

Westview Secondary School

DECEMBER & JANUARY NEWSLETTER #3

Dec. 16th, 2022

Message from the Principal

As we head into the Winter Break the Westview Admin Team wishes to thank our parent/adult community for your continued support of our students and staff at Westview Secondary. It is wonderful to walk through the building and see the collaboration and learning that is happening through our academics, electives, clubs, sports, field trips and special event evenings.

Thank you to our staff, students and PAC for their continued support for making all these activities happen. There is an energy that was much missed over the past couple of years, and we are so happy it has returned because this is what makes our school a truly special place. We hope our staff, students and families are able to get some rest over the break because when we return in January we will be finishing up the first semester and preparing to start the second semester. We wish you all a wonderful break and look forward to seeing you in 2023!

Please feel free to reach out to me at cathryn_blanco@sd42.ca with any comments, questions or feedback.

Important messages from the office

Reporting a Student Absence

As the flu season approaches, we are noticing a greater volume of absence reporting phone calls in the morning which create a very busy morning for office staff during the early morning rush.

We would like to ask for your assistance in this matter. We have a number of ways you can report an absence that would be very helpful. You can email us at wss_reception@sd42.ca or use the Parent Portal to log your child's absence. This will help alleviate some of the calls in the morning. If you are having difficulty with your account, you can reach the SD42 help desk at 604-466-6248. We thank you for your understanding.

Student Fees

Just a reminder if you have not yet paid your student fees, they can be paid by the parent portal, cheque (to Westview Secondary) or cash at the office.

Student Records

In Oct you would have been sent an email letting you know to update your child's verification form via your MyClass account. Please be sure to download and print the form, and check the information we have on file for your child, and make any necessary changes directly on the form and please send it back to the school office as soon as possible.

School Zone Safety

Morning Drop Off and Afternoon Pick Up

To ensure safety of pedestrians we have a few reminders for those of you dropping off and picking up students by vehicle:

- When turning into our parking lot please do so at a crawl for maximum safety of pedestrians
- Please do not block cars parked in the lots as owners of these vehicles may need to leave
- Please do not park at the entrance or exit ways, this limits driver visibility
- Please adhere to the 30 km school zone speed limit

SD42 Student Entrepreneurship Opportunities

Shad Canada is seeking Grade 10 and 11 students for its summer STEAM and Entrepreneurship program. Connect with nationally recognized leaders, innovative hands-on workshops, academics from universities across Canada and of course, the best on-campus or digital community ever.

Want to spend July on a university campus? Our tried-and-true live-in program of 40 years, [ShadOnCampus](#) offers an entire month of immersive STEAM and entrepreneurship programming at one of 19 pan-Canadian universities, tailored to the excellence of the campus, faculty, labs, and local culture.

Not tied to a physical space this summer? [ShadAnywhere](#), powered by Athabasca University, gives you the Shad experience anywhere you have a digital connection. For the third year, Shad will take its hands-on experience digitally. You can collaborate with a like-minded community, dive into hands-on STEAM learning and social innovation, and even join virtual excursions.

Head to www.shad.ca/apply to learn more and apply!

Winter break & Community Holiday events

Community/Charity Event for Families in Need

Help-Portrait Ridge Meadows is providing free professional portraits to people and families in need this holiday season. The event takes place Sunday, Dec. 11, between 1 and 7 p.m. at Golden Ears United Church (22165 Dewdney Trunk Road, Maple Ridge). For more information, go to www.helpportraitridgemeanows.com/aboutrm

WildCat Den News!

Library

The annual Bookmark Contest is back this year with some gorgeous designs! The voting took place in mid-November and the winner this year is: Yewon Joo! Congratulations and thank you to everyone who submitted!

Coaches Corner - Soccer Academy

Senior Boys Soccer Team 2022 Edition

2022 has been a very good year for the Sr. Boys school soccer team. Finishing 1st in league play with a record of 7 wins and 1 loss. The boys went on to defeat Carney 5-1 in the Zone Playoff Final. The season ended with a very successful AA Provincial Tournament.

In the tournament, the team went on to win their first 4 games, with a semi-final that went to a shootout. Heading into the FINAL VS Notre Dame the boys were exhausted after playing 4 games in two days. So, playing a rested Notre Dame team (who had yet to give up a goal) was definitely an uphill challenge. Despite the journey, the team competed valiantly as they lost 5-2.

In short, Canada, Japan, Italy, Spain and Germany came together to represent Westview at our school's first Provincial Final in 34 years. We are all so proud of what this team accomplished. Go Wildcats!!!!!!

Athletics Update

Winter Sports

Winter sports have started! Westview has 6 basketball teams, and a Wrestling team!

