

# Westwood Primary School Newsletter

April 1, 2026



Principal: Sherry Flynn  
Vice-Principal: Patrick Richard

## Dates to Remember

April 3<sup>rd</sup> – Statutory Holiday (**NO SCHOOL**)

April 6<sup>th</sup> – Statutory Holiday (**NO SCHOOL**)

April 10<sup>th</sup> – Professional Development Day (**NO SCHOOL**)

April 15<sup>th</sup> – Spring Photo Day

April 16<sup>th</sup> – Welcome to Kindergarten Session 2026-2027 (French Immersion Students)

April 22<sup>nd</sup> – Administrative Assistant Day (Let our ladies in the office know how awesome they are!!!)

April 23<sup>rd</sup> – Welcome to Kindergarten Session 2026-2027 (English Students)

## School Office Hours

Please note that school office hours are Monday – Friday from 8:00 am – 4:00 pm. Our administrative assistants are more than happy to assist you with anything you may need between these hours of operation. Thank you.

## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

**CALLING ALL PARENTS... DO YOU KNOW ANYONE ELIGIBLE FOR KINDERGARTEN FOR SEPTEMBER?**

**It is EXTREMELY important that we have accurate registration numbers in order to have the correct number of teachers and support staff hired. Kindergarten classes have a cap enrollment per class. In order to have the correct number of teachers and support staff for our students we need have accurate numbers.**

If your child is turning 5 years old before December 31, 2026 please stop by Westwood Primary School to register for Kindergarten between 9:00am and 2:00 pm Monday through Friday.

Please bring with you the following:

- Piece of government issued ID with proof of the child's age (Birth Certificate, Health Card, Passport, etc.)
- Verification of Address (E.g. Utility Bill, etc.)

**If you have any questions please call the school at 902-368-6855**

## It's Spring!

Rain and sunshine are beginning the melting of the snow and as a result our school yard is wet in many areas and sometimes muddy. Please make sure that your child(ren) is wearing waterproof boots, snow/splash pants, and clothing appropriate to the season. ***It is also important to pack some spare clothing in your child's kit bag (socks, underwear, pants) that can be kept in a bag at school on their hook in the event that they get wet outside. Thanks!***

## Westwood Primary Home & School

Our Home & School plays an important role in bringing together parents, guardians, teachers, administrators and staff to promote the total well-being of children and the highest standards of education for each child in the province. We believe that the participation of parents and guardians in the education of our children is vital to ensuring our children's success in learning. Home & School provides a way to get involved in your child's education and learn more about what is happening in your child's school. It is also an opportunity to meet other parents and educators in your school community; discuss education topics that are important to you, such as curriculum content, class size, class composition, school bus safety, health education, and when there are gaps in the education system, parents and teachers can hold conversations to raise issues with government through a resolution process. Meeting dates and times are posted on our school Facebook page.

## Regular Pick Up Plans

Please send a note with your child or call the school **prior to 1:30 pm**, if you are going to be picking your child up (and this is not your usual plan). If your child needs to take a different bus for childcare, please send a note and we will give your child a bus pass. ***DO NOT EMAIL any BUS NOTES or BUS CHANGES to staff at the school.*** Staff are very busy and often do not have time to check emails until the end of the

day or may be out at a PD Session or off sick. Please submit a written note or phone the office BEFORE 1:30pm.

### **Westwood School Apparel**

Our Westwood Home and School has partnered with a local company, All Star Cresting, to open a Westwood Primary online apparel store. Parents and staff can order directly from the link below and The Home and School will receive a commission of 10% on all sales, which will go back directly to the school. This is a great opportunity to support Westwood Primary and shop local while showing your school spirit!! [https://allstarcresting.ca/westwood\\_apparel/shop/home](https://allstarcresting.ca/westwood_apparel/shop/home)

### **Spring Photo Day**

If you wish for your child to have their photos taken on Spring Photo Day please send in a note on the day of the photography (April 15<sup>th</sup>). Spring Photos are optional for students.

### **Bus Safety**

It is important that all of our students follow the bus safety rules on the bus. Students should be sitting seat-to-seat, back-to-back with backpacks on their knees or the seat (if room); students should be sitting for the entire bus ride, using quiet voices, hands on their own bodies and no eating or drinking on the bus. Please review these bus safety rules with your child(ren).



## **Upcoming Dates for Your Child for Kindergarten 2026-2027**

### ***Welcome to Kindergarten Program for 2026-2027***

**You are your child's first and best teacher!** You and your child(ren) are invited to an evening of interactive learning at Westwood Primary School. Family engagement helps children to be successful in school and in life. Early education is of vital importance as it lays the foundation for future academic and social success. The *Welcome to Kindergarten Program* helps prepare for a positive start to their school journey.

