

# IMPORTANT DATES



- Dec 5 Hot Lunch
- Dec 15 Newsletter
- Dec 18 Report Cards
- Dec 19 Pre-Loved Book Giveaway
- Dec 20 WES Winter Celebration Family Night
- Dec 22 Last day of school before Winter Break
- Jan 8 Return to School

## NUT AWARE



**Tree nut items/foods are permitted at the school at this point.**

**This practice could suddenly change.**

**In the event that it does, the school will communicate this to let parents/guardians know.**

## WES PAC NEWS

Next PAC Meeting  
Monday, January 15th  
6:30pm  
@ WES

\*All parents welcome and invited



## WES PILLARS

*Look after yourself.  
Look after each other.  
Look after this place.  
Be a respectful listener  
and a powerful speaker.*

## WINDERMERE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, "Where Children Soar" DECEMBER 1, 2023

Happy December Windermere Elementary School families!

I hope this newsletter finds you well. December is here and there are many exciting things to look forward to at WES. Student led conferences, holiday lunch, winter family night and spirit week are just a few! We look forward to seeing families in the building over the next few weeks.

Last night WES hosted a variety of agencies at our first Community Care Fair. Kelsey Olson, Community Link Student Support Worker for our district, organized a wonderful event aimed at connecting families with supports, resources, activities and opportunities in the valley. Thank you to the agencies and businesses who filled our school gymnasium with information with one common purpose. We want our youth and families to feel connected, healthy and happy. As we work to create a connected community, my hope is that families seeking support would know that every door is the right door. As we approach the winter break, I want to remind you, as always, to come visit with me if there is anything I can do to help support you and your family. Check out the photos of our event at the end of this newsletter!

Teachers have been working hard to support student growth in the priority areas that we have identified in our School Success plan. If you haven't already looked at our school plan, it can be located on our school website. I always appreciate parent feedback so please let me know if you wish to talk about our goals in more detail. I always appreciate an opportunity to share the work of our staff and there is much to celebrate.

Our annual holiday lunch is on Tuesday, December 5 and I would like to thank our generous PAC for once again ensuring we can share a meal together as an entire school. This is a special time for us and we appreciate all of the hard work that goes into preparing for this meal. Sincere thank you to AG Foods, Mountainside Market Fairmont, Rocky River Grill, From Scratch, Edible Acres and Gordon Food Service. We couldn't do this without you!

Best wishes for a wonderful start to December with your family and friends!

Sincerely,

Keri Gust  
Principal, Windermere Elementary School  
SD6



## PRE-LOVED BOOK GIVEAWAY

On Tuesday, December 19th we will be hosting a  
Pre-Loved Book Giveaway.

Every student will get the opportunity to "shop" for free books to keep and bring home to enjoy over the winter break.

If you have any gently used books you would like to donate, please send to the school before Monday, December 18th

Thank you,  
Miss Patti



## PLEASE CHECK THE LOST AND FOUND

Any items not claimed before the Winter Break will be donated to the local Thrift Store







Please join us on  
Wednesday, December 20th for  
**WES Winter Celebration  
Family Night**



6:00-8:00



The Board of Education [meeting highlights](#) have been uploaded.  
You can also access them at  
[Board Meetings | Rocky Mountain School District No. 6 \(sd6.bc.ca\)](#)

### Virtual Learning Opportunity for Families:

In partnership with The Ministry of Education and Childcare's *erase* strategy, due to high demand, Safer Schools Together is offering a "Social Media Awareness" Family Session on December 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. This 60 minute session will be held virtually via zoom.

To register for this session please click on the link below.

[Family Session: Establishing Safe, Caring, & Respectful Digital Communities Tickets, Tue, Dec 5, 2023 at 6:30 PM | Eventbrite](#)

[www.saferschoolstogether.com](http://www.saferschoolstogether.com)



Next hot lunch will be on Tuesday, December 5th:

**WES PAC Turkey Lunch  
for Students & Staff**

## STEM activities in the WES library!

Over the past few weeks, the grade 3 and 4 students enthusiastically engaged in a hands-on project in the library as part of the Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies (ADST) curriculum. Inspired by ideation, prototyping, testing, and collaboration principles, the young learners built marble runs using recycled materials from their homes. Students were inspired by reading several fiction and non-fiction books about rollercoasters and the laws of physics that help propel objects. They then honed their ideation skills through brainstorming sessions, sketching creative concepts for their marble run designs on whiteboards. The students moved on to the prototyping phase, transforming their ideas into tangible structures using recycled materials such as cardboard, paper drinking straws, and lots of toilet paper and paper towel tubes. The testing phase allowed students to refine their creations, tweaking elements to optimize the flow of the marbles. Finally, the celebration came as students shared their unique marble runs with peers, fostering a sense of accomplishment and encouraging collaborative learning. Thank you to the parents and students who saved the materials for weeks to help make this activity happen!



