

# THE WESTWIND WAVES NEWSLETTER

October 10, 2025

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

@westwindwaves

As we head into the Thanksgiving weekend, we want to express our gratitude for our students and their families, our dedicated staff, and the special place we share. We hope you enjoy a restful and joyful time with your families. Happy Thanksgiving!

Mrs. Tse and Ms. Reid



This week, we said farewell to Mrs. Spence. We thank her for her care and dedication, and all she has done for students, staff and parents. We wish her all the best as she transitions to Quilchena.



## GRADE 6 & 7 VOLLEYBALL

We're looking forward to another exciting volleyball season kicked off by the first home game for team Blue on Tuesday, October 14. We have so many Grade 6 & 7 students interested that we have two teams again this year - the yellow and blue teams! A gigantic thank you to Ms. Hansen, Ms. Kwak and Mrs. Tse for sponsoring and coaching both of our volleyball teams. The time they spend above and beyond their workday is very much appreciated by the students and the community.

## CROSS COUNTRY FUN RUN CLUB

Thank you to Ms. Reid for organizing the Fun Run Club for our Grade 1 - 7 students. Practices will be on Mondays and Wednesdays after school, rain or shine. If your child would like to participate in the District Fun Run with us, please get a permission form from the office and return it by October 20<sup>th</sup>. The District Fun Run will be at Garry Point on October 29th. Parents are responsible for getting their children to/from the Fun Run, and must accompany their child to this after school event.

## STUDENT PHOTOS - ORDERING INFO

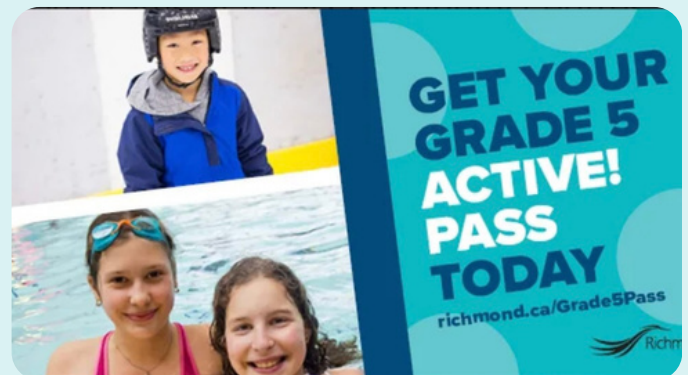
Your child should have brought home their photo ordering cards last week. Please see the proof for your unique ordering code. To qualify for free shipping (to the school), please order by October 13th.



## GRADE 5 STUDENTS - ACTIVE PASS!

The City of Richmond is offering students in Grade 5 a pass for FREE admission to drop-in swimming, skating, pitch and putt golf and various drop-in programs at local community centres.

Please click [here](#) for more details and the registration process to access the free pass.



## WESTWIND'S ANNUAL SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR - OCTOBER 20-23

# SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Every year the Westwind Library holds a Scholastic Book Fair in order to raise funds to support the library and student literacy. **This year we have a fundraising goal to purchase some soft furniture to complete our library renovation.** We, of course, also use a percent of these funds to purchase books for the library.

Your child will bring home a schedule indicating when their class will be visiting the Book Fair. You are welcome to join the class to assist your child, or you can send money with your child in a sealed and marked envelope on their assigned day. You will also receive a preview that you can use to discuss possible purchases at home.

The success of the Book Fair depends on parent support, and we particularly appreciate all the parents that volunteer to help out. There is a volunteer sign-up sheet in the front hall of the school, by the office. Time commitments are short, so feel free to sign-up more than once!

Book Fair hours are during the school day, except for Wednesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> when we will be open until 5 pm.

Thank you for your amazing support!  
Ms. L. Nunn - Teacher Librarian

*\*Please note: only books directly from the book fair support this library fundraiser. Books purchased through classroom teacher accounts support that classroom only.*

*The season of falling leaves, crisp mornings and unpredictable weather has arrived; please make sure your kids come to school dressed for the sun, rain, wind and everything in between!  
It's also helpful if they have a change of clothes at school too.*

### BE PREPARED FOR ANY WEATHER! LABEL YOUR CHILD'S CLOTHING & ITEMS FROM HOME



Refillable  
water bottle



Rain/winter  
coat



Rain/winter  
boots



extra clothing  
including socks



winter hat,  
mits & scarf

## SCHOOL-WIDE PUMPKIN CARVING ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31



**Bring a pumpkin to school  
on Oct 31 emptied from  
the bottom!**

**Every student is asked to bring a pumpkin and a reusable bag to school on Friday, October 31st.** The size of the pumpkin should be something that your child can carry themselves to school, and home again after school. We do have some carving tools at school, but if students have their own carving tools (from the Dollar Store), please bring them along. Please do not bring knives to school.

**Please prepare your pumpkin at home ahead of time by cutting out a hole in the bottom of your pumpkin and scooping out the seeds before bringing the pumpkin to school on the 31st.** In our Family Team groups, with the assistance of staff and student leaders, students will carve their pumpkins and we will create a 400+ pumpkin display in the gym!

If your child needs help getting a pumpkin, please let your classroom teacher know.

## TRICK OR TREATING WITH RESPECT...

Halloween is one of the most exciting days of the year for many students. However, we need to be aware that celebrating Halloween needs to be fun for ALL and not at the expense of others. Halloween offers an opportunity to have meaningful conversations about costume choices. In doing so, it is important to keep in mind that we need to be sensitive to groups that have been marginalized through mimicry and cultural appropriation during Halloween and other 'dress up' events.

