

École West Kent School – February 2019 Newsletter

West Kent Elementary School

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We had a great first month of 2019 and are looking forward to spending the rest of this winter season with you and your children! Our teachers and staff are hard at work creating meaningful learning experiences for the month of February.

Absentee Line

A reminder if your child is going to be late or absent, please call the safe arrival line at 368-6995 before 9:00 a.m.



West Kent Heritage Fair

Grade 5 & 6 students are invited to prepare a project for the Provincial Heritage Fair. We will be holding a school fair (date TBD) to select 4 projects that will move on to the provincials. Students should be working on their projects at home. Sometime will be provided at school through a Heritage Fair Club.

No Classes on Friday, March 8th due to Parent-Teacher Interviews!



Dates to Remember

February

9 – Provincial Gymnastic Meet

12 - St. Jean Gymnastic Meet

18 – Islander Day No Classes

22 - Band Concert and LFI Info Session in Stonepark Inter. Cafeteria from 9:15 - 10:15 (Grade 6 students only)

25 – Joint Staff Day No Classes

March

2– Honours Choir Performance

4 – 2nd Term Report Card

7 – Parent Teacher Interviews (afterschool)

8 – Parent Teacher Interviews No Classes

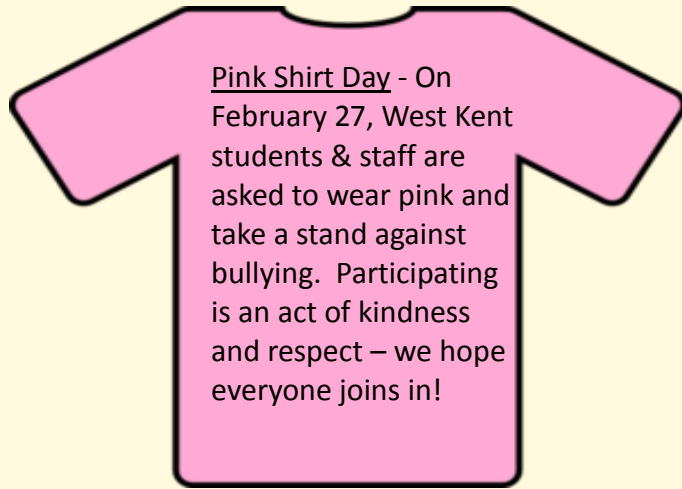
18-22 – March Break No Classes

A friendly reminder that it is important for students to arrive to school on time. Morning routines provide students with a smooth transition to a day of learning. At this time, the students review the day's schedule, copy homework assignments, listen to school announcements, and distribute notes and materials from home to their teachers. **To provide your children with a positive start to the day, please plan your morning so your child arrives at school for our 8:20 a.m. start.** Thanks!



After School Chess Club

Chess Club is held every Tuesday at 2:35p.m. until 3:15p.m. for students in Grades 3-6. Please contact Mme Emma if you have any questions.



Pink Shirt Day - On February 27, West Kent students & staff are asked to wear pink and take a stand against bullying. Participating is an act of kindness and respect – we hope everyone joins in!

Book Fair

The next school book fair will be during parent/teacher interviews March 7th (late afternoon & evening March 8 (morning until 11am). This year we have decided to try to support our local bookstore. In the past we have always used the Scholastic book fair.

Bookmark has generously donated \$2000 to our school the past two years. The book fair will be much smaller. There will probably be a lot less toy or poster items.



Music News

Honours choir rehearsals have begun and students who are in the PEI Honour Choir will be participating in a island wide rehearsal day on Wednesday, Feb. 6th. West Kent will have 12 students involved in this event. There was so much interest in students wanting to be part of Honours Choir and with limited space for the PEI Island wide choir I decided to have a West Kent Honours Choir where all students who wished to be in Honours Choir can take part.

Grade 4-6 Music Festival Choir will begin February.

Grade 2-3 Boys Choir will begin in February.

Grade 2-3 Girls' Choir will begin in February.

Students in Grade 3-6 have begun a unit on learning to play the Ukulele. Students will be shown the basics in tuning, tablature playing, strumming techniques, chord playing, note reading and much more. Grade 4-6 will begin recorder the end of February.

Parent Information Meetings for the Late French Immersion Program will be held at the following locations for parents of Grade 6 students who plan to enroll their children in Grade 7 Late French Immersion in September, 2019: Below are the dates and storm dates for each of the schools hosting a parent information meeting for the Late French Immersion program.

KISH – February 19th

East Wiltshire – February 7th (Storm date February 21st)

Stonepark – February 7th (Storm date February 12th) Library @ 7 p.m.

Queen Charlotte – February 13th (Storm date February 20th) cafeteria @ 7 P.M.

Birchwood – February 12th (Storm date February 13th).

Registration Week is March 4th – March 8th, 2018 for the 2018-2019 school year.

Early Closure Plans

It is important that you review with your child their Early Closure plans. **Please do not call the school during an early closure.** All plans need to be finalized and communicated to your child in advance.

Get informed of storm days and early closures by following:

1. PEI Storm Watch email alert systems: <https://peistormwatch.wordpress.com/><https://www.facebook.com/peistormwatch><https://twitter.com/PEIStormwatch>
2. Radio Stations: <https://www.cbc.ca/news2/interactives/stormcentre/index.html?region=PE>
<https://www.ocean100.com/storm-centre/cfcy.fm/cancellations>
3. Public Schools Branch webpage. <https://edu.princeedwardisland.ca/psb/storm-closure-information>
4. Listen to the Radio and check West Kent Morning Announcements

SAFE SCHOOL NOTICE

**VISITORS
MUST CHECK IN
AT THE OFFICE**

SignaSign.com • 800-962-3457 • 9-0208

Home and School News

Art After Dark - We are pleased to announce that via a Parent Leadership grant from the Home and School Federation, we will be hosting an "Art After Dark" evening Friday March 29th.

