



October 15, 2021



WESTBORO ELEMENTARY

Weekly Newsletter

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

- October 18:** Professional Learning Day - No School for Students
- October 19:** Online Bookings for Student/Parent/Teacher Interviews Opens
- October 19:** School Picture Retakes
- October 20:** School Picture Retakes - **KINDERGARTEN REGULAR**
- October 20:** School Council Meeting. A link to the Google Meet will be emailed out prior to the meeting. For more information please email westboroparents@gmail.com
- October 17 -23:** School Bus Safety Week



STUDENT PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

October 27 and 28, 2021 (4 - 7 p.m.)
(Booking opens Tuesday, October 19 at 8:30 a.m.)

Now you can book school interviews for the times that suit your family.
Go to <https://www.schoolinterviews.ca/code> and follow these simple instruction.

1. Enter code: **66ws8**
2. Enter your details.
3. Select the teachers you wish to see.
4. Select the appointment times that suit your family best.

When you click **FINISH**, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically.
If you do not receive your email immediately - **check your junk mail folder.**

Please Note: Interviews will be held via phone or virtual.
Your teacher will let you know which format.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

The next School Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. This meeting will be held virtually and a link to the Google Meet will be emailed out prior to the meeting. For more information please email westboroparents@gmail.com.

Please see the agenda for the upcoming School Council meeting:

[Westboro School Council Agenda October 20, 2021](#)

Please see the meeting minutes from the School Council meeting held on September 22, 2021:

[Westboro School Council Meeting Minutes September 22, 2021](#)

REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY AT WESTBORO

Westboro School's Remembrance Day Ceremony will be held virtually on Friday, November 5th at 10:30 a.m. You can use the following Google Meet code to take part (you must use a gmail account for access): meet.google.com/wdt-virc-rxz

We would like to honour our military families by continuing with our *Wall of Honour*. If there is a relative in your family that has served or is currently serving in the military, please email Mrs. Richard (courtney.richard@eips.ca) for a **Name Plaque** form. It will be sent home with your child and we ask for it to be returned by Thursday, October 28th. These names will be featured on our *Wall of Honour*. If you have submitted a **Name Plaque** in previous years, the school has kept it and it will be displayed again. If there are any changes (ranking, deployments, etc.) please advise that a replacement form is needed.

FOR OUR CEREMONY - if you have a picture of a family member who has served or is currently serving in the Canadian Armed Forces, please send a digital copy to Mrs. Richard (courtney.richard@eips.ca). It will be included in our Westboro Family Tribute. It does not have to be a picture of your family member in uniform and can be a picture of your family member with your child(ren) who attend Westboro. Along with the picture, please also include in your email: name of the person/people in the picture, rank (for family member served/serving), and relation to your child(ren) who attend Westboro (i.e. grandfather, aunt, brother, great-grandmother, etc.). Please ensure these are sent by Thursday, October 28th to allow time to add these to our existing tribute.

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

We recently made changes to how families can contact Westboro Elementary staff.

If you'd like to reach out to your child's teacher directly, simply log in to your [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) account. From there you can find the email contact information for all your child's teachers and reach out to them directly as needed.

To connect with school administration and main office staff, refer to the online contact form <https://www.westboroelementary.ca/contact> to send an email to the applicable person directly. From the online contact form, you can also send an email to report your child's absence.

If you're having trouble with your PowerSchool, contact the school office. And, of course, we're always just a phone call away if you have questions or need assistance, 780-467-7751.

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY WEEK: OCTOBER 17-23

Schools throughout Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) are celebrating School Bus Safety Week October 17- 23. The theme: Bus Rules Rock!, which focuses on the importance of being a responsible rider. Throughout the week, various activities are planned, including information sessions, bus-safety lesson plans and bus-evacuation drills.

As part of School Bus Safety Week, Westboro Elementary reminds students and families all Division school buses are equipped with a bus-pass scanner, GPS technology, the Child Check-Mate system and surveillance equipment, which allows Student Transportation to better monitor and manage its more than 160 buses. Families and students also have access to the Traversa Ride 360 app, a mobile tool to help determine the location of a bus, projected arrival times and when a child is scanned onto a bus.

For more information visit [EIPS Student Transportation](#) or contact 780- 417-8151.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

The Scholastic Book Fair will be rolling into our library on Monday, October 25 until November 1. We will have both an in person and virtual book fair this year.

Classes will come to the book fair during their library time and can purchase items or they can browse the book fair and make a list of items they are interested in to share at home. Parents can browse and purchase from the virtual book fair. The virtual link for our school will be shared with parents closer to October 25.

