

October 2018

Elk Island Public Schools

THE WESTBORO REPORT



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



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 literacy and numeracy needs for the students at Westboro. We are also very much looking forward to the Shop Til Ya Drop fundraiser on October 20th and the Parent Student Teacher Conferences on October

24th and 25th.

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!
- ◆ Mrs. Canning for organizing this great event ... snow and all!
- ◆ Billie Jean Mepham for picking up all the food and Mr. Lastiwka & Mr. Fujii for picking up the BBQ. And a special thank you to Mr. Lastiwka and Mrs. Perrotta for manning the Barbeque!
- ◆ All the staff who attended for their help and for volunteering all evening!

October

- 1 - 5 Read In Week
- 4 Newsletter out
- 5 No School - PD Day
- 8 Thanksgiving Day
- 9 Logos Meeting 7 P.M. at Sherwood Heights
- 10 World Mental Health Day
- 18 Chapel 1:00PM
- 20 Shop 'Til Ya Drop!
- 20 - 26 Book Fair
- 22 Hot Lunch
- 22 Photo Re-takes
- 23 Photo Retakes for KR
- 24&25 S/P/T Conferences 4 - 7PM

November

- 1 Parent Council Meeting 6:30 PM
- 7 Early Dismissal
- 9 Newsletter
- 9 Remembrance Day Ceremony 10:30 AM

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WESTBORO NEWS!

TERRY FOX

Congratulations goes out to Maddox and Berg who were the top fundraisers 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 14th. Students and families in Westboro Elementary managed to raise over \$1,090.00 in donations. What a fantastic accomplishment!

LIBRARY NEWS

Scholastic Book Fair

This year's theme is "Let Your Imagination Grow".

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 20th Shop Til Ya Drop

Oct 22nd – 26th 9 - 2:30pm

Oct 24th & 25th 4 - 7pm



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

Oct 24th & 25th 4 - 7pm

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

PICTURE DAY!

Picture Retake Day is Monday, October 22nd!!



Picture retakes are scheduled for Monday, October 22nd. If your child requires a retake, please return their picture proof sheets to the office or their teacher. 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 **Regular** class will have retakes on Tuesday the 23rd. 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 1 - 4: “BRINGING STORIES TO LIFE”

Read In Week 2018 returned on October 1. The theme for this year was Bringing Books to Life. Through various activities, students spent the week learning how stories live on, even when the book is finished. Some of the activities planned for Read In Week included: Mrs. Tamara Martin-Spady was our guest author. She came in to read to all our classes. Students enjoyed an assembly in the gym at 1:00 p.m. where Mrs. Werner was reading a story...with a few interesting surprises! Then on Thursday, October 4, Parents were invited to have a “Book Picnic” with their children during the lunch hour. Bring a book and a blanket to share, and enjoy lunch and a story with your child.

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.

READING ROUTINES AND SCREEN TIME

Back-to-school is a great time for parents to establish a daily reading routine at home and set limits around screen time—the amount of time children spend on smartphones, tablets, computers, and TV. Here are some other stats that may surprise you:

The time children 8 and under spend on mobile devices has **tripled** since 2013

42% of children 8 and younger now have their own tablet devices, compared to less than 1% in 2011

23% miss sleep and feel tired because they have spent too long on their devices

42% of parents say the TV is on “always” or “most of the time” in the home

New research shows children's brain activity runs “cold” when they listen to an audiobook and “hot” when they see a book on an electronic screen, but “just right” when they are read a children's picture book. This “Goldilocks Effect” proves children's books are a great learning tool.

Establishing a reading routine is great for developing children's vocabulary and comprehension, and bonding with parents. It's as easy as doing the 4 steps on the right!

Featured Read: [What's going on in your child's brain when you read them a story?](#) by NPR

WEE READ



Be a wee read volunteer!

books.

Westboro is pleased to announce that we are implementing an exciting new program called **wee read**. This eight-week program was designed by Alberta Reads (www.albertareadsnetwork.com) to help Kindergarten and Grade One children strengthen the foundations for reading and school success, and help children develop a love for

We are looking for volunteers who can come to the school for about 30 minutes, once a week, for eight consecutive weeks to read with two children, talk about books, and play games that support literacy skills. If you are interested in being part of this fun and meaningful opportunity, or know of someone who might be, there will be a volunteer training session held in the library on **Monday, October 15th from 6:30 pm-7:30 pm**. We hope that you will consider partnering with us on this. Please let Mrs. Tomkins erin.tomkins@eips.ca or the office know if you can come to the training session or if you have any questions.

REMEMBRANCE DAY ASSEMBLY

Please join us on Friday, 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.

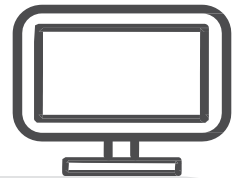
We are also continuing with our Wall of Honour. Information regarding the Wall of Honour will sent home on Monday October 22nd. If you have submitted a Name Plaque in previous years, the school has kept it and will display it again.





Saffron Cyber Second

In Partnership with EIPS Committee of School Councils



Who's on the Other End?

