

THE WESTWIND WAVES NEWSLETTER



September 12, 2025

<https://westwind.sd38.bc.ca/>

@westwindwaves

Away we go!

Students are now in their new classes and have already begun to get to know their teachers and classmates! We know that the beginning of the year always comes with a bit of trepidation, and it takes time to feel settled in a new class environment, but we hope that with open hearts and open minds, students will find new friendships, bond with their teacher and get off to a great start for the year. The Westwind staff wishes every child at Westwind a happy and rewarding year of learning, growth and new experiences!

Welcome to New Staff

We welcome the following new staff members to Westwind:

Ms. Austin - School Counsellor
Ms. Calvert - ELL/Resource Teacher
Ms. Chan - K/1 Teacher
Ms. Kwak - Grade 4/5 teacher
Ms. McKittrick - Grade 2/3 teacher
Mrs. Savage - PE Teacher
Ms. Udagawa - Noon-Hour Supervisor



Forms, Forms, Forms!

Earlier this week your child should have brought home a package from the office with important forms for you to review and sign. Please return these to your classroom teacher as soon as possible. This package has information about registering for SchoolCashOnline to set you up for online payments. Please reach out to the office if you need help with setting up your account. Note that some forms are double-sided, so be sure to check both sides.

Westwind Spirit Wear - On Sale Now!!

Every Wednesday, we show our school spirit by wearing our Westwind Waves Spirit Wear! We will show our school spirit not only on our weekly spirit days, but also when participating in school events such as cross country running, the district track meet and sports day. Students who are new to Westwind will not have their Westwind Waves wear yet, so we encourage you to wear blue or yellow if you can.

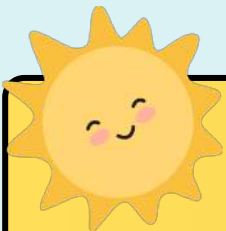
Starting now, you can purchase school spirit wear on your SchoolCashOnline account (link is on our website). Long and short sleeved t-shirts, pullover hoodies, sweatpants, baseball caps and more... new this year are baseball shirts! No late orders will be accepted, so please order now!



Outside Breaks Happen Rain or Shine

Please send your children to school with appropriate clothing for the weather. We go outside at recess and lunch, rain or shine! At this time of year, we recommend for students to have a hat handy for sun protection. Students should have refillable water bottles with them during the day. (If these are left at home, our water fountains are fully operational.)

Air Quality Monitoring: When smoke from wildfires move into our area, schools are given the tools to monitor the air quality hourly and we will move activities indoors if need be.



BE PREPARED FOR THE WEATHER!

LABEL YOUR CHILD'S CLOTHING & ITEMS FROM HOME



Refillable
water bottle



rain coat



rain boots



extra clothing
including socks



Umbrella



Rain or sun hat

Medication at School

If your child has a life threatening allergy or a medical condition that requires them to be given prescribed medication at school (e.g. epipens, antibiotics, pills, inhalers), please ensure you complete a “Request for Administration of Prescribed Medication” form and return it, along the medication, to the school office as soon as possible

In accordance with the Richmond School District guidelines for administration of prescribed medications, non-prescription medications such as Tylenol, Advil, Benadryl, etc. will not be administered by school staff and should not be kept at school or in your child’s backpack. If required, please provide such medication at home before coming to school, or, if needed, school staff will call a parent.



Allergy Alert - No Nuts Please

Please be aware that Westwind school has many students with severe, life-threatening food allergies. Please do not send food to school containing any type of nuts (e.g. no peanut, almond, cashew, pistachio or other nut butters, including Nutella, etc). If using substitutions such as SunButter or Wowbutter, please always label lunch containers, as these products can look and smell just like peanut butter, and this helps teachers and staff ensure safety without confusion. Thank you for working with us to ensure the health and safety of all of our students.

