



October 8, 2020



WESTBORO ELEMENTARY

Weekly Newsletter

IMPORTANT DATES THIS WEEK:

October 9: PD Day - No School

October 12: Thanksgiving Day - No School

October 13: Online booking for Student Parent
Teacher Interviews Opens

Covid-19 Update:

Hello Westboro families, As you know, this week we have had our first confirmed case of Covid-19 at Westboro. I understand that this can be an especially worrisome situation. I am very proud of the way that our staff, students and school community have responded with compassion and diligence as we continue to safely do the important work of teaching and learning. At this point, everyone is doing well, and we are expecting to return to normal operations in the very near future. We will keep you updated as we know more, while also respecting the privacy of those affected. Your understanding and support are sincerely appreciated.



This year Student Parent Teacher Interviews will take place on:

October 21 and 22 from 4 - 7 p.m.

October 23 from 1 - 3 p.m. Kindergarten ONLY

Click on the link below to access bookings.

<https://www.schoolbookings.net/code?z=2buEJQAccess>

code: **fkgw6**

Bookings will open at **8:30 a.m.** on **Tuesday, October 13**

HALLOWEEN AT WESTBORO

Halloween can be a very exciting and important event for many families in our regular stream school community. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 restrictions we are not going to be able to have our traditional Westboro Halloween activities. This year we will have to implement the following restrictions:

- Costumes will only be worn in the afternoon
- Costumes will need to be able to be put on over regular clothes as we have limited access to washrooms and no access to changerooms at this time. As washrooms have capacity limits this year, they will be off limits to students wishing to change into a costume.
 - For ease, a suggestion would be to have students wear orange and black instead.
- Students can only eat things they bring with them and cannot share any food/treats.
- Any classroom Halloween activities will take place in the last two periods of the day.
- To ensure we continue practicing safe cohorting, activities will occur in the classroom.

The Logos alternative activity will not take place as there are no field trips off-site. Alternative activities will take place in the classroom at the teacher's discretion.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

STAY AT HOMEGUIDE: When do I keep my child home?

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Use this guide to determine when to keep your child home from school and when it's safe to return. Complete the [COVID-19 Screening Questionnaire](#) with your child every day. The questionnaire will help determine if it's safe to send your child to school. If the answer is "Yes" to any of the questionnaire questions, DO NOT send your child to school. Stay home and see the instructions below. If the answer is "No" to all the questions, your child can attend school. Always follow the advice of Alberta Health Services.

MY CHILD IS SICK WITH:

Primary COVID-19 Symptoms: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fever• Cough, sore throat or sneezing• Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing• Hoarse voice• Sore throat	Secondary COVID-19 Symptoms: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fatigue• Headache• Loss of smell or taste• Muscle or joint aches• Feeling unwell, fatigue, severe exhaustion• Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, loss of appetite• Rash or skin issues• Pink eye
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WHAT SHOULD I DO?

1. Complete the online COVID-19 self-assessment tool or self-check (link below).
2. Notify your child for at least 10 days from the start of symptoms or until symptoms resolve, whichever is longer - a legal requirement.
3. Testing for COVID-19 is recommended. Book an appointment through the COVID-19 self-assessment tool.
4. Complete the online COVID-19 self-assessment tool or self-check (link below).
5. Do not send your child to school until symptoms resolve.
6. Testing for COVID-19 is recommended. Book an appointment through the COVID-19 self-assessment tool.

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN TO SCHOOL?

- After the 10-day isolation is complete, and symptoms resolve, whichever is longer, OR
- After receiving a negative COVID-19 test result - and your child has no known exposure to the virus - and symptoms resolve.
- After symptoms resolve and your child is feeling better.

WHAT IF MY CHILD HAS SYMPTOMS BECAUSE OF A PRE-EXISTING MEDICAL CONDITION?

If your child has primary or secondary COVID-19 symptoms because of a known pre-existing medical condition, such as allergies, they must stay home if there is no record of the condition. Follow the above directions for other primary or secondary COVID-19 symptoms. Alternatively, provide the school with medical documentation of the pre-existing condition and return your child to school.

NOTE: The Stay at Home Guide is based on the province's guidelines for [Quarantine Orders](#). Information contained within this guide is subject to change as additional information about COVID-19 becomes available.

Revised: Jan. 26, 2022 [2/20]-48

Reporting Absences

Please communicate your child's absence directly to general.wbo@eips.ca or click the [STUDENT ATTENDANCE](#) link on the homepage of the school website. These emails are both checked regularly by the School Office staff. Do not communicate this information only to the teacher.

Situations occur when the homeroom teacher is away, and your information will not be received by the Office Staff who are required to maintain an accurate record of attendance for students throughout the day.

When reporting a student's absence, a reason is now necessary. If your child is ill, we will need to know what the symptoms of the illness are as part of the COVID-19 screening requirements.

2020–2021 SCHOOL FEES NOW POSTED

School fee information for the 2020–21 school year is now posted on the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#). When you log on, you'll notice the fee schedule is different from previous years. Instead of a fee based on the entire year, fees are charged on a quarterly basis.

