November marks the halfway point in Term 1. Over the past two months we have seen our students flourish with many wonderful opportunities presented to them at school. It is wonderful to see students engaged in rich classroom activities. We are so pleased to see so many students participating in our Spirit Days, and the many sports teams that Westmount has to offer. These sports teams have been participating in interschool leagues and tournaments—thanks to our coaches Mr. MacPherson, Mr. Read, Mrs. Gemmel, Mrs. Jasek, and Mrs. Smith. Thank you to Mrs. Wood and Mrs. Johnson for running our primary/junior intramurals.

This month our Character Trait is Responsibility. As adults, we are aware of how invaluable this trait is. So what can we do for our children to build this trait?

Responsibility can mean taking care of one’s belongings, meeting timelines and also taking on additional duties or tasks at home or at school. As we focus on responsibility at school, we encourage you to have discussions about this character trait at home too.

We appreciate your ongoing support!

Sincerely, Mr. B. Butler

**REMEMBRANCE DAY**
To commemorate Remembrance Day, on Monday November 11th, we will be holding an assembly in our gym starting at 10:55 a.m. We encourage all Cubs, Scouts, Brownies and Guides at Westmount Public School to wear their uniforms to show respect during this solemn occasion. Family and friends are welcome to attend.

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**Kindergarten Open House**
Westmount Public School for September 2019. 10:00 am to 6:00 pm
Thank you to everyone who has been sending in Canadian Tire money through the year! We are still collecting Canadian Tire money-- to date we have $64. We use Canadian Tire money to purchase items for Community Care of Thorold and St. Catharines for the holidays. Your continued support is much appreciated!

Book Fair at Westmount

The Book Fair is coming to Westmount on Tuesday November 5th to Friday November 8th. The Book Fair will be open on Wednesday and Thursday all day and from 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm both of those nights as well as on Friday until noon. A flyer will be sent home so that you can look at all the books and posters you might want to purchase. Our goal is to sell 220 books - one book for each student here at Westmount. Help us reach our goal and provide books that we all can read. Don’t forget your ballot from the flyer where you can win $25.00 in free books from the book fair.

Canadian Tire Money Collection

Student's Name / Family Name

Parent Signature
Parking Around Westmount
There have been some incidents where our students have almost been hit by cars due to street congestion on Munro St and St. Charles St. Please obey all street signs and refrain from parking in no parking areas. Please take the time to park further down on Munro St. and St. Charles St. where parking is permitted. Thank you for your consideration. This is a serious safety issue. We don’t want anyone to get hit by a car. If you have any questions please call the school at 905 227 3827.

Change in Crossing Guard Schedule
Please note that the Crossing Guard at the intersection of Munro Street and St. David’s Road and at the intersection of St. David’s Road and Burleigh Hill will no longer be in attendance over the lunch hour. If you require further information about this, please contact Leah LaPlant at The City of St. Catharines Economic Development Department at 905-688-5601, extension 1560.

Shine Like the Star You Are!

Transition to Thorold Secondary School
Grade 8 Students and Parents: Mark your calendars! Starting high school is a huge step in a student’s life. While it’s definitely an exciting time, it also brings with it many questions, such as "What’s life in high school really like? What programs and options are available to help me achieve my goals?"

A great way to have your questions answered is to attend an open house. Grade 8 students and their families are invited to attend High School Open Houses. There is also information about open houses at: http://www.dsbn.org/secondary/highschoolopenhouses/home

High School Open House Dates and Times:

Thorold Secondary School: Monday, November 25th- 6:30 p.m.

School Council News
Your School Council will be running a Holiday Bake Sale fund raiser. Families are being asked to make donations for the bake sale remembering that we have a cashew nut allergy at the school. A separate note about this will be sent home to families. Parents will then be asked to buy from the bake table during our Holiday Concert. All funds raised from this will go towards the computers or to help subsidize the cost of bussing for school trips.

Next meeting is Tuesday, November 12 at 6:00 pm.

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS
Progress Reports will be sent home on November 7th. We look forward to seeing parents/guardians at the school during interview night on Thursday, November 14th between 3:10 to 6:30 p.m. Please send the interview planning sheet back by Monday Nov. 4. Please note that our schedules are jammed pack with interviews being scheduled for 10 minutes. Thank-you for your support in respecting your allocated appointment times.
Why is a belief in our children’s ability to learn mathematics essential?

Before your child can learn mathematics, he or she needs to believe in his or her ability to do so. That’s where you come in. You can be your child’s first role model for learning. When you engage with your child in a supportive, relaxed atmosphere, your child will enjoy taking risks while having fun with math! Understanding mathematics builds confidence and opens doors to many jobs and careers. Understanding mathematics enables us to:

- Solve problems and make sound decisions
- Explain how we solved a problem and why we made a particular decision
- Use technology (such as calculators and computer applications) to help solve problems
- Understand patterns and trends so that we can make predictions (for example, we can keep track of how much juice is consumed so that we know how much juice to buy each week)
- Manage our time and money (for example, we can calculate how much time we need to get to work, how much food we need to make meals and how much money we need to buy food)
- Handle everyday situations that involve numbers (such as figuring out when the next bus will arrive and dividing a recipe).

Stop the spread of Infection

Stay home if you are sick and return when you are well. Wash your hands with soap and water or use a hand sanitizer. Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue or in your sleeve. Keep your distance. Get a flu shot.

For more information visit, www.niagararegion.ca/health

When to keep your child at home...

Please keep your child at home and away from others if he or she has any of these symptoms: fever, diarrhea, vomiting, rash, frequent coughing or sneezing, yellow or green discharge from the nose, ears, or eyes, sore throat. Children can return once they have been 24 hours free of vomiting.

PLEASE CHECK IN AT THE OFFICE

When visiting the school, please remember to first report directly to the office to speak to our secretary, Mrs. Winskill or the principal, Mr. Butler, and then sign yourself in and receive a visitor’s pass. All appointments arranged with your child (ren) in advance should be reported to the office by note or phone (even during break times). When picking up children for appointments etc., parents are asked to come to the office first and speak to Mrs. Winskill who will then page the child (ren) to come down. We ask parents not to wander the halls without first coming to the office, signing in and receiving a visitor’s pass. Wandering the halls is not permitted. It is difficult for the staff and students to recognize every parent or guardian who comes into the school. This procedure helps to establish a safe school environment for all our students.

School Cash Online

This year we are continuing to offer you, School Cash Online. With School Cash Online you’ll be able pay for school items, such as fieldtrips, pizza and this year’s school spirit wear, online. You can pay for items using a credit card or debit. It takes just five minutes to register for this service. You will be able access the service by visiting our school website and clicking on “School Cash Online” You can use School Cash Online with confidence; it is a safe and secure portal. Please go online and register if you have not already done so. Thank you!