Students shopping in person will be able to take their purchases home that day. Virtual orders will be shipped free of charge to the school and delivered to each student. Book Fair flyers have been sent home to browse prior to the book fair.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. White.

PAY SCHOOL FEES ONLINE!

School fee information for the 2021-22 school year is now posted on the PowerSchool Parent Portal. All fees are due within 30 days of being posted. To access your fee information, simply log in to the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) and go to "Student Fees." There you can view your fees and pay them online using Visa, MasterCard or debit card—when available from your financial institution.

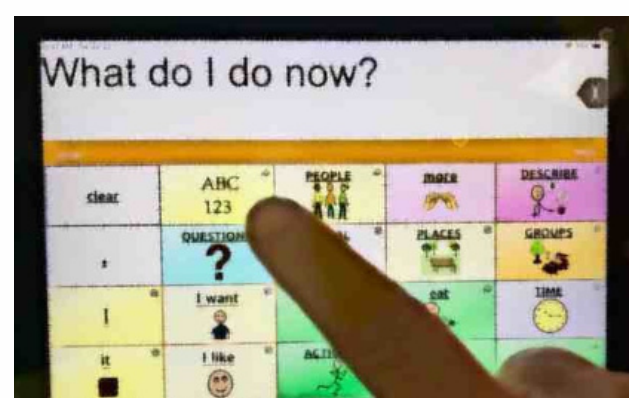
Don't forget to also log in to the PowerSchool Parent Portal regularly throughout the year. Fees are often added to your child's account to cover the cost of various school activities such as field trips, class projects, extracurricular activities fees and more.

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 application deadline is Dec. 15, 2021.

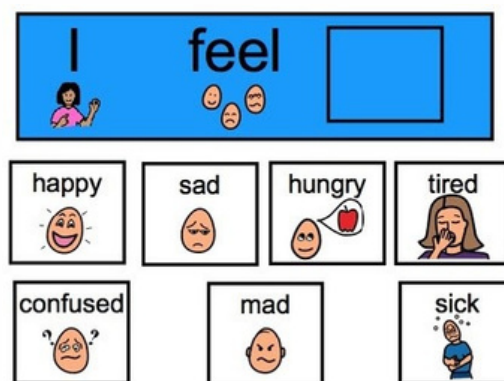
For more information about school fees, waivers and payment deadlines, visit www.eips.ca/schools/fees and <https://www.westboroelementary.ca/about/fees>. Alternatively, contact Mrs. Billie Jean Mephram, Business Manager at Westboro Elementary at 780-467-7751.

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

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY WEEK POSTER CONTEST

The Alberta Student Transportation Advisory Council (ASTAC) is sponsoring a provincial poster contest for students in kindergarten to Grade 6 to promote School Bus Safety Week, October 17-23. This year's theme is "Bus Rules Rock!" The entry deadline is November 6. [Learn more](#)

Strathcona County Information

COVID-19 UPDATE

Starting October 6, private outdoor gatherings are limited to 20 people and 2m distancing. Proof of vaccinations required to access non-essential County services, effective September 20. Masks and physical distancing are mandatory province-wide in all indoor public spaces, workplaces and public vehicles. 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. Learn more [here](#).

PARENT TO PARENT: FINDING DIGITAL BALANCE

Want to know more about how to support your youth with their time online? Come out as a family to learn from others and end the afternoon together at the CanTeen Youth Hub to enjoy some pizza and bonding time!

Join us to learn information about popular websites, games and apps being used by children and youth. We will discuss legal consequences and potential dangers online, as well as share some helpful tips to start conversations with children and youth.

Saturday October 23rd from 2:00-4:00 p.m.

To register, visit <https://www.strathcona.ca/.../family-resource-network/>

SCHOOL'S OUT DAY CAMP

On October 18, make the most of your day off school.

School's Out Day Camp is a perfect opportunity to meet new friends, have fun playing games and splash in the pool at Millennium Place!

Available for ages 6Y - 12Y, this full-day camp will include pre-care from 8:30 a.m. - 9 a.m. and post-care from 4 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Register now!

Ages 6Y - 7Y: <https://bit.ly/3DBcx46>

Ages 8Y - 12Y: <https://bit.ly/3FLhDga>

Reminder: Strathcona County is participating in the provincial Restriction Exemption Program.

Please visit our know before you go page before arriving at our facilities:

<https://www.strathcona.ca/.../recreation.../before-you-go/>

PARENTS EMPOWERING PARENTS

Did you know that Parents Empowering Parents has a library of recorded webinars? They will also post registration for all upcoming webinars at this link. PEP provided information and support for families dealing with substance abuse.

<https://pepsociety.ca/free-webinars/>