SCHOOL MESSENGER

If you have not yet signed up to receive text messages from the school and the district, send a text with “Y” to 978338 to opt-in! The district and school will use this to send important text alerts (e.g. snow days). Add this number to your contacts and edit the name to “School Messenger”.



Student & Family Affordability Fund

The Student & Family Affordability Fund is a fund designed to assist families who require financial assistance with school-related costs for items such as school supplies, field trips, and school-related extracurricular opportunities.

Please reach out to Mrs. Tse (stse@sd38.bc.ca) or Ms. Reid (ereid@sd38.bc.ca) if you are in need of assistance. As always, all requests will be treated with dignity and this information will be kept confidential. Please do not hesitate to reach out if we can help.



PARKING LOT GUIDELINES

重要な情報です - 翻訳してください
重要資訊 - 請找人翻譯 Informations importantes - Veuillez traduire s'il vous plait
Important Information – Please Translate
Mahalagang Impormasyon - Paki salin sa sariling wika 重要信息 - 請找人翻譯
ਮਹੱਤਵਪੂਰਨ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ - ਕਰਿਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਕਰੋ

Our school parking lot is RESERVED for Westwind and District STAFF ONLY.

Parking spots are not for pick-up/drop-off purposes. Parent volunteers may park in the “Visitor” spots.

DRIVE-THRU LANE: Please keep

traffic flowing smoothly by not stopping or blocking other vehicles in this lane.

DO NOT BLOCK ANY DRIVEWAYS.

Be kind to others and please do not block our neighbours’ driveways. Bylaw officers may ticket you if parked illegally.

DROP-OFF / PICK UP ZONE:

Please stay in your vehicle while waiting. No parking in this lane, please.

Tips from experienced parent parkers:

The following viable **parking options** should be considered instead of coming into our parking lot:

- Lapwing Crescent (West of the school)
- Woodpecker Drive (North of the school)
- You can also park on Kingfisher, but please pay attention to the “no parking” signs.

Always follow the rules of the road and remember speed limits during school hours.

See the next page for a detailed diagram of other parking options and our parking lot guidelines.



At Westwind, we show kindness to self, others and place.



TERRY FOX SCHOOL RUN

Today students and staff participated in the annual Terry Fox School Run. Donations to the Terry Fox Foundation can be made via your SchoolCashOnline account or directly on the Terry Fox [website](#). If you'd like to participate in the Terry Fox Run this weekend, here are the details:

Date: Sunday, Sept. 14

Registration: 9:00am | Time: 10:00am-12:00pm

Location: Garry Point Park





WAVE WATCH

Did You Know?

STUDENT ABSENCES

If your child is going to be absent or late, please phone the Early Warning phone number to leave a message (voice messages are preferred at this time).

EARLY WARNING VOICE MAIL:
604-668-6498



Students who arrive late are asked to please sign in at the office upon arrival.

HEALTH CHECK: SHOULD I GO TO SCHOOL TODAY?

Please keep your child home when they are not feeling well. If they have been vomiting, have had diarrhea or a fever, the recommendation from Vancouver Coastal Health is that they should be free of these symptoms for 24-48 hours before returning to school.

If your child is not feeling well, please continue to keep them home until their symptoms have resolved.

DAILY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

8:40am - Welcome Bell
8:45am - Classes begin (attendance)
10:10-10:25am - Recess
11:50-12:42pm - Lunch (eat first)
2:45pm - Students dismissed

STUDENTS LEAVING EARLY

When possible, please send a note in your child's agenda and/or email your child's teacher in advance with the time your child needs to leave.

Classrooms are busy places and we request that you please allow enough time for your child to gather their belongings, walk down to the office and sign out.

As a courtesy to your child's teacher and classmates, if possible, please have your child leave at a natural break (recess at 10:10am or lunchtime at 11:50am) to limit disruptions to our learning environment.

Thank you for your consideration.

PARENTS & VISITORS IN THE SCHOOL

We kindly ask parents and any visitors who are volunteering in the school to sign in at the office upon entering the building. Please remember to pick up a visitor badge too!