The fee schedule change accommodates students switching from out-of-school learning to in-school learning; the four-semester system in place at some schools, and possible fee adjustments if the province decides to transition to Scenario 2—partial return to school—or Scenario 3—the suspension of in-school classes. Fees for kits or equipment kept by the student are charged in full at the start of the course. Each quarter, you'll receive an email notification letting you know fees are posted on the PowerSchool Parent Portal. To access your fee information, go to "Student Fees" on PowerSchool. There you can view your fees and pay online using Visa, MasterCard or INTERAC Online—when available from your financial institution. All fees are due within 14 days of being posted.

NOTE: School Fees apply to in-school learners only.

If circumstances exist where you are unable to pay your fees, you can apply to have fees waived by submitting an Application for a Waiver of Fees. The deadline is Dec. 15, 2020—if new to EIPS, the deadline is the latter of Dec. 15, 2020, or 45 days after registration.

For more information about school fees, waivers and payment deadlines, visit [eips.ca](#) and [westboroelementary.ca/about/fees](#) or contact the school at 780-467-7751.

SCHOOL Council

All parents are welcome to join! Meetings will be held on the following dates:

October 21, 1:30 PM
November 25, 1:30 PM
December 16, 1:30 PM
January 20, 6:30 PM
February 17, 1:30 PM
March 17, 6:30 PM
April 21, 1:30 PM
May 19, AGM 6:30 PM

Links to the virtual meetings will be emailed out prior to each meeting.

For more information please email westboroparents@gmail.com

Parents Group Fundraising

This year's school fundraisers will continue to be at Save On Foods, [Cobbs Bread](#) and [Mabel's Labels](#).

Anytime you shop at **Save On Foods Wye Road**, save your receipts and send them to school with your child to be handed into the office. A representative from the Parent Fundraiser Group will submit the receipts and 5% of all sales will be donated back to our school.

When you make a purchase at **Cobbs Bread Wye Road**, mention Westboro Elementary and they will donate 5% of the total sale back to our school.

Mabel's Labels are purchased directly online with 20% of sales automatically donated back to our school.





Free

Confident On My Own

September 26 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.
or **October 15** 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

For: Parents and caregivers and their children ages 10 or older

Are you beginning to think about leaving your child home alone for short periods of time?

Join us with your child online as we facilitate scenario-based learning to encourage independence at home.

*Note that completion of this workshop does not certify your child to be home alone. Only parents/guardians can decide if their children are capable of this responsibility.

To register visit:
strathcona.ca/parentsupport

For more information visit:
strathcona.ca/familyresourcenetwork



Caregiver Education Series

Alberta Health Services is hosting a series of virtual caregiver information sessions focused on ways to support students' mental health.

The sessions are free and geared toward parents, caregivers, teachers and community members who want to learn more about challenges impacting children and adolescents.

Session topics include anxiety, ADHD, depression, self-harm, technology, teens and teaching leadership skills, communication, resiliency, and more.

Visit [Caregiver Education](#) to see the monthly caregiver sessions.

Mark your calendars!

PHOTO RETAKEES

November 17 and 18



Logos Society News

The first meeting will be **Tuesday, October 13, 2020**. At that time we will discuss frequency of meetings in light of the current guidelines / environment. Information will be updated to our website at:

<https://www.elkislandlogos.ca/meetings>

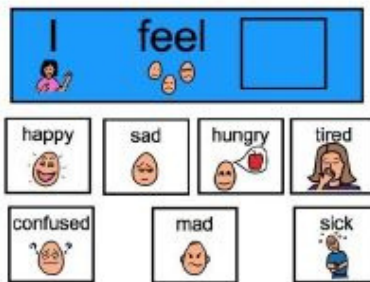
AAC Awareness Month

October is AAC awareness month. Around the world people raise awareness and celebrate the use of augmentative and alternative communication. Some of our Westboro Warriors use AAC devices to help them to communicate because they are unable to use verbal speech. Complex AAC devices can be seen on ipads that students carry with them. Some less complex forms of communication are picture boards, gestures, facial expressions, drawing and writing. Help us to spread awareness by starting a dinner table discussion with your

Westboro Warrior about it. Afterwards, have your family communicate with each other by using only non-verbal ways such as writing, drawing, gestures or facial expressions. Thanks for helping us to raise awareness.



TouchChat on Ipad



Communication Board

Improving Home-School Communication

To enhance communication between families and schools, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) has developed a how-to guide entitled, "Communication Protocol for Schools." Topics include appropriate channels to use, standard formats and structures, timing and sequencing for regular and ongoing home-school communication, and ways to bring forward questions or concerns. The manual also offers useful tools and resources schools and families can use to enhance face-to-face meetings, email communication and various social media efforts.

[Communication Protocol for Schools](#)

Most email communication from the Division will come from communications@eips.ca. From the school level, messages will often come from general.wbo@eips.ca. We encourage families to add these email addresses to your address book or safe senders list to help prevent Division and school messages from filtering to a junk, spam or other folder in your email inbox.

FROM ALL THE STAFF AT WESTBORO ELEMENTARY

Happy Thanksgiving

Wishing you and your family all the best of the season!