

WESTMOUNT PUBLIC SCHOOL

73 Ann Street, Thorold, Ontario

September, 2020

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Sept. 30th is Orange Shirt day. Wear an orange shirt to honour Aboriginals /include every student
- October 2nd Crazy Hair Spirit Day
- October 2nd Monthly Recognition Awards given out in class
- October 2nd Terry Fox Walk pm in cohorts



NEWSLETTER

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

This year at Westmount we faced many new challenges for the September start up. Thank you to our awesome staff for their hard work, flexibility and their commitment to student safety. The DSBN has a new moto for this COVID-19 pandemic. The moto is: "Safety, Mental Health/ Well Being, Learning. The DSBN's foci is on these three things for the 20/21 school year. Thank you to our Westmount parents for trusting us with your children during these uncertain times. Thank you for following the "Parental Agreement for Daily Screening". I have included a copy of the agreement in this newsletter for your reference.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome back all of our returning students and staff to Westmount Public School for what I am sure will be a different but great school year! To our new students and new staff, I would like to extend a warm welcome on behalf of the Westmount community. I am sure you will enjoy your stay here even during these challenging times. **Mr. B. Butler**

Safety Reinders for Parents

To keep Westmount students / staff as safe as possible **parents** are reminded:

1. that they are not allowed on back field/ tarmac area before school. This has been madidated by the DSBN and is outlined in the DSBN Parents' Guide online.
2. that they are not permitted in the school. If you need to speak to a staff member please call and arrange a telephone call.
3. to supply your child(ren) with a lunch when they come to school in the morning so you don't have to come to the school and drop one off later in the day.
4. to keep your child(ren) at home when they are not feeling well especially if they are suffering from a cough, temperature, runny nose and/or sore throat etc. **Thank you!**

Pizza Days Postponed

Pizza Days will be postponed until we get the "thumbs up" from the District School Board of Niagara. We all love Pizza Days at Westmount and hope to get them up and running as soon as we are allowed to.



Milk Program Postoned

The Milk program will be put "on hold" until further noticed. Once we are given permission to start the milk program we will let the Westmount School Community know as soon as possible. If you hae any questions please contact Mrs. Winskill at the office.



Photo Day at Westmount

Photo Day and school pictures have been cancelled for the fall of 2020 at all DSBN schools. We hope to reschedule them for later in the year. As soon as we are given permission to have school photos, information will be sent home to inform you of the dates. Thank you for your understanding.

Terry Fox Walk

We will be having our Terry Fox walk on Friday October 2nd to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Terry's Marathon of Hope. Classes will be walking periodically throughout the day to maximize social distancing.

Contact us at:

Phone: 905-227-3827

Fax: 905-227-9728

E-mail: wmt@dsbn.org



Mr. B. Butler - Principal

Check out our Website at: <http://www.dsbm.edu.on.ca/Schools/>

SCHOOL ORGANIZATION FOR 2020-21.

Kindergarten (JK and SK)	Mrs. Philip, Mrs. Teal, (Teachers) and Mrs. Henderson-Fox, (Dedicated Early Childhood Educator)
Grade 1/2	Ms. Labatt
Grade 1/2	Ms. Jasek
Grade 2/3	Mrs. Wood
Grade 4	Ms. Fong
Grade 5/6	Mrs. Fast
Grade 6/7	Mrs. C. Smith
Grade 7/8	Mr. MacPherson
Fundamental Skills	Mrs. Crane
Learning Resource Teacher	Mrs. Derksen
French as a second language - FSL	Mme. Gemmel
Library / Prep	Mrs. Teal
Educational Assistants	Mrs. Morrison, Ms. Cowell, Mrs. Schmaltz, Ms Higginson
Youth Counsellor	Tracy Hofland
Secretary	Mrs. Winskill
Custodian	Mrs. Barker
Lunch Supervisors/Feeder	Mrs. Easson, Mrs. Fluellon, Vinnie, Miss Lirantzis
Principal	Mr. Butler

NEW START TIME

Westmount has a new start time. **Our day now starts at 8:40 am.** Supervision by a teacher starts at 8:25 am. Please make sure that your child(ren) is not on the school yard before 8:25 am but **is on time for 8:40 am!** Thank you!

LATES

Being on time for school is an important habit to teach your child. We stress the need for every student to be at school on time in order to not miss important lessons or information being shared. Students who are late must report to the office to obtain a late slip for their teacher. **Please be at school for 8:40 am each day!**

Parental Agreement for Daily Screening



Parent's Role in Keeping Schools Safe

Everyone has a role to play in keeping families safe and reduce the spread of COVID-19. It is the responsibility of parents and caregivers to assess their children **on a daily basis before sending them to school**. Additionally, parents must have a person available to pick up their child right away, should they become sick during school. Please read the following guidelines, then sign the agreement below. Further guidance is provided in our Parent Guide and available at www.dsbni.org 'Return to School' page.

Guidelines for determining whether a child should remain at home:

Parents and caregivers must assess their child daily for the following symptoms:

- *Fever/chills (feeling hot to the touch, a temperature of 37.8 degrees Celsius/100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher)
- *Cough that's new or worsening (continuous, more than usual)
- *Shortness of breath (out of breath even when sitting or walking conditions)
- *Sore throat (not related to seasonal allergies or other known causes or conditions)
- *Runny, stuffy or congested nose (not related to seasonal allergies or other known causes or)
- *Unusual level of fatigue
- *Headache that's unusual or long lasting
- *Nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, loss of appetite, stomach pain (not related to other known causes or conditions)
- *Feeling unwell for an unknown reason

If children display symptoms, they must remain home from school and seek medical attention by a health care provider to see if testing is recommended. **Children may return to school when one of the following is met:**

- *Clearance from their health care provider
- *Completion of 14 days of self-isolation and must be symptom free prior to return. This includes children who have symptoms and are recommended for testing but testing is declined.
- *Negative COVID-19 test results: child is to remain out of school until 24 hours after their symptoms have resolved
- *Positive test result: child has completed the 14 day isolation criteria as directed by Public Health, fever has resolved and child has been consistently improving over the previous 72 hours.

NOTE: parents can contact Niagara Region Public Health for general COVID-19 questions at 1-888-505-6074; 905-688-8248, press 7, then press 2.

All students that have travelled outside Canada in the last 14 days, OR were identified by Public Health as a close contact of someone who tested positive for COVID-19 must stay home and self-isolate.

Those unsure of if they, or a student, should self-isolate should be directed to use the [Ontario Self-Assessment site](#).