

# Westwood Primary School Newsletter

May 1, 2026



Principal: Sherry Flynn  
Vice-Principal: Patrick Richard

## Dates to Remember

**May 1<sup>st</sup>** – Area Association Meeting (**NO SCHOOL**)

**May 14<sup>th</sup>** – Half Day Orientation Day for Kindergarten 2026-2027 students (**NO SCHOOL for present Kindergarten Students**)

**May 15<sup>th</sup>** – Teddy Bear Clinic for Kindergarten (UPEI Nursing Students)

**May 18<sup>th</sup>** – Victoria Day (**NO SCHOOL**)

**May 21<sup>st</sup>** – Grade 2 Concert ~ Squirm! The Musical~

**May 5<sup>th</sup>** – Westwood Primary Home & School Meeting @ 6pm a

**June 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>** – Parent/Teacher Conferences by request (Parent or Teacher)

## School Day Success

At Westwood Primary School our School Day **STARTS at 8:30 am**. We have seen a large number of students arriving right at 8:30am or after. The ideal time for a student to arrive is 8:10-8:20am. (First bell rings at 8:20 am)

Arriving on time for school ensures that your child doesn't miss out on the important learning activities that happen early in the day when they are most alert. Set your child up for success and make certain your child arrives to school **On Time. Every Time**. The importance of arriving on time:

**On Time.  
Every  
Time.**

"Being on time sets my day up for success. I can visit my friends, get ready for learning and hear all of my teacher's instructions."

- Smooth transition period - students who arrive at school with time to spare have the opportunity to settle into the classroom, prepare their materials and focus their minds on the lessons to come.
- Important information – a typical school day starts with classroom morning meetings, announcements and introductions to new lessons and concepts. Students who show up late may miss out on important details and be unprepared for future class events or key learning concepts.
- Many school intervention programs, resource supports and specialist classes begin at 8:30am. Students are missing key instruction if they are not on time and may end up being unable to continue in a specific program.
- Develops long-term positive habits – when students show up on time to school every day, they develop the habit of being punctual with important commitments.
- Self-esteem - arriving on time every day ***makes children feel good about themselves***.

## Kindergarten Orientation Day

Parents of Kindergarten students for the 2026-2027 school year will be contacted by school through email regarding the drop off and pick up times for Orientation Day on May 14th. **The Orientation Day is for students only**. Please pack a small snack for your child and indoor footwear. **Keep in mind we are a scent free, tree nut, peanut and kiwi free school.**

**Kindergarten students currently attending Westwood Primary are reminded that they are not to come to school on May 14<sup>th</sup>.**

## Grade 4 Orientation Evening

There will be an orientation for current Grade 3 students from Westwood Primary on Wednesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026 at Eliot River Elementary.

Eliot River Elementary will be offering two sessions at:

- 4:15 p.m
- 5:00 p.m

Parents are encouraged to choose whichever session works best for your family. Parents and students will meet in the activity room for a quick presentation followed by a tour with the Grade 4 teachers.

Please feel free to park in either of the parking lots and enter the school through the front doors.

Thank You

Eliot River Elementary

**Parent – Teacher Conferences** - The final parent-teacher conferences are by request only, requested either through the teacher or parent. Parent-Teacher conferences will take place between June 8<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup>. Should you wish to have a conference about your child's progress please contact your child's teacher.

### **It's Spring !**

Please make sure that your child(ren) is wearing waterproof boots, splash pants, and clothing appropriate to the seasonal weather. Please label all of your child's clothing. ***It is also important to pack some spare clothing in your child's kit bag (socks, underwear and pants) that can be kept in a bag at school on their hook in the event that they get wet outside. Thanks!***

### **Music News**

Grade 2 Spring Concert: Grade 2 students will present Squirm! The Musical on Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 1pm and 7pm.

Students are to arrive in their homerooms at 6:30. Information has been sent home with more information.

**Westy Waves** – Congratulations to all our amazing students!! You had 72 Westy Waves for the month of April! Great work on showing kindness, respect and safety in our school! Way to Go!