More information to follow.

Christmas Gift Shop - Thank you everyone for recycling your Christmas Bags with us in support of next year's Christmas Gift Shop.

Pink Shirt Day - Pink Shirt Day is coming up February 27th. Bullying is a major problem in our schools, workplaces, homes and over the Internet. Each year, on Pink Shirt Day, it is encouraged to wear something pink to symbolize that we as a society will not tolerate bullying anywhere. If anyone has Pink Shirts that they have grown out of, we are happy to recycle these by sharing them on Pink Shirt Day around the School.

Meeting Minutes - Minutes to all of our meetings are available

<https://westkenthstech.wixsite.com/westkenth/meeting-minutes>

Accessible playground update - After a successful start to fundraising toward our accessible playground, our group is currently working on sourcing further funding and grants in order to complete this project. We look forward to involving the children in selecting the new playground equipment. If you wish to be part of this project please contact Home and School.

Your West Kent Home and School Team - Trine, Mireille, Emma and Diana

<https://www.facebook.com/westkenth/>

<https://westkenthstech.wixsite.com/westkenth>
westkenth@gmail.com

West Kent Dates for Gymnastics



Zones at WR – January 30th (storm date 31st)

Parents are welcome to attend, students that qualify will move to the Provincials – Feb. 9th in Kensington

St. Jean Friendship Meet – Feb. 12th (storm date 13th)

Thursday, February 14th is St. Valentine's Day. Students are encouraged to wear red, pink or white on this day to participate in our school fundraising. Donation will go towards the new playground project.

February

Islander Day – February 19th – No Classes

We hope all families will enjoy spending quality time with family and friends.



CONFEDERATION CENTRE PUBLIC LIBRARY

CHILDREN'S LIBRARY

(902) 368-4644

www.library.pe.ca

Please check out the Confederation Centre Children's Library programs for February 2019. A link to the programs are also posted on School website.

CHANCES

CHANCES has the following parent information sessions coming up at 77 Upper Prince Street, Charlottetown. A light supper and onsite childcare is provided during the session, 5:30-7:30. Space is limited. To register or for more information call (902) 892-8744 or email: chances@chancesfamily.ca

February 11th - Separation Stress and Making Transitions:

Explore ways to make the routine of separation easier on you and your child.

February 21st - Bedtime Battles:

Improve your bedtime experience with these proven ideas to reduce power struggles and encourage cooperation. Your children will get the sleep they need and you will get the peace you want.

February 25th - Kids Have Stress Too:

This program from the Psychology Foundation of Canada helps us to understand stress and how to teach children important skills that will last a lifetime.

Home and School News, February 2019

1. Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week

Celebrate Teachers/Staff Appreciation Week, February 11 - 15, 2019. Home and Schools are reminded to say thank you to school staff during this week of recognition. Form a committee to discuss a plan to show appreciation.

2. President's Annual Reports

The Annual Book of Reports is being compiled for circulation at the Annual Meeting in April. Presidents are asked to submit your Home and School Association's Annual Report to the Federation by **February 28th**.

A report template is online at: <http://peihsf.ca/content/template-presidents-annual-reports>

3. Annual Meeting & Convention

The P.E.I. Home and School Federation's **66th Annual Meeting & Convention** will be held on **Saturday, April 13, 2019**. All Home and Schools are invited to attend with each association asked to designate five attendees as your school's voting delegates. You are encouraged to include teachers, administrators and staff as delegates. Registration information will be mailed to presidents and posted online in February.

4. Home and School Speaker Resources

The "[Speaker Resources for Home and Schools](#)" resource is posted online. If you have more to add to this list, send to: peihsf@edu.pe.ca | 902- 620-3186 / 1-800-916-0664 (Toll Free).

5. PEI's School Food Initiative

"Keep up-to-date on the school food project by following their new social media pages!"

www.facebook.com/PEIschoolfood | *Instagram and Twitter: @PEIschoolfood*

6. Public Schools Branch

The Public Schools Branch Board of Directors will be meeting on Wednesday, February 20, 2019, 7:30 p.m. at Mount Stewart Consolidated, 120 South Main Street, Rte 351, Mount Stewart. (Storm date: Feb. 21) Members of the public are welcome to attend. Any member of the public who wishes to make a presentation to the Board must submit a written request to the Board Chair or the Director of the Public Schools Branch by 4 p.m. on Feb. 11, 2019 to the Public Schools Branch Stratford Office, 2-234 Shakespeare Drive, Stratford, PE C1B 2V8, or email: sxgauthier@edu.pe.ca Call 902-368-6850 for additional information.

7. **E-cigarettes / Vaping**

E-cigarette use (i.e. vaping) among PEI youth is on the rise and can be linked to future use of alcohol and other substances such as tobacco and cannabis. The PEI Tobacco Reduction Alliance (PETRA) has developed a public awareness campaign focused on the harmful effects of youth vaping, aimed at adult influencers of youth (i.e. parents, teachers, health-care professionals, coaches, etc.). Check out the poster/info-graphic which highlights the harmful effects on the developing brain, and a tip sheet which provides adult influencers with strategies on how to start the conversation with youth at:

<http://www.peitobaccoreduction.com/vape/>

8. **#NourishKidsNow = Reminder of Campaign**

Nourish Kids Now - Invest in School Food is a grassroots campaign that is calling on the federal government to make a cost-shared investment in healthy, universal school food programs, which would build on the investments of our provinces, municipalities and communities.

Campaign landing page -> <https://www.healthyschoolfood.ca/nourishkidsnow>