

Dear Wes Hosford Families,

Thank you to all families who attended our Meet the Staff event. I'm so glad you were able to see your child's classroom and meet their teacher.

I will be sending monthly email updates so that you know what is happening in the school. I have attached this newsletter as a PDF in case it is difficult to read on your phone. If you have questions, please check our website for more information. A version of these updates will also be on the website.

Lunch

This year, all students in K-6 will eat lunch from 12:02-12:32 and will play from 12:32-1:02.



Parking

The west parking lot is for staff parking; no parent/guardian parking is available here in the morning or after school, however you may loop through to quickly drop students off. As you exit, remember that there is no left turn when exiting and it is a "blind corner", requiring you to stop before the sidewalk, which the police enforce frequently.

Please, park in the GARC parking lot whenever possible.

Student Pick Up / Drop Off

Please send or deliver students to school at 8:20 or later as there is no supervision prior to this time.

After school supervisors need to clear the playground by 3:20 so that they have the visual that all students have left or have been picked up.



Parent Council and Fundraising Society

We have our first Parent Council meeting (virtual) on **September 15th at 6:30**. Voting for positions is done at this time. We are in need of a new Parent Council Chair; if you might be interested, please call me if you have questions, or simply join our virtual meeting. The link will be available on the website closer to the date. Also, we are always looking for **VOLOUNTEERS** to support our fundraising initiatives.

Counsellor's Corner

Please take a moment to read Mrs. Nichol's [Counsellor's Corner](#), located on our website. Each month she shares handy parenting tips, upcoming Family Community Services sessions, and other great information.

Technology

In September all families with students in grades 4, 5 and 6 will be emailed a technology user agreement to review and sign with their children. As well, teachers spend time reviewing technology rules and how to be a good digital citizen at school and at home. Increasingly, we are finding that as more children have their own cell phones and are connected to social media, many students are unsure how to navigate this



responsibility. Cyberbullying, unfortunately, is an issue that schools and families have to face. While most cyberbullying occurs at home, there are implications that effect school. For this reason, we are happy to support you, as parents, as you also learn to navigate this confusing and sometimes upsetting challenge. For information on how you can support your child with technology please visit this [link](#).

Indigo Love of Reading

Our school was selected to participate in the Indigo Love of Reading Foundation's annual Adopt a School fundraiser! Every dollar raised in-store at Indigo Sherwood Park and online between September 12 - October 2, 2022 will go DIRECTLY to our school to help fill our shelves with new and diverse books!

[Thank you so much for supporting our school](#) and for helping to inspire a love of reading in our students!



Video surveillance on buses

Did you know each EIPS bus is equipped with video surveillance?

Video surveillance and equipment help:

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

On a regular basis, EIPS Student Transportation reviews the video recordings, in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act. The recordings assist the department 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 Coordinator at 780-464-3477.

Update your PowerSchool Information

The EIPS Correction and Verification Form is now available online through your PowerSchool Parent Portal. 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 uses the listed information to communicate with families about important information, including updates, the latest news and event.

[EIPS Correction and Verification Form](#)

Review and update the form by Sept. 22, 2022.

For more information about the PowerSchool Correction and Verification Form, contact the school office at 780-464-1711.

Improving Home-School Communication

To enhance communication between families and schools, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) created a how-to guide entitled, Communication Protocol for Schools. Topics include:

- appropriate channels to use;
- standard formats and structures;
- timing and sequencing for regular and ongoing home-school communication;
- and ways to bring forward questions or concerns.

The guide also offers useful tools and resources schools and families can use to enhance face-to-face meetings, email communication and various social media efforts. EIPS encourages all families and schools to review [the guide](#).

Download the SchoolMessenger App

Wes Hosford and the Division use the SchoolMessenger platform for communicating with families—through both phone and email. Be sure to add communications@eips.ca and susan.freiheit@eips.ca to your safe sender list to avoid having important messages funneled into your junk mail folder.

The easiest way to stay connected is to download the SchoolMessenger app. Get the latest updates direct to your mobile device and enable push notifications to never miss a message. Families can also check back on past messages—for up to 30 days—directly in the app rather than searching to find an old message buried in your inbox. Download the SchoolMessenger app from the App Store or Google Play today.

Coming soon—the Safe Arrivals absence reporting tool will be rolled out within the SchoolMessenger app later this school year. Families will be able to quickly and easily report a child's absence directly in the app. No more phone calls or emails required. Stay tuned for updates in the coming months.



Sync the School Calendar to Your Calendar

Did you know you can sync the school calendar to your own calendar? You can!

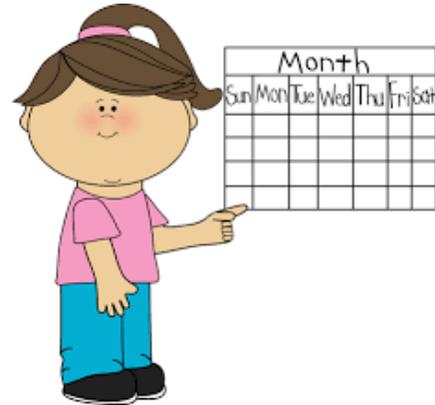
Simply, visit

<https://www.weshosford.ca/about/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.



Pay School fees online!