We will be offering sessions over the course of two evenings in April: On April 16<sup>th</sup> (Early French Immersion Program) and April 23<sup>rd</sup> (English Program). Information will be emailed out to parents/guardians regarding which evening you are invited to attend.

### **Kindergarten Orientation Half Day for 2026-2027**

Your child is invited to attend a half day Kindergarten Orientation on May 14<sup>th</sup>. Further details will be shared with parents in May at the Welcome to Kindergarten Sessions. **Current Kindergarten Students do not have school on May 14<sup>th</sup>.**

### **Volunteer at Westwood Primary!**

We're always looking for caring community members to support our students, whether that's helping with our Breakfast Program or joining us on field trips and school events.

- Breakfast Program Volunteers help with light prep and serving before school. No experience needed, just a kind heart and a little time to spare.

- Event & Field Trip Chaperones are a huge help as we head into the busiest part of the school year. With end-of-year trips and special events on the horizon, we'd love to have parents and guardians along for the adventure!

To get involved:

- A Criminal Record Check is required for all volunteers. We encourage you to get this process started as soon as possible so you're ready when opportunities arise.
- Contact our Vice Principal Patrick Richard at [patrickrichard@edu.pe.ca](mailto:patrickrichard@edu.pe.ca) or call the school office to learn more.

We're grateful for every volunteer who gives their time to make Westwood Primary School a wonderful place for our students.

### **Westwood Home & School Association WIN WITH WESTY!**

**Win With Westy!** is crowdfunding fundraiser for our school organized and run by our amazing Home & School Association once a month. Each draw there is 100 spots available at \$10.00 per spot. The spots go fast as there are only 100 up for grabs each draw.

Funds raised through this crowdfunding fundraiser have been used to purchase items for our students at the school. Below are some examples of things that have been purchased over the last few years:

- 8 Sparks Fly Bikes
  - Lego Wall for our Lego Engineers Club
  - Noise Canceling Headphones
  - Focus & Fidget Toys
  - Literacy Garden
  - Thera-bands
  - Board Games for classes for indoor recesses
  - Self-regulation tools and teacher resources
- ..... and much more.

There are a ton of great prizes up for grabs during the draws.

Some examples of prizes:

- \$500.00 Gift Card of your choice
  - \$500.00 Gas Card
  - \$500.00 Amazon Card
  - \$500.00 Gift Card for Grocery Store
- ... and many other great draw items.

The next draw is coming up fast. To get in on the action you need to click on the link below and request to join. One of the Home & School executive will approve your request for the private Win With Westy group. Then you need to tune in for the monthly draws. The next draw will be coming up in the middle of the month. JOIN NOW 🖱️

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/397555804761842>



# Home & School News

PEI Home and School Federation Newsletter, April 2026

## 📌 It's time to register for 73rd AGM & Conference

Please register your school and ensure it is represented at this meeting.

Bullying is being addressed by guest speaker Alain Pelletier at the AGM.

Date: Saturday, April 18, 2026

Time: 08:40 a.m. – 02:50 p.m.

Fee: \$40 per person

Place: Rodd Charlottetown Hotel, 75 Kent Street, Charlottetown

Conference Highlights: Theme: “*Stop Bullying. Start Belonging.*”

A.M. Keynote Speaker: Alain Pelletier “5 Faces of Bullying”

Workshop Topics:

1. Child Exploitation Unit
2. “5 Faces of Bullying”
3. Food, Finances & Fundamentals, etc.



Participation: This meeting is open to all parents and educators! While each member school is limited to five (5) voting delegates, more than 5 people can register to attend from each school. *The greater the attendance, the richer the discussions.*

REGISTER by early deadline April 1st at: <https://peihsf.ca/agm/>

PEI Home and School Federation contact information: 902-620-3186 | [peihsf@gov.pe.ca](mailto:peihsf@gov.pe.ca)

## 📌 Review 2026 Proposed Resolutions before the AGM

Resolutions submitted by local Home and School Associations will be discussed and voted on at the Annual General Meeting on April 18. Please ensure your voting delegates (parents and educators) review these resolutions in advance so they come to the meeting ready to vote.

The proposed resolutions include:

2026-01 = Integrating Playground Equipment into the Provincial Capital Budget

2026-02 = Increase Psycho-Educational Assessment Capacity for School-Aged Children in Prince Edward Island

2026-03 = Repeal Section 43 and Prohibit Corporal Punishment of Children

2026-04 = Urging Compliance with PEI Teacher Librarian Directive (Md 2025-05) By Hiring A Provincial Teacher-

Librarian Leader

Find proposed resolutions online: <https://peihsf.ca/agm/>

## 📌 School Bus Driver Award

The PEI Home and School Federation’s [School Bus Driver of the Year Award](#) celebrates the dedicated bus drivers who help keep PEI’s students safe every day as they travel to and from school. Nominations for the 2026 award are now open! [Submit your nomination by May 8, 2026.](#)

## 📌 National Volunteer Week, April 19-25, 2026.

Ignite Volunteerism: A year-long, nation-building celebration. We will celebrate how people in Canada have ignited volunteerism in their communities to deepen our collective impact. Visit: <https://ivy26.ca/> for resources

### PSB School Board Trustee Reports

Congratulations to the Public Schools Branch Board of Trustees' new Chair, Andrew MacFarlane, and Vice-Chair, Karen Clare, who assumed their one-year roles on March 13, 2026.

