

# Westwood Primary School

February 1, 2026



Principal: Sherry Flynn  
Vice-Principal: Patrick Richard

## Dates to Remember

**February 2<sup>nd</sup>** – Administrative Day for HIGH SCHOOL ONLY

**February 9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>** - Staff Appreciation Week

**February 10<sup>th</sup>** – Love and Kindness Celebration 1:00 pm (1A, 1B, 1G & 1H)

**February 11<sup>th</sup>** – Love and Kindness Celebration 1:00 pm (1C, 1D, 1E & 1F)

**February 13<sup>th</sup>** – Professional Development Day (**NO SCHOOL**)

**February 16<sup>th</sup>** - Islander Day – Statutory Holiday (**NO SCHOOL**)

**February 25<sup>th</sup>** – Pink Shirt Day

**March 5<sup>th</sup>** – Parent Teacher Conferences (Evening)

**March 6<sup>th</sup>** - Parent- Teacher Conferences (Day) (**NO SCHOOL**)

## Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parents/Guardians will be able to log on and book parent-teacher conferences on February 20<sup>th</sup> and will close February 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 pm. We will send out an email reminder to parents later in the month. Parents are able to book parent-teacher conference times for students attending both Westwood Primary and Eliot River Elementary Schools at the same time. **We recommend that you allow at least for 15 minutes between multiple interviews when booking.** A link to the Parent-Teacher Conferences Scheduler is on our main web page. <https://eliotriver.schoolappointments.com/admin/>

## Emergency Early Closure

Occasionally schools need to close during the day because of emergencies beyond our control or poor weather conditions. There will be an announcement on local radio stations in the event of an emergency early closure. In the event of an emergency early closure, we follow the **emergency early closure plan** you indicated at the beginning of the school year (yellow form). **We do not follow any bus notes or Pick-up notes that may have been sent in that day.**

**Please note: During an emergency early closure we are unable to phone individual children's homes, so it is critical that we have this emergency bus plan on file. Calling the school is not an option during an emergency early closure because we may have had to evacuate the school or you may not be able to get through to the school, as the phone lines are busy. We do not take calls for pick-ups as we do not hold children at the school during emergency early closures. If you are able to arrive at the school prior to the dismissal of the buses we will call your child(ren) up to the office for pick-up.**

## Student Drop Off

Please make sure when you enter the Student Drop Off Area that you are pulling your vehicle up as far as you can towards the stop sign to allow additional vehicles to fill in behind you along the curb at the front of the school. Please ensure your child is ready to exit the vehicle quickly when you pull up to the drop off area (jackets are on and back packs ready to go). **If your child needs extra time to get ready to exit the vehicle, please park in the designated parking lot area (old tennis courts) and walk your child to the sidewalk.** The drop off traffic can get backed up and it creates a safety concern when students do not exit their vehicles quickly. **We ask that students do not get dropped off by the garbage cans or staff parking lot, as there is a great deal of staff traffic in this area in the morning and the lanes are very narrow there. This poses a safety risk if people are parked or pulled over in this area.** Students should be getting dropped off either in the drop off area or parents are parking in the designated parking lot (tennis courts) and walking their children to the sidewalk.

The Student Drop Off Area is a **continuous flow area** – there is no parking permitted along the front of the school. There is no passing in this area and please do not move the pylons we have placed out front. Thank-you for your cooperation and keeping students safe.

## Bus Safety

Our bus drivers work hard every day to get our students to and from school safely. As we move into the winter season it is more important than ever that the children are being safe and orderly on the bus. Please take some time to review appropriate bus safety with your children. All classes have had bus safety discussions, but from time to time they require review.

