

THE WESTWIND WAVES NEWSLETTER

February 21, 2025

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



@westwindwaves

Westwind Waves for Cancer



What an exciting day!! Thank you to all who supported our BC Cancer fundraising initiative in support of one of our students who is currently going through chemotherapy treatments. We are thrilled to share that our wrap-up assembly today was a heartwarming success! We came together as a school community to celebrate the generous donations made to BC Cancer, which totalled \$3522.10!

The highlight of the event was watching the inspiring haircuts for staff, symbolizing our collective support and solidarity with those affected by cancer (see some pictures on the next page). *A very special thank you to Marisa, the stylist who volunteered her time to provide the hair cuts.*

Thank you to everyone who participated and contributed to this meaningful cause. Together, we are making a difference!





BOOK SWAP

On **Tuesday, March 11th**, the **Westwind Library**, along with the students in **Division 1**, will be **hosting our Second Annual Book Swap event**. Students are invited to bring in their gently used books and swap them for some "new to you" books.

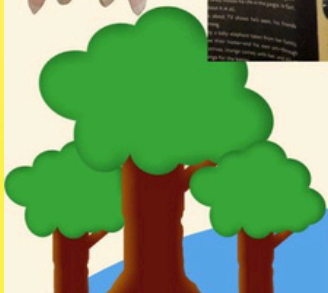
On Monday March 10th, from 9:00am until recess, students can bring **up to FIVE** donated books to the library. For every book that is donated, the student will receive a ticket. On Tuesday, March 11th, students will be invited back to the library to exchange tickets for books donated by the other students. This is a great opportunity to get some fresh books to keep students reading over Spring Break!

Donated books must be in gently used to almost new condition. Please make sure that they are suitable for students at an elementary school grade level. Any toddler/preschool books, adult books or books in poor condition will not be accepted for the exchange.

Division 1 students will be keeping a record of the tickets distributed to each student, so there are no worries about lost tickets. Please note that participation in the Book Swap is completely voluntary. Looking forward to another successful event!



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FAMILY LITERACY DAY PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS



Parent Input Needed for RSD's 2025–2030 Strategic Plan



As part of the development of the 2025–2030 Strategic Plan, the Richmond School District is seeking input from students, staff, parents/caregivers, partner groups, and the greater Richmond community through a survey. Additionally, there will be four open houses and a virtual session. Feedback gathered will help shape the priorities that will guide the district for the next five years.

The online survey is anonymous and takes approximately 5–15 minutes to complete. All responses will be reviewed and analyzed to help refine our strategic priorities, and the collective input will be presented to the Board of Education as part of the engagement process.

The survey will be open until Sunday, February 23, 2025, and can be accessed here: [Strategic Plan Survey](#).

For more information and ongoing updates on the strategic planning process, please visit sd38.bc.ca/strategicplan.

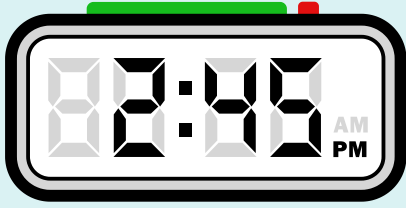
VISITORS IN THE SCHOOL

welcome

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! This helps us to know who is in the building in the case of an emergency and to ensure a safe and secure environment for everyone.

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. (Good news: our water fountains are fully operational!)

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



STUDENT DISMISSAL IS AT 2:45pm

We would like to kindly remind parents that school dismissal is at 2:45 p.m., and there is no adult supervision after that time. We have noticed that some students have been waiting to be picked up well after 3:00 p.m. lately. We understand that occasional delays can occur, but we ask that you please make arrangements ahead of time to ensure your child is picked up on time. In general, all students should be heading home promptly after dismissal unless supervised by a parent/guardian. Thank you for your understanding and support!



HEALTH CHECK: SHOULD I GO TO SCHOOL TODAY?

Students should not attend school when they are sick.

