

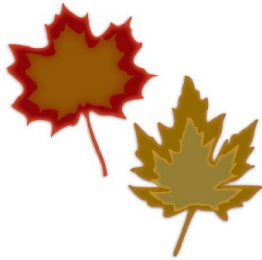
October 2017

Elk Island Public Schools

THE WESTBORO REPORT



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Over the month of September, I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know students, staff and parents at Westboro Elementary. I have felt very welcomed by the entire school community.

October promises to be a very busy month. I am looking forward to the work that our teachers will be doing as we continue to work towards meeting the liter-

acy and numeracy needs for the students at Westboro. We are also very much looking forward to the Shop Til Ya Drop fundraiser on October 21st and the Parent Student Teacher Conferences on October 25th and 26th.

We wish you a wonderful Thanksgiving celebration with loved ones and are thankful for the many bounties we enjoy each and everyday in this beautiful country.



KUDOS FROM WESTBORO

THANK YOU to all staff, parents, students and friends that attended and made our Meet the Teacher BBQ. It was a great evening!

A special thanks goes to the following:

- ◆ Nottingham Sobey's – discounted donations of hotdogs, buns and condiments!
- ◆ Billie Jean Mepham for picking up all the food and Mr. Lastiwka & Mr. Matheson the barbeques. And a special thank you to Michelle, Andrew & Andrea for manning the Barbeque!
- ◆ All the staff who attended for their help and for volunteering all evening!

October

- 2 - 6 Read In Week
- 4 Early Dismissal
- 4 Newsletter out
- 5 & 6 No School - PD Days
- 9 Thanksgiving Day
- 10 Swimming Starts for Gr. 1-3 (every Tuesday until December 12)
- 18 School Council Meeting 6:30
- 19 Chapel 1:00PM
- 21 Shop 'Til Ya Drop!
- 21 – 26 Book Fair
- 23 Photo Retakes
- 24 Photo Re-takes for KL
- 25/26 S/P/T Conferences 4 - 7PM
- 27 Hot Lunch
- 31 NO SWIMMING

November

- 1 Early Dismissal
- 3 Newsletter
- 7 Swimming for Gr. 1-3 (every Tuesday until December 12)

**PRINCIPAL
Mike Lastiwka**

**ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
Matt Matheson**

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WESTBORO NEWS!

TERRY FOX

Congratulations goes out to Maddox who was the top fundraiser in our school for our Terry Fox run.

Congratulations to all our students who demonstrated excellent perseverance as they completed their run on the afternoon of September 15th. Students and families in Westboro Elementary managed to raise over \$849.00 in donations. What a fantastic accomplishment!

Excellent work, everyone!

LIBRARY NEWS

Scholastic Book Fair

This year's theme is Saddle Up and Read.

There will be a draw for \$25 in free books. The winner will get \$25 in books and the teacher will get to choose \$25 in books for the classroom.

The Scholastic Book Fair hours will be as follows:

Oct 21st Shop Til Ya Drop

Oct 23rd – 26th 9 - 2:30pm

Oct 25th & 26th 4 - 7pm



We are very excited to announce that we will be hosting a Christian Book Fair this year too.

Oct 25th & 26th 4 - 7pm

Please drop by the library to check out the Book Fair.

PICTURE DAY!

Picture Retake Day is Monday, October 23rd!!



Please watch your students' agendas or backpacks for their picture proof sheets. Should you need, picture retakes are scheduled for Monday, October 23rd. Retakes for kindergarten and grades 1 to 6 students will be done in the morning starting at 10:30 a.m. and concluding at 12:30. The Kindergarten Logos class will have retakes on Tuesday the 24th. Please be sure to let your student's teacher know if you would

like your student(s) to have another picture taken.

READ IN WEEK! OCTOBER 2 - 6: "I am a reader, I read for ME!"

