and benefits of musical theatre by taking part in our afterschool programs led by our talented and experienced Lights Up Musical Theatre Schools' staff. These classes are a unique introduction to our weekend musical theatre programs and provide students with an enriching, rewarding, and most of all, fun afterschool activity right at the bell!

FALL SHOW: HERCULES!

This Fall, join Lights Up Afterschools as we travel way, way back... to Ancient Greece! Inspired by the animated film of the same name, "Hercules" is full of daring heroes, hilarious sidekicks, and menacing monsters. Our afterschool students will sing, dance, act, and shine in a mythical musical that is sure to "go the distance"!

Students will be supervised from dismissal. No need to pick up your child until 5pm!

Performance on the last day of classes for friends and family!

After School Thursdays

OCT 1 - NOV 26

2:45PM - 5PM

**K-4 students supervised from their dismissal times*

GRADES: K to 7

Fee: \$380* (*plus GST)

<https://lightsuptheatre.ca/westcot/>

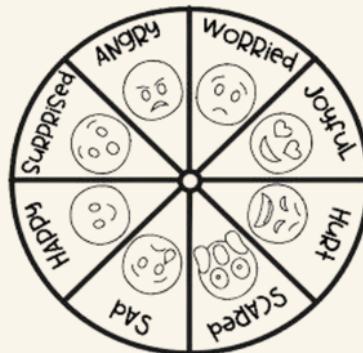


The World of Yoga School®
Kids Yoga and Music by Monika

www.worldofyogaschool.com

insta: kidsyogadancemenka

Kids Yoga, Mindfulness, Meditation & Anatomy Theme- Emotions are our guides



TUESDAYS AFTER SCHOOL

FROM SEPT 22 - DEC 1 2026 AT WESTCOT ELEMENTARY

MIXED AGES ON TUESDAYS AFTER SCHOOL, 3:00PM-4:00PM

\$18/CLASS X 11 CLASSES TOTAL=\$198+5%GST=\$208



To register, use qr code or link: <https://forms.gle/St9X5xmzZWQDRzXB9>

For more contact menkapurswaney@gmail.com 604 861 3309



@westcot_school @westcot_elementary



Westcot HIGHLIGHTS



Calendar

September	25	Professional Development Day - students NOT in session
	29	Orange Shirt Day
	30	Truth and Reconciliation Day (schools closed)
October	7 & 8	Parent Teacher Interviews (early dismissal 12:00pm)
	12	Thanksgiving Monday
	21	WPAC Meeting 9:30am (virtual)

**New Bell Schedule for Next
School Year 2026-2027**

Click HERE

**2026/2027 Westcot
School Calendar**

Click HERE



@westcot_school



@westcot_elementary