



October 8, 2023



WESTBORO ELEMENTARY

Weekly Newsletter



IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

October 9: Thanksgiving Day - Stat Holiday, no school for students or staff

October 11: Grade 6 Immunizations 9:00 a.m.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT SAVE THE DATE!

Save the Date

Christmas Concert

December 6th

Watch for more information in the newsletter.

Hosted at The Park Church

Doors open 6:00 ~ Concert 6:30-7:30



ORDER HOT LUNCH NOW!

Never Registered Before? Here's How: Go to www.westboro.hotlunch.net

Click the "**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER**" button to sign up.

Our school access code is **WBHL**;

Enter your name, email address and phone number;

Enter a user ID that you will use for access to the hot lunch application;

Enter a password and then enter it again to verify that it is correct.

****If you had a credit on file at the end of last year, that credit will show up on your 2023-2024 account providing you use the same email and/or phone number to register*****

Once registered, you will be logged into the website. **Important Note:** You need to know your child's teacher assignment before you can continue. Please add your students by clicking on the "**STUDENTS**" button below or the "**PROFILE**" menu tab in order to proceed. Once your students have been added to the system you will be able to place lunch orders immediately by clicking the "**Order**" button below each child's name.

But I registered last year, do I register again?

Yes! It is illegal for our program to have accounts for families with children who no longer attend our school. For those of you who have forgotten your user name/password from last year, don't fret, you get to start all over again. It is easier and more efficient to delete all accounts and start fresh. This process will occur every new school year. (Please see notes on Credits before you re-register)

Not participating in hot lunch? We encourage you to register even if your child does not participate so that you are able to receive emails about our hot lunch program, fundraisers, and special treat days that we hold throughout the year.

How do I Pay?

We will only be accepting e-transfer to the following email address westboropg2022@gmail.com

IMPORTANT INFORMATION - When entering your hot lunch orders, enter ALL your children's orders for ALL of the lunch order dates then make one payment. When submitting your payment, you will need to generate a question with an answer in order for us to accept your payment.

PLEASE USE THE FOLLOWING QUESTION AND ANSWER FOR ALL E-TRANSFERS...

WHO IS OUR SCHOOL MASCOT?

ANSWER - Webster

Please document the student name(s) in your subject memo line. **Please ensure you submit your payment by the closing date** for that month's ordering so that lunch orders can be processed on time. If not received, the orders will be deleted.

If your child(ren) are away on hot lunch day, you may pick it up on the day of. Please text the hot lunch coordinator to do this, Allison Usher (780)9071130. There are no refunds for absent children.

Does Hot Lunch need Volunteers?

Our Hot Lunch program is NOT possible without the help of volunteers. We need approximately 10 - 15 volunteers for each hot lunch. If you can assist us with any of the hot lunches, when you enter your child(ren)'s orders please register under the volunteer sign up. It is a 45 minute to 1 hour time commitment on Fridays, siblings welcome!!!

The Westboro Hot Lunch thanks you in advance for your patience and consideration as we start a brand new school year! If you have any questions or concerns, please direct them to westborohotlunch@gmail.com

WHY YOUR CHILD WITH ADHD HAS SUCH A MESSY ROOM

Mess and ADHD go hand in hand, and with them comes chaos, lateness – Where is my coat?! – and frustration. Parents often find themselves at wit's end, looking at their child and wondering: Why can't you just clean your room?? Please click the link below to read the full article.

[Why your child with ADHD has such a mess room and what parents can do about it.](#)

ENHANCING LITERACY AND NUMERACY

As part of Elk Island Public Schools' (EIPS) ongoing efforts to enhance the literacy and numeracy of students in all grade levels, the Division is once again administering the Star Early Literacy, Star Reading and Star Math assessment tools in the 2023-24 school year. These tools focus on literacy and numeracy, are digitally based and offer an opportunity for students to demonstrate their learning. The goal: To provide timely information to teachers, help enhance classroom instruction and identify student learning needs.

Three times a year, EIPS students in Grade 1 complete the Star Early Literacy assessment and students in grades 2-12 complete the Star Reading assessment. Both assessments are administered electronically and take about 20 minutes. Students in grades 2 through 10 also complete the Star Math, a mathematic screening tool. It, too, is administered electronically and takes about 30 minutes for students to complete. The results offer teachers a clearer picture of a student's learning needs and help determine if subsequent instructional planning is required. NOTE: Semester students complete the Star Math twice, at the start and end of the course.

