



September 10, 2021



# WESTBORO ELEMENTARY

## Weekly Newsletter

### IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

**September 14:** Elk Island Logos Society Meeting

[Join Zoom Meeting](#) **Meeting ID:** 821 6834 4296 **Passcode:** 124803

**September 15:** Meet the Teacher

### MEET THE TEACHER VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

Meet the teacher night will be held on Wednesday, September 15 from 5:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. Teachers will be sending home a link for a google meet before the 15th. Parents, students, and guardians will be able to join this Google Meet with their teacher any between 5:00 p.m. and 5:45 p.m. At this time, teachers will be able to show their classroom to parents and guardians and will also be able to answer any general questions about the classroom. We look forward to seeing you on the 15th. **Please remember that you will need a Google account in order to be able to join the meeting.**

### TERRY FOX RUN

The Terry Fox Run will take place on **Friday, September 24, 2021**. There will be a virtual assembly starting at 9:10 a.m. and then the students will immediately head outside (weather permitting) to participate in the Terry Fox Run. Classes will be grouped together and complete their run in their designated area. Westboro students and families are encouraged to donate online only.

Westboro Elementary School Fundraising Link: <http://www.terryfox.ca/WestboroElementary>

Username: **2021AB1027**

Password: **CUREAB1745**

### PICTURE DAY

Individual student photographs will be taken on **Wednesday, September 22**. Kindergarten **Regular** pictures will be taken on **Thursday, September 23**. These photographs are offered on a proof basis. Each student will have two personal portraits taken and proofs will be sent home for viewing. An order form and instructions will accompany the proofs.

# ELK ISLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO MARK NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

Recently, the Government of Canada announced the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, a new federal statutory holiday to recognize and commemorate the legacy of residential schools, will be observed every September 30.

As a result, on September 2, the Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) Board of Trustees unanimously passed a motion to amend the 2021-22 school calendar to officially mark the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation across the Division with a school-closure day. Doing so allows students and staff to acknowledge the history and impact of residential schools through a day of quiet reflection, participation in a community event, or in other ways most meaningful for them.

“Elk Island Public Schools recognizes the enduring effect residential schools had, and continues to have, on generations of First Nations, Métis and Inuit people in Canada,” says Trina Boymook, the Board Chair of EIPS. “Reconciliation is more than a concept. We need to make it an active practice in our schools, our offices and our communities. By observing this important day across the Division, we have one more way to build respectful relationships, and promote inclusion and compassion, throughout the year.”

Between now and September 30, EIPS’ First Nations, Métis and Inuit educational team will work closely with schools to organize materials and activities to help teachers and administrators foster understanding about the importance of the day—remembering those who were lost, those who survived and those who continue to be impacted by the legacy of residential schools and colonialism. And in that context, students will also consider steps still needed on the path toward reconciliation in our communities and across the country.

As September 30 has historically been **Orange Shirt Day**, Westboro Elementary invites staff and students to wear their orange shirts on **September 29**.

## COUNSELLOR'S CORNER

In addition to the stresses of COVID, we recognize some of our families may be struggling right now due to current events in Afghanistan. We may have students with family in Afghanistan or students with close family or friends who have served there. For those in our Canadian Armed Forces, we thank you for your service and the sacrifices you have made. We appreciate at this time Westboro families with ties to Afghanistan may be experiencing many different emotions. Please know we are here for you and encourage you to reach out if you are in need of support. Our counsellor, Mrs. Graziano ([dianna.graziano@eips.ca](mailto:dianna.graziano@eips.ca)) is available for students. Additionally, the Canadian Armed Forces/Veteran Affairs Canada Assistance Line is 1-800-268-7708 and is available 24/7.

# REQUIRED FORMS

The Division has also developed a series of forms all families are required to review and submit at the start of the school year to support school operations. All forms are available through your PowerSchool Parent Portal. If you have trouble accessing your Parent Portal account, contact your child's school for assistance.

Note: Forms in PowerSchool often don't display properly in Internet Explorer. Please use a different browser to review and complete the forms for your family.

## **COVID-19 Alberta Health Daily Checklist Acknowledgement**

- Due: Now
- Required for all families; one per student.
- The COVID-19 Alberta Health Daily Checklist is also linked directly within the form.
- We encourage families to print off a copy of the checklist—keeping in mind this document is subject to change—and save this link as a shortcut on your smartphone home screen so you have easy access to it each morning.
- Access this form through the Parent Portal by clicking the Forms tab at the top of the left-hand menu and then selecting the COVID-19 Alberta Health Daily Checklist Acknowledgement from the list.

## **Pre-existing Medical Conditions**

- Due: Now
- Only required for students with pre-existing conditions.
- If your child has a known pre-existing condition, for example, allergies, please complete this form to ensure we have the necessary data on file.
- Access this form through the Parent Portal by clicking the Forms tab at the top of the left-hand menu and then selecting the Pre-existing Medical Conditions form from the list.

## **Correction and Verification Form**

- **Due: Sept. 22, 2021**
- Required for all families. It's important we have correct information on file in the student record.
- This is the standard form all families review and update annually.
- Please review all information, paying particular attention to phone numbers and email addresses as well as the emergency contacts on file. If you've recently moved, this is also where you'll update your address information.
- Access this form through the Parent Portal by clicking the Correction and Verification Form tab in the left-hand menu.

# Strathcona County Information

## COVID-19 UPDATE

[Masks are mandatory, province-wide](#) in all indoor public spaces and workplaces. Additional [measures for Strathcona County](#) in effect beginning September 10. Albertans 12+ can [get vaccinated](#). View the [current Strathcona County COVID-19 case count](#). Isolation is mandatory if you have COVID-19 or core [COVID-19 symptoms](#).

## HOW ARE YOU REALLY?

We may know why we feel off, but we don't always know what to do about it.

Recognizing the signs we're not feeling like ourselves helps us know when we may need more support. And knowing when our emotions go beyond the typical ups and downs we all feel helps us take care of our mental health.

Check in with yourself, and check out some ideas for self-care and supports to help you take care of your mental health. <https://bit.ly/35a2Evd>

## TRASH FEST

Did you know we have a pretty fantastic waste program here in Strathcona County? Celebrate and learn more about our waste program, where the items go and what they are made into. Learn how you are making a difference!

Enjoy some of these FREE activities:

- see a waste truck up close
- hands on information booths
- interactive games
- and much more!

<https://www.strathcona.ca/.../festival.../event-calendar/...>

## NATURE NUTS

Are you looking for ways to explore the wonders of nature as a family? Enjoying the great outdoors promotes a connection to nature that provides endless opportunities to develop new skills and enhance development. Join us for an interactive outdoor experience filled with family fun!

**Where:** Brookville Community Hall

**When:** Mondays, September 13th to October 25th (excluding October 11th)

**Time:** 4:45 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**To Register:** [strathcona.ca/familyresourcenetwork](http://strathcona.ca/familyresourcenetwork)