



What's Up at West?



Westminster Public School



September, 2022



Check out our Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/WestiWildcats>

If your child has a life threatening condition, please ensure that you have communicated with Mrs. Morrison in the Office. We will complete a Plan of Care for your child. Medication can only be administered with signed paperwork from the Office and doctor.

Parent Council Corner

We are always looking for new voices– the more ideas and input, the better. Our first School Council meeting is October 6th at 6pm. It will be a virtual meeting using the TEAMS platform in which we will be discussing executive positions for the 2022-2023 school year (Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer). If you have an interest in holding an executive position on School Council, please send in your intent to run for a position by email to:

jennifer.moore@ucdsb.on.ca by September 30th.

If you would like to be a voting member of School Council, we would love to see you as well. Please let us know if you would like to join a dynamic team of parents who are interested in collaborating to improve and celebrate the student experience here at Westminster PS!

Our first virtual Parent Council meeting will be:

Thursday, October 6th at 6pm

Please contact the school to receive your TEAMS invitation.

DAILY SCHEDULE

9:30 School Starts
12:00-12:40 Lunch/Recess
2:00-2:30 Recess
3:40-3:50 Dismissal Time

Essential Items to Bring to School

Water Bottle (all students require a water bottle to use our water bottle filling stations).

Lunch Kit/Backpack (we focus on litter-less lunches)

Indoor Shoes (please label all items sent to school)

STEO

If you have questions about your child's transportation, please contact "Student Transportation of Eastern Ontario" at:

1-855-925-0022.



Information on how to sign up for "My Family Room" so that you can receive emails and calendar updates from us can be found at the following link: https://www.ucdsb.on.ca/for_families/my_family_room



Health Unit E-Bits

COVID-19 School Screening: Families are encouraged to screen daily for symptoms before sending their child to school. If a child has symptoms please keep them home until they are symptom free. If a child becomes ill during the school day they will be sent home and should not return until they are symptom free.

<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>

Mental Health Resources for the Return to School:

School will be different again this year, and change can be hard. Supporting our children's mental health is important. Check out this [Back to School Mental Health Toolkit](#). It has lots of resources, as well as 6 great tips for supporting your child's mental health this fall. [School Mental Health Ontario](#) also has tips on how you can help your child feel confident and know what to expect for the return to school.

Message from Administration –

J. Moore/M. Crawford

Welcome back Wildcats to the new year of learning!

We are happy to have the students back to school. We are looking forward to sharing an amazing year of new learning opportunities. We have the construction of our new gym happening and we will be excited to watch the progress daily! The classroom teachers are busy reaching out to parents Sept 1st and 2nd.

Please reach out to our team if you have any questions. We would love to hear from you!

Westminster is Nut Free and Scent Aware!

We would like to remind you that our school has students and/or staff with nut allergies. We kindly ask that you do not send products that contain nuts. There are food suppliers who are marketing peanut-free products that look, taste, and smell like peanut butter. These peanut butter substitute products can cause confusion and create an unsafe environment for our students and staff that are peanut anaphylactic. Therefore, due to the difficulty in differentiating between peanut butter and a peanut butter substitute, we do not allow these products in our school.

We have staff and students who are very sensitive to perfumes and scents. Please be scent

aware to help us keep our school community healthy!



Go, Wildcats!

Verification Forms

Student Information

Verification/Excursion/Media Release Forms

The information contained on these forms is **vital** if it becomes necessary to contact you in case of an emergency involving your child. Please review all information on the Student Information Verification Form for accuracy, make necessary changes and return it to your child's homeroom teacher. Also included is the Excursion Form to allow students to walk off school property within a 2km distance, supervised by their teacher and the Media Release Form. These documents **must be signed, dated and returned** to the school by:

Monday, September 19, 2022.



Our Terry Fox run/walk will take place on September 23rd. We will be collecting "Toonies for Terry" to donate to the foundation.

Upcoming Dates

- Hot Lunch will begin in October
- Construction will be on-going this year and our new gym will hopefully be completed by March
- Photo day will be October 12th



Arrival/Dismissal Procedure

Bus Students Arrival: At 9:25 am, bus students will unload and wait to be supervised off the bus and into the school

Beginning of Day - Procedures for Drop Off and Walkers for Arrival

- Vehicles are NOT allowed to park in the Westminster Parking Lot
- Drivers are NOT to be exiting their vehicles
- If you would like to, or need to walk your child to the line or stand with them – you need to park off-site – we suggest the park parking lot to the east of the school
- Students are to be dropped off to staff in an orange vest (usually Mr. Crawford who is supervising the drop off and parking lot beginning at 9:20 am). This does take a little longer, but helps ensure student safety and organization of movement
- There is only a single lane of traffic – vehicles are NOT allowed to pass or drive through pylon dividers
- At 9:25 am, students will be welcomed through the walker gate, one at a time and will be directed by staff to the appropriate entrance door for their class. **Please do not arrive too early, as we are not able to have students on the yard before 9:25 am.**
- Late Arrivals must report to the office to sign in.

End of Day – Pick Up and Dismissal

- Parents who are picking up their child(ren) must park offsite – the parking lot will also be closed to all traffic during dismissal to ensure the safety of students, parents and staff
- Walkers not being picked up by a parent or guardian will be brought to the parking lot by staff and dismissed at 3:50 pm
- Staff will be walking their classes out to pick-ups in the parking lot and doing hand-offs directly to parents.

Orange Shirt Day

September 30th has been declared Orange Shirt Day annually to commemorate the residential school experi-

ence, to witness and honour the healing journey of the survivors and their families, and to commit to the on-going process of reconciliation.

We hope to have all our students join us in wearing an orange shirt that day. All our students will have the opportunity that day to be engaged in learning opportunities around Indigenous Education.