#### **Westisle (Zone 1)**

Andrew Avery, Zone 1 Trustee for the PSB, has been working to meet all 9 schools in the Westisle Family of Schools since his Feb. 9 by-election win by acclamation. The primary concern across all schools is the need for more support staff, particularly teachers and educational assistants. The shortage of trained EAs is expected to worsen for the 2026-2027 school year, and Avery will advocate for addressing this in upcoming PSB budgets. On Feb 10, Hon. David Jenkins released a report on Student Safety in Island Schools with recommendations to ensure safe learning environments. Avery expressed concerns about the by-election process, which relied solely on mail-in ballots with a tight timeline, and plans to request a full review to establish the proper Election Day, in-person voting stations for 2028. He encourages community members to volunteer for school breakfast programs, noting that students who eat breakfast are more focused learners. Tignish Elementary Principal, Mike Ellsworth, received the 2026 Doug MacDougall Inspire Award for his dedication and positive impact on students and staff. *Andrew Avery* ([andrewavery@edu.pe.ca](mailto:andrewavery@edu.pe.ca))

#### **Bluefield (Zone 4)**

I've been able to meet some Home and School Associations in my zone and will schedule more meetings soon! In the meantime, I encourage people to reach out to me with any concerns or questions. I'm also looking forward to attending the AGM on April 18 and having great conversations with Home and School Association members. I've attended this AGM several times and have always found these meetings to be both informative and an excellent opportunity to network. *Karen* ([kclare@edu.pe.ca](mailto:kclare@edu.pe.ca))

#### **Charlottetown (Zone 5)**

With the warmer days of April bringing energy and smiles to everyone, we're excited by the prospect of joining one of your upcoming Home and School Association Zone 5 meetings. We'd also be thrilled to lend a hand with any student events you have in the works for May. Supporting the fun and learning that make our schools so special is important to us. In March, we had the pleasure of attending the awarding of the "Extra Mile" award to Mrs. Jill Burry of Stonepark Intermediate School. The affection and respect the students and educators displayed for Mrs. Burry were truly inspiring. It was a privilege to be asked to participate in this ceremony, and congratulations again, Mrs. Burry! Public School Board meeting minutes are available in the Board of Trustees section of the Public Schools Branch website. Kindest regards & Happy Easter to All! *Andrew* ([amacfarlane@edu.pe.ca](mailto:amacfarlane@edu.pe.ca)) & *Gaylene* ([gcarraqher@edu.pe.ca](mailto:gcarraqher@edu.pe.ca))

## **Community News**

### **Delta Soccer Spring & Summer Outdoor Programs for Players 9 and Under.**

Not all grassroots soccer programs are the same. Delta Soccer is designed for families who want more coaching engagement during practice time. Sessions are structured and high-energy, keeping children moving through small-sided games and skill activities that build confidence with the ball. Families can register for the 8-week Spring session (May–July), the 8-week Summer session (July–August), or both. The outdoor season starts earlier and runs longer to provide more time for young players to develop and enjoy the game. Registration opens April 7th. Full details and registration at [deltasoccer.ca](http://deltasoccer.ca).

## STEAM PEI

STEAM PEI is offering summer camps this year for kids ages 5–14 in the Charlottetown area, hosted at Holland College and the STEAM PEI Makerspace. Our camps give kids the chance to explore science, technology, engineering, art, and math through hands-on, fun activities in a welcoming environment. A great way to keep young minds engaged over the summer! Learn more and register here: <https://bit.ly/4sMGhVt>



## Charlottetown Summer 2026 English Camps

AGES	5-8	8-12	10-14
Location	Holland College	Holland College	STEAM PEI
JUN-JUL 29-3	Art in STEM	Stop Motion Animation	
JUL 6-10	Wild Animal	Design Lab	Engineering for the Future
JUL 13-17	GeoGenius	Stop Motion Animation	Game Makers
JUL 20-24	STEAM Explorers	Tech Bytes	Girls in Design
JUL 27-31	Space Quest	Online Investigators	MakerLab
AUG 4-7	Wild Animal	Stop Motion Animation	Engineering for the Future
AUG 10-14	Space Quest	Design Lab	Game Makers
AUG 17-21		8-12 ←	Online Investigators
AUG 24-28		Girls only, 8-12 ←	EcoGirls