

November 2017

Elk Island Public Schools

THE WESTBORO REPORT



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

November is a month when we take a special day to remember those individuals who have given everything so we may live in a country with freedoms. Autumn is upon us, the Christmas season is around the corner, our first round of parent-teacher conferences has occurred, and despite all these activities, November is a time to reflect, not only about school, but about the world around us.

With Remembrance Day we are given the wonderful opportunity to take time to be thankful for our safe, prosperous, and peaceful country. We extend our gratitude to those people who sacrifice to keep it that way.



REMEMBRANCE DAY CERMONY

Westboro Elementary Remembers

This year's Remembrance Day assembly will take place on Thursday, November 9th at 10:30 in our school gymnasium. We invite all parents, guardians, family members, and community members to join us for the assembly.

We will be honouring our military families this year with our Wall of Honour. It will be on display in the gymnasium commemorating those family members who have served or are currently serving in our Canadian Military.

We would also like to include students who are involved in organizations such as Cadets, Sparks, Beavers, Brownies, Cubs, Guides, or Scouts. These students may wear their uniform on the day of the assembly and play a special role by entering with our Canadian flag.

Poppies will circulate to every classroom the morning of the assembly. All donations gathered will go to the Canadian Poppy Campaign.

NOVEMBER

- 3 Newsletter
- 7 Swimming Gr. 1-3
- 9 Remembrance Day Ceremony 10:30AM
- 10 - 19 Fall Break
- 20 - 24 Anti-Bully Awareness Week
- 21 Swimming Gr. 1-3
- 22 Pink Shirt Day
- 22 Council Meeting 6:30PM
- 23 Logos Chapel 1:00PM
- 24 Report Cards
- 28 Swimming Gr. 1-3

DECEMBER

- 1 Hot Lunch
 - 5 Swimming Gr. 1-3
 - 6 Early Dismissal
 - 8 Newsletter
 - 12 LAST Swimming LESSON for Gr. 1-3
- HEADS UP:** Christmas Concert December **13th** & ECS Christmas Concert on the **15th**

PRINCIPAL
Mike Lastiwka

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
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SCHOOL SECURITY

Dear Westboro families:

In order to enhance security at Westboro School and provide our staff and students with a safe learning and working environment, we will be installing video monitoring equipment in our school this fall.

Video cameras will be placed in areas where it is necessary to maintain personal safety of individuals and/or to monitor student behaviour. Those locations where video cameras are being installed will be clearly marked with signage.

Please be assured that recordings will only be viewed by individuals authorized by school administration, and the privacy of our students and staff will be respected. Refer to Elk Island Public School [Administrative Procedure 181](#) for specifics on access to footage and the protection of student information.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me directly at (780) 467-7751.

Mike Lastiwka
Principal

COMPASSION

Compassion literally means “to suffer together” and it is defined as the feeling that you have when you see another’s suffering and feel you need to help relieve them.

What is Compassion?

- Compassion is understanding how another person feels.
- Compassion is caring about others.
- Compassion is showing concern through kind thoughts, words and actions.
- Compassion is helping and giving.
- Compassion is listening and being patient.



Over the months of November and December we will be talking about compassion in our school. Through participation in activities for Anti-bullying Week as well as activities for Christmas, we hope to explore this virtue in greater detail.

COMMUNICATING STUDENT LEARNING OR CSL

We are pleased to be sharing your child's report card with you on November 24th: "Communicating Student Learning", or "CSL" was created by Elk Island teachers, administrators, parents, students, and central office personnel. To digitally access your child's report card, you will need to either log into your PowerSchool Parent Portal, or create your PowerSchool Parent Portal account. Both can be found at: <https://powerschool.eips.ca/public/home.html>

If you require a paper copy of the report card, please contact your child's teacher and we will be happy to print one off for you.

The Parent Portal allows parents the capacity to create a single sign on for all students in one family who are currently registered in elementary, junior high and senior high schools in Elk Island Public Schools. Once the account is created, parents will be able to manage their own account information and to link all of their students to one account. This account will remain in effect for the duration of the student's enrollment in Elk Island Public Schools. If you are currently registered in the Parent Portal with junior and/or senior high students, you will now be able to add the elementary student. There is no need to create a new account. A video demonstrating the steps to creating a PowerSchool parent portal account is found at: <http://www.eips.ca/powerschool>. If you are having difficulty logging into your PowerSchool Parent Portal, please contact us at school.

