

# IMPORTANT DATES



Sep 30 **NO SCHOOL**  
National Day  
for Truth and  
Reconciliation

Oct 7 PAC Mtg  
6:30pm

Oct 11 Newsletter

Oct 14 **NO SCHOOL**  
Thanksgiving

Oct 16 Early  
Dismissal  
12:45pm

Oct 24 Interim Reports

Oct 25 **NO SCHOOL**  
Non-  
Instructional  
Day  
  
Newsletter

## WE ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL!

Please do not  
send any food  
that may contain  
tree nuts to  
school with your  
child.



**NUT FREE**

### WES PAC NEWS:

Next PAC Meeting  
Monday, Oct 7th  
6:30pm  
@ WES

\*All parents welcome and  
invited to attend!



### 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" SEPTEMBER 27, 2024

Dear Windermere Elementary School families,

September has been an action-packed month as we get back into all the learning, activity and opportunities that school offers. It's hard to believe we are already turning the calendar to October! October is busy in classrooms as we collect benchmark data on our students' foundational literacy and numeracy abilities. This information is used by teachers to create the pathways through curricular outcomes that will best meet the needs of students in the classroom. At the end of the month, teachers will send out interim reports which will highlight their starting point in learning for the year. Please reach out to your child's teacher if you have any questions about learning in the classroom.

Congratulations to our students who are demonstrating daily how much they understand the three pillars that WES considers a priority. *We take care of ourselves, each other, and this place.* Though we offer supported recess each day, we have rarely had to use this structure in the month of September! A reminder that supported recess is a consistent structure to ensure that any students who struggle with following our rules for safety and respect are surrounded by caring adults who can share new and different ways of coping and responding, without using mean and inappropriate language and behaviors. Our mission statement is that WES is a safe place to learn and grow and we want to help all of our students to feel belonging in this caring community.

Best wishes for a great start to October!

Sincerely,

Keri Gust,  
Principal, Windermere Elementary School  
SD6



On Tuesday, September 24 our entire school spent the day learning on the land at Spirit Trail in Fairmont. We lucked out with warm weather and beautiful fall scenery and the opportunity to connect with each other and the land. For anyone who seeks more understanding of what Indigenous land-based education is, your mind may have went straight to 'taking the classroom outside' or 'outdoor education'. That's what it's *not*. Or at least, that's not *all* it is. Indigenous land-based education doesn't lend itself to simple one-sentence definitions and it means different things to different people, but it is often about learning by doing. It brings recognition to the importance of stories, respect for world views, nature, land protections and rights, accountability, a connection to reconciliation, and much more. We also know that anxiety and stress is affecting the learning and happiness of our students. Being close to nature has proven to have a calming and positive effect on our mental health. Research has shown that spending time in nature can improve memory and mental flexibility and increase attention span and engagement. And it takes a lot of planning! WES staff plan and facilitate age-appropriate activities which all include and reflect curricular outcomes and the importance of building relationships with each other and the land we live on. Parent volunteers are there to support our students and ensure their safety. Thank you to our volunteers!







Students at Windermere Elementary School attend a school wide assembly once per month. We believe in student leadership and in offering many ways that students can get involved in planning, presenting, and contributing to relaying universal messages of community, connection, empathy and care. Mrs. Niddrie and a committee of student leaders and presenters did an excellent job today sharing messages, poems and video about why we wear orange shirts to remember residential school survivors. After the assembly, students and staff enjoyed a hot lunch with Three Sisters Soup and a bun, made by our wonderful nutrition lead, Mrs. Aldene.



# SEPTEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 NO SCHOOL	3 First Day of School 8:28-10:45	4	5	6 Pancake Breakfast and Welcome Assembly	7
8	9	10	11 CLASS MEETINGS	12	13 Newsletter	14
15	16	17	18	19	20 WES Terry Fox 12:00	21
22 PAC CARNIVAL 	23 NO SCHOOL Non-Instructional Day	24 SCHOOL WIDE FIELD TRIP -Spirit Trail	25	26 School Photos 	27 Newsletter ORANGE SHIRT DAY	28
29	30 NO SCHOOL National Day for Truth and Reconciliation					

# October

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 PAC Mtg 6:30pm	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 NO SCHOOL 	15	16 EARLY DISMISSAL 12:45PM	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Interim Reports	25 NO SCHOOL Non- Instructional Day	26
27	28	29	30	31		