February 2017 Newsletter

Westwood

9 Lynbrook Drive

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Principal news...

I want to thank all the families that have begun to use the Recreation Centre parking lot for drop-off and pick-up. Despite this, the traffic at the start and end of the day continues to be a challenge not only for student safety but also for community relations. Last week I had emails from neighbours regarding parents of the school community blocking driveways and even parking in driveways. We must do our part in maintaining a positive relationship by keeping driveways clear and parking legally. Even more importantly, we need to ensure that the students are safe at all times.

The best solution is still to have your children walk to school. If they are properly dressed, which they need to be for outside play, walking to school should not be a challenge. You can either accompany them or teach them a safe route. Organize walking groups with others in your area. By doing these things, the students are safer than they would be with the large number of vehicles presently around the school. The next best solution is to drop children off and pick them up at the back of the Westmount Recreation Centre parking lot.



Please **DO NOT** come into the circular drive between 8:30 and 9:15 AM or between 2:30 and 3:15 PM. This is the drop-off time for our special-needs busses only. Even if you are running late, park your car at the Westmount parking lot, then walk your children in. The priority is our special-needs busses.

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten Registration for September 2017 will begin on **February 6**, **2017**. If you know people in the community with age appropriate children, please let them know. To register, you must bring a birth certificate, immigration or equivalent papers (if born outside of Canada), an immunization record and proof of address. **The office is open from 8:30 to 3:30, although no one may be available for registration from 11:45-12:45.** We hope to see you and your young students soon.



Upcoming Events

<u>February 1</u> – wear yellow Walk or Bike to School

February 6

Kindergarten registrations starts

February 8 (every Wed. until Apr. 5)
Mad Science 3:10 pm

February 14

Valentine's Day

February 15

Terryberry Library visit School Council Meeting - 7:00 pm

February 17

Report Cards Home

February 20

Family Day - No School

<u>February 22</u> – wear pink Anti – Bullying Day

March 1

Checkers Tournament

March 3

P.A. Day – No school for students

March 13 - 17

Mid-Winter Break

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Reporting process for February report card (FDK to 5)



There will be no school-wide parent/teacher interview day scheduled for the February reporting period. Report cards will be sent home February 17th.

By this point in the school year, most parents are aware of their child's progress based on the ongoing communication from the classroom teacher, as well as the interviews held in the Fall. Should your child's progress be of concern, the teacher will contact you to discuss ways to work together to further support his/her learning needs.

Westwood teachers are committed to providing parents with the information they need to support their child's success and will continue to communicate with parents throughout the school year. The report cards provide an overview of your child's progress over a period of time. The best way to see how your child is progressing in school is through the ongoing communication you receive. Some of the ways to keep up-to-date about your child's progress include the following:

- talk to your child about school—students receive comments on the work done for learning (formative) and of learning (summative)
- review your child's homework (which is a finishing of classwork or reinforcement of classwork) and agenda
- review copies of feedback comments and final marks your child has received on formative and summative assessments
- ongoing communication with your child's teacher.

This year, there will be a new Kindergarten Communication of Learning. Kindergarten Teachers in HWDSB are amongst the first in the province to be using the new form. Kindergarten Educators are happy to discuss students ongoing progress and any questions you may have about the new reporting system.

Preparing children for life in the 21st Century...

The Schooling Students Need: Seven Survival Skills

- 1. Critical thinking and problem solving
- 2. Collaboration and leadership
- 3. Agility and adaptability
- 4. Initiative and entrepreneurialism
- 5. Effective oral and written communication
- 6. Accessing and analyzing information
- 7. Curiosity and imagination



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ME TO WE TEAM.

Westwood's **Me to We** team raised funds over the month of December 2016 to send to our friends in Africa. Our donation of \$145.00 will be given to the "**Water for Africa**" campaign. We were so happy to see paper doves on classroom doors throughout the school with messages of love and support that will be sent to Africa along with our monetary donation. Angelo in Mrs. Brown's class was the happy recipient of a gift basket. Anyone who donated had their name put into a draw and Angelo's name was picked. Thank you to all who supported this worthwhile cause. Your kindness is greatly appreciated.

WEAR YELLOW ON FEBRUARY 1st and WALK OR BIKE TO SCHOOL!

Our **Me to We** team is organizing our city-wide walk or bike to school day. We are encouraging our student community to get active by walking or riding a bike to school on February 1st. To recognize this special day we are asking all staff and students to wear yellow. Any student who is unable to walk/bike to Westwood will be given an opportunity to participate in a walk during nutrition break. Students who participate will be receiving a sticker with his/her name to place on our **"Walk to School Tree"**. Let's all work together to get active and help protect our environment.

2016 - 2017 Vaccine Records Screening

Please check to make sure your child's immunizations are up to date. Any immunizations received after the start of Kindergarten need to be reported to **Public Health directly at 905-540-5250** to update your child's records.



ITEMS ON SALE AT WESTOOD

Frozen Yogurt – everyday \$2

Milk (chocolate & white) – everyday \$1

Pizza – every Tuesday - \$1.50 slice

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