Once you set up and/or log into your account, click on the "Communicating Student Learning" button. This will take you to the report card.

Click on a scale to view a description of the scale  levels.

Click on the  to expand subjects or comments.

If you wish to print the report card, scroll to the bottom of the page and click on the "print" button. You can either print the condensed or full version.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you are in need of further information.

Sincerely,

Mike Lastiwka

Principal

LIBRARY NEWS

Thank you to everyone who came out and purchased items from the book fair. Thanks to your generosity it looks like another record breaking year. Way to go Westboro! There will be many new books arriving soon to the library for the students to enjoy.

Congratulations goes out to Calli in 6L who is the winner of the \$25 in free books. Calli also won \$25 in books for her classroom. Dahlia in 3R and Hailey in 3L were the poster winners of the jelly bean guess. There were 572 jelly beans in the jar.

We would also like to thank Glen and Marlene Giebelhaus from Living Books for coming out and running the Christian Book Fair. A big Thank You to the students in the Library Club. These students helped out with book talks and at recesses to set up and take down of the fair. Great job! I really appreciate all of the help. Thank you also goes out to Lauren and Danielle White for helping with the Book Fair at Shop Til Ya Drop.



THANK YOU!

SHOP TIL YA DROP

THANK-YOU to everyone who came and shopped at our annual Shop Til Ya Drop on October 21. Ten percent of what you spent was donated back to the parents group to purchase new barred instruments for the music program!

Also, a HUGE thank you to the numerous people parents, grandparents, and staff that volunteered their time to help make STYD successful.



STAWNICHY's

It's that time of year again to order STAWNICHY's! Orders can be placed at westboro.hotlunches.net from November 7 to 23, for **delivery December 18 from 3-4pm**. Please contact Amy at westborhotlunches@gmail.com to make alternate arrangements if needed. A paper copy will also be sent home to help sell to friends and family but PLEASE place one order for all items thru the hot lunch system. Thank you!

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Let Christmas Joy Ring out in Song!

It is hard to believe that the Christmas season is almost upon us once again. We are very excited to invite all parents and families to our upcoming Christmas Concert this year!

WHO?

♪ Starring all students in our Grades 1-6, PLACE, and STEPS programs.

WHEN?

♪ Wednesday, December 13th at 6:30 p.m. **Doors to the church will open at 6:00 p.m.** Please ensure that all students are at the church no later than 6:15 p.m. We hope that all students will join us for the evening performance to celebrate the season together.

WHERE?

♪ We are incredibly blessed to be able to host our school Christmas concert again this year at Park Church, located at 1 Brower Dr. Sherwood Park.

EXTRA INFORMATION

♪ **Please watch for a notice going home with your child the week of the concert. It will provide additional details regarding where to go and what to do once you arrive at the church.**

♪ Dress Rehearsal will be in the afternoon on Wednesday, December 13th at Park Church. Please watch for field trip forms coming home for this. We are aiming for the rehearsal to start at 12:45. Families are welcome to attend to view the practice.

♪ HELP NEEDED!!!

- If you are able to help with moving instruments to Park Church at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, December 13 please contact Mrs. Richard as soon as possible (courtney.richard@eips.ca). **We will need about 4 volunteers to facilitate this endeavor.**

PRINCESS PARKING AND FRONT ROW SEATS RAFFLE: In order to help cover costs of the Christmas concert, the Parents' Group will be running a lottery at the school. You will have the opportunity to win a Princess Parking stall and 2 front row seats. Four prize packages will be drawn. Please watch for the ticket order form coming to you as we get closer to the concert.

Kindergarten Christmas Showcase and Celebration

Please note: The Kindergarten students will be hosting their own concert and celebration on the afternoon of Friday, December 15th **beginning at 2:00 p.m. in our school gymnasium.** They will prepare some songs to enchant you with and then you are invited to enjoy some hot chocolate and cookies. We hope you will be able to join us!

