



September 10, 2023



# WESTBORO ELEMENTARY

## Weekly Newsletter

### IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

**September 13:** Meet the Staff BBQ

### MEET THE STAFF BBQ

Westboro is excited to welcome all families, returning and new, to our **Meet the Staff Barbeque on Wednesday September 13!** This year we would like to invite families to join us in classrooms for a brief introduction to your child's teacher and to learn about the routines and some of the exciting things we have to look forward to this school year. Sessions will run at **4:45 p.m. and 5:15 p.m.** followed by the barbeque on the east tarmac and playground area **5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.** We hope to see you there!

### PERSONAL COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Student use of cell phones is strictly forbidden as per EIPS Policy 24, Personal Communication Devices:

- **Students in kindergarten to Grade 6:** No access to cellphones or personal devices during the school day, including during breaks and the lunch hour—the only exception, students with a diagnosed medical condition or an identified inclusive educational need.
- Students are strongly encouraged to NOT bring any devices to school. If a student does, the device must stay in his/her backpack.
- Students caught using any devices will be told to bring it down to the office and they can pick the device up at the end of the school day.

## CORRECTION AND VERIFICATION FORM

Have you completed your child's annual Correction and Verification Form? Even if your information hasn't changed, review and submit the form to verify EIPS has the correct information on file. Log in to your PowerSchool Parent Portal to access and submit the form by September 22.

<https://powerschool.eips.ca/public/home.html>

## PICTURE DAY

Individual student photographs will be taken on **Tuesday, September 19**. These photographs are offered on a proof basis. Each student will have two personal portraits taken and proofs will be sent home for viewing. An order form and instructions will accompany the proofs.

## STUDENT MEDICATIONS

If medication is to be administered to your child at school a form must be completed by the parent/guardian. The medication must be brought to school in the original container. Please click the link below to complete the form online through Permission Click.

<https://permission.click/BOAzJ/ca>

Forms must be completed on a yearly basis.

## CAREGIVER SERIES: SEPTEMBER SESSIONS

Alberta Health Services offers free online programming for parents and caregivers of children and youth. Sessions are offered through Zoom. Upcoming topics include understanding anxiety and parenting teens in the 21st century. The list of [September 2023 sessions](#) is now available.

## ALBERTA HEALTH SERVICES ADDICTION AND MENTAL HEALTH NEWSLETTER

The September edition of the Alberta Health Services Addiction and Mental Health Newsletter focuses on parent involvement in schools. [Newsletter](#)

Themes include:

- [Parent involvement in school](#)
- [Parent involvement in school is one of the 40 developmental assets](#)
- [Ways to stay involved in your child's education—Part One](#)
- [Ways to stay involved in your child's education—Part Two](#)

## PAY SCHOOL FEES ONLINE

School fee information for the 2023–24 school year will be posted on the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) in late September. 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 online using a credit card.

Don’t forget to 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 certain school activities such as field trips, class projects, athletic-team fees and more. Additionally, junior high and senior high fees can change as courses are added and deleted.

If you’re unable to pay your school fees, you can apply to have certain [fees waived](#) by submitting an [Application for a Waiver of Fees](#). The **application deadline is Dec. 15, 2023**.

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

## SYNC THE SCHOOL CALENDAR TO YOUR CALENDAR

Did you know you can sync the school calendar to your own calendar? Simply, visit <https://www.westboroelementary.ca/school-calendar> and click on the applicable subscription option:

- Download to iCal
- Add to Google Calendar
- Subscribe to Calendar

NOTE: Options are located above the calendar.

Once you click on the desired subscription option, follow the instructions. Within seconds, your calendar will contain all Westboro Elementary’s important dates including holidays, school-closure days, planned activities, events and more.

## DOWNLOAD THE SCHOOLMESSENGER APP

Westboro Elementary and the Division use the SchoolMessenger platform for communicating with families—through both phone and email. Be sure to add [communications@eips.ca](mailto:communications@eips.ca) and [general.wbo@eips.ca](mailto:general.wbo@eips.ca) to your safe sender list to avoid having important messages funneled into your junk mail folder.

You can directly manage your phone and email subscription preferences through [SchoolMessenger](#). Simply log in to your account—or create one if you don’t already have one—and select the message types you’d like to receive to each phone number and email address on file.

The easiest way to stay connected is to download the SchoolMessenger app. Get the latest updates direct to your mobile device and enable push notifications to never miss a message. Families can also check back on past messages—for up to 30 days—directly in the app rather than searching to find an old message buried in your inbox. Download the SchoolMessenger app from the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#) today.

# Strathcona County Information

## WILDERNESS CENTRE DISCOVERY

Join us at the Strathcona Wilderness Centre for a FREE, family-friendly day of outdoor fun and exploration! **Saturday, September 16, 12 - 3:00 p.m.**

Are you curious about some of the programs we offer?

Learn more about athlete dryland training, cross-country skiing programs, school programs and public workshops!

- 👉 Try out geocaching and orienteer with the Edmonton Overlanders
- 👉 Beat the giant obstacle course
- 👉 Play in the forest kitchen
- 👉 Explore the trails on a guided nature walk

More info [here](#).

## KICKSTAND CONNECT

Kickstand Connect currently offers single-session therapy for youth age 12 and up!

This means:

- the services are accessible to young people when they need it
- they do not have a waiting list for services
- you can sign-up for counselling on the day of or up to one week in advance

Sign-up here: <https://connect.mykickstand.ca/.../mykicks.../steps/time/...>

Currently they have mental health counselling available on:

- Mondays from 1 to 9 PM
- Wednesdays from 5 to 9 PM
- Thursdays from 1 to 9 PM

COMING SOON: Short Term Mental Health Counselling!

Stay tuned to their newsletter and social media for more details! [Kickstand](#)