

Westwood Primary School Newsletter

March 2, 2026



Principal: Sherry Flynn
Vice-Principal: Patrick Richard

Dates to Remember

- March 2nd – Kindergarten Field Trip for Classes KA, KE & KF
- March 3rd - Kindergarten Field Trip for Classes KB, KC & KD
- March 5th – Parent-Teacher Conferences (Evening)
- March 6th – Parent-Teacher Conferences (Day) (**NO SCHOOL**)
- March 12th – Report Cards
- March 16th – 20th – March Break (**NO SCHOOL**)
- April 3rd – Statutory Holiday (Good Friday) – (**NO SCHOOL**)
- April 6th – Statutory Holiday (Easter Monday) – (**NO SCHOOL**)
- April 11th – Professional Learning Day (**NO SCHOOL**)

WE ARE A SCENT FREE ENVIRONMENT!

PLEASE BE MINDFUL WHEN ATTENDING PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES!

Thank You 😊



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

CALLING ALL PARENTS... DO YOU KNOW ANYONE ELIGIBLE FOR KINDERGARTEN FOR SEPTEMBER 2026?

Westwood Primary has now started the staffing process for our classes for next year... **HOWEVER, we have noticed that we are missing a number of our Kindergarten Registrations!** We need accurate registration numbers in order to have the correct number of teachers and support staff hired.

Staffing for Kindergarten is based on a ratio... if you register late there may be a delay with your child starting school in September.

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 3:30 pm Monday through Thursday.

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

School Office Hours

Please note that the school office hours for Westwood Primary School are from **8:00 am to 4:00 pm** Monday through Friday. Phones are only answered at these times. Our administrative assistants would be more than happy to assist you. Thank you.

Morning Drop Off Safety Concerns

We have seen an **increasing number** of unsafe student drop offs in the morning. We want to remind all our families of the following information:

- Speed limit on school property is **10km**
- Yield to Buses always
- Yield to students on Cross Walks always
- There is **NO PASSING** at any time in the drop off lane.
- When pulling up along the curb of the school for drop off, you must **pull as far ahead as you can** towards the stop sign. This will allow other cars to pull in behind you safely and keep the flow of traffic moving in a timely manner.
- Children should **ONLY** leave the car when the car is pulled up to the sidewalk. **Children should never be exiting the vehicle in the drive loop or when the car is part way turned out of the loop (yellow barrier area)**
- There is **NO PARKING** permitted at any time in the drop off lane OR the side of the school by the GARBAGE CAN AREA during morning arrival. There is signage posted explaining this.
- If you need to walk your child into the school, you must park in the Guest Visitor Parking Area (old converted tennis court area)
- Wheelchair accessible parking is available at the front of the school.

Thank you for keeping our students and staff safe!

Student Lunches - Cutlery



Reminder to families that you need to make sure you are packing cutlery in your child's lunch daily. The PEI School Lunch Program and Westwood Primary School **do not** provide cutlery.

Easter Seals Campaign

Easter Seals PEI has introduced its ambassador for its 2026 campaign, Rowan MacDonald. Rowan is sixteen years old and a Grade 10 student at Colonel Gray Senior High School. Joining Rowan on his ambassador journey are his parents, Christopher MacDonald and stepmum, Shannon Taylor, his mom, Lisa Parent, his older sister, Paige MacDonald and his little sister, Beatrix Taylor-MacDonald. Each year schools across PEI participate in the School Ambassador Tour. At Westwood Primary, we have a series of school Fun-raiser days to raise money for Easter Seals. Please join us in participating in our School Fun-raiser activities with a small monetary donation. All funds collected will be presented to Rowan MacDonald, Easter Seals 2026 School Ambassador when he visits our school. **Easter Seals PEI** is committed to enhancing the quality of life, self-esteem and self-determination of Islanders living with disabilities by providing support generated by fundraising activities to hard-working charities across the province. Thank you for your support!!!

Westwood Primary Easter Seals Fun-raiser Days

It is time for us to begin our fundraising for the Easter Seals Campaign!

PEI Easter Seals is a registered charity committed to fully enhancing the quality of life, self-esteem and self-determination of Islanders of all ages living with disabilities.

We have some really fun Friday's coming up for our students. Students can bring in a Loonie or any monetary donation on our Easter Seals Fun-raiser Fridays!

March 5th - Inside Out Day

March 13th - PJ Day

March 27th - Dress Like a Tourist Day

April 2nd - Plaid Day OR Dress Like a Bunny Day

Thank you for supporting Westwood Primary School in our fundraising for the PEI Easter Seals Campaign!!

Keeping Our School Healthy

It is important to remember for all parents/guardians, students, staff and visitors to Westwood Primary School that you should not attend school if you are feeling unwell.

If you or your child has any of the following symptoms you should **NOT** attend school:

- Fever (38°C or higher) / chills
- New or worsening cough
- Body / muscle / joint aches/unusual headache
- Gastrointestinal symptoms (nausea, vomiting, diarrhea)
- Shortness of breath / difficulty breathing
- Sore/raw throat/consistent runny nose

Exemptions include on-going, existing conditions and symptoms that would not be new or unusual for that individual (e.g., chronic allergies, asthma, etc.)

It is important that we all work together to keep our school environment healthy for all students, staff and visitors, so that attendance and staffing is not impacted by illness.

Thank you for working with us to keep our school healthy and safe for everyone.

Westwood Primary School

Breakfast Program

Westwood's breakfast program runs each day with the help of some very dedicated volunteers. Please note there is no breakfast program when there is an hour delay. We want to say a heart felt thanks to our Volunteers for all you do for our school!