Little Billy was a boy we had met at one of our Internet Safety presentations. He seemed very on-edge and uncomfortable throughout. He approached our team and stated, "I have a great friend online. We play Xbox together. Everything you tell us is wrong. He's so nice he is going to send me a birthday present." This statement was all we needed to hear to know this boy could be in serious trouble. It seemed as though it was a miracle that his mother was picking him up from school that day. She came into the class and we asked if she knew that Billy had an online friend who was going to be sending him a gift through the mail. These words seemed to knock the wind right out of her. Like any concerned parent, her initial reaction was to contact law enforcement. Upon extensive investigation, it was found that the individual contacting Billy was an adult man residing two blocks away from Billy's home. After seizing this man's electronic devices, officials were able to find a list of 40 children's names, their addresses, and any other personal information shared.

TALK AND WATCH!

Children and youth can be contacted through multiple online channels - whether it be through social media or online gaming. It is essential to talk to children and youth about communicating with strangers online. Parents must be specific about what a stranger actually is because after children and youth have communicated with someone online a few times, they no longer consider them a 'stranger.' Be sure to also watch their gameplay to see who they are talking to.



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!!

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.

We would like to welcome the 2018/19 patrollers to our team:

Liam C.	Shawn K.	Tejasvi G.	Julia T.
Eric G.	Olivia W.	Kole C.	Aiden W. (Captain)
Hadleigh H.	Kaiya T.	Alora T.	Anomy G.
Kayla K.			

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 2018-19 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, 2018.

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

ABORIGINAL STUDIES - OCTOBER

The grade 5 students at Westboro will be participating in the blanket exercise on October 10th. A large portion of Indigenous Studies time in October will be spent ensuring grade 5 students are adequately prepared for the activity and then following up on what was learned after its completion. If you have any questions, please direct them to Mrs. Richard at courtney.richard@eips.ca.

We will be completing a modified version of Step 4 for Project of Heart (Survivor Visit) with grade 5 and 6 students towards the end of the month. In the 2017/2018 school year we were able to complete steps 1-3 of this project; we are happy to see its continuation into this school year. If you have not already done so, we encourage you to watch and share the music video we created. The song, "Stand as One," can be found with this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VvGvjSYcmJs>. Discuss with your child what they learned from creating this video. What message is it trying to share? Why is it important that this message be shared beyond our Westboro community? These are questions that we will be addressing in our Circles time as part of Step 5 for Project of Heart (Social Justice Action).

In every piece of our Indigenous Studies program, we will strive to continue to:

"Grow together as learners to develop understandings that help us view others in a way that promotes kindness, respect and trust amongst all people in our community."

HALLOWEEN AT WESTBORO

Halloween will be celebrated in the following manner this year. Students will be allowed to change into their costumes in the afternoon only. **Please do not send your child(ren) to school dressed up.** Our regular classes will be participating in Halloween themed activities led by Mrs. Richard and Mrs. Werner. Following this activity, students will go back to their classes for the individual classroom celebrations, for the last two periods.

Please note that Westboro adheres to a strict policy of **no ghoulish or gory costumes**. 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.

Parent/Teacher/Student interviews will be held at **4:00p.m. – 7:00p.m.** on **Wednesday, October 24 and Thursday, October 25, 2018.** 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 MONDAY OCTOBER 15th 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 23rd at 3:00 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 PARENTS GROUP PRESENTS

Fall Shop til ya Drop



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

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

Saturday, October 20

10:00am – 4:00pm

WESTBORO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GYM

1078 STRATHCONA DRIVE, SHERWOOD PARK, AB

All are welcome!

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

A Little Loopy
Beauty Counter
Burning Flames Custom Candles
Canning Momma's
Creations avec Pleasure
Discovery Toys
Epicure
KEEP Collective
Lety Franco Creations
Mary Kay
Mel's Bags, Bins, & Totes
Nadine's Little Library Land
Norwex
Pampered Chef
Scentsy
She Does Create
Sweetegs SP with Kelly
Tupperware
Wayward Wood
With Love by Les
Zizi's Place
AND MANY MORE.....

Accepting Donations
for the Foodbank!



PARENT COUNCIL NEWS

We had a great turnout for our first meeting of the year, with a few new faces. I'd like to thank everyone for being patient with me as I guide us down this path that has been left for us and try to fill some pretty big shoes. Draft minutes are available on Westboro's website, [Meeting Minutes](#).

Our annual Shop til ya Drop fundraising event is coming on Saturday, October 20th from 10am till 4pm! If you haven't attended it is an awesome event. We will have a bunch of vendor and crafters set up in the gym and you can get all your shopping done in one place! *Did you know our vendors and crafts donate a percentage back to our parents group!* If you know of someone who might be interested in selling please contact Amy at westboroshoptillyadrop@gmail.com

Watch for Stawnichy's fundraising forms near the end of October, they will be due back by November 8. **No late orders will be excepted** if you do not receive a form please contact Amy at westboroshoptillyadrop@gmail.com

If you would like to read our minutes, and are not currently on our email list, please email us at WestboroParents@gmail.com

We hope to see you at our next meeting on Thursday, November 1st, at 6:30 PM in the library.

