

Good afternoon Parents, and Guardians,

My apologies for a later than normal weekly update. I hope you all were able to enjoy the wonderful sunshine this weekend.

Here is the information for this week coming up:

Celebrations

New Business

Pro D Day Monday

School Fees/Forms

PAC and Hot Lunch/Snack Orders Due

Old Business

Textile Bin

Criminal Record Checks

Parent Drivers

Parking/Student drop off

District Information

Boys and Girls Club: Connect Parent Program

Calendar:

Updated

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Celebrations

New Business

Pro-D Day Monday

A reminder that Monday September 21st is a Pro-D day where students stay home and the staff will be involved in professional development for the day. Please do not send your child(ren) to school on Monday.

School Fees/Forms

School forms should have been sent home by now and thank you to the families who have filled them out and returned them. For those who still need to get the forms in, please have these returned to the school as soon as possible. For the verification forms, please check to make sure the information we have is current and correct. Make any changes necessary on the form before returning it.

We encourage you to make payments for school fees on School Cash. There is a link on the school's website, but we will accept cash as well.

PAC and Hot Lunch/Snack Orders Due

Anyone who would like to order hot lunch or a snack, please know that the date for the September and October orders is due on Wednesday September 23rd. If you are having difficulty signing on and ordering, please contact Katie Dillman at the school.

Textile Bins

We have two textile recycling bins. This is for any clothing, bedding, towels, footwear, hats or backpacks that you no longer need. We ask that they are not torn or in poor condition and that you place all your items into a plastic bag. All of the donations are picked up every Thursday and the school receives money which we put back into the school to support students.

Time to perform that fall closet purge.

Old Business

Criminal Record Check Process

Criminal record checks are a requirement by anyone who wants to volunteer for field trips or as a parent driver. I would advise you to go through this process now instead of waiting before the trip you end up going on. If you wait, there is a higher probability that the criminal record check will not be processed before your trip. Please go to the Westmount website for the link:

<https://westmount.sd73.bc.ca/en/index.aspx>.

This process has been changed slightly this year but only in that you must do it online. No longer can you go to the RCMP detachment to complete a criminal record check. To streamline this process it would be best for you to get the BC Services App on your personal device. To set up your BC Services card on your device takes only a few minutes and it will make the criminal record process much easier and quicker. If you decide against downloading the BC services app then once the criminal record check is received by the school, you will be called to come into the school and bring 2 pieces of ID proving your identity and this must be done in the Principal's presence.

Thank you to those who have been diligent and their criminal record checks done. When you fill out the application online the school receives the document directly.

For those who need to update their criminal record check because it has expired (the district has a renewal rule after 3 years despite the RCMP indicating that the check is good for 5 years), please go to the link on the school's website and there will be a tab to indicate you need your criminal record check re-sent to the school. The school will then accept the criminal record check until the 5 years expiry date or 3 years from the date we receive it.

Criminal record checks stay on file for 3 years, then will need to be renewed. Mrs. Dillman will contact people who have a criminal record check that is expiring and explain what the next steps will be.

If you have any questions please contact the school.

Parent Drivers

Parents are only allowed to drive students from another household, not their own child, if they have completed the criminal record check **and** filled out a parent driving form from the office. Every year the parent driving form must be completed with a proof of a minimum of \$1 000 000 liability insurance from your vehicle insurance. You will need to go to the office to do this.

Parking/Student drop off

The traffic situation at Westmount is not ideal, we understand that, but unless we work together to make it more efficient, then it will not improve. Unless you have parked in a parking stall, leaving your vehicle at any time is not permitted. This stops the flow of traffic moving around the loop and causes greater congestion on Walkem Road and at times backs it up on Westsyde Road, which can create dangerous driving scenarios. We ask that you follow the rules listed below:

-
- Only park in designated parking spaces; avoid the staff parking lot as this is only for school staff, district staff and any person with a designated accessibility parking pass.
-
- Stay in your vehicle when picking up or dropping off students, then make your way around the loop
-
- Stay in the line; trying to pass other cars can create an unsafe situation for oncoming traffic or pedestrians
-
- Listen to our staff members who are working in the area. They are there to make it safe for everyone and as efficient as possible
-
- When turning onto Walkem Road please watch for pedestrians and crossing guards in the walkways; **Do not turn or attempt to turn while there are people in the crosswalks**

DISTRICT INFORMATION

Sent on behalf of BGC Kamloops

We are offering a Connect Parent Program, **Pre-adolescent session** this coming October.

Connect Parent is an attachment-based program that focuses on strengthening parent-teen relationships and building a foundation for collaborative problem-solving. As an alternative to behaviour modification strategies, this group focuses on supporting parents in understanding the attachment needs that create the behaviour their child is demonstrating.

This is a free, 10-week program for parents/caregivers of children ages 9 to 12. Dinner and childminding are provided.

This program is provided in partnership with Child and Youth Mental Health.

Facilitators: Brianna Campbell & Angela Gatzka

Dates: October 7 – Dec 16, 2026

Times: 5 to 6:30PM, @ John Tod Centre (150 Wood St.)

To register, the next step is a pre-I. This entails a meeting with the facilitators, Brianna and Angela.

This meeting will give your facilitators a chance to get to know you one-on-one before the group starts.

In this meeting they will:

-
- talk about Connect program, it's origin and benefits
-
- get to know you and your relationship with your kiddo
-
- make sure this program is a good fit for you and your goals from this program.

This meeting will also give you a chance to ask any questions about the program that you might have!

If you are interested in enrolling for this program contact Neevesha at Neevesha Panjawani - n.panjawani@bgckwl.com OR call 250-554-5437.

With gratitude,

Neevesha Panjawani (She/they),

Family Support Coordinator

BGC Kamloops & Williams Lake

P: 250.554.5437 (ext. 209)

E: n.panjawani@bgckwl.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

This Week's Dates

Monday September 21st

- Professional Development Day (for staff): No School

Tuesday September 23rd

- Where The Wild Things Are performance (Primary classes only)
- PAC Hot Lunch orders close

Friday September 25th

- Westmount Terry Fox Run @ 11:00am
- PAC Freezie Friday (weather permitting)

Next Week's Dates

Monday September 28th

- Photo Day
- Recognition Assembly (invite only)

Tuesday September 29th

- Orange Shirt Day

Wednesday September 30th

- National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (School Closed)

Dates to Plan for:

Monday October 5th

- PAC Meeting @ 6:15pm (Library)

Wednesday October 7th

- Come Read With Me (Grade 1 Parents)

Thursday October 8th

- Vision Screening for grade 3 and 6 students (reverse consent form)

Monday October 12th

- Thanksgiving Day (school closed)

Friday October 23rd

- Pro-D Day (no school)

Respectfully,

Roy Styles, Principal