



WESTWIND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL * 11371 Kingfisher Drive, Richmond, B.C. V7E 4Y6 * 605-668-6497 * Student Absences: 604-668-6498
westwind@sd38.bc.ca @westwindwaves (Instagram)

The Westwind Wave

September 16, 2022

AND.... WE'RE OFF!

Now that our Kindergarten/Grade One classes have finished their gradual entry, our whole school is now all into our classes for the new school year! It feels good to be settled, and to finally start the process of our school routine. It was exciting to witness the anticipation, fist-pumping and high-fives from the children as they realized what class they were in. We hope that your children have made a smooth transition from the summer break and thank you so much for your patience as we worked through organizing our school year. Already the students are making new friends. It's always exciting when the students get into their new classes. A change in classrooms, teachers and classmates is exciting and challenging at the same time. Change (and shaking up the routine) can at times create some anxiety, however in the long-run, it is always a good test of our resiliency. We are looking forward to everyone getting settled and into the flow with the school year and as new routines are set, the comfort and confidence for all increases. This being Mrs. Tse and my first year at Westwind, we could see and feel very quickly our vibrant and passionate community. We look forward to seeing that spirit flourish as we set into routine, and as you'll see from reading below, we've planned some exciting activities that we think will generate some school spirit/energy.



In addition to the school spirit, we also have some logistics to sort out. To help us with this, many **important notices** that require your attention and action have come home this week in your child's backpack. Thank you in advance for attending to those as the sooner we have that information back from you, the sooner we're into flow.

It has become clear that we have a **very supportive parent group and Parent Advisory Council (PAC)**. We look forward to continuing on with the good work you have started, and keen to seek ways that we can enhance our school even more to create the best learning environment possible. We would like to thank again our Parent Advisory Council for hosting the "Welcome Back" to the school year coffee and treats on the first day of school. The Welcome Back social along with the first week of school was a great chance to connect with parents and meet many of the new Kindergarten parents. We're looking forward to meeting more parents at our **upcoming PAC Meeting next Tuesday and at our "Meet the Staff" evening next Thursday**.

If by chance you think you may have missed information, please refer to our webpage. All Newsletters are archived on our school webpage westwind.sd38.bc.ca. The dates for all we do is also listed on our online calendar. You can follow us on **Instagram @westwindwaves**. We have enjoyed greeting the students and parents this week, and hope to meet more of you as time goes by. Mrs. Tse and I have an open-door policy and would be happy to meet with you if you ever have questions #604-668-6497

On behalf of Mrs. Tse and our staff, here's to another great school year.
Bill Juhasz, Westwind Principal



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PHYSICAL LITERACY AT WESTWIND

We are very excited to say that we will be ramping up our physical literacy this September. The rain finally stopped today, the sun came out, and we had an awesome Terry Fox Assembly and Run. All students from Kindergarten to grade 7 jogged and/or power walked on our Westwind track in the back field. Going forward, all our students will be doing (weather permitting) regular school-wide runs all year. Our September training will also be in preparation the District Cross Country Race on October 11th.

SCHOOL-WIDE RUNS

Just before recess on days where the weather is decent, we'll be heading outside for a jog/power walk. This will no doubt create a solid foundation for our cardiovascular fitness and overall health and wellness. Please make sure that your child has suitable running shoes so they're comfortable being active. There's nothing worse than running 2kms in Hello Kitty rubber boots.

DISTRICT CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING RACE – OCTOBER 11TH AT 3:15

Save the date. Details to follow.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP JOB FAIR

In an effort to enhance our students' sense of service to the school community, we are in the planning stages of hosting a Student Leadership Job Fair for students in grades 6 and 7. We'll first host an assembly to describe the various service opportunities available to the students, then students can submit expressions of interest if they wish. Opportunities include: morning announcements, assembly prep/stage and lighting crew, assembly emcees, lunch monitors, technology monitors, PE storage room monitors, safety patrols, school spirit committee etc. We endeavour to include as many of our students who express interest as possible. We will look to incorporate the grade 5's into the leadership mix in the spring.

WE'VE GOT SPIRIT! CRAZY HAIR DAY - WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 21ST

Until the School Spirit Committee (a subsidiary of the Student Leadership Job Fair) gets going with their plans for the year, we will be hosting our first (in a series) School Spirit Day on the 21st. We'll be sure to take lots of pictures that will be showcased in our school spirit slide show at our next assembly, and maybe even at our Meet the Staff night. We've been told that our parents also have a lot of spirit, so if we don't see you (and your hair!) outside before school for a photo op, please pop by the office so we're sure not to miss you.



