

# Westwood Primary School Newsletter

June 3, 2024



Sherry Flynn, Principal  
Lynette MacKinnon, Vice-Principal

## Dates to Remember

**June 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>** – Parent Teacher Conferences (BY REQUEST)

**June 6<sup>th</sup>** – Westwood Home & School Meeting @ 6:00 pm in the staff room

**June 7<sup>th</sup>** – All library books are due back to the school library.

**June 17<sup>th</sup>** – BBQ & Sports Activities Day (Rain date for Sports Activities Day ONLY is June 18<sup>th</sup>)

**June 19<sup>th</sup>** – Grades 1 -3 Field Trip – Shining Waters (Rain date June 20<sup>th</sup>)

**June 20<sup>th</sup>** – Kindergarten Field Trip – Petting Farm and Cavendish Grove (Rain date June 21<sup>st</sup>)

**June 25<sup>th</sup>** – Report Cards Go Home

**June 26<sup>th</sup>** – Last School Day for Students

**June 28<sup>th</sup>** – Last School Day for Staff

**September 5<sup>th</sup>** – First instructional day for students 2023-2024

## End-Of-Year Activity Day

This year all students in Grades 1-3 will be going on a field trip on June 19<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of June 20<sup>th</sup> to Shining Waters. Our students are not permitted in the pool; however, they are allowed in the splash pad/waterslides in accordance with Shining Waters height guidelines.

The Kindergarten classes will be going on June 20<sup>th</sup> (rain date June 21<sup>st</sup>) to Alexander and Darlene's Farm Haven in Stanley Bridge as well as Cavendish Grove (the old Rainbow Valley site). One group of Kindergarten classes will start at the farm and the other group will start at Cavendish Grove. They will have lunch together at the Grove and then they will switch locations.

Permission forms for both groups will be going home soon with students. Parents will be able to pay by sending in cash or by paying through our Hot Lunches program. Hot Lunches will be set up to accept payment by June 7<sup>th</sup>.

## Volunteers for Shining Waters

Parent volunteers are key to a successful year end field trip. We try to keep our groups small and manageable for our volunteers. Some of our classes still need parent volunteers to help chaperone students on our school field trips. You will be required to provide a Criminal Record Check (Vulnerable Sector Check) and our Administrative Assistants can help you with this in the office. Please keep in mind that it takes at least a week for the CRCs to be prepared so give yourself time for the CRC to be processed by the RCMP. The following classes still require volunteers. The number of volunteers required is in brackets beside the class. If you do not see the class on the list, that class has sufficient volunteers. Shining Waters only allows us to have a certain number of volunteers. Thank-you to those who have already put their name forward to volunteer.

KA (3), KD (2), KF (3), KG (4), KH (3), KI (2), 1B (1), 1C (1), 1D (3), 2A (1), 2B (4), 2E (3), 2I (1), 3B (1), 3C (2), 3F (2).

Volunteers will be sent an email with information about the field trip once we have all our volunteers in place.

## Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent Teacher Conferences by request will be taking place during the week of June 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>. Request for the conference (in person or by phone) can be made by the parent/guardian and/or teacher. Please contact the school to speak to your child(ren)'s classroom teacher to set up a time to meet. Also be aware that the classroom teacher may be reaching out to parents/guardians to set up a time.

## Last Week of School Breakfast Program/Hot Lunches

The last day of the Breakfast Program will be Friday, June 21<sup>st</sup>. A huge thank-you to all of the volunteers who work hard each day to provide a healthy breakfast for all of our students. We can't thank you enough!

### **Westwood BBQ & Sports Activities Day**

On Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, we will have our annual Sports Day and BBQ. We are looking for volunteers to assist us on June 17<sup>th</sup> by helping outside with activity stations as well as delivering hotdogs to classes. Please call the office (902) 368-6855 if you are able to volunteer. If the weather does not cooperate to have our Sports day, we will still have the BBQ and we will still need some volunteers for this. Sports Day will be moved to June 18<sup>th</sup>. Students can purchase a hotdog and a freezie for \$2. They can order and pay using Hot Lunches. <https://westwood.hotlunches.net> . Order forms will be going home on Monday. Orders must be in and paid for by Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup>.

### **Hot Lunches**

The last Hot Lunch order for milk, pizza and Crazy bread was due on Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **The Great Library Book Round-Up**

Students will no longer be allowed to borrow books from the school library after Friday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> and **all books are due back on or before Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup>**. If you spot a library book lurking around your home, please send it along with your child and we will see it finds its summer home on our library shelves. Thank-you in advance for your help with our annual library book round-up.

### **Bus**

As the excitement builds to the end of the school year, students are going to need frequent reminders about expected safe behavior on the bus. Please review frequently with your child the following safety rules: wait safely for the bus at your stop (no horseplay), sit seat to seat back to back, face forward, use a quiet voice and keep hands and feet to yourself. Our bus drivers appreciate your support with reviewing these important safety expectations with your children.

### **Scent Free School**

Please ensure that anything you are sending to school is SCENT FREE. We have had an increase with sunscreen and bug spray coming into the building with the warmer weather. These products need to be scent free. We have a number of staff and students who become extremely unwell when they encounter scents. We have had to send staff and students home from school recently due to reactions to scented products. Please be mindful to not wear any scented products as well during pick ups, visits to the school, dropping off items etc. Thank you for keeping us all healthy at school.