TRAFFIC SAFETY AND SCHOOL SAFETY PATROLLERS

The Alberta Motor Association was formed in 1926 for the primary purpose of lobbying government to enact laws to improve traffic safety. The School Safety Patrol program is one of AMA's earliest traffic safety initiatives.

Mr. R. L. (Reg) Harvey formed the first patrol in Calgary at Haultain School in 1937. In Edmonton, the first patrol team was formed at Alex Taylor School in 1938. Each year, approximately 16,000 student volunteers participate in the AMA School Safety Patrol program in 500 schools across Alberta.

In the entire history of the AMA School Safety Patrol program, there has never been a serious injury or fatality in a patrolled crosswalk. The success of the program can be directly attributed to the strong partnerships that continue to exist between schools, student volunteers, the AMA, law enforcement agencies, school boards, partner organizations and municipal traffic engineering departments throughout the province.

Patrollers are responsible for:

- Ensuring safe crossing for fellow students;
- Setting a good example at all times;
- Reporting any concerns and/or incidents to the Teacher/Supervisor.



This success can also be attributed to all of our parents and all of the members of our school community who follow the rules of the road! Thank you for respecting posted no parking and no stopping signs. Thank you for yielding to our students and patrollers. Thank you for respecting posted speed limits.

Thank you for all that you do to keep our students safe!

AMA SAFETY PATROLLER OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to our AMA Safety Patroller of the Month: Haley



SCHOOL COUNCIL INFORMATION

Our 10th annual Shop Till Ya Drop event was held in October. All thanks to the organizing efforts of Amy Churchill, a team of awesome volunteers, incredible vendors and the shopping public, it was a huge success! This is one of our main fundraisers (in lieu of selling Student Union Ticket Packs, cookie dough or wrapping paper).

Our November meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 25th at 6:30 pm in the library. We will be discussing 6 questions related to fees and Bill 1: An Act to Reduce School Fees so we hope you can join the discussion. If you can't attend the meeting, please feel free to email us at WestboroParents@gmail.com with your thoughts as we can include them in the meeting. Then we report back on the discussion at the next Committee of School Councils meeting in January.

We are so excited to offer, for the first time in many years, school spirit wear is available for purchase.

This is not a fundraiser, but an opportunity to build community and encourage student pride in our school. Order forms went home with students last month and can be returned with payment to the school or completed on-line at westboro.hotlunches.net.

Last day for ordering is Wednesday, November 8th.

If you have any questions about ordering or want to arrange to try on clothing samples, please contact Debbie Klita via e-mail at westboroparents@gmail.com.

ABORIGINAL STUDIES

“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.”

~ Helen Keller

November will highlight the second of our Seven Grandfather Teachings, Wisdom, which is represented by the Beaver. Students will also experience an introduction to Métis culture.

Aboriginal Studies lessons are designed to broaden students' understandings of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit cultures. Our goal is to lay a foundation in which we can continue build upon in years to come. Parents and guardians, please stay tuned for an upcoming learning opportunity we are hoping to offer you at the end of the month. Get involved in learning more about our Aboriginal Studies class!

LOGOS SOCIETY NEWS

As I reflect on the month to come, I cannot believe that we are already through two months of school! We are so blessed to have such wonderful teachers in as part of the Logos program, which I was reminded of attending the parent/student/teacher interviews this past week. God is great!

Have a prayer request? A purple Prayer Box has been placed on the table in front of the office for all Westboro staff, students and anyone else who would like to share a prayer request or a

praise item. We welcome you to write your prayer requests or praise items on one of the attached post-it-notes and place it in the box. Prayer requests will be prayed for every two to three weeks by those who attend the Logos Prayer Meetings and will be kept confidential.

Nitza's Fundraiser!

Look for the Nitza's coupon order form to come home in your child's backpack in the next few days. Who doesn't want a coupon for some fast and tasty pizza!!!!

Chapel will be on November 23 this month at 1:00pm. We encourage all those parents who can attend to join us as we worship with the children. For information on Logos happenings between newsletters, remember to visit our website at <http://elkislandlogos.ca> and join the Elk Island Logos Society Facebook page.