In addition to the Star assessments, Alberta Education now mandates all students in grades 1-3 complete additional literacy and numeracy assessments. Students in Grade 2 and Grade 3 complete these provincial assessments in September. Grade 1 students will complete the assessments in January 2023.

The scores of the assessments aren't used toward a student's grade, and there is no need to study ahead of time. The tools simply provide the teacher with information to better understand where each student is in terms of reading comprehension and mathematic ability. If, after analyzing the results, it's determined a student can benefit from extra support, the teacher will contact the family to discuss possible support strategies.

For more information about the Division's Star and MIPI assessment tools, contact EIPS Supports for Students at 780-464-3477.

CAREGIVER SERIES: OCTOBER 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 self-injury and supporting children and youth with ADHD. The list of [October 2023 sessions](#) is now available.

RESPIRATORY ILLNESS GUIDANCE

The health and safety of staff, students and visitors is a top priority. Continue to reinforce the following hygiene habits to protect staff and students from spreading respiratory illnesses, including COVID-19.

- Stay home if you're feeling sick.
- Wash or sanitize your hands often.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Clean and disinfect high touch surfaces regularly.
- Wear a mask if you get sick or develop symptoms while at school or work.

As per Alberta Health [guidelines](#), staff, students, contractors and visitors who have symptoms of respiratory illness or test positive for COVID, should stay home until:

- symptoms have improved,
- they feel well enough to resume normal activities, **and**
- they have been fever-free for 24 hours without using fever-reducing medications.

For anyone who has a respiratory illness or has tested positive for COVID, it is **recommended** that they wear a mask for a total of **10 days** from the onset of symptoms—even if the symptoms have resolved or improved—when in indoor settings with other individuals.

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: 'Stand Back From Yellow and Black,' which focuses on proper school bus safety behaviour. 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, Westboro Elementary reminds students and families all Division school buses are equipped with a Tyler Drive tablet, bus-pass scanner, GPS technology, the Child Check-Mate system and surveillance equipment, which allows Student Transportation to better monitor and manage its more than 175 buses. Families and students also have access to the Traversa Ride 360 app, a mobile tool to help determine the location of a bus, projected arrival times and when a child is scanned onto a bus.

For more information, visit [EIPS Student Transportation](#) or contact 780-417-8151.

SCHOOL FEES

School fee information for the 2023-24 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.

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, extracurricular activities fees and more.

If circumstances exist where you're unable to pay your 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 www.eips.ca/schools/fees and <https://www.westboroelementary.ca/about/fees>. Alternatively, contact Billie Jean Mepham, Business Manager at Westboro Elementary at 780-467-7751.

FROM ALEXA TO ALGORITHMS: PARENTING IN THE ERA OF AI

Join the University of Alberta and Amii for an engaging 45-minute online webinar designed to boost AI literacy for parents of kids of all ages, from kindergarten to graduate students. The session will focus on global citizenship, online safety, and education and career guidance.

Don't miss this fun and informative opportunity to empower your parenting in the age of AI, ensuring your kids thrive in tomorrow's tech-driven world.

Event Details:

Date: Nov. 2, 2023 Time: 10:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

Location: Virtual [REGISTER NOW](#)

Strathcona County Information

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

Focus on the food! Unattended cooking is the leading cause of fires in the kitchen. Always stay in the kitchen when you are cooking.

Fire Prevention Week is October 8 to 14. Staff from Emergency Services will be out at grocery stores this week helping to bag your groceries!

Learn more about cooking safety and what to do if you have a cooking fire.

<https://www.strathcona.ca/.../fire.../fire-prevention-week/>

FAMILY RESOURCE NETWORK FREE PROGRAMS

Did you know the County's Family Resource Network offers FREE programs and services for parents and caregivers with children aged 0-18?

Find a range of fun and educational programs and parenting supports, including:

- Drop-in and registered programs for children and youth
- Registered parenting skills-building sessions
- Special events for families and children of all ages.

Home Visitation – Helps parents (with children 0-6) build on strengths and develop new skills.

Health for Two – A free program for women who need extra support for a healthy pregnancy.

Learn more at <https://ow.ly/oAii50PRpC0>

NEW FALL PROGRAM! ART CONNECT (18Y+)

Follow your passions in our open studio class for adults with developmental disabilities. Explore mediums like acrylic paint, watercolours, pastels, pencil crayons, charcoal and more!

Wednesdays, October 18 to November 29

1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Take a single class or sign up for all six. All supplies included.

Aides are welcome to come free of charge.

Gallery@501's studio space is wheelchair accessible.

Cost: \$24 per class

Find a class: <https://bit.ly/48wQhsm>