



# What's Up at Westi?



Westminster Public School



October, 2022



Check out our Facebook page at:

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

## Parent Council Corner

First meeting of the year is Thursday October 6th at 6pm. We look forward to meeting with you. TEAMS invites will be sent out on Wednesday morning for those who have confirmed they are attending.

We will be celebrating Halloween Monday October 31st at school. Watch for more information to come from the classrooms in the coming weeks. Reminder if any food items are sent in that we are an allergy safe school! Check with the teacher before sending items in to ensure everyone's safety.

# HALLOWEEN

## Message from Administration

J. Moore/M. Crawford

We have had a very successful transition back to school. Students are back into routine and there is great learning happening within our classrooms.

Teachers have been busy conducting baseline assessment data for each student to plan for literacy and numeracy instruction. These assessments will allow them to target skills that each child needs to succeed.

Our focus is on students mental and emotional well-being. These are as essential as meeting their academic needs. I feel we are meeting this goal as we see happy students and engaged learners.

We are looking forward to meeting and welcoming you at the Open House on October 5th.

## STEO

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

1-855-925-0022.



## Health Unit E-Bits

**Dental Screening is Back!** The Health Unit's Oral Health Team will be providing dental screening at all elementary schools in Leeds, Grenville & Lanark during the 2022-2023 school year. At a minimum, dental screening will be offered to all JK, SK, and Grade 2 students. Watch for more information about school dental screening and when we plan to attend your child's school. If your child has urgent needs before this time, and it would be a financial hardship to cover the cost of dental treatment, contact the Oral Health Team to learn more about the Healthy Smiles Ontario (HSO) program. Call 1-800-660-5853 or visit: <https://healthunit.org/health-information/oralhealth/healthy-smiles-ontario/>.

**Walktober is almost here!** October is Walk to School Month. While the weather is still nice, consider walking your children to school instead of driving. This will create less traffic and pollution around the school contributing to safer school zones. Live too far away from the school? Try parking a block away from the school and walking the rest of the way. The active journey outside can reduce stress, depression, and anxiety, increase happiness and supports healthy brain development in children. You may also create some great memories with your kids along the way. For more information on active school travel and safety tips visit: <https://healthunit.org/healthinformation/physical-activity-rest/active-school-travel/>.

## 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!



**Feeding the Community**

We are collecting food for our local food bank. Bring in non-perishable items to help us fill the boxes in our front foyer. October 3rd—7th.

Help us support our community

## Health and Safety

Fire Prevention Week coming up in October.

We have had our 3 Fire Drill practices for first term. Students will be focused on learning about fire safety during the fire prevention week.

Lockdown drill will be happening in October as well, as per Ministry requirements under safe schools.

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.



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: [http://www.ucdsb.on.ca/for\\_families/my\\_family\\_room](http://www.ucdsb.on.ca/for_families/my_family_room)

## Attendance Matters



## School Clothing Orders

If you are looking to order school clothing please check out [tisportswear.com](http://tisportswear.com)

There is a variety of choices in clothing. We have also added clothing for Pink Shirt Day...check it out! Order cut off for guaranteed Christmas delivery is Nov. 12th. We will have sample sizes for you to try at the Fall Open House.



SCHOOLS  
Bullying Awareness T-Shirt  
**\$12.00**

**UC We All Belong t-shirts and hoodies:** Here is the link to view the options.

UCDSB – Thousand Islands Sportswear ([tisportswear.com](http://tisportswear.com))

We have until October 28th to order.



UCDSB  
Cotton T-Shirt  
**\$25.00**



UCDSB  
Regular Cotton Hooded  
Sweatshirt  
**\$40.00**

## Covid Update

### COVID-19 Symptoms:

- Any one or more of:
  - fever or chills
  - cough
  - shortness of breath
  - decreased or loss of taste or smell
- Two or more of:
  - runny nose or nasal congestion
  - headache
  - extreme fatigue
  - sore throat
  - muscle aches or joint pain
  - gastrointestinal symptoms (such as vomiting or diarrhea)

### Symptoms less likely to be COVID-19

- Only one of:
  - runny nose or nasal congestion
  - headache
  - extreme fatigue
  - sore throat
  - muscle aches or joint pain
  - gastrointestinal symptoms (such as vomiting or diarrhea)
- And/or*
- Any number of:
  - Abdominal pain
  - Pink eye
  - Decreased or no appetite (young children only)

Please use the updated (August 31, 2022) version of the [screening tool](#) to determine next steps when symptoms are present.

Updated Covid Screening Tool <https://www.ontario.ca/school-screening/>

Weather is changing and the days are growing colder. Please remember to encourage your children to dress appropriately for the weather to ensure they stay dry and warm during our fun outdoor play time each day.



Join Us for Our...  
**FALL OPEN HOUSE!**

Westminster  
Public School

October 5th  
6-7:30pm

Visit your child's  
classroom and  
meet the teacher



PIC•COLLAGE

