April 2017

Newsletter
Westmount School
220 Wheatland Trail
Strathmore, Alberta
T1P 1B2

Phone: (403) 934-3041  Fax: (403) 934-4936

Website: www.westmountelementary.com
Golden Hills Website: www.ghsd75.ca

“Effort today...Excellence Tomorrow!”

Find us on Facebook, Twitter & Instagram

Facebook- https://www.facebook.com/pages/WestmountSchool/799821880044820
Twitter- https://mobile.twitter.com/WestmountElem
Instagram- westmountelementaryschool

Grade 2 Art Work
Principal's Report - April 7, 2017

It is hard to believe that we are down to our last 50 or so student days. The time is really going to fly by as we head toward summer. It will be even more important than usual to make sure your children are getting enough sleep. With longer days and warmer weather, your children will want to stay up later and enjoy Spring!

As we look forward to the last two and a half months of the school year, we find many field trips, school wide activities and exciting learning opportunities. Please note a few of the events listed below for the month of May and June and take the time to view our detailed calendar inside this newsletter.

- Thursday, May 18 – Volunteer Thank-You Tea @ 2:00pm
- Thursday, June 1 – Western Day Breakfast and Activities
- Thursday, June 1 – Annual Westmount Pow Wow @ 1:45pm
- Thursday, June 29 – Year End Assembly @ 9:00 am

With May just around the corner, it is important that I remind you of the Provincial Achievement Exam date for grade 6 which is May 11th. If, as a parent, you are able to perform the duties of reader or scribe for some of our students during this test please let Mr. Graff know as soon as possible.

At this time of year, a school becomes an even busier place. We are in the midst of trying to figure out our budget while understanding the impact that will have on our programs. As well, we are working to figure out calendars and time tables for the fall. With that in mind, I encourage you to look out for our newsletter later in May as I anticipate having a lot of information to share with you at that time.

Finally, I want to take a moment to publicly thank Mrs. Karen Wilkie. Mrs. Wilkie has been an integral part of Westmount School for a long time and we are going to miss her as she heads into retirement. Mrs. Wilkie, your work over the past 24 years as an Educational Assistant, Challenge Teacher and Administrative Assistant will not be forgotten! Thanks for everything you have done to contribute to making Westmount School a wonderful place to be.

Have a great spring everybody!

Yours truly,

Wayne Funk
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<td>3 Farm Safety</td>
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<td>5 Secretaries away all day</td>
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<td>Hot Lunch ordering opens for May/June</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>10 &quot;Scared&quot; Drama Production! Matinee @ 2</td>
<td>11 &quot;Scared&quot; Drama Production! Matinee @ 2</td>
<td>12 &quot;Scared&quot; Drama Production! Senior's Tea @ 1:30</td>
<td>13 Mrs. Wilkie thank you for everything! Have a great last day! We will miss you! Gr 6 D.A.R.E Grad @ 11:00</td>
<td>14 Good Friday STAT Holiday No School</td>
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<td>Hot Lunch Orders for May/June due by 11:59pm!</td>
<td>Evening @ 7 Cash/Cheque Hot Lunch orders due by 3:30pm!</td>
<td>Evening @ 7 Hot Lunch</td>
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<td>Easter</td>
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<td>25 Spring picture orders due!</td>
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<td>&quot;Wear a hat &amp; chew gum day&quot; Self Control Virtue Assembly @ 2:30</td>
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<td>1 Circle of Excellence @ 10 &amp; 2</td>
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<td>5 PD Day No School for Students</td>
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<td>17 WESC Meeting @ 6:30</td>
<td>18 Thank You Tea for our Volunteers @ 2:00</td>
<td>19 Flex Friday No School</td>
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<td>22 STAT Holiday No School</td>
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<td>24 17/18 Full-Time Kindergarten Screening Day Hot Lunch</td>
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<td>26 Day 1</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>29 Circle of Excellence 10 @ 2 Cultural Awareness Week</td>
<td>30 Circle of Excellence @ 10 &amp; 2</td>
<td>31 Citizenship Virtue Assembly @ 12:30</td>
<td>Hot Lunch</td>
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Reminders

Attendance

If your child will be missing a day of school due to illness, a medical appointment, a holiday, a family emergency, etc. the school must be aware of this absence by 9:00am. Please call the school @ (403) 934-3041 by 9:00am with your child’s name, classroom, and the reason they will be away.