### **Sunscreen**

The warmer weather is starting. Now is the time to start thinking about sunscreen for your child. Students are outside for 30 minutes for recess every day. Our Physical Education program also takes advantage of the great weather and often will hold its classes outside which increases your child's exposure to sun. Sunscreen and sun protection are very important for children and adolescents. Skin cancer is becoming more common in young people. Protecting your child's skin from too much exposure to the sun can greatly reduce this risk. Sunburn is a sign of skin damage that you can see, but invisible damage occurs too, in all skin types.

It is important to remember when selecting sunscreen for your child that Westwood School is a **SCENT FREE School**. Please make sure that you select a product that is not scented. We also recommend putting the sunscreen on in the morning before heading to school. Students can then keep a small tube/bottle in their back pack should they need to reapply it later in the day. We also recommend a hat that can be worn outdoors as an extra measure of sun protection. Thanks ☺

### **Bus Safety**

Students can be unsettled on the bus this time of year with the nicer weather. Please continue to have conversations with your child(ren) about staying safe on the bus. Students should be sitting seat to seat, back to back, using quiet voices, keeping hands on their own bodies, remaining seated for the entire bus ride and being kind to others.

### **Student Drop Off**

When dropping children off in the morning, they should be dropped off using the drop off lane in front of the school or parents can park in the parking area and walk them to the front of the school. Students **should not** be dropped off at the side of the school by the garbage bins or inside the curved lane entrance. Cars should be pulled up to the CURB before students disembark from the vehicle inside **marked** drop off spots. Please try to have your child ready to exit the vehicle to keep the traffic running smoothly. If your child requires more time, please park in the visitor parking lot and walk your child to the sidewalk.

### **End of Year Field Trips**

Our Kindergarten classes will be going to Camp Triumph. Classes will be split into two groups. Some classes will be going on June 2<sup>nd</sup> and the remaining classes on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Rain date for the Kindergarten field trips will be June 4<sup>th</sup>. A permission form with more information will be sent home in a few weeks. Once the information letters are sent home for the field trip a Field Trip Button will be available on the HotLunches platform to pay for your field trip.

The Grade 1-3 Field trip will take place on June 24<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of June 25<sup>th</sup>. Students will be going to Shining Waters. A permission form with more information will be sent home in a few weeks. Once the information letters are sent home for the field trip a Field Trip Button will be available on the HotLunches platform to pay for your field trip.

### **Volunteers for Field Trips**

In order to make our field trips successful, we are going to need parent volunteers to help supervise groups of students. Volunteers will need to provide their own transportation to and from the field trip locations. We are unable to accommodate volunteers taking additional children with them on the field trip.

If you would like to volunteer, you will need to provide a **Vulnerable Sector Check**. The school can provide you with a letter to obtain the Vulnerable Sector Check. Please call the school office at (902) 368-6855 between 9:00 – 2:00pm. We will need your full name and date of birth to prepare the letter.

### **Hot Lunches**

Milk and pizza can be purchased for students using the Hot Lunches ordering system. The website is [westwood.hotlunches.net](http://westwood.hotlunches.net). Parents can purchase white Milk and chocolate Milk daily. We are currently offering the option on Tuesdays to purchase pizza from Little Caesar's cheese or pepperoni pizza. On Wednesdays, students can purchase Crazy bread from Little Casear's. **Orders will be placed for a month at a time and must be placed and paid for online at 11:59 pm by the dates below.** *We are unable to accept any late orders. Unpaid orders will be deleted.*

June orders – Deadline is Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>

### **Lost and Found**

We have an abundance of items in our Lost and Found boxes. Parents and children are welcome to look through our bins in the lobby to find some of their lost items. It is helpful to label your child's belongings so when items are found they can be easily returned.

### **Easter Seals Ambassador Tour**

We want to say a heart felt thank you to all of our Westwood Families for supporting our Fun-raising initiatives for Easter Seals Ambassador Rowan MacDonald's school tour. Our school raised \$2737.00 for Easter Seals. 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 so much Westwood Families for your support for Easter Seals!!