Read In Week 2017 returns on **October 2-6**. The theme for this year is I'm a Reader! I Read for Me!. Through various activities, students will spend the week learning how stories have the power to teach lessons, broaden perspectives and foster empathy. Some of the activities planned for Read in Week include: Short video to kick off the week. On Tuesday, we would like to invite parents to join us at school from 12:00pm to 1:00pm with their favorite books to enjoy lunch and read-in with their child (ren). Find a spot in the hallway, in a classroom or outside to curl up with your favorite book and enjoy lunch together! Then on Wednesday the students will work on an art project for Read In Week.

Read In Week is a Division-wide initiative held annually to encourage a lifelong love of reading and to enhance literacy awareness among students, staff, parents and community members. We invite all our families to participate in Read In Week with us either by reading yourself, with your child or with someone in the community.

And, don't forget to share what you've learned throughout the week using the hashtag *#eipsreads*. We hope you discover some amazing stories.

REMEMBRANCE DAY ASSEMBLY

Please join us on Thursday, November 9th at 10:30 a.m. for our annual Remembrance Day Service in our school gymnasium. Our service will pay tribute to the countless men and women who have served and continue to serve our country.

We would like to extend an invitation to any war veterans or members of the military to join us, in uniform, if applicable. There will be reserved seating available for these honoured guests. Students are also invited to wear their club uniforms to school. e.g. Cubs, Scouts, Brownies, Guides, etc. to school for this special event.



HALLOWEEN AT WESTBORO

After discussions with Westboro parents and staff, it has been decided that Halloween will be celebrated in the following manner this year at school. Students will be allowed to change into their costumes in the afternoon only. **Please do not send your student(s) to school dressed up.** The afternoon will begin with all our regular classes participating in a Halloween themed drawing activity led by Mrs. Martin-Spady. Following this activity, students will go back to their classes for the individual classroom celebrations, taking part for the last two periods.

Please note that Westboro adheres to a strict policy of **no ghoulish or gory costumes**. We have younger children in our school population that we must consider. As well, there are to be **no weapons or weapon-like props** included in the costumes at school.

This year, our Logos classes will be attending an alternate activity. Details will be forthcoming.

TRAFFIC SAFETY

Thank you to the many parents who continue to respect the rules around drop off and pick up for our students at Westboro Elementary!!

Over the next month, students in Grades K-3 have been practicing correct procedures for crossing roads and also for movement on our playgrounds.

In addition to this, police have been on site issuing tickets for various infractions. **Did you know?**

- It is illegal to park within 5 m of an entrance, driveway or crosswalk?
- The speed limit in specifically marked school zones is 30 km/h. A school zone is in effect on school days from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.?
- The fine for failing to yield to a pedestrian in a crosswalk or passing a vehicle stopped at a crosswalk is \$575?
- The fine for stopping in a zone marked as busing, handicapped or no stopping is \$275?

Once again, we would kindly ask you to be good neighbors and refrain from parking in the front stalls of the parking lot across from our school. Businesses have kindly allowed us access to this lot and we would suffer greatly if this privilege was revoked.

Thank you for all you do to help keep our students safe!

Congratulations to our AMA Safety Patroller of the Month, Aiden.



Pay School Fees Online!

School fee information for the 2017-18 school year is now posted on the PowerSchool Parent Portal. All fees are due within 30 days of being posted. To access your fee information, simply log in to the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) and go to "Student Fees." There you can view your fees and pay them online using Visa, MasterCard or INTERAC Online - when available from your financial institution.

Don't forget to also log in to the PowerSchool Parent Portal regularly throughout the year. Fees are often added to your child's account to cover the cost of various school activities such as field trips, class projects, athletic-team fees and more.

If circumstances exist where you are unable to pay your student fees, you can apply to have [fees waived](#) by submitting an [Application for a Waiver of Fees](#). The application deadline is Dec. 15, 2017.

