

September, 2024

Dear Wes Hosford Family,

Thank you for entrusting your precious children to us. We have a great team of caring teachers who will support them in their learning.

I will be sending monthly newsletters so that you know what is happening in the school, and sometimes a mid-month update. A version of these newsletters will also be on the website. School Council and the Fundraising Society also send out Newsletters, so watch for those!

Sue



### Parent Council and Fundraising Society

We have our first Parent Council meeting on **September 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00**. You can park in the east parking and use the east doors which will be locked at 6:00. If child care is tricky, you may wish to join virtually. The link will be available on the website closer to the date. Our Fundraising Society meets immediately after the Parent Council meeting and we are always looking for **VOLUNTEERS** to support our fundraising initiatives. Use this [link for more information](#).

### Hot Lunch Orders



Ordering for term 1 opens on September 4<sup>th</sup> and closes on September 15<sup>th</sup>. Don't wait! Mark your calendar to go to [MunchaLunch.com](http://MunchaLunch.com) to order on September 4<sup>th</sup>!

### Playground Grand Opening

We are so excited to celebrate the grand opening of our playground. Through fundraising, you have all helped to make this happen! If possible, please attend on Wednesday, September 25<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-1:30. If there is fair weather we will be outside, but in the gym if it's raining.

### Yearbooks (23-24)

If you ordered a yearbook, please note they will be distributed before the end of the month. If your child is in grade 7, the yearbook will be sent to your child's Junior High.

## Please Label Coats and Hoodies

Our lost and found is always overflowing. Please label everything you possibly can! :D

## Cell Phones & Other Electronic Devices

Please remember that there is new government legislation restricting student use of personal electronic devices in schools. The School Board is required to follow government legislation when determining Board Policy, (Elk Island Public School Board Policy 24) which our Superintendent then uses to create our Administrative Procedures (AP 145) As principal, I have to ensure that staff and students at Wes Hosford follow these procedures which, in this case, requires that students in Divisions 1 and 2 (Grades K-6) not access a Personal Communication Device while at school, unless required for: diagnosed medical conditions; or an identified inclusive educational need.



This means that students are not allowed to use devices such as cell phones, iphones, apple watches, or other personal devices during the day. If a student brings a device, the homeroom teacher(s) will inform them of the process for storing them.

Students may come to the office to use the phone if they have forgotten their lunch or other similar scenarios. You are welcome to phone the office if you need, for example, to let your child know of a change in how they will be getting home. We will share that information with your child. Please try to call as early as possible (ex. Prior to 2:00) as classes are often outside at the end of the day.

## Bus Apps

Is your child riding the bus this year? If yes, [download](#) the My Ride and Bus Status apps to stay in the know about your child's bus stop location, route, pickup time and whether their bus is running on schedule.



## Orange Shirt Day - Every Child Matters!

In June 2021, the Government of Canada announced September 30 as the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation to commemorate the history and intergenerational trauma caused by residential schools, to be observed on September 30 each year by all federal employees and workers in federally regulated workplaces.

Orange Shirt Day was created as an opportunity to discuss the effects of residential schools and their legacy. It honours the experiences of Indigenous Peoples, celebrates resilience and affirms a commitment that every child matters.



Orange Shirt Day is on Monday, September 30, and is now a statutory holiday, so we will be wearing our orange shirts on Friday, September 27<sup>th</sup>.

## Update Your PowerSchool Information

The EIPS Correction and Verification Form is available online through your [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#)—at the top of the left-hand menu. Use the form to access and update your child's records information—including address, parent and guardian information, emergency contacts and medical information. Reviewing the form and submitting updates ensures the school has the most up-to-date information regarding your child. When reviewing the form, pay close attention to all listed phone numbers, email addresses and emergency contact information. Also, if you recently moved, now is the time to ensure the Division has your updated address. Throughout the year, the Division and school use the listed information to communicate with families about important information, including updates, the latest news and events.

[PowerSchool Correction and Verification Form](#)

Review and update by **Sept. 25, 2024**

If you have questions about the form or your Parent Portal account, contact the school office at 780-464-1711.

## Sync School Calendar to Your Calendar

Did you know you can sync the school calendar to your own calendar? Simply, visit the Wes Hosford School [Calendar](#) and click on the applicable subscription option:

- Download to iCal
- Add to Google Calendar
- Subscribe to Calendar

NOTE: Options are located above the calendar.

Once you click on the desired subscription option, follow the instructions. Within seconds, your calendar will contain all Wes Hosford's important dates including holidays, school-closures days, planned activities, events and more.

## Division Code of Conduct

EIPS has three administrative procedures (APs) that address the Division's code of conduct:

- [AP 311](#): Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning Environments for Students
- [AP 350](#): Student Code of Conduct
- [AP 351](#): Student Conduct on School Buses

The Division, and Wes Hosford are committed to ensuring all members of the school community are provided with welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environments that respect diversity and foster a sense of belonging. EIPS encourages all students, staff and families to review the procedures to understand and practice the conduct expected throughout the Division.

## Pay School Fees Online

Wondering when and how to pay for school fees? [School fee information](#) for the 2024-25 school year will be posted on the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) in late September. All fees are due within 30 days of being posted. NOTE: Additional fees may be added throughout the year—for example, at the beginning of each semester, as your child takes part in various activities, or they may be adjusted by changes in selected optional courses in junior and senior high school. If you're unable to pay your school fees, you can apply to have certain fees waived. The application deadline is Dec. 16, 2024.

For more information, visit the [Wes Hosford Fees page](#) on the school website. Alternatively, contact Mrs. Snow at 780-464-1711.

## Video Surveillance at School and on Buses

Did you know each EIPS bus is equipped with video surveillance, and many school sites have video monitoring equipment?

Video surveillance and equipment help:

- ensure the safety of all students, staff, drivers and property; and
- discourage destructive acts.

As needed, EIPS school administration and Student Transportation staff review video recordings, in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act. The recordings assist schools and the Division with monitoring student and driver conduct and may be used as evidence in a disciplinary matter.

For more information about the collection, use and disclosure of personal information, contact the EIPS FOIP Co-ordinator at 780-464-3477.

## Did You Know?

The Board of Trustees meets throughout the school year to discuss and make decisions regarding matters important to students, families, schools, communities and public education overall. Community members are encouraged and welcome to attend in person or to tune into the public livestream on the [EIPS YouTube channel](#). For 2024-25 Board Meeting dates, visit the [EIPS website](#) and subscribe to the [Division calendar](#).

## Important Dates

### September

- 2 No School (Labour Day)
- 4 Munchalunch Ordering Opens
- 4 Individual and Class Photos (including class KTA)
- 4 Early Dismissal (2:10)
- 5 Individual and Class Photos for the Kindergarten B Class (KTB)
- 15 Munchalunch ordering closes
- 18 Popcorn Day!
- 19 Parent Council Meeting at 6:00 (virtual option available - link on Website)
- 24 Treat Day
- 25 Playground Grand Opening at 1:00-1:30
- 27 Hot Lunch, [Terry Fox Run](#), and [Orange Shirt Day](#)
- 30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

## The Year at a Glance!

Or at least October to April :D

### October

- 2 and 3 Retakes
- 23 and 24 Parent Teacher Interviews and Book Fair

### November

- 29 Report Cards

### December

- 5 Grade 1-3 Christmas Concert
- 23 Christmas Break Starts

### January

- 6 Back to School

### February

- 4 and 5 Parent Teacher Interviews and Book Fair
- 6 and 7 Teachers' Convention - no school for students

### March

- 14 Report Cards

### April

- 10 Gr 4-6 Spring Concert