

April Newsletter

Dear Wes Hosford Family,

I hope you had a relaxing spring break and enjoyed the sunny days. I always find that these last three months of school fly by. I'm glad Easter is early this year! Even though we're in the last term, please keep reading with your children every night, and practice basic math facts (+-x/) as often as possible.

I want to thank all our awesome volunteers for making our school a happy place to be! How can you volunteer? A few examples include:

- Come to School Council Meetings
- Join Fundraising Initiatives
- Shelve books in the library

Volunteering lets you stay connected with the school and you get to meet new friends!



Have a happy Easter!

Sue

Autism Awareness Month

April is Autism Awareness month, and we would like to invite all Wes Hosford School students to recognize the month by wearing a color from the spectrum (Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Purple) on Thursday, April 6th. By wearing a rainbow colour, we help to bring greater awareness and understanding about Autism.

Save-On Food Drive

As you know you can send your Save-On receipts to school, and our Fundraising Society collects them and turns them in for cash to support school initiatives!

Now, we can support Save-On! They are having a food drive to assist families in our community. Please send in non-perishable grocery items and we will collect them from April 3-6. A representative from Save-On will pick the donations up on April 11th and will deliver them to the Strathcona Food Bank.

So... support our community by sending non-perishable grocery items to school with your child April 3-6!



Get ready for Kindergarten

Do you have a child registered in kindergarten next year? If so, make sure to attend Wes Hosford's upcoming Kindergarten Information Night on April 27th at 7:00. You'll get to:

- Visit the classroom;
- meet the teacher;
- gain insight on play-based learning; and
- see what a typical day looks like.

Kindergarten Information Night 2023:

Date: April 27

Time: 7:00

Location: Wes Hosford Elementary School
Library



To make the transition to school as smooth as possible, Elk Island Public Schools has put together a toolkit for families. The kit includes information about registration, important dates, programming options, what to expect, eligibility, finding your designated school, transportation and more. Find it at: [Welcome to EIPS Kindergarten](#).

Junior High Information Nights: Running April and May

Junior high schools across EIPS are hosting information nights for all Grade 6 students and their families—taking place in April and May. Make sure to attend to learn everything you need to know about the junior high programs at your child's school. Those who attend will also have a chance to:

- meet the teachers;
- tour the school and classrooms;
- learn about the upcoming curriculum; and
- ask questions.

For specific dates and times, see: [EIPS Junior High Information Sessions 2022](#)



Parent Engagement Evenings

Foundations of Connection: How to Communicate with Your Youth

Presented by the Saffron Centre

April 26, 2023, 5:30-7:30 at Wes Hosford Elementary School

A presentation for parents and caregivers on having healthy parent-child relationships and talking about healthy relationships with youths.

The first part is on healthy relationships basics, so we go over boundaries, consent, and the characteristics of healthy and unhealthy relationships. We discuss abusive relationships and the cycle of abuse and spend more time discussing consent in detail. Next, we go over shame, its effects, and how we can minimize it in our conversations. This is followed by a discussion on rejection and how to talk about it. We then talk about pornography, its effects on developing brains and relationships, and how to talk about it without perpetuating shame. The topic shifts to sexting and its consequences, as well as a review of the laws surrounding non-consensual photo sharing. The second section is on parent-child relationships specifically and begins with some traits for healthy parent-child relationships at different ages. We discuss how to build a trusting relationship and go over tips for open communication. Next, we cover ways to talk about consent with different age groups before covering tips for handling conflict in relationships. This presentation is designed for parents of elementary students from K-6.

No Such Thing as a Bad Kid: Understanding What's Behind Children's Behaviors

Presented by Strathcona County Family Resource Network

May 17, 2023, 5:30-7:30 at Glen Allan Elementary School

Kids do not come with instruction manuals. Most parents may feel puzzled by their children's feelings and behaviors at some point in their parenting journey. Join Strathcona County Family Resource Network in a presentation that helps parents understand what's behind children's behaviors and learn how to support children with emotional and behavioral challenges.



Upcoming Events and Important Dates

- **April 3:** Students return to school.
- **April 3-6:** Send in non-perishable grocery items to support the Save-On food drive
- **April 5:** Early Dismissal
- **April 7-10:** No school - Happy Easter! 🌷
- **April 13:** Spring Concert at 7:00 in our school gym - ticket info to follow
- **April 14:** Hot lunch!
- **April 20:** Treat Day!
- **April 25:** Popcorn Day
- **April 26:** Administrative Assistant Day! Show our Mrs. Snow some love! ❤️
- **April 26:** Saffron Parent Presentation in our WHF Library - How to Communicate with Your Youth
- **April 27:** Kindergarten Open House at 7:00 in the library
- **May 4:** Family Dance
- **May 5:** No School (PD Day for teachers)
- **May 17:** Family Community Services Parent Presentation at Glen Allan School - No Such Thing as a Bad Kid: Understanding what's behind children's behaviors.

Please note, we have collaborated with Glen Allan School to share Parent Engagement Evenings. Our April 26th evening will include families from Glen Allan School and the May 17th event is at Glen Allan School.