



Westsyde Elementary School

School District No. 73
3550 Westsyde Rd.
Kamloops, BC V2B 7H4
Ph# 778-696-2265 Fax# 250-377-2268



May 2026 Newsletter

May is always a busy and exciting month at school as we move further into spring and continue learning, growing, and building strong connections together. We look forward to upcoming field trips, special events, and outdoor learning opportunities, while also focusing on kindness, responsibility, and finishing the school year strong. Thank you to our families for your continued support and partnership in helping make our school community such a positive place for all students. A special thank you goes out to our amazing parents and volunteers who help out with supervision, hot lunches, cross-guard duty, and Come Read With Me. We appreciate all the time you give to enrich our school community!

If you are looking to help out with year-end field trips, please be sure to complete a Criminal Record Check right away (see details below).

Joanne Leggett - Acting Principal

PAC Appreciation

Thank you to our amazing WES PAC for recently funding a variety of initiatives and classroom requests to help enrich learning opportunities within our school. The hard work and effort of this great team, and the generosity of all of our families, is so very much appreciated!

WES Intermediate Track and Field Meet

The WES Track and Field Meet will be taking place on **Tuesday, May 12**. All students in Grades 4-7 will be invited to participate. Click on the link for the [WES Track and Field Schedule](#).

Track & Field Dates - Intermediate Students

May 4 - Kamloops Track and Field Club Clinic (Grades 6 & 7)
May 13 - Zone 1000m/1200m races (Westmount)
May 21 - Zone Track and Field Meet (TCC)
May 27 - District 1000m/1200m races (TCC)
May 28 - District Track and Field Meet (TCC)

Concession Track and Field Meet - May 12

WES PAC will be hosting a concession stand on May 12. Price list as follows:

Hot Dogs \$2.00
Gatorade \$3.00
Juicebox \$1.00
Chips \$1.00
Freezie \$1.00
Candy Bag \$1.50
Ice Cream Sandwiches \$1.50

Note that this will be a cash only event as there will be no pre-orders. All funds raised go towards our school. Primary students will have a scheduled time to visit the concession stand and order forms will be sent home next week. The concession stand will be open from 10AM-2PM for all Intermediate students.

School Not In Session

Friday, May 15 - Professional Development Day
Monday, May 18 - Victoria Day Stat Holiday

Warm Weather

With the warm weather approaching, students are encouraged to bring hats, sunscreen and sunglasses to protect themselves. Refillable water bottles are also recommended to ensure students remain hydrated throughout the day.

Student Transfers for 2026/2027

If your child is currently enrolled in their catchment school and you wish to apply for a transfer to another school, please fill out a [Student Transfer Request](#). All submissions must be made in writing and forwarded to the receiving school's principal. All decisions regarding student transfers will be in accordance with *Board Policy 300.1 School Boundaries and Student Transfer Requests*.

Extracurricular Fees 2026/2027

The school has historically covered the majority of costs for students to participate in our extracurricular sports teams. However, with rising costs of sports equipment and referee honorariums, we will be charging a per/sport fee of \$15.00 next year to help absorb some of these costs.

Jump Rope For Heart - May 14

Jump Rope For Heart is happening on May 14 from 2:00-2:30 PM. We are collecting funds in support of the Heart and Stroke Foundation. Online donations are gratefully accepted. Parents can register students to fundraise and can earn gift certificates. The link to donate online is here: <https://jumpropeforheart.crowdchange.ca/114985>
Thank you for your support!

Red Dress Day - May 5

Red Dress Day is a time to honour and remember those who are missing and those whose lives were taken, while recognizing the ongoing impacts on families and communities. It calls on all of us to deepen our awareness, listen to Indigenous voices, and reflect on our shared responsibility to create safety and justice. Wearing red and acknowledging this day is one small but meaningful step toward remembrance, respect, and action.

Mental Health Week

The theme for Mental Health Week 2026 is "Come Together, Canada" and runs from May 4 to 10, 2026. Some great resources can be found at <https://cmha.ca/mental-health-week/toolkits/#school-toolkit> which offer ways to create moments of connection that help strengthen mental health.

After School Plans

Just a reminder that play dates and after-school plans need to be arranged before the school day begins, rather than during school hours. Students will not be able to phone home during the day to organize these plans, as this can be very disruptive to learning time and office routines.

Thank you for helping us support a smooth and focused school day for all students.

Safety Drills

As part of our commitment to student safety, we regularly practice emergency procedures at school, including fire drills and lockdown drills. Students are well-informed of expectations and we frontload students/classes who may need more advanced notice to reduce any undue anxiety. We will have two more scheduled fire drills and one scheduled lockdown drill in the month of May. These practice drills help students and staff know what to do in the event of an emergency and are carried out in a calm, age-appropriate manner. We encourage families to talk with their children about the importance of these safety routines and to reassure them that these drills are simply practice to help keep everyone safe.

Scent Free School

Students, staff, and visitors are asked to avoid wearing perfumes, colognes or strong smelling shampoos/deodorants into our school. We have students and staff with strong sensitivities to these scents, and it can cause adverse responses which impacts the learning and work environment. Thank you for understanding.

PAC News:

PAC will be hosting a **Cookie Day** on May 19 - watch for ordering information to come home next week.

New this year- PAC is coordinating a **Read-A-Thon** from May 19-June 2, which will include some neat incentives to get students reading. Stay tuned for more information coming home soon!

The final PAC meeting for the 2025-2026 school year will be on **Wednesday, May 27th at 6:30** in our library.

Volunteers - Criminal Record Checks

All parent volunteers that wish to be involved in school based activities are required to submit a criminal record check. The process can be found on the [Westside Elementary Website](#).



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Crossing Guards and Lunch Supervisors

We are always in need of crossing guards and lunch supervisors. These positions come with a small honorarium and volunteers are able to help out based on a schedule that works for them. Please contact the school if you are interested in helping us in these areas this year.

Newsletters

Monthly School Newsletters will be emailed to student contacts and made available on our [school website](#). Paper copies can be made available upon request. Mrs. Leggett will send out other updates via email as the need arises.

Upcoming Events:

- May 4 - Kamloops Track & Field Club Clinic (all grade 6 & 7 students)
- May 4-8: Mental Health Week
- May 4 -Star Wars Day
- May 5 - Red Dress Day
- May 6 - Senor Froggy Hot Lunch
- May 5 - Eagle Bay Parent Meeting 6:00 PM
- May 6 - Kindergarten SPARK Session #2
- May 7 - Connolly/Dunn classes - Isobel Lake
- May 8 - Kristjanson/McNaught - Isobel Lake
- May 12 - School Spirit Wear
- May 12 - WES Track and Field Day
- May 13 - CRWM Celebration
- May 13 - Pancake Hot Lunch
- May 14 - Jump Rope For Heart
- May 15 - Pro D Day (School Not In Session)
- May 18 - Victoria Day (School Not In Session)
- May 19 - Cookie Sale Day (PAC)
- May 19-June 2 - PAC Read-A-Thon
- May 20 - Spice Hot Lunch
- May 21 - Zone Track and Field Meet
- May 22 - Green Poster Assembly
- May 25 - Connolly class Fire Hall
- May 26 - Berezowski class Pine Park
- May 27 - Chopped Leaf Hot Lunch
- May 27 - PAC Meeting 6:30 PM
- May 28 - District Track and Field Meet
- May 29 - Socks and Sandals day
- May 29 - Literacy Lunch
- June 25 - Last Day of School -12:34 dismissal