If you need to drop off a lunch, band instrument, water bottle, or any other forgotten items, please leave them on the lunch table by the office to minimize disruptions to classroom.

Thank you for your cooperation and support in keeping our school running smoothly.

Significant Dates in our Community

September 2025

September 4/5, 2025 – Mawlid al-Nabi (Islamic)

To our Muslim community members observing Mawlid al-Nabi, we extend warm greetings as you mark the birth of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). May this day bring peace, reflection, and blessings to you and your families.

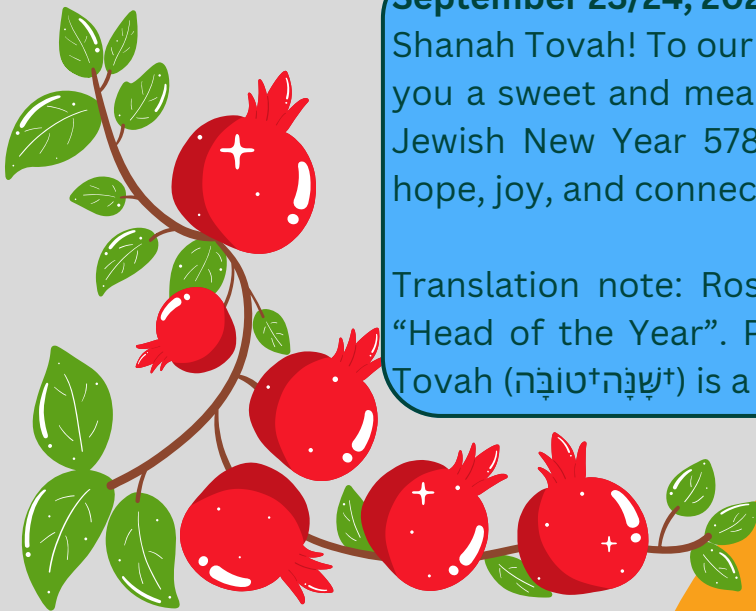
Translation note: Mawlid al-Nabi (Arabic: المولد النبوي) means “Birth of the Prophet”. Pronounced: MAW-lid al-NAH-bee



September 23/24, 2025 – Rosh Hashanah (Jewish New Year)

Shanah Tovah! To our Jewish students, staff, and families, we wish you a sweet and meaningful Rosh Hashanah as you welcome the Jewish New Year 5786. May this time of renewal be filled with hope, joy, and connection.

Translation note: Rosh Hashanah (Hebrew: ראש השנה) means “Head of the Year”. Pronounced: ROHSH hah-SHAH-nah Shanah Tovah (שנה טובה) is a traditional greeting meaning “Good Year”.



September 30, 2025 – National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (Canada)

On September 30, we observe the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, honouring the Survivors of residential schools, their families, and the children who never returned home. As a learning community, we reaffirm our commitment to truth, remembrance, and reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples.

Note: This day is also known as Orange Shirt Day, this is a time for collective reflection and recognition of the message, “Every Child Matters”. **Staff and students are encouraged to wear orange on September 29, 2025 in solidarity.**



Important Dates 2025-2026

Mon. Sept. 22: Pro D Day – No School

Thurs. Sept. 25: Student Photo Day

Thurs. Sept. 25: Meet the Staff Night 5:00–6:00pm

Mon. Sept. 29: Orange Shirt Day

Tues. Sept. 30: Truth and Reconciliation Day – No School

Mon. Oct. 13: Thanksgiving – No School

Fri. Oct. 17: PAC Halloween Kids Dance 6:00–8:00pm

Wed. Oct. 22: 1:45pm Early Dismissal

Thurs. Oct. 23: 1:45pm Early Dismissal

October 20–23: Book Fair!

Fri. Oct. 24: Pro D Day – No School

Wed. Oct. 29: District Cross Country Run @ Garry Point

Fri. Oct. 31: Halloween! School-Wide Pumpkin Carving



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