Thank you to the coaches who are supporting these teams. We look forward to seeing our student athletes competing and representing Westview as they play against others!

Basketball Teams & Coaches:

- Jr. Girls - Coach Watson
- Gr. 8 Boys - Coach O'Leary
- Gr. 9 Boys - Coach Szabo
- Jr. Boys - Coach MacLeod
- Sr. Boys - Coach MacLeod
- Sr. Boys - Coach MacLeod

Wrestling Team & Coaches:

- Coach P (Poirier) & Coach Trish

Bottle Drop Fundraiser for Wrestling

All funds go directly to support athletes training, competition, and travel fees.

Help support Westview's wrestling team in 3 easy steps

1. Bag your bottles
2. Drive to your nearest **Encore location**
3. Print, slap and go

Westview Wildcat Wrestling
Account phone number 604-909-3523
Nearest location # 15 - 20475 Lougheed Highway



Ultimate Frisbee

Ultimate Frisbee will be starting up in the spring but there will be plenty of drop-in learning sessions to get ready for the season! Our school participates in a local rec league. Plenty of fun, all ages and genders are welcome!

Grad 2023 Update

If you have not yet received your Grad photos, please visit <https://www.mountainwest.ca/contact-photography-studio> or call 604.433.0551 for help. **Grad photos RETAKES** are set by appointment on January 18th. We will send out a Parent Portal message with details when we are back in January letting you know when their booking appointment calendar will be open to book your appointment.

To book your appointment, please [visit their website](#). Once there, choose your session “Graduation Photos”, then select school “Westview”. You should then have a calendar that will show the time slots for these days.

WSS Counselling Corner

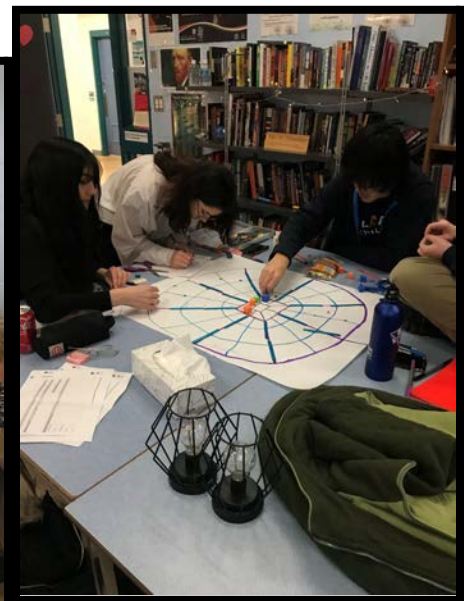
Community Supports for Youth Open for Winter Break

There are many community supports open for the break while schools are closed. Please see the attached resource sheet if your child is in need of mental health support, crisis intervention, or positive connections.

What’s happening in the Classroom!

Global Ed Studies

In Global Education, the students completed the Conflict and Genocide unit by constructing their own refugee camps, following criteria laid out from international standards. It was a very involved activity which stretched their minds and creativity. A great group activity!



Club Happenings!

Art Club	Ms. Cruikshank	Room 1152	Thursdays @ 3-4:00pm
Board Game Club	Ms. Garneau	Library	Wednesdays @ 2:45pm
Book Club	Ms. Eddy	Room 1003	Announced in Google Classroom
Breakfast Club	Shannon Moody	Room 1077	Tuesdays @ 8-8:30am
Carving, Crochet & Knitting Club	Ms. Zagar	Room 1071	Mondays @ 2:45pm
Choir Club	Mrs. Jensen	Room 1180	Tuesday's @ Lunch (Sem 2 only)
Drama Club	Ms. Allan	Room MPR	Mon/Wed @ 3-4:30pm
Feminist Fight Club	Ms. Orologio	Room 1061	Fridays @ Flex
Homework Club	Sr. Students	Room 1027	Tues/Wed @ 2:45-3:45pm
Outdoor Club	Ms. Eddy	Library	See Ms. Eddy
Pride Club	Ms. Poirer, Mx. Ford, Ms. Eddy	Room 1073	Thursdays @ Lunch
Running Club	Ms. Eddy, Coach Mac	Front Foyer	Wednesdays @ 3pm
Weight Room Club	PE teachers	Weight Room	Daily @ 2:45-4pm

Running Club

Running club is up and running! Every Wednesday at 3pm we meet at the front foyer. You can run, jog, walk and roll. All levels are welcome!

Carving, Crochet & Knitting Club (CCK)

The CCK Club has started! Monday's after school. It is open to **everyone**, regardless of level. Ms. Zagar currently has the wood and tools for the Carving Club (2-dimensional carving), and will supply intro supplies for the Crocheting and Knitting component.