SPIRIT WEAR

Westboro Parents Group is excited to organize another order of school spirit wear. This is not a fundraiser, but an opportunity to build community and encourage student pride in our school. Order forms will come home with students this month and can be returned with payment to the school or completed on-line at westboro.hotlunches.net. Ordering will run from Wednesday, October 17th to Tuesday, October 30th and delivery is expected the last week of November.

This year we will be offering a dry fit t-shirt, sweatpants, lightweight long-sleeve jacket, polo shirt, fleece blanket and metal water bottle (with option to personalize). Clothing samples will be available to try on for sizing at the school during these events:

- ◆ Saturday, October 20 from 10am to 2pm at Shop Til Ya Drop
- ◆ Wednesday, October 24 from 4-7pm at Parent-Teacher-Student Interviews
- ◆ Thursday, October 25 from 4-7pm at Parent-Teacher-Student Interviews

If you have any questions about ordering or want to arrange an alternate date to try on clothing samples, please contact Debbie Klita via e-mail at westboroparents@gmail.com.

HOT LUNCH

I want to thank all the volunteers for helping out in September. We had a great turn out for the first hot lunch of the year!

Next hot lunch will be Monday, October 22. I will be opening the hot lunch ordering system for any last minute October orders on October 8th through 10th. If you missed ordering in September please get your order in then!

Next hot lunch ordering will be open October 31st through to November 9th. Please go to www.westboro.hotlunches.net to register and order.

As always if you have any questions please contact us at westborohotlunches@gmail.com.

Thank you - Your Hot Lunch Team, Heidi & Janel

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.

LOGOS SOCIETY NEWS - MRS. JANEEN BIELBY - LOGOS REPRESENTATIVE

Did you know that once a month, a number of Logos parents meet to pray for our school, staff, and students? We have put a Prayer Box on the table in front of the school office so that if anyone (staff, students, parents, or anyone else) would like us to pray for a need in their life, we will! There are cue cards on the outside of the box...just fill one out, pop it into the slot on the top, and we will pray for you at our next prayer meeting!

You can also send prayer requests to prayer@elkislandlogos.ca

Janeen Bieby 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



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.



Alberta Health Services, through the school immunization program, provides students who are eligible for publicly funded immunizations, an opportunity to be immunized at school. The following changes are being made to the school immunization program starting in September 2018:

- ◇ Routine delivery of Hepatitis B and Human Papillomavirus (HPV) immunizations will move from grade 5 to grade 6. If your child was immunized in grade 5 they will not be immunized again in grade 6.
- ◇ The immunization records of all students in grades 1 through 9 will be reviewed throughout the school year.

With the following changes in place the 2018-2019 School Immunization Program is as follows:

- ◇ Grades 1- 9: Review immunization records of all students, and offer relevant vaccines to all children who are not up to date according to Alberta Health recommendations.
- ◇ Grade 6: Offer Hepatitis B and Human Papillomavirus (HPV) along with all other vaccines the student is eligible for according to Alberta Health recommendations.
- ◇ Grade 9: Offer Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis (combined) vaccine, Meningococcal vaccine along with all other vaccines the student is eligible for according to Alberta Health recommendations.

If your child is due for an immunization you will receive an envelope containing immunization information and consent(s) for you to sign. Your child will not be immunized without your consent. Please call the number below if you have any questions regarding immunizations.

If Alberta Health Services does not have immunization information on your child you will receive a phone call or letter from the health centre requesting a copy of your child's immunizations to be delivered to the school (or health centre).

Immunization saves lives, prevents health complications and is the most cost effective disease prevention program in health care. As more people are immunized, the risk of disease for everyone is reduced. To learn more information about immunity, immunization, and how to protect you and your family, visit www.immunizealberta.ca or call Health Link at 811.

Sincerely,
School Health Nursing Team
Strathcona Public Health Centre
780-342-4600

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY WEEK: OCTOBER 22 – 26

Schools throughout Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) are celebrating School Bus Safety Week October 22-26. The theme: School Bus...Bully Free Zone, which is all about promoting the importance of healthy relationship among students, staff and school bus operators. Throughout the week, various activities are planned including information sessions, bus-safety lesson plans and bus-evacuation 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.

NO CHILD WITHOUT: FREE MEDICALERT FOR STUDENTS

In our ongoing effort to provide safe and caring schools for our students, **Westboro Elementary** continues to be registered in the Canadian MedicAlert Foundation's No Child Without program. The program is a national initiative that provides no-cost MedicAlert services to children - between the ages four of 14 - who have chronic health conditions. The goal is twofold: to help children with severe allergies, medical conditions or special needs and to assist schools with medical-emergency plans for students.

Once a child is registered, their school is provided with advice on a medical-emergency plan for that student and given a list of medications, allergies and medical conditions the student has. If your child has a serious medical condition or allergy and could benefit from MedicAlert services, contact the school office at **Westboro Elementary** 780-467-7751. To learn more about the No Child Without program, visit www.nochildwithout.ca.