WESTWIND WAVE WEAR ON WEDNESDAYS

On Wednesday we'll show our school spirit by wearing our Westwind Wave wear. We'll not only wear this on our school spirit days, we'll also wear it when participating in school events like cross-country running, sports day, track and field etc. etc. Some of you, like me, are new to Westwind, so you don't have your Westwind Wave wear yet. Not to worry, we'll be sending out shortly a notice with information on how you can order some school spirit wear.

MEET THE STAFF THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 22ND 5:00-6:00

We're looking forward to welcoming parents back into the school. You are welcome to join us at 5:00pm next Thursday to meet your child's teacher and see their classroom etc. Parents/guardians with more than one child attending Westwind can go at your leisure from class to class meet each of your children's teachers and support staff. At 5:45pm, we'll all assemble in the gym for staff introductions, and a school spirit slide show of some of the September highlights. We've intentionally scheduled it from 5:00-6:00pm so that parents who also have children attending McMath are able to attend that Parent night that starts at 6:30pm.



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PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING – NEXT TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH AT 6:30pm

A supportive Parent Advisory Council is an important part of any vibrant school. If you're new to Westwind, you should know that the Westwind PAC is an active group that finds lots of ways to support the school, its students and programs. Our Westwind PAC is one of the strengths of our school and do an amazing job contributing in many ways to our school community. All Westwind Parents are members of the school PAC, so please feel welcome to come out and get involved. There are varying levels of involvement, all very important when considering that "many hands make light work." Some parent volunteers are involved in leadership roles that require additional time to fulfill those roles (eg. The PAC Executive), while others are on hand (as worker bees) to help out those leaders occasionally on an as needed basis. You have already received an invitation from the PAC for our first meeting (virtual) of the year on September 20th at 6:30pm. A link to the meeting will be sent out prior to the meeting. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. Hope to see you there.

A VISIT FROM MS. JULE (FORMALLY KNOWN AS MS. LUDWIG) - TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 20TH - 10:00AM

Looking to forward to seeing Ms. Jule next week where she'll go class to class saying farewell to the students.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR: OCTOBER 3 - 7 IN THE LIBRARY

Save the date. Details to follow!

MUNCH-A LUNCH

We are excited to announce our **first Lunch Day** of the school year with Takeya Sushi on Monday October 3rd. **Orders must be submitted and paid for online by Sunday September 25th** to ensure they are processed. A list of menu options and prices is attached to the email.



- Returning parents login [here](#) (if you have forgotten your password, there is a link near the bottom of the login page)
- New parents without a login please register [here](#)
- New families to the school with an existing Munch-a-lunch account please click the option to "transfer schools" upon logging in

After our first lunch day on October 3rd all future lunch days and Grade 7 Pizza Days, until December will be open for ordering. If you have any questions please reach out by email to: alannalunchday@gmail.com



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IMPORTANT DATES

Friday, September 16	Terry Fox Run – contributions on School Cash Online
Monday, September 19	Day of Mourning for Queen Elizabeth II - No school
Tuesday September 20	PAC Meeting (Virtual) 6:30
Wednesday, September 21	Crazy Hair Day!
Thursday September 22	Meet the Staff 5:00pm
Friday, September 23	Professional Development Day – No school
Sunday, September 25	Munch-a-Lunch orders submitted and paid for
Thursday, September 29	Orange Shirt Day
Friday, September 30	Truth & Reconciliation Day - no school
Monday, October 3	Hot lunch day: Sushi
Mon, Oct 3 – Fri, Oct 7	Scholastic Book Fair
Wed, Oct 5 & Thur, Oct 6	Early dismissal for parent/teacher conferences (1:45pm)
Friday, October 7	Student photo day
Monday, October 10	Thanksgiving Day – No School
Tuesday, October 11	District Cross Country Running Race 3:15pm
Thursday, October 20	Grade 6 & 7 immunizations
Friday, October 21	Professional Development Day
Thursday, October 27	Bollywood performance
Monday, October 31	Halloween
Tuesday, November 8	Student photo retake day
Thursday, November 10	Remembrance Day Assembly
Friday, November 11	Remembrance Day – No School
Friday, November 25	Professional Development Day – No School
Mon, Dec 19 to Mon, Jan 2	Winter Vacation
Tuesday, January 3	Return to School
Monday, January 30	Professional Development Day
Wed, Feb 15 & Thurs, Feb 16	Early dismissal / student led conferences (1:45pm)
Friday, February 17	Professional Development Day - No School
Monday, February 20	Family Day - No School
Mon, Mar 13 to Fri, Mar 24	Spring Vacation
Monday, March 27	Return to School
Friday, April 7	Good Friday - No School
Monday, April 10	Easter Monday - No School
Friday, May 19	Professional Development Day - No School
Monday, May 22	Victoria Day - No School
Thursday, June 29	Last Day of School for Students