At school we stress the following when we talk with the students about safe and appropriate bus manners:

- 1) "Back to back & seat to seat" describes how they should be sitting on the bus
- 2) Sitting at all times when the bus is moving and staying seated until the bus arrives at your stop
- 3) Using a quiet voice - Level 1 (silence) or Level 2 (whisper, soft talk) voice.
- 4) No eating or drinking on the school bus
- 5) Keeping hands and feet on their own body
- 6) When waiting for the school bus during winter weather we ask that you have your child wait in the drive way, **NOT on the side of the road**. Often vehicles cannot see the students because of the snowbanks
- 7) Please remind the students that it is not safe to be playing in the snow while waiting for the bus.
- 8) Please make sure that your children are ready and waiting outside at their bus stop a few minutes prior to bus pick up time. Please keep in mind the bus cannot wait for students, as this can put the bus driver behind schedule at other schools. Most of our buses also drive for the junior high and high school. *Please stress that everyone's safety is compromised when students are not following these procedures. Thanks for reviewing this important information at home and helping our bus drivers keep our students safe.*

## Medications

Reminder to all parents: if you are dropping off medication for your child to take at school the medication must be **pre-measured** and in a labeled container with your child's name. As well, a Medication Form **must** be completed for Westwood to administer medication. All medications are kept and administered in the office. Please do not send medications with your child on the school bus. All medications should be dropped off at the school.

## 2026 - 2027 Kindergarten Registration Reminder



We understand that there are still several children in the area who have not registered for 2026 - 2027 Kindergarten. If you know of someone who has an eligible child, please pass this message along to them: All children who will be 5 years old by December 31st, 2026 are eligible to attend Kindergarten in the 2026 - 2027 school year. You can register your child by dropping in to the school between 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m (Monday-Friday). You must have documents that show proof of birth, as well as, address

verification at the time of registration.

**Planning for the 2026 - 2027 school year is underway, so knowing the size of our 2026-2027 Kindergarten enrollment is crucial to assisting us with staffing needs.**

## Winter Weather

Cold winter weather is upon us. Students **must** bring clothing appropriate for the weather. Please make sure your child has mittens (preferably 2 pairs), hats, boots and snow pants **and** a change of clothes for the kitbag. Extra clothes can be placed in a plastic bag and left on your child's hook in the classroom.

## Staff Appreciation Week

Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week across PEI is coming up and runs from February 9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The Westwood Home and School Association is encouraging parents and students to share their appreciation to the excellent staff at our school by treating them to lots of goodies throughout the week. Please review the available slots below and click on the button to sign up by February 4<sup>th</sup> (feel free to choose more than one). Here is the link to the sign-up genius

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0C4DAEAA2EA4F58-61936240-teacher?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTAAynJpZBExUFVoaFRDQnJoT2syaXdLWnNydGMGYXBwX2lkE>

[DlyMjAzOTE30DgyMDA40TIAAR7jW4SwhvZS7eXa4gOK0pqU\\_5PzxGyAyrKr8fcK7Fb59Imci5tv51QwPQCmfQ\\_aem\\_Kho1Sn8jUcdlgs51hNfrAQ#/](https://www.diy.com/recipe/30DgyMDA40TIAAR7jW4SwhvZS7eXa4gOK0pqU_5PzxGyAyrKr8fcK7Fb59Imci5tv51QwPQCmfQ_aem_Kho1Sn8jUcdlgs51hNfrAQ#/)

Treats can be store bought or homemade but remember that all donations must be peanut/tree nut and kiwi free. Treats can be delivered to the School Office on the morning of your chosen day between 7:30-9:00am. In the event of a storm day closure, please feel free to bring in your treat on the next day! If using a reusable container (preferably not glass) make sure to label with your child's name and class so it can be returned to you.

Thank you for your support in treating the great Staff at Westwood Primary!

## Breakfast Program

The Breakfast Program runs each day with the help of volunteers, from 8:05 – 8:30. Please note there is no Breakfast Program when there is a weather related delay to the start of the school day.

We gratefully accept donations of plain or multigrain Cheerios, apples, yogurt tubes, baby carrots, bananas, cucumbers, whole wheat bread, strawberry jam and margarine.

## Music News

**Love & Kindness Assembly:** Our Grade 1's will be spreading "Love & Kindness" in assemblies February 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. Parents of Grade 1 students are invited to join us in the Multipurpose Room at 1:00pm on the following dates:

Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> (Storm date Feb 12<sup>th</sup>)

- 1A (Jennifer Kelly)
- 1B (Kelly Stewart)
- 1G (Krista Dumville)
- 1H (Robyn Weeks)

Thursday, February 11<sup>th</sup> (Storm date Feb 12<sup>th</sup>)

- 1C (Nicole Hazelwood-McGee)
- 1D (Christa Schurman)
- 1E (Chrissy McCarville)
- 1F (Samantha Knopoka)

**RECORDERS:** Grade 3 classes are starting recorders next month. Please send in \$10 if you have not already done so. We are excited to get started!