Your child will be responsible for buying their own wool and tools for their individual knitting and crocheting projects. There are a TON of super easy patterns to get going on for all interests, and lots of ideas for beautiful gifts!

WSS Book Club of Awesomeness

We have started the year off strong with the critically acclaimed novel by Genki Kawamura: *If Cats Disappeared from the World*. Students have been enjoying the reading and are looking forward to the vote for the next title as well as beginning to get ready for Battle of the Books in the Spring! Plenty of excellent titles to choose from.

Frost Fest

Westview Drama Club and Leadership have been working extremely hard on putting together Frost Fest. This is a culmination of LipSync battles, leadership house colour challenges and so much more. Some of the fun games the students have been organizing are the Antler Toss, The North Pole Balloon Pop, A gift wrapping relay and many more. But what will be stealing the show is the many different Lipsync battles both performed by staff and students. We have battles between Spice Girls, One Direction, Agua, Queen, and KISS! This event will be a great way to send off our students into Winter break!

Drama Club Update

Drama Club has been working extremely hard on the sets and costumes over the past couple of months. Not only have the students built many of the pieces seen on stage themselves but have dedicated so much of their time to making them look amazing!

Drama Club's production of Alice in Wonderland will be performing for Elementary schools and have 2 public performances in February 2023. Tickets will be \$10.00 per person and be available for purchase Mid-January. We will send out a parent portal notice to let you know when this is happening.



Ways to Stay Connected!

1) **Website** – <https://secondary.sd42.ca/wss/>

This website features District & School announcements, upcoming events, a yearly school calendar of events, Clubs & Activities, Staff Contacts, Grad info and so much more!

2) **Parent Portal** – <https://parents.sd42.ca/Parents/ParentLoginPage.aspx>

This website features District & School announcements; Consent & Policy forms; Field trip forms; Pay School Fees; Pay Yearbook Fees; Grad Fees (cost to be advised), other fees that may come up throughout the year.

3) **MyClass** – <https://myedbc.sd42.ca/MyClass>

Student Attendance / Report Card Information / Classroom resources and communicate with your students Teachers.

4) **My School Day (App)** – <https://myschoolday.app/download>

This app is an important communication tool that parents & students can access easily on their phones. This technology provides daily updates to the calendar and schedule, your timetable, homework notifications, etc.

5) **Foundry (App)** – <https://foundrybc.ca/virtual/>

This is a province wide initiative supported by the Government of BC and powered by BC Children's Hospital. Young people aged 12-24 and their caregivers can use this app to drop-in or schedule a virtual counselling appointment, find peer support, join a youth group or caregiver group, or browse their library of tools and resources.

6) **Social Media Apps**

- **Twitter** - @WSSsd42
- **Instagram** - @wsswildcats
- **Facebook** - <https://www.facebook.com/WSSWildcats>
- **Youtube** - https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzs3zTuPs5h_xd1mF2eUa2A

Wildcat Wisdom



Important Dates

- **Tuesday, Dec 6** - Ice Skating Field Trip
- **Monday, Dec 12-16** - Spirit Week
- **Friday, Dec 16** - Lip sync battle and Frost Fest Spectacular
- **Friday, Dec 16** - Last school day before Winter Break
- **Tuesday, Jan 3** - School resumes after Winter Break
- **Thursday, Jan 12** - Grade 9 Immunizations
- **Monday, Jan 23** - PRO D Day (No School)
- **Wednesday, Jan 25** - Music Concert (main gym)
- **Thursday, Jan 26** - Snow Tubing at Seymour
- **Monday, Jan 30** - Last day of Semester 1
- **Monday, Jan 30** - PAC Meeting @ 7pm
- **Tuesday, Jan 31** - FLEX DAY Semester 1 Turnaround (No School)

Key Contacts

The following list of Counsellors and Administrators and their grades are listed below:

- Ms. O’Leary (Counsellor - Gr. 9, 11 & 12s A-L)
 - lauren_oleary@sd42.ca
- Ms. Sharpe (Counsellor - Gr. 8, 10 & 12s M-Z)
 - shannon_sharpe@sd42.ca
- Mr. Kater (Vice Principal - Gr. 8 & 10s)
 - steve_kater@sd42.ca
- Ms. Girbav (Vice Principal - Gr. 9 & 11s)
 - anne_girbav@sd42.ca
- Mrs. Blanco (Principal - Gr. 12s)
 - Cathryn_Blanco@sd42.ca

Please do not hesitate to email the Principal if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Cathryn Blanco

Principal, Westview Secondary School

-Inspiring & encouraging students to strive for excellence!