## **Home & School News**

### **PEI Home and School Federation Newsletter, May 2026**

#### **School Bus Driver Award**

**Reminder:** Home and Schools can nominate a school bus driver for recognition in keeping our children safe as they travel to and from school. Submission date: **Friday, May 8, 2026**. More at: <https://peihsf.ca/school-bus-driver-of-the-year-award/>

#### **Science Fair 2026 Specialty Awards**

The PEI Home and School Federation's Science Fair Specialty Awards were presented to: Landon Seamon, Gr 9, East Wiltshire (Bio-Shield), and Jaidyn McKinnon, Gr 12, Colonel Gray (Hidden Hazards: Microplastics in Feminine Hygiene Products)

#### **Home and School News Column**

President Tom Deelstra's Monthly Home and School columns will be published in The Guardian newspaper and online at <https://peihsf.ca/news/>.

#### **Motion 18 - Tracking school absences due to bullying.**

The Legislative Assembly of PEI passed a motion on April 22, 2026, to track school absences due to

bullying. Consider inviting your MLA to speak at a Home & School Meeting. More at: [Tracking school absences due to bullying.](#)

### Family Violence Prevention Week


The Premier's Action Committee on Family Violence Prevention (PAC) encourages municipalities and community organizations to play an active role in Family Violence Prevention Week, May 11-17, 2026: "Supporting Intergenerational Resilience in Our Communities." Information is online at: <https://www.stopfamilyviolence.pe.ca/I-Need-Help>

### PSB Trustees' Updates

**Charlottetown Family of Schools Zone 5:** As May begins, we reflect on the excitement of celebrating our dedicated Home & School Associations across P.E.I. during the 73rd AGM & Spring Conference, "Stop Bullying. Start Belonging." Congratulations and gratitude to everyone who made the event informative and inspiring. The ideas shared will strengthen our schools and communities. We're happy to support any student events planned for June that foster learning and fun. Minutes from our April 9 Public School Board meeting are available on the [Board of Trustees | Public Schools Branch](#). Kind regards, Andrew ([amacfarlane@edu.pe.ca](mailto:amacfarlane@edu.pe.ca)) & Gaylene ([gcarragher@edu.pe.ca](mailto:gcarragher@edu.pe.ca))

**Bluefield Family of Schools, Zone 4:** As always, I thoroughly enjoyed attending the PEI Home and School Federation's Annual General Meeting on April 18. I found the resolution discussions very interesting, and I learned more about the challenges that Home and School members face during an information-sharing workshop in the afternoon. Looking forward to chatting with Home and School members in my zone soon! Karen ([kclare@edu.pe.ca](mailto:kclare@edu.pe.ca))

**Westisle Family of Schools, Zone 1:** As the 2025-2026 school year nears its end, I encourage all students and staff to maintain a good balance among study, rest, and physical activity. Westisle will be one of 6 PEI schools in the new Community Use of Schools pilot program beginning in 2026. I hope this will be a successful initiative and eventually be offered year-round at all Island schools. At the PEI Home and School Federation's AGM on April 18, I expressed concern to Minister Croucher about the cancellation of the Imagination Library, which provides free monthly books to kids under 5. I was pleased to learn of the government's decision on April 21 to reinstate this program. Special congratulations to Penny Newcombe, Eilerslie Elementary, who was recognized at the PEI Home and School Federation's AGM on April 18, as "Home and School Volunteer of the Year", thanking her for all her efforts and contributions. Please feel free to contact me at [andrewavery@edu.pe.ca](mailto:andrewavery@edu.pe.ca)

 PEI School Food Program Inc .Members of the public can donate to the PEI School Food Program and receive a charitable receipt. Go to: <https://ordering.peischoolfood.ca/donation> . See Facebook post: <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1GTgNnd2Qk/>

## Community News

### Special Olympics



Special Olympics  
Health  
MADE POSSIBLE BY  
Golisano FOUNDATION

HEALTHY  
ATHLETES  
EVENT

MAY 23  
2026

LOCATION: MURPHY'S COMMUNITY CENTRE  
TIME: 9:00AM-3:30PM

FUNFITNESS (PHYSIOTHERAPY)  
HEALTHY HEARING (AUDIOLOGY)  
HEALTH PROMOTION (GENERAL HEALTH)

FREE ASSESSMENTS, LEAD BY TRAINED HEALTH  
PROFESSIONALS, WITH SUPPORT/GUIDANCE FOR  
FOLLOW-UP CARE PROVIDED

\*NO APPOINTMENT NEEDED - EVENT IS OPEN TO ALL  
INDIVIDUALS WITH AN INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY\*