Rachel Milne Westboro
Logos Representative

Psalm 17:6

I call on you, my God, for you will answer me; turn your ear to me and hear my prayer.



STAY OFF THIN ICE!

Play Safe...Stay Off the Ice!

Cold temperatures have caused ice to form on storm water management ponds, dug outs, lakes, streams and rivers throughout Strathcona County.

Canadians are famous for their enthusiasm for winter recreation activities but we all need to remember that you cannot judge the strength or the safety of ice by appearance alone. In the late fall and early winter when ice is forming, its strength is affected by many factors: air temperatures, road run off, springs that feed into the water body, sun, wind, snow and overall thickness.

At this time of the year, remind your family to **Play Safe...Stay Off the Ice!**



EIPS DIVISION NEWS

INCLEMENT WEATHER

With the winter season already here, we want to remind parents to dress children appropriately for the weather when getting ready for school or the bus. The weather often changes unexpectedly throughout the day, so please select suitable outerwear and ensure your child is prepared for changing conditions.

If inclement weather conditions occur, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) advises parents of any bus cancellations using various communications tools—automated-telephone messages, alerts posted on www.eips.ca and school websites, Twitter, Facebook, local radio stations and on Versatrans My Stop. Any morning bus cancellations are posted on www.eips.ca by 6:30 a.m.

Decisions regarding bus cancellations are guided by EIPS administrative procedures that states, “school bus service may be suspended...when Environment Canada reports a temperature of -40 C.” Other reasons for suspending or delaying school bus services include adverse weather and poor road condition.

When school bus services are suspended, schools remain open to students. EIPS believes parents have the right and responsibility to make choices for their children based on their beliefs and perceptions of safety during times of inclement weather.

For more information, contact EIPS Student Transportation at 780-417-8151.

WINTER WEATHER

Winter weather is quickly approaching! Please make sure you send your child to school dressed appropriately for outdoor play - boots, toques and mitts are the order of the day!

A reminder that children enjoy the fresh outdoors three times a day, unless it is pouring rain, or the temperatures drop below -21° Celsius (including wind chill), as cited in our school handbook.

As well, many clothing items are lost by our students. These items will be on display on tables in the hallways over the week of November 6th. If you are missing coats, sweaters, lunch kits or other items, please do stop by the school and check it out! We would love for them to be returned to your home before we donate unclaimed items to Goodwill.



NO CHILD WITHOUT: FREE MEDICAL ALERT FOR STUDENTS

In our ongoing effort to provide safe and caring schools for our students, **Westboro Elementary** is once again participating in the Canadian MedicAlert Foundation's No Child Without program. The program is a national initiative that provides no-cost MedicAlert services to children - between the ages four and 14 - who have chronic health conditions. The goal is twofold: to help children with severe allergies, medical conditions or special needs and to assist schools with medical-emergency plans for students.

Once a child is registered, their school is provided with advice on a medical-emergency plan for that student and given a list of medications, allergies and medical conditions the student has. If your child has a serious medical condition or allergy and could benefit from MedicAlert services, contact the school office at **780-467-7751**. To learn more about the No Child Without program, visit www.nochildwithout.ca.

NUT AWARE

In our community we have a number of allergies which range from peanuts and nuts, sesame seeds, sunflower seeds and raw egg. While it is impossible to prohibit all products that "MAY CONTAIN" traces of nut or nut product, we do need to be aware of products that DO contain these ingredients and avoid bringing them to school. This is especially important during the Halloween season! We also need you to be aware of the potential risks associated with sending these products to school.

A reminder to all to continue to be aware of specific allergies in our school. Granola bars, baked good or other treats that may contain nuts are acceptable to bring to school, but other items, such as peanut butter sandwiches, chocolate bars or granola bars with nuts or peanuts would not be a good choice, and should be avoided.

If your child is in a classroom where a severe allergy is present, a letter has been sent home to specifically outline this allergy as the most common time for contamination to occur would be during lunch or snack times. Information about our "Nut Aware" school is also available in our handbook and on the Elk Island Public Schools website.

As always, please feel free to contact the office if you have further questions or concerns.

Thanks for your ongoing support!

