

Good afternoon Parents and Guardians

Please enjoy your weekend with friends and family.

Here is the information for the week ahead:

PAC Information

New Business

PAC Carnival Thank You

Old Business

PAC Frozen Fridays

Friend Requests for 2026/2027

Moving schools

Textile Bins

Drop off/Pick up (the Loop)

District Information

Foster Parents and Caregivers Needed (see attachment)

Calendar:

Westmount Website/Calendar

Calendar Highlights provided below

SCHOOL INFORMATION

PAC Information

New Business

PAC Carnival Thank You

On Wednesday the PAC hosted their annual carnival at Westmount. Each year it seems more and more people attend. Despite the weather being ominous for most of the night the community came out to support.

Thank you goes out to the PAC executives and parent volunteers who spent many hours planning and setting up for this event. Westmount is truly grateful for your support of the students and community. We are very lucky to have such wonderful parents on our PAC who make their decisions on what is best for the students.

Old Business

PAC Frozen Fridays

The PAC is changing Freezie Friday to Frozen Friday and will now be selling ice cream sandwiches for \$2.00. (For those students who are lactose intolerant or have a dairy allergy or sensitivity, freezies will be available until supplies last)

Friend Requests for 2026/2027

If you would like to request for your child regarding their peers then you must come to the office and ask for a request form. This form will not accept teacher requests and any such requests will be removed from the form.

Please understand that these are requests that we will try to accommodate. The task of class placements is never easy but the staff does a wonderful job to ensure that students are set up to succeed and being with at least one friend is a part of this.

The forms will be **due back to the school by Friday June 12th.**

Moving schools

If you know that you will be moving next year to a different school, not including those in grade 7 who are moving on to high school, can you please notify the office and let us know where you will be moving. We need this information as we begin to plan for the rollover next year.

Please only contact the school if you know for certain that a move is occurring. Those families who are unsure do not need to let us know until it becomes known for sure.

Textile Bins

I want to let all families know that we still have our textile bins at the school. There are two extra large bins, one by Mrs. Zirnhelt's class and the other beside the office.

With spring cleaning beginning in many families, please know that you can drop off clothing, bedding, pillows, blankets, boots, shoes or any other textile like items at the school. We just ask that you bag the items before placing them into the bin.

These items help fund our recycling program and other initiatives at the school.

Drop off/Pick up (the Loop)

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, or on the street on the block down from the school, 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

Our Community Needs Foster Parents & Caregivers (see attachment)

The province and our community need Foster Parents and Relief Caregivers who can make a difference in the lives of the children and youth they support every day. Please consider sharing [this resource](#) about becoming a foster parent from Interior Community Services in your upcoming parent newsletters. Learn more at <https://www.icsfp.info/becoming-foster-parent>.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Westmount Website/Calendar

Please note that our school has its own website which can be found at <https://westmount.sd73.bc.ca/en/index.aspx>. On this site you can find important information under the What's Happening/News section. The calendar is located under the Our Schools/Programs tab and selecting the School Year Calendar tab. There will be national, district and school dates on this calendar, identified by different colours. I will do my best to keep it updated.

This Week's Dates

Thursday June 11th

- District PowWow (Grade 5 students only)

Following Week's Dates

Wednesday June 17th

- Talent Show

Friday June 19th

- National Indigenous Peoples Day

Dates to Plan for:

Monday June 22nd

- Picnic/Soccer Game @ 12:05pm (soccer game at 1:15pm)
- Grade 7 Parent Info Night @ Westsyde Secondary 6:00pm

Tuesday June 23rd

- Fun Day/Brock Pool

Thursday June 25th

- Last Day of School (12:34 dismissal)

Respectfully,

Roy Styles, Principal

FOSTER PARENTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Our community NEEDS caregivers!



Have you considered becoming a Foster Parent?

- Can you provide a loving, supportive, and nurturing environment?
- Do you have patience and are you able to mentor a young person?
- Can you open your home and your heart to a child or teen in need?
- Can you work with the child's family and social worker?

If you answered 'yes' we want to hear from you!

Our program will help connect you to a resource social worker in your area to get your application started. While the requirements vary in each community, there is a need for Foster Parents wanting to work with: children and youth with support needs, babies, youth and sibling groups. Scan the QR code or contact:

Jessica Galbraith - Network Facilitator - (250) 819-5819
Renata Bonthoux - Network Facilitator - (250) 319-6557

YOU CAN BE A FOSTER PARENT!



Don't rule yourself out because of myths!

MYTHS vs REALITY ABOUT FOSTERING A CHILD / YOUTH

MYTH: You have to own your home.

REALITY: Whether you rent or own your home makes no difference to your ability to give a child a safe, secure and nurturing home environment.

MYTH: Only people who are married and have parenting experience can foster.

REALITY: Parenting experience is not a requirement. What matters is that you are willing to attend and learn from foster caregiver training. Single and partnered people are all welcome to apply to become Foster Parents.

MYTH: You have to give up your job if you want to foster.

REALITY: There are many Foster Parents who manage to balance fostering alongside work. It depends on the flexibility of your job and the needs of the children you are caring for.