### **Seasonal Dress & Sunscreen**

Just a reminder that unless there is a steady, heavy rain, the children go outside for fresh air and outdoor play, so please make sure that they have splash pants, a raincoat, and rubber boots. The UV rays are very strong this time of year, so please remember to put **UNSCENTED** sunscreen on your child before he/she comes to school. We would also ask that you please label your child's clothing. When the sun comes out the jackets come off and often students do not recognize their own clothing. Please send some sunscreen in his/her school bag so that it can be reapplied if necessary. It is great to see so many children coming off the busses these sunny mornings with sun hats! Thanks and enjoy the warmer weather!!

### **Lost & Found**

We have a huge amount of lost and found items at our school. We will be setting up a tables to display items in the multi-purpose room the week of June 17<sup>th</sup>. All unclaimed items will be donated on June 26<sup>th</sup>.

### **First Day of School Procedure for September 5, 2024**

On the first day of school in September, all children in Grades 1-3 will return to their ***last year's classroom*** when they arrive on the busses. This will give them a chance to visit with their last year's teacher and classmates for a bit before the teacher takes them to their 'new' class for the 2024 - 2025 school year.

**Students entering Kindergarten in September should **NOT** come on the bus, instead parents/guardians are asked to come to the school for 9:30 am to drop off your Kindergarten child. Please do not arrive early as we are transitioning all of the other students to their new rooms.**

Thanks!

### **Best Wishes**

On behalf of all of us at Westwood Primary School we would like to thank Donna Lannan (Educational Assistant), Alexis Carr (Grade 2 Teacher) and Lynn Alchorn (Day Custodian) for all of your amazing work and dedication to Westwood Primary School over the years. We wish you all the best with your retirement. We will miss you!

### **Thank You & So Long**

We have had an incredible year of learning here at Westwood Primary School! On behalf of our staff, I'd like to thank our Westwood families for the time and energy you've put into supporting your child(ren)'s education.

A huge thank you to our Westwood Home & School for all of your support with the school initiatives this year. Please know that your commitment to Westwood Primary impacts the lives of our students and staff in such a positive way.

I want to say a special thanks and congratulations to Mrs. Lynette MacKinnon, who will be the new Principal at Spring Park Elementary School next year. Your dedication to enriching the lives of students and staff is second to none. I am so fortunate to have worked together with you for so many years. We all will miss you next year! Wishing you all the best! Spring Park is so lucky to have you leading their team!

Have a wonderful summer everyone!

~ Sherry Flynn  
Principal

## **WESTWOOD HOME & SCHOOL NEWS**

### **Home and School News - June 2024**

#### **1. Local Home & School Elections**

June is a busy month for our Home and School community as we prepare for the new school year in September. It's the perfect time to hold your election of officers, allowing new executive members ample time to prepare. We encourage you to establish a nomination committee to seek out new representatives and invite new families to volunteer in the school. Participation helps everyone feel a sense of belonging and is invaluable in shaping our school community. If you need any guidance or support, please don't hesitate to contact the Federation office at 902-620-3186 / [ssmedleyjay@gov.pe.ca](mailto:ssmedleyjay@gov.pe.ca).

#### **2. Congratulations to Provincial Heritage students!**

In recognition of students' excellent work, the PEI Home and School Federation Heritage Fair specialty prizes. Congratulations to:

~ Mary Albert "One Room School House," West Royalty Elementary School

~ Arina Makelska and Amalia Barbosa "Moving to PEI," Sherwood Elementary School

#### **3. Nicotine Pouches Fact Sheet**

As part of our ongoing commitment to student health and safety, we want to draw your attention to a growing concern. In recent months, there has been an increase in student experimentation and use of nicotine pouches. To address this, the Chief Public Health Office (CPHO) has compiled a comprehensive '*Nicotine Pouches Fact Sheet*', available at [https://peihsf.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/20240423-Nicotine-Pouches-Fact-Sheet-Final\\_ENG-2.pdf](https://peihsf.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/20240423-Nicotine-Pouches-Fact-Sheet-Final_ENG-2.pdf). We urge you to share this vital information within your school communities. If you require print versions of these sheets, please reach out to the government at

[livewellpei@gov.pe.ca](mailto:livewellpei@gov.pe.ca). Together, we can help our students make informed choices about their health.

**4. Guardian Home and School news column**

President Shannon Bruyneel writes a monthly column for The Guardian newspaper, published on the first Friday of the month during the school year. The June 7 will be posted at [News - PEI Home and School Federation \(peihsf.ca\)](#)

**5. Health and Wellness & Chief Public Health Office Wellness Action Plan**

- Families are invited to fill out the [LIVE WELL PEI online survey](#) by July 5/2024. Go to: <https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/health-and-wellness/live-well-pei-wellness-action-plan>
- To review the LIVE WELL PEI [Consultation Paper](#), go to: <https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/health-and-wellness/live-well-pei-wellness-action-plan>

**6. Encouraging summer reading** is a way to keep children/youth of all ages' minds active during the summer. Here are links to get you started: <https://www.facebook.com/PEILibrary> [eBooks, Audiobooks & Online Resources | Government of Prince Edward Island](#)