Absences

Parents and guardians are reminded if your child(ren) is going to be absent from school to please contact the school to inform the school of the absence. The school is available to take calls between 8:00 am – 4:00 pm. It is important that we are logging accurate information regarding absences and this time of year we are also monitoring the level of illness in our schools. Thank you

Dressing for the Weather

Spring is on its way! However the weather remains brisk and cold on some days and rather wet on others. Please ensure your child is dressed warmly for the weather with hats, mitts, scarf, rubber boots, warm winter coat and snow/splash pants. Please be sure to pack an extra set of clothes if your child gets wet and a plastic bag to put wet clothing in.

Parent Teacher Conferences

If you have not booked your parent-teacher conference time, please contact your child's teacher to arrange a time. Parent Teacher Conferences are scheduled for March 5th (evening) and March 6th (day). The school phone number is 902-368-6855

Provincial Home & School News

Home and School Newsletter, March 2026

AGM Registration is OPEN

PEI Home and School Federation 73rd AGM Theme: "Stop Bullying. Start Belonging."

Saturday, April 18, 2026, Rodd Charlottetown Hotel, 75 Kent St., Charlottetown

Keynote: Alain Pelletier, "5 Faces of Bullying"

Deep Dive Workshops: RCMP Child Exploitation Unit, Cst. Robert Yaschuk

"5 Faces of Bullying," Alain Pelletier

Food, Finance, and Fundamentals, Home & School Reps

Each Association may designate up to five of its attendees as voting delegates for this meeting. All parents and educators are welcome to attend and advocate for the education and well-being of our students.

[REGISTER by April 1st: https://forms.gle/xUjANKnh61VhRnGy8](https://forms.gle/xUjANKnh61VhRnGy8)

2026 Proposed Resolutions

Proposed resolutions are being circulated to Local Home and School presidents and executive members for discussion at your March Home and School meeting. Find resolutions online at: <https://peihsf.ca/agm/>

Action steps:

1. Review and discuss each resolution.
2. Hold a vote on each resolution.
3. Select your H&S voting delegates (2 or more individuals) and share the voting results with them so they can vote on behalf of your Home and School at the AGM on April 18th.

School Food Environment Policy - Virtual Info Session with Margaret Young

Would you like to learn more about the draft school food policy?

Margaret Young, School Food Project Coordinator, Education and Early Years, invites Home and School executive members to attend a virtual information session on the draft School Food Environment Policy.

Sessions are scheduled as follows:

= Tuesday, March 3, 6 pm-7 pm (in English)

= Wednesday, March 4, 6 pm-7 pm (in French)

Follow this link to register by Feb. 27th: <https://gov.questionpro.ca/t/AB3utlkZB3vAw6>

Add the following discussion topics to your March meeting's agenda...

1. AGM 2026 Registration: Ask 2-5 parent and/or teacher reps to attend the AGM as your Voting Delegates. The AGM invitation is open to ALL parents and educators. Send as many as wish to attend, with the required designation of five as your voting representatives.
2. Proposed Resolutions 2026 = Review 4 resolutions at: <https://peihsf.ca/agm/>
3. Home and Schools are urged to pay for your delegates' registration fee, travel, and offer to pay for a hotel room as an incentive to thank them for their time.
4. School Food Policy: Plan to attend the March 3rd virtual School Food Policy session with Margaret Young, Dept. Education and Early Years, to learn about and ask questions about the proposed policy.
5. Review Hon. David Jenkins' Report: [Hon. Judge David Jenkins Report StudentSafety](#)

Volunteer of the Year Award

This award recognizes one person annually for their efforts in their local school. Home and Schools can submit nominations to the Federation office by March 6. Find details: <https://peihsf.ca/awards/>

Nominate a Federation Director

The PEI Home and School Federation is overseen by a volunteer board elected by delegates at the AGM. Members are encouraged to nominate suitable candidates from within their Home and School, who, in your opinion, have the necessary qualifications to do the work of the provincial Federation. The 2026 Nomination Form is available at: <https://peihsf.ca/agm/>. Contact Shirley at 902-620-3186 for more information.

PSB School Trustee Reports:

Charlottetown, Zone 5 = As spring approaches, 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. We encourage you to review these resources to stay informed about board discussions and decisions. In February, we had the pleasure of attending the Home and School Association meeting in Charlottetown Rural High School. These meetings provide Andrew and me with a valuable opportunity to connect with families, listen to parents' and school administrators' perspectives, and learn about the many creative ideas and initiatives taking place within our school communities. Please, do not hesitate to reach out if you would like us to attend an upcoming Zone 5 Home and School Association meeting at your school – we are happy to do so. Additionally, if you have any upcoming activities that you would like us to attend, we would be happy to participate and support your efforts.

Happy March Break to All!

Andrew (amacfarlane@edu.pe.ca) & Gaylene (qcarraqher@edu.pe.ca)

Bluefield, Zone 4: It was lovely meeting members of the East Wiltshire Home and School Association in February. I'm looking forward to touching base with other Bluefield Family of Schools' Home and School Associations in the coming months. I enjoy learning more about each school and sharing information about the role of School Board Trustees and our activities to-date. I do welcome any questions or feedback!

Karen (kclare@edu.pe.ca)

Great Big Crunch!

Register [here](#) to participate in the Great Big Crunch (or [Munch](#)) anytime in February, March and April, and let us know how your students or team members are taking part. You can also join 1000s of students and school food supporters at the virtual Great Big Crunch, Thursday, March 26, 2026, 1:00 p.m. EDT. Register [here](#) for virtual event! Explore the [2026 Activity Toolkit](#) / View the [2026 Communications Guide](#)