Shelley Hanson & Dorothy Dahn

# Provincial Home & School News

## Home and School Newsletter, February 2026

### Say 'Thank You' to School Staff

PEI celebrates Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week, February 8–14, 2026. Across the Island, Home and School Associations — together with parents and students — are expressing their gratitude and recognizing the dedication and hard work of school staff who make a difference every day. From educators who inspire a love of learning, to educational assistants, custodians, bus drivers, admin. assistants, and administrators who keep schools caring, safe, and welcoming — every staff member helps create a positive environment where students can learn, grow, and succeed.

### Annual Reports

President's Annual Reports are due February 28 for inclusion in the 73rd Annual Book of Reports. Include activities for this school year, starting in Sept. through to the end of June. Read

last year's 'Book of Reports 2025' for writing tips at: <https://peihsf.ca/agm/>.

If you need help, call Shirley at 902-620-3186 or Jeana at 902-620-3187.

### 🐾 **Mark your calendars for AGM April 18th**

Mark your calendars for the P.E.I. Home and School Federation's Annual General Meeting on Saturday, April 18, 2026, at the Rodd Charlottetown Hotel. Make decisions to shape positive changes in PEI's school system with delegates from across the Island. The Federation will mail AGM registration packages to presidents in February. Details will be posted at <https://peihsf.ca/agm/>

### 🐾 **Home and School Volunteer Award**

Every school has that special someone who's always ready to lend a hand - organizing events, helping out in the school, fundraising or bringing people together. Do you know a volunteer who makes a real difference in your school community? Nominate them for the *Home and School Volunteer of the Year Award* and help us celebrate their contributions.

Deadline for nominations: March 6th. Learn more at: <https://peihsf.ca/awards/>

🐾 **Pink Shirt Day**, Feb. 25, 2026. This year's design for CKNW Kids' Fund Pink Shirt Day reminds us to 'Sprinkle Kindness'. The artwork shows a child sharing an umbrella with friends as hearts fall like rain from the sky. A playful reminder that kindness grows when it is shared. For more information, go to: <https://pinkshirtdaycanada.ca/>

### 🐾 **PSB School Trustee Messages**

Charlottetown, Zone 5: As we look forward to February, we would like to take this time to remind you that Public School Board meeting minutes and the schedule of meetings are available on the [Board of Trustees | Public Schools Branch](#) website. In January, we had the pleasure of attending Home and School Association meetings at Donagh Regional, Sherwood Elementary, St. Jean's Elementary, West Kent Elementary, and West Royalty Elementary. Zone 5 association meetings provide a valuable opportunity for us to connect with families, hear parents' concerns, and learn about the great ideas and initiatives being shared. Please, do not hesitate to reach out if you would like us to attend an upcoming Zone 5 Home and School Association meeting.

Kindest regards & Happy Islander Day to All!

Andrew ([amacfarlane@edu.pe.ca](mailto:amacfarlane@edu.pe.ca)) & Gaylene ([gcarragher@edu.pe.ca](mailto:gcarragher@edu.pe.ca))

Bluefield, Zone 4: I thoroughly enjoyed meeting members of the Englewood and Bluefield Home and School Associations in January. We chatted about what's happening at each school, and I provided an update on my activities as their new School Board Trustee. In the coming months, I'm looking forward to meeting other Home and School Associations. I also welcome any questions or feedback.

Karen ([kclare@edu.pe.ca](mailto:kclare@edu.pe.ca))

### 🐾 **Key 2026 February Holidays & Observances:**

- Black History Month: February honours Black Canadian history and excellence.
- Valentine's Day: Saturday, February 14
- National Flag of Canada Day: Sunday, February 15
- Islander Day: Prince Edward Island: Monday, Feb 16
- [International Mother Language Day](#): February 21
- [Pink Shirt Day](#): Last Wednesday of February

## Happy Valentine's Day from Westy