If your child is not at school by 9:00am on a school day and you have not called in your child’s absence, a phone call and email will be coming to you asking you to contact the school as soon as possible. We are required to have all students accounted for each and every day.

Messages

If you are calling the school to give your child a message before the end of the day, please do so before 3:00. We have a wonderful group from 5A that come to the office and deliver our messages to the classrooms at that time. If you wait until 3:15 it is often very difficult to find the student as they are getting ready to go home and may not be in their classroom.

Lost & Found

It’s been a few weeks since we donated all of the Lost & Found items that were left over Christmas Break. And it’s starting to fill up again. If your child is missing anything please encourage them to look in both Lost & Founds; one across from the Music Room and one in the Grade 1 Boot Room. You are also welcome to come and look too. Smaller items such as eyeglasses are kept in the Office so be sure to check there as well.

School Fees

SCHOOL FEES ARE PAST DUE. If you are experiencing financial difficulty, please call the school at (403) 934-3041 as we are more than happy to make arrangements for a payment plan that works for you. You can pay online with debit or credit at https://goldenhills.schoolcashonline.com/. The office accepts cash and cheque payments too- cheques made out to Westmount School. If you have not paid school fees or made a payment arrangement plan with the office by May 15th, any outstanding fees will be forwarded to Division Office and then onto Collections.
Westmount School is switching back to a paper yearbook. The book will be approximately 60 pages long with all pages being printed in full colour. The yearbook will highlight each class through individual and various class photos. The yearbook will also feature all the special events and activities that we do at Westmount School, along with various trivia and pop culture highlights that will take place during the school year.

The cost of the yearbook will be $20.00 if orders are placed before December 22nd. Orders placed after December 22 will be $25.00. Our goal is to sell at least 180 books and we hope to know how many families are interested in purchasing a yearbook as soon as possible to allow us to finalize our printing costs.

We will be working on the yearbook throughout the entire school year utilizing Lifetouch software. This will allow us to insert student photos from our Lifetouch picture day on September 29th or from retakes taken November 17th. Our print deadline is July 3rd, so we will be able to include all the events that take place through the school year up to the end of June. Books will be delivered to Westmount School near the end of August and will be available for pickup as of Monday August 28, 2017.

We are very excited to be able to offer our Westmount School families the option of purchasing a traditional yearbook. It will be a great way to remember all the wonderful things that your child will have experienced during his or her school year. If you are interested in purchasing a yearbook, you can order online at https://goldenhills.schoolcashonline.com/ or you can bring cash or cheque (made out to Westmount School) to the Office.
Mrs. Wilkie
From our hearts Emily P and Tamzyn
6B

We did a great interview on Mrs. Wilkie on March 22nd. She loves roses because they smell sooooo good. Her favorite color is forest green and sky blue because she loves the outdoors. One of the funniest things that’s happened to her at westmount was during a music concert Westies butt caught on fire.

Her favorite thing about westmount was working with great people and getting to know great people. Her favorite type of music is old time rock and roll and the most outrageous thing that’s happened to her was her grandson being born. She has worked here for 29 and a half years, that’s a long time. During Mrs. Wilkie’s time, working here she’s met great people and love working with them.

We loved Mrs. Wilkie working here and we hope that she’ll come visit us once in awhile.

From our hearts,

Tamzyn Musselman and Emily Powell
For Westmount School, Kindergarten registration started January 19th for the 2017/2018 year! When you register, you will receive an information package that will outline all the important upcoming dates and it will highlight all the kindergarten news items you will need to know.

We have a wonderful Kindergarten video online that you can check out! Find it on our website at www.westmountelementary.com or go to this YouTube link —→ https://youtu.be/h_dXDrtXWog

We want to remind parents of our age requirements regarding kindergarten registration: **Any student who turns five (5) on or before February 28, 2018 is eligible to enter kindergarten for the 2017-2018 school year.**

This coming school year we will be offering two different programs:

- **Program 1 – Full Time Kindergarten.** Golden Hills School Division is excited to once again offer a full time kindergarten program for the 2017/2018 school year. This program will run all day every school day.

- **Program 2 – Regular Kindergarten Program.** Parents will be able to register in the full day Tuesday/Thursday program.