If your child is not feeling well, please keep them at home until their symptoms have resolved. If your child is experiencing fever, vomiting or diarrhea, please wait 24-48 hours after symptoms subside before returning to school.

Staying at home when sick helps keep our entire school community healthy.

PARKING LOT APPRECIATION!

We wanted to take a moment to express our sincere appreciation for your continued commitment to following our parking lot guidelines. Your cooperation and attention to these important rules have made a significant impact, and the improvement in the parking lot has been noticeable.

While many schools have had to close their parking lots altogether due to challenges, we are fortunate to be able to improve and enhance ours because of your dedication and teamwork. It is clear that parents are making an effort to do their part, and it's truly making a difference in ensuring a smoother and safer experience for all. Thank you for being such a supportive and responsible part of our school community! Click [HERE](#) for a link to our parking lot guidelines.

Significant Dates in our Community

February 2025

Black History Month: During Black History Month, people in Canada celebrate the many achievements and contributions of Black Canadians and their communities who, throughout history, have done so much to make Canada a culturally diverse, compassionate, and prosperous country.



February 26: Maha Shivaratri is one of the major festivals in Hinduism dedicated to worshipping Lord Shiva. People celebrate Maha Shivaratri by fasting, keeping vigil and doing pujas at homes and temples.

February 26: Pink Shirt Day is a student created day in Canada to stand up to homophobic bullying. A video of co-founder of Pink Shirt Day can be found [here](#).



February 21: International Mother Language Day is a United Nations day that focuses on how languages and multilingualism can advance inclusion, and the Sustainable Development Goals' focus on leaving no one behind.

February 28 - March 29: Ramadan is the ninth month of Islamic Lunar calendar. Muslims consider this whole month a blessed month. They fast during the days of this month and make special prayers at night. People also give more charity and do extra righteous deeds.

RAMADAN

Who is Eligible?

Children are eligible for coverage if they are:

- a) more than 6 months old;
- b) less than 27 years old; and
- c) live in Canada, except the province of Quebec.

If a child is 14 years old or older at any time during the Coverage Period, they must be a full-time student within the 12 months prior to any claim. We define a full-time student as being enrolled in a minimum of 3 courses at the same time, during any 4-month period.

If you have children enrolled in different schools or school boards, they may all be insured under one policy.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Financial Protection for your family in case of accidents



Full Year of
Coverage

📞 1.800.463.5437

🌐 www.INSUREMYKIDS.COM

Underwritten by Old Republic Insurance Company of Canada. Please visit insuremykids.com for detailed information on coverages, conditions, limitations and exclusions.

 OLD REPUBLIC INSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA

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If you have questions relating to this insurance program, please contact Joyce Coronel from the Secretary Treasurer's office at jcoronel@sd38.bc.ca or 604-668-6008.

IMPORTANT DATES 2024-2025

- Feb 24: PAC Meeting on Teams (link sent on Monday)
- Feb 26: Pink Shirt Day - Wear Pink at school!
- Feb 27: Band Concert for Div 1-5 Families - 1:30 pm
- Feb 28: Professor Wow! Performance for all students
- Mar 17- 28: Spring Break - School Not in Session
- Mar 31: Back to School
- Apr 18: Good Friday - No School
- Apr 21: Easter Monday - No School



online now until
MAY 3RD

Student Learning Survey 2025 - Parent Input Needed!

The Student Learning Survey (SLS) has been administered every year in BC public schools since 2001. Prior to 2016/17 it was known as the Satisfaction Survey. It is the only source of province-wide information of children's learning experiences. The results of this survey will be shared back to the school district and school leaders to promote the best pedagogical practices around the province, as well as being used to inform the Ministry of the implementation of the curriculum and of overall student growth and well-being. Your perspective as a parent is valued, and your participation is an important contribution to improving the educational experiences of children.

Parent Access:

1. Go to the following website: www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm
2. Click on the "Parents" icon.
3. Select your child's district, school name and language of preference.
4. Complete the survey and click "Submit".

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