It's important to keep in mind that the following are NOT good choices for costumes...

- Race (black/brown face)
- Culture (Indigenous regalia/dreadlocks)
- Religious Faith (gods/gurus/hijab)
- Gender (gender switching for humour or to mock)
- Trauma (weapons)





# DID YOU KNOW?

## Community Information: Dogs In Parks & on School Grounds

### CITY OF RICHMOND POLICY



In Richmond, **dogs must be on-leash at all times in public areas** except in designated off-leash dog areas, such as McDonald Beach Park, the No. 3 Road Bark Park, and Woodward's Slough. For a full list of designated off-leash areas and the associated rules, [visit the City of Richmond's Dogs In Parks page.](#)



NEW

### RICHMOND SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICY

Below is an excerpt from the new District Policy 703.5-G, Dogs on School District Property.

A commonsense approach will be used when admitting animals to schools and district facilities for support purposes for any length of time.

Dogs are not allowed on district or school property during school days from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., with exception of:

- a. Certified guide dogs and/or service dogs
- b. Certified therapy dogs
- c. Dogs with a parent/guardian during student drop off and pick up (short visit). At all times during student drop off and pick up, all dogs on district or school property must be:
  - i. Licensed.
  - ii. Leashed and under adult control.
  - iii. Remain clear from building entrances and play areas.
  - iv. Immediately cleaned up after and have their waste removed by the owner/handler.



See the full district policy [here](#)

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to Mrs. Tse or Ms. Reid in the school office.

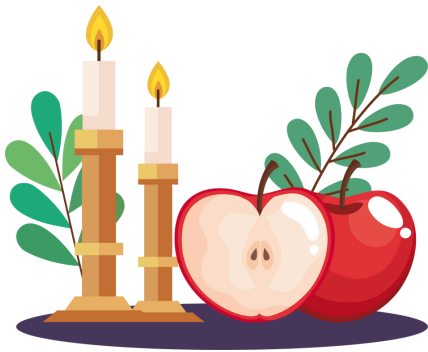
# Significant Dates in our Community

As part of our ongoing commitment to recognize the diverse faiths, cultures, and histories that shape our school district, we offer these greetings to acknowledge important observances during the month of October.

*October 2025*

## **October 1, 2025 – Kol Nidrei (Jewish)**

At sundown on October 1, the Jewish community begun observance of Kol Nidrei, the solemn opening service of Yom Kippur. We extend our thoughts to those who prepared for this sacred time of prayer, reflection, and personal renewal.



## **October 2, 2025 – Yom Kippur (Jewish)**

To our Jewish students, staff, and families, we hope you all had a meaningful Yom Kippur, the holiest day in the Jewish calendar. We hope this Day of Atonement brought peace, reflection, and renewal as you fasted, prayed, and gathered with your communities.



## **October 3, 2025 – Dussehra (Hindu)**

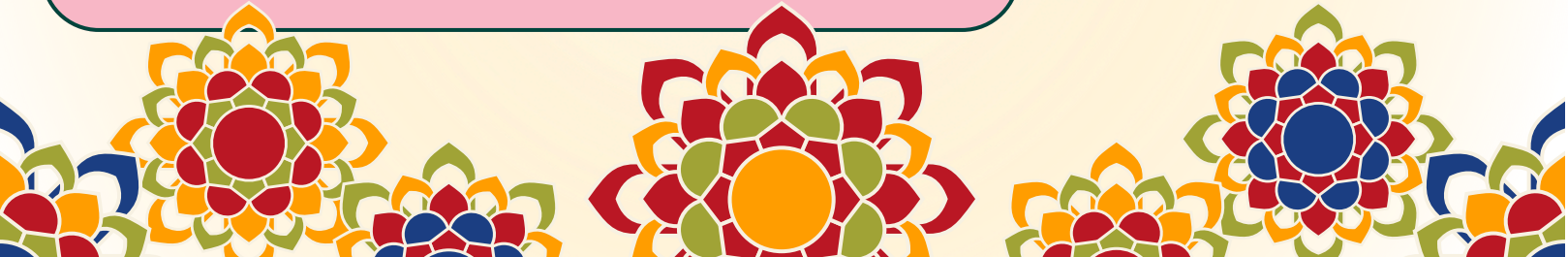
We extend our warmest greetings to members of the Hindu community who observed Dussehra. This festival marks the victory of good over evil and is often celebrated with prayer, cultural events, and family gatherings. We hope this day brought joy, prosperity, and light.



## **October 20, 2025 – Diwali (Hindu, Sikh, Jain)**

Happy Diwali to all who are celebrating the Festival of Lights! To our Hindu, Sikh, Jain, and interfaith families, may this joyous occasion bring brightness, peace, and renewal into your homes and hearts.

**HAPPY**  
*Diwali*





# Important Dates 2025-2026

Mon. Oct. 13: Happy Thanksgiving – No School

Fri. Oct. 17: PAC Halloween Kids Party 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



*Sat. Nov 1: Daylight Savings ends – move clocks forward*

Mon. Nov 3: Photo retake day

Mon. Nov 10: Remembrance Day Assembly

Tue. Nov 11: Remembrance Day – No School

Mon. Nov 17: PAC Meeting 6:30pm

 @westwindwaves



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