# **New PAC Members Needed!!!**

WES PAC is seeking new members! Our WES PAC meets the first Monday of every month at 6:30 PM in the WES staff room. Currently, we have very few parents attending meetings. PAC is able to provide many experiences/enrichments that benefit our whole student population, but we need help from more members.

## **What happens at a PAC Meeting?**

At every meeting, the school principal gives a report and some updates about things going on at the school. This may include important dates, new opportunities for students/classes, information about assessment and/or school goals, etc.

A teacher representative also gives a report about some of the learning and activities happening in classrooms. If the teachers would like to request something or have questions or ideas for PAC members, the teacher rep brings those forward for discussion, too.

PAC members also have the opportunity to ask questions and share ideas regarding any of the things they see and hear about happening at the school!

Other business such as fundraising ideas, hot lunch updates, and other PAC initiatives are also discussed and reviewed at every meeting.

## **Why do our members come to meetings?**

As a group, here are some the things members had to say at the last meeting:

“I love being involved in my child’s education! Why wouldn’t you want that?!”

“I like coming to be informed about my child’s school and I love it when the teachers bring activities and lessons to show us.”

“I like having a voice to ensure that our kids get some extra fun activities and experiences like music performances, sports events and the carnival!”

“I think being on PAC helps build a positive WES community. When more parents are involved and get to know each other, we can all help to support each other, our students and our school staff.”

“I like that it fosters a positive home and school connection. I like knowing more about what my child spends the bulk of their time doing. When I know more, I can ask more questions and extend learning at home.”

“I like being able to ask questions and have discussions about why and how teachers and schools do things.”

**You do not have to commit to anything extra or sign up to volunteer for things when you come to meetings. The more parent voices and larger parent community we have caring about WES student experiences, the better!**

**We hope to see you at the next meeting!**



# WES Community Care Fair



**The last two weeks have been wonderful at the morning breakfast program! We have seen lots of new students coming to say hello and grabbing some breakfast. The students got to try pomegranate seeds and kiwis, which they really enjoyed!**

**Reminder that every student at WES is welcome to come to the breakfast! Everyday 8:15am-8:30am.**

**The next two weeks menu:**

Mon Dec 4<sup>th</sup> - Marvelous Muffin Monday! and a fruit  
Tues Dec 5<sup>th</sup> - Warm oatmeal and a fruit  
Wed Dec 6<sup>th</sup> - Toasted Bagels with a fruit  
Thurs Dec 7<sup>th</sup> - Ham and Cheese Breakfast Wraps and a fruit  
Fri Dec 8<sup>th</sup> - Pb and Jam Rice Cakes and a fruit  
Mon Dec 11<sup>th</sup> - Marvelous Muffin Monday! and a fruit  
Tues Dec 12<sup>th</sup> - Yogurt and Granola and a fruit  
Wed Dec 13<sup>th</sup> - Toast with a fruit  
Thurs Dec 14<sup>th</sup> - Ham and Cheese Quiches and a fruit  
Fri Dec 15<sup>th</sup> - Muffin and fruit

**Recipe of the week:**

Breakfast Tart - Two ways!! A chilled fruit and yogurt tart or a warm savory tart. Both tarts are fun to make with your kids. You can be super creative and pick what you want to include in each tart.

These are also an amazing way to use up leftover items in your fridges.

**Fruit Tart Option:**

Ingredients:

- frozen mini tart shells
- vanilla yogurt
- fruit (fresh, canned (well drained) or frozen (thawed and drained))

optional - chopped nuts or chocolate chips

Instructions:

- prebake the frozen shells until golden brown. (follow instructions on the box)
- let cool completely
- add a sliced banana to the bottom of the tart shell (optional but yummy!)
- fill tart shell 2/3rds full with vanilla yogurt
- top with more fruit and a few chopped nuts or chocolate chips.

Enjoy!

**Warm Savoury Tart Option:**

Ingredients:

- 12 frozen mini tart shells
- 6 eggs
- ¼ cup of milk or water
- ¼ cup of chopped ham
- ½ cup of shredded cheese
- salt and pepper to taste

any other toppings you can think of (leftovers from the fridge, chopped bell peppers, green onions, bacon bits, parmesan cheese, corn etc)

Instructions:

- prebake the tart shells in the oven for 8-10 minutes or until the crust is slightly cooked (the colour has changed from dark to light)
- crack eggs into a bowl, add milk and salt and pepper and whisk until smooth
- fill the shells with all the fillings
- pour egg mixture into the shells until about 2/3 full
- top with shredded cheese
- bake at 400F for about 18-22 minutes or until egg has set and is not wiggly anymore.

Let cool for 5 minutes and enjoy warm!

# December

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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	<b>WINTER BREAK</b>					



# JANUARY 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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<b>WINTER BREAK</b>						
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14	15 PAC Meeting 6:30pm	16	17	18	19	20
21	22 Kindergarten Registration Opens for September 2024	23 Hot Lunch	24	25	26 Newsletter	27
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