For more information about school fees, waivers and payment deadlines visit www.eips.ca/schools/fees and [Westboro Elementary Website](#). Alternatively, contact Billie Jean Mephram at Westboro Elementary at 780-467-7751.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



It's that time of year again. Once again, Westboro is pleased to announce that we are taking part in Operation Christmas Child as part of our "Sharing Our Blessings" program.

Please, together with your child if possible, head to the store and purchase one or two small items that each class could gather and put together in a class box to be sent away for a needy child. The challenge this year is that the girls would fill a box for another girl of the same age and vice versa with the boys. If you have any questions about this, please get in touch with me. Of course, if you and your family would like to do a box or two at home, there will be plenty of boxes to go around! I have some extras in my classroom (Mrs. Bouwers 3L). I have ordered 50 boxes for our school and, it is my goal to fill and send all 50 boxes from our school community (I realize that times are difficult for some, so please feel no pressure to do this).

As our boxes need to be ready to go by the beginning of November, I am asking that all gifts/boxes be into the school by November 1 so that we may get them off before Fall break. As well, as each box costs \$10.00 to send, we are asking that this donation be sent in with your items. Any extra money given will be donated to OCC.

Thanks again so much for helping teach our kids about generosity, blessings, and thankfulness. Let's do this, Westboro!

ABORIGINAL STUDIES - OCTOBER

This year at Westboro students are participating in an Aboriginal Studies class, which generally works out to one period per week. This is in conjunction with the proposal that Westboro put forward with our district to work towards reconciliation. All teachers will be attending these classes with their students, with Mrs. Richard acting as the lead. Our Aboriginal Studies classes will focus mainly on exploring Aboriginal culture in a way that fits in with both our regular and Logos programs. We will be looking at past historical events and exploring many elements of culture. Our goal as the year progresses is to work on a school song and music video that promote coming together, working together, and seeing what we can do as Westboro Warriors to contribute to reconciliation.

Each month, as part of our character education project for the year, we will be focusing on one teaching from the Seven Grandfather Teachings. Please watch for memory quotes (regular) or Bible verses (Logos) that will be coming home to support the character education learning we are doing in school each month. In October we will be working on Respect, which is represented by the Buffalo.

Any questions about this project can be directed to Mrs. Richard and we welcome input and feedback from our Westboro families

Parent/Teacher/Student interviews will be held at **4:00p.m. – 7:00p.m.** on **Wednesday, October 25 and Thursday, October 26, 2016.** This year we will continue using the online booking system to book interviews. The steps for this process are outlined below.



Now you can book school interviews for the times that suit *your family*.
Go to www.schoolinterviews.ca and follow these simple instructions.

Simply enter the code and press "Go"

Enter your details

Select the teachers you want to see

Select the appointment times that suit your family best

When you click **FINISH**, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically. If you do not receive your email immediately –

check your junk mail folder

You can return to www.schoolinterviews.ca at any time, and change your interviews - until the bookings close.

BOOKINGS OPEN TUESDAY OCTOBER 10th at 9:00 a.m.

For parents that do not have internet access, computers will be available in the School Library for parents to make their own bookings. Interviews are for a duration of 10 minutes, however, if you require more time, please contact your teacher directly to make alternative arrangements.

PLEASE NOTE: Kindergarten conferences run for a period of 30 minutes. A one-on-one interview will be embedded into this time.

BOOKINGS CLOSE TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24th at 3:30 p.m.

You may change your bookings, any time prior to the closing date, by re-visiting the www.schoolinterviews.ca website, and using the event code. Remember to use the same name and email address, you used when you made your original booking. Parents wishing to change their interview times after the closing date, should contact the school directly at (780) 467-7751.

WESTBORO ELEMENTARY PARENTS GROUP PRESENTS:



Shop til ya Drop

With Dozens of great vendors, fantastic raffle prizes, this is an event you don't want to miss!

Get all your holiday shopping done or treat yourself to a fun day out with friends and family at our fabulous fundraiser!