*PLEASE BRING YOUR CHILD’S BIRTH CERTIFICATE OR PASSPORT WHEN YOU REGISTER*
“Scared” Drama Production

Script written by Mr. Wutzke

Have you ever been scared? Have you ever felt like you didn’t fit in? If you have ever felt alone, and afraid then I invite you to join us for the Westmount production of SCARED. This year we have over 50 students telling the tale of Harley, a monster who just isn’t scary. This play explores bullying, fear, the virtues of kindness, and ultimately that being who you are and letting your light shine can change the whole world around you. Please join us for our presentation of Scared on April 10, 11 & 12.

**Matinee:** April 10 & 11
2:00pm

**Senior’s Matinee & Tea:** April 12
1:30pm (new time!)

**Evening:** April 11 & 12
7:00pm

**Prices:**
Infants - Age 4 FREE
Children 5 - 12 $3.00
Adults $5.00
Seniors FREE

Tickets can be purchased at the door.
Performances will take place in Westmount School’s gymnasium.
*STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK*

Westmount Parent Council is once again gearing up for its annual STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK.

It’s a wonderful week to celebrate our terrific staff and it will be held the week of May 8-12, 2017.

The staff are treated to daily door prizes, munchies in the staff room, a daily take away token of appreciation as well as the Staff Luncheon.

What makes this week so special is that it allows all of the staff to come together and be celebrated for all they do with the children each and every day!

Every teacher, custodian, office administration and support worker in the school are treated!

The luncheon provides a great opportunity for the staff to meet as a group and enjoy the lunch as thru the year they are in their classroom eating with the kids and providing supervision on the playground. *To ease the demands on the # of volunteers needed, the luncheon will be from 3:45-5:00 on Thursday, May 11th with only a few volunteers needed for office coverage, bus run coverage and clean-up* Please contact Geanette to sign-up (contact info listed below).

Westmount Parent Council is ASKING FOR YOUR HELP, with a few items to make this possible once again this year.

*Two door prizes from each class to be donated. This can be in the form of a gift card, a home based business eg: Tupperware, Norwex, Scentsy, homemade gifts such as canning. They are all appreciated and very much enjoyed by the staff.

*One item to be contributed to the staff luncheon.

With Easter break soon approaching we would like to collect as many door prizes by Thursday, April 12, 2017. However, collection will continue the week of April 24-28. They may be dropped off at the office, marked “Staff Appreciation”.

Westmount Parent Council thanks you for your continued support! This week would not be possible without volunteers like you! Let’s show our staff how much we appreciate them!

Door prize donations, luncheon item (salad-dessert) can be signed up with Geanette McNair. Please email gem.mcnair@hotmail.com if you have any questions.
Drawing Classes for kids

At Westmount Elementary School

A Different Kind of Learning. A Powerful Kind of Fun!
Young Rembrandts teaches drawing with a see-touch-do method that all kids can succeed with, learn from and love! Watch your child reach a brand new level of confidence and potential with this engaging, award-winning program.

**Thursdays**
April 27 - June 15
8 week session

**Afterschool**
In the library
3:30 - 4:30 pm
For grades 1 - 4
$120 for an 8 week session

*Contact us for payment plan options

**Our Students Can Expect**
- A new exciting lesson every week
- Improved core art skills
- To have fun!

**Our Parents Can Expect**
- Increased attention to detail
- Improved fine motor skills
- Discipline, persistence, and patience

YOUNG REMBRANDTS provides all classroom supplies and a trained instructor. Classes are held immediately after school in the library.

ENROLL ONLINE at www.youngrembrandts.com/southernalberta
Or by phone at 403-457-DRAW (3729)

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Young Rembrandts, Calgary AB  403-457-DRAW (3729)  calgary@youngrembrandts.com
Wanted: Outdoor Soccer Players For U4-U18

Who

➢ All children and teenagers interested in playing soccer, please register A.S.A.P.

What

➢ OUTDOOR SOCCER starts late April / beginning of May
➢ Registration is NOW OPEN!

When

➢ Registration for Boys & Girls U10-U18 age groups accepted until March 22, 2017
➢ Registration for Boys & Girls U4-U8 age groups accepted until April 30, 2017
➢ EARLY-BIRD FEES IF YOU REGISTER BY MARCH 15 and APRIL 15, RESPECTIVELY!!

Where

➢ Online: www.strathmoresoccer.ca
➢ E-mail: strathmoresoccer@gmail.com
➢ Phone: (403) 324-7787

Why

➢ Get active and have FUN playing the World’s Most Popular Sport!