



WESTWIND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
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westwind@sd38.bc.ca

Ms. C. Latu
Principal

Ms. N. Widdess
Vice Principal

WELCOME TO A NEW SCHOOL YEAR!

We hope you and your family have enjoyed the opportunity to create great summer memories and are ready for another exciting school year. We welcome all our former students and parents back and extend a special welcome to our kindergarten children and newly enrolled students (**all 55 of them!**) as well as all of their families.

In addition to new students and families, we also have a number of new staff members to tell you about:

Mr. Tristan Taylor	Grade 6/7 Classroom Teacher
Ms. Klara Brulhart	Grade 6/7 Classroom Teacher
Ms. Sophie Willis	Grade 1/2 Classroom Teacher
Mrs. Joy Kim	Kindergarten Classroom Teacher
Mrs. Melissa Harvey-Wong	Learning Resource/ELL Teacher
Mr. Chris Laxton	ELL Teacher
Ms. Ornella Svaestuen	Counsellor

We also need to say farewell and good-wishes to Mrs. Sandy Wolinsky, Classroom Teacher, who retired at the end of the school year and to Ms. Dee Wozney who has taken a leave of absence this year.

SCHOOL HOURS

Just a reminder of the school hours at Westwind

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

8:30 am	Students are welcome into classrooms
8:40 am	First morning bell
8:45 am	Morning classes begin
10:25-10:40 am	Recess break
12:20-1:07 pm	Lunch break-Playfirst
1:12 pm	Afternoon classes begin
3:00 pm	Dismissal

Tuesday

8:30 am	Students are welcome into classrooms
8:40 am	First morning bell
8:45 am	Morning classes begin
10:25-10:40 am	Recess break
12:20-1:07	Lunch
1:45 pm	Dismissal

KINDERGARTEN

Westwind's gradual phase-in schedule sees our kindergarten students coming to school in small groups over the next week and gradually attending for longer days until their first "full day" on Thursday, September 14th. ***We wish our littlest Waves all the very best in their days at Westwind!***

Meet the Staff Evening- Thursday, September 14th at 6:00 pm

On **Thursday, September 14th**, we would like to invite our school community to meet our staff, see the classrooms, and reconnect after a long summer.

6:00-6:30 Classroom visits. This will be an informal time for you to go to your child(ren)'s classroom(s) and say hello to the teachers.

6:30-6:45 We will gather in the gym to meet all of the Westwind staff.

We hope you will be able to join us!



PLANS FOR THE FIRST DAYS OF SCHOOL (SEPTEMBER 5-8)

Students will begin their days in their previous classrooms where they will be taking part in activities to help them get back in the swing of things including looking at our school's SPIRIT program.

Students new to Westwind will be temporarily assigned to a classroom with students in the same grade as them. We are hoping to have students in their classes by Friday.

On Friday, September 9th, you will pick your child up from their new class. Class lists will be posted at the school entrance.

WESTWIND IS PROUD TO BE A “NUT AWARE” SCHOOL
Within our school community there are a growing number of students who have a potentially life-threatening allergy (anaphylaxis) to foods, predominantly to peanuts and nuts, such as cashews, walnuts, almonds, pistachios, pecans, hazelnuts and spreads such as peanut butter and nutella. We feel that the best way to reduce the risk of accidental exposure to these students is to respectfully ask for the cooperation of the parents/guardians within this school to avoid sending peanut butters or products with peanuts or nuts listed in the ingredients with your child, either for snack or lunch, or if arrangements have been made with the teacher to send treats into class. If your child accidentally brings products with nuts or peanuts, they will be asked to eat them at a designated table

<u>Upcoming Events</u>	
<u>September</u>	
9	Welcome Back Assembly 9:00 am (Gym)
12	Individual Photo Day (Library)
14	Meet the Staff Evening 6:00 pm
18-21	Book Fair (Library)
20	Welcome Back Evening 6 pm (Gym)
22	Professional Development Day
28	Terry Fox Run 2 pm

SCHOOL AND HOME COMMUNICATION

As a school community, we value clear and consistent communication and we will try to communicate with you in as many ways as possible. Individual teachers will communicate with families about happenings in classroom and from a school perspective, we have various means in which we tell you about important school-wide information. Some of the main forms of communication we will be using are outlined below.

School Website: Our school website contains valuable information, including a calendar of events.
<http://westwind.sd38.bc.ca/>

School Newsletters and Notices: We will be sending home regular electronic newsletters on at least a monthly basis. These notices will contain important information about school events. We will be sending home the notices electronically and the newsletter will also be posted on the school website.



BASIC SCHOOL SUPPLIES AND STUDENT PLANNERS

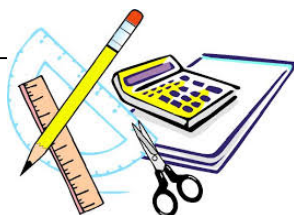
Once again, the school district will make available student school supplies. The price for this year is **\$30.00**.

This covers the cost of such basics as exercise books, duo-tangs, paper, pencils & erasers, crayons, rulers, scrapbooks, and glue. If there are any other individual items required beyond those supplied by the school, such as pens, felt pens, and gym clothes, your child's teacher will notify you. All items brought to school should be labeled with the student's name.

In addition, we will be providing each student in **Grades 1-7 (not K's)** with a student planner/organizer, which will be an integral part of each classroom program. We are requesting an additional **\$6.00** charge for the student planner.

PLEASE DO NOT SEND THIS MONEY BEFORE MONDAY, SEPT.25th!

Please return money to your child's classroom teacher. We would also prefer payment to be made by cheque (made out to Westwind) rather than in cash.



Class Placements-Thank You for Your Patience

This week, staff will be taking time to finalize class placements for our students. The process of making sure students are in the best learning environment is one which staff take very seriously and put great thought into. We hope to have students into their classes by Friday afternoon so that we can start our school year. Our school is so fortunate to have talented, thoughtful staff who provide safe, caring, and challenging learning situations for all our students. We ask for your patience as students settle into their new classes. Due to the number of registrations and changing enrollment during September, it may be necessary, though unlikely to reorganize classes throughout the month. We will advise you in advance should there be a need to reorganize classes in any way.