

Good afternoon Parents, and Guardians,

We had an excellent Terry Fox run today and Mother Nature was kind enough to let some sunshine through and withhold the rain while we did it. Enjoy your weekend.

Here is the information for this week coming up:

Events

Picture Day

Orange Shirt Day

New Business

School Fees/Forms **Reminder**

Old Business

Textile Bin

Criminal Record Checks

Parent Drivers

Parking/Student drop off

District Information

Calendar:

Updated

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Events

Picture Day (Monday September 28th)

Picture Day will be next Monday and attached to this email is a link to the reminder flyer. On the flyer is a link on how to prepare for Picture Day. A flyer will be sent home with your child after the pictures have been completed and processed by Mountain West Studios so that you can order them.

Orange Shirt Day (Tuesday September 29th)

On Tuesday we are encouraging all students to wear an orange shirt in recognition of Phyllis Webstad and her work to bring light to truth and reconciliation of Indigenous Peoples in Canada. On Wednesday September 30th, schools will be closed for a Day of Truth and Reconciliation.

New Business

School Fees/Forms **REMINDER**

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.

Old Business

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.

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

This Week's Dates

Monday September 28th

- Photo Day
- Recognition Assembly (invite only; Your child's teacher will notify you)

Tuesday September 29th

- Orange Shirt Day
- PAC Hot Lunch: Hot Dog Day

Wednesday September 30th

- National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (School Closed)

Friday October 2nd

- PAC Hot Lunch: Panago Pizza

Next Week's Dates

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)

Friday October 9th

- PAC Hot Lunch: White Spot

Dates to Plan for:

Monday October 12th

- Thanksgiving Day (school closed)

Friday October 16th

- PAC Hot Lunch: Mucho Burrito

Tuesday October 20th

- PAC Snack: Booster Juice
- Last Day to Order PAC Hot Lunch for November

Friday October 23rd

- Pro-D Day (no school)

Monday October 26th

- PAC Snack: Popcorn

Friday October 30th

- Halloween Parade (8:45am)
- PAC Hot Lunch: Subway

Respectfully,

Roy Styles, Principal