Saturday, October 21st

10:00am – 4:00pm

WESTBORO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GYM
1078 STRATHCONA DRIVE, SHERWOOD PARK, AB

All are welcome!

Accepting Donations
for the Foodbank!



Along with the
SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR,
the event showcases
these fine vendors:

4 KIDS Design
Bre-elle's SeneCosmetic's
Canning Momma's
Color by Amber
Discovery Toys
Epicure
Glasses to Go
Gold Canyon
Kids Cooking Club
Norwex
Pampered Chef
PartyLite
Scentsy
Steeped Tea
Stella & Dot
Sweetegs
Thirty-One Gifts
Tupperware
ZIZI's Place
**AND MANY
MORE.....**

We had a great turnout for our first meeting! Draft minutes should be shared shortly, but I wanted to talk about one exciting idea we are moving forward with. School Council will be working with administration and the EIPS Literacy Consultant to develop a Literacy Toolkit aimed at parents. We will be sharing tips and tools to help parents develop reading skills with their children while reading at home. We will share the decoding techniques being taught in the classroom, as well as, videos of parents reading with their children to demonstrate some techniques. We are looking for parents who would like to participate! We are really excited to be involved in this project as there are not many literacy resources geared to parents and we hope that by supporting parents, we will improve literacy at Westboro.

Our annual Shop Till Ya Drop event is coming up on Saturday, October 21nd! If you haven't attended, it's an awesome event. We will have a bunch of vendors set up in the gym and you can get all your shopping done in one place! If you know of someone who might be interested in selling, please contact Amy at westboroshoptillyadrop.com

We also had a presentation from Mrs. Richard about supporting the replacement of the barred instruments; many of which are very old and beyond repair. We decided to accept donations in memory of Councillor Vic Bidzinski as well. He was a long time supporter of Westboro Parents and Westboro Elementary, donating money to both playgrounds, and purchasing a bass metallophone and a contrabass bar for the school. He also helped us get the unlighted crosswalk painted (years ago, there was no formal crosswalk there even though it was used as such). We will use the money towards replacing some of the barred instruments which will be dedicated in his memory.

If you would like to read our minutes, and aren't currently on our email list, please email us at WestboroParents@gmail.com and we hope to see you at our next meeting on Wednesday, October 18th at 6:30 pm in the library.

LOGOS SOCIETY NEWS - MRS. RACHEL MILNE - LOGOS REPRESENTATIVE

It is hard to believe that September is already over but here we are moving steadily into the fall and coming up on Thanksgiving. The Lord has given us so much to be thankful for including the wonderful teachers of the Logos program. We wanted to take a moment and also thank everyone in the Logos family for their support with the apple fundraiser, specifically Jenn Wolfe our fundraising coordinator. I know that I have grown to equate September with apple deliciousness because of this fundraiser!

I encourage all parents to join us on October 10 at 7:00pm in the Brentwood library for our next board meeting. We are also having our second chapel on October 19th at 1:00pm.

Our combined Logos Fall Chapel will take place on October 31. This year it is going to look a little different. Our grade K - 4 students will be spending the afternoon at All Star Indoor Gym and grade 5 & 6's will be swimming at the Meadows Community Rec Centre!! Watch for permission forms to be coming home with your children. Remember, to stay connected and up to date on what is happening with Logos, please visit our website at <http://elkislandlogos.ca> and join the Elk Island Logos Society Facebook page.



Rachel Milne Westboro Logos Representatives

Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song. For the Lord is the great God, the great King above all gods. Psalm 95:2-3

STUDENT SAFETY

Just a reminder that students and visitors are required to enter through the front doors and sign in at our office if they arrive after the bell at 8:37 a.m.

If you are visiting our school for an extended period of time (volunteering in a classroom) please ensure that you sign in at the office as well as pick up one of our name tags. These practices ensure that our students remain safe at school.

EIPS DIVISION NEWS

HEAD LICE

REMINDER: Make head checks for lice a regular routine!