School fee information for the 2022-23 school year will be posted on the PowerSchool Parent Portal in late September. All fees are due within 30 days of being posted. To access your fee information, simply log in to the PowerSchool Parent Portal and go to "Student Fees." There you can view your fees and pay online using a credit card.



Don't forget to log in to the PowerSchool Parent Portal regularly throughout the year. Fees are often added to your child's account to cover the cost of certain school activities such as field trips, class projects, athletic-team fees and more. Additionally, junior high and senior high fees can change as courses are added and deleted.

If you're unable to pay your school fees, you can apply to have certain fees waived by submitting an Application for a Waiver of Fees. The application deadline is Dec. 15, 2022.

For more information about school fees, waivers and payment deadlines visit eips.ca. Alternatively, contact Mrs. Snow, our school secretary, at Wes Hosford at 780-464-1711.

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 Friday, September 30, which is a School Closure Day so we will be wearing our orange shirts on **Thursday, September 29**.

Important Dates

September

- 5 No School (Labour Day)
- 7 Early Dismissal (2:10)
- 8 Kindergarten Pictures (Tuesday / Thursday class)
- 9 School Pictures (and Monday / Wednesday Kindergarten class)
- 12 Munchalunch ordering closes
- 14 Popcorn Day!
- 15 Parent Council Meeting at 6:30 (virtual)
- 21 Treat Day
- 29 Hot Lunch and **Orange Shirt Day**
- 30 No School

October

- 5 Early Dismissal (2:10)



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'm looking forward to another great year!

Sue

Susan Freiheit, Principal susan.freiheit@eips.ca

Hello Wes Hosford Parents/Guardians



The Wes Hosford School Parent Fundraising Society is excited for another year of special food service days. We will be offering hot lunch, treat day, and popcorn day. The profits from these services go toward our school's fundraising account to purchase items that directly benefits the students and school to purchase items such as: iPads, chrome books, library resources, upgraded water bottle fountains, etc. We are currently focused on building a new playground structure.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Wednesday, August 31, 2022- ORDERING OPENS for hot lunch, popcorn day, and treat day

Monday, September 12@ 9pm-ORDERING CLOSES for hot lunch, popcorn day, and treat day

September 14, 2022-**Popcorn Day** (for those who ordered)

September 21, 2022 – **Treat Day**-Muffins & pepperoni rolls (for those who ordered)

September 29, 2022- **Hot Lunch**- Pizza (for those who ordered)

October 6, 2022-**Popcorn Day** (for those who ordered)

October 20, 2022- **Treat day**-Jugo Juice (for those who ordered)

October 28, 2022-**Hot Lunch**-Chicken Fingers (for those who ordered)

November 16-**Popcorn Day** (for those who ordered)

November 25, 2022-**Hot Lunch**-Pasta (for those who ordered)

November 28, 2022—**Treat Day**-Beef Jerky (for those who ordered)

December 1, 2022-**Popcorn Day** (for those who ordered)

December 9, 2022-**Hot Lunch**-Pancakes and sausage (for those who ordered)

December 13, 2022- **Treat Day**-Cookies (for those who ordered)



******We cannot accept orders after the session closes as vendors require significant notice (7 days +) for hot lunch orders *****

HOW TO ORDER: Go to: <https://munchalunch.com/schools/WesHosford>

If you are new to the Munch A Lunch system, please create an account. If you already have an account, log in and update your child/children's information, including class number (ex. 4T). **If your child is in kindergarten or grade 1 you may have to add them to your existing account if you already have one.

There are three sessions for our ordering system. The first is the "Fall Session", which normally would run from September-December. The second session is the "Winter Session", which runs from January-March, and the final session is the "Spring Session", which runs from April-June. Notices will be sent home in January and March to let you know when you can begin ordering for the next session.

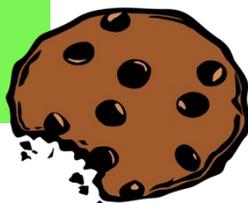
If you have any questions, please join the **Wes Hosford Parent Fundraising Society Facebook page** and leave a comment or a personal message. Alternatively, you can email **whsfundraisingsociety@gmail.com**.

Increased Product Costs- Inflation and product shortages are an unfortunate reality of our current economy. Unfortunately, despite our best efforts to keep our hot lunch as affordable as possible, there will be some product increases on the menu.

Absentees- If your child is sick or away from school on hot lunch, treat, or popcorn day, we ask that **before 11am** you make arrangements to pick up your child's hot lunch the same day. You can do this by emailing **whsfundraisingsociety@gmail.com**. If we do not hear from parents/guardians before 11am, the lunches are not set aside for pick up and are donated. We cannot issue refunds for absent students' hot lunch/snack/popcorn orders as they are ordered a week or more in advance. Payment for orders must be made online through MunchaLunch (Cheques not accepted).

Kindergarten- Please make sure your child is in fact in school on the date you are ordering. There are dates that your child will not be at school so be sure to not order for those dates.

We Need Your Help- We post on the **Wes Hosford Parent Fundraising Society Facebook Page** a few days prior to the hot lunch date in search of volunteers. We usually only need about an hour of help around 11:30 am. Please watch for help requests and consider volunteering to keep this program running!



Sincerely,

The Wes Hosford Parent Fundraising
Committee