Head lice is one of the most common problems faced by school-aged children and their families. Typically, head lice are tiny, greyish brown insects that live on the scalp and lay their eggs, or nits, in the hair close to the scalp—itching is the main complaint. Lice don't jump from head to head nor are they dangerous. Having a head lice infestation, however, can cause stress, anxiety and hardship for staff, students and parents. As such, it's essential each of our families do their part at home by undertaking weekly routine head checks and, if head lice and nits are found, physically removing them.

While head lice prevention and control is primarily the responsibility of the parent, the school does work discreetly with the teacher, students and families to prevent further transmission. To prevent the spread of head lice, we strongly encourage you to speak to your child about preventative behaviour such as avoiding head-to-head contact and not sharing combs, hats, pillows and hair accessories. It's also important to teach children not to tease other students about head lice—anyone can get head lice. If head lice are found on your child, notify the school, physically remove the lice and nits using the proper lice comb, and keep your child home until all signs of active head lice are gone.

For more information about head lice prevention and treatment, visit www.eips.ca/parents/health-safety-information/head-lice. Alternatively, you can contact the school at 780-467-7751.

CELEBRATING WORLD TEACHERS' DAY: OCTOBER 5

October 5 is World Teachers' Day! Launched in 1994 by the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Teachers' Day is celebrated annually around the world as a way to recognize teachers and the integral role they play in providing quality education to students. On October 5, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) encourages all of its students, parents and community members to show their appreciation for their teachers and the positive impact they make on our lives.

EIPS extends its heartfelt thank you to all its teachers for their dedication, hard work, and commitment in guiding and educating our students through their Kindergarten to Grade 12 years.

IMMUNIZATION CONSENT REMINDER



An immunization consent package from Alberta Health Services has been sent home with your child. Please check your child's school bag for this package which contains information about the vaccines that your child is eligible for in the Grade 5 school based immunization program, along with a consent form for each vaccine. In order for your child to be immunized, each consent form must be signed and returned to your child's school by the date indicated on the envelope. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Deb Partica, School Nurse, 780-342-4689

School Bus Safety Week: October 15 – 21

Schools throughout Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) are celebrating School Bus Safety Week October 15–21. The theme: Rider Rules = Safe to School, which is all about teaching children about proper school bus safety. Throughout the week, various activities are planned including information sessions, bus safety lesson plans and bus-evacuations drills.

As part of School Bus Safety Week, we'd like to remind our students and our families all EIPS school buses are equipped with both a bus-pass scanner and GPS technology, which allow Student Transportation to better monitor and manage its more than 170 buses and 600 bus routes. Thanks to this technology, parents and students also have access to the Versatrans My Stop app, a mobile tool to help determine the location of a bus, projected arrival times and when a child scanned onto a bus.

More information about School Bus Safety Week and EIPS Student Transportation services can be found by visiting www.eips.ca/transportation or by contacting Student Transportation (780-417-8151, st@eips.ca) directly.

Municipal Election 2017: Vote October 16

Strathcona County's Election Day is Monday, Oct. 16, 2017. Polls open as early as 9 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. If you can't vote during those times, there's also the option of advance voting and voting by special ballot. To learn more about the election and candidates running— for mayor, reeve, councillor and public school trustee—visit:

Fort Saskatchewan: www.fortsask.ca/city-government/city-council/2017-municipal-election

Lamont County: www.lamontcounty.ca/Election-2017

Minburn County: <http://minburncounty.ab.ca/2017-election/>

Strathcona County: www.strathcona.ca/election

EIPS School Trustees: www.eips.ca

LITERACY AND LEARNING DAY

This year's Literacy and Learning Day Conference takes place at the Northlands Expo Centre on October 28. The event is a fun-filled day for both parents and teachers, and includes various keynote speakers and free workshops. Participants are guaranteed to walk away with new strategies, tools and resources to support children as they grow and learn. The conference is free and everyone is welcome. For more information, or to register, visit www.literacyday.ca.