

Westview Secondary School

APRIL NEWSLETTER #6

April. 1st, 2023

Message from the Principal

Hello Westview Community,

Welcome to Spring! It is always an exciting time in our school community as we approach June and Grad season. Our amazing staff, parent and student community are working hard to ensure there are fun activities inside and outside the classrooms to engage our students.

Our Admin team appreciates hearing from our parent community about ways we can work together to continue our work in continually improving and building an inclusive learning community.

We encourage you to attend the next PAC meeting on April 24 to learn more about and contribute to our school growth plan. Please feel free to reach out to me at cathryn_blanco@sd42.ca with any comments, questions or feedback.

Important messages from the office

PAC Meeting

Our next PAC meeting is on April 24 at 7 pm in the Library. Our Principal, Cathryn Blanco, will be presenting the School Growth Plan at this meeting. This is your opportunity to come learn about our school goals and provide feedback and input to the WSS Growth Plan as we look to the 2023/2024 school year. We have sent out a parent portal message regarding the school growth planning goals if you would like to view the three goals for the 2022/2023 school year. Our goal areas include Numeracy, Social Emotional Learning and Community & Connection. We look forward to seeing you at our PAC meeting on April 24!

Dry Grad Parent Volunteers Needed!

Attention Parents! WE NEED YOU! Our Dry Grad event is held every year for our grads. It's one of the most memorable events students will have during their school years and it wouldn't happen if it weren't for the amazing support of our parents! If you have a child graduation this year and can spare some time to help keep this event going, we would love to hear from you. If you would like to know what's involved, please do not hesitate to contact our Dry Grad Committee chair, Sabrina Harker at sabrinaharker@hotmail.com

Attention Parents of Grade 10s & 12s

School District 42 is participating in the 2023 Ministry of Education Electronic Anonymous Student Learning Survey Project in cooperation with all other school districts throughout the province.

Parents/Guardians/Caregivers can complete the online Anonymous Student Learning Surveys any time before 11:59 pm April 29th, 2023, providing immediate results to the school and the district.

For 2023: Students in Grades 4, 7, 10 and 12 complete the survey (students will complete the survey at school); Parents/Guardians/Caregivers of Grade 4, 7, 10 and 12 Students complete the survey; and all Staff associated with a School complete the survey.

To complete the survey:

1. Go to any computer that has an up-to-date internet browser access at home, work, or school.
2. Go to: <https://www.awinfosys.com/SurveyFull1/central/main/access.asp>
3. Under the section *Direct Access – no logon number required* select:
 - District: the name of your child’s district
 - School: the name of your child’s school
 - Language: the language of your choice
4. Complete the survey by clicking on the appropriate circle to answer each question. Move to the next set of questions by clicking on the right arrow in the bottom right corner of the screen. Click on the left arrow to navigate backwards.
5. When you have finished the survey, you will get a message “Thank you for sharing your views”.
6. Once complete, your school will have the results immediately.

Thank you for participating in this innovative project. If you need more information or would like to see the results for the district or your school, contact Cathryn Blanco.

WildCat Den News!

Literacy Week

Coming up at the end of April! See the poster and keep an eye on Instagram for more information! Our school library Instagram account is: [@theden.wss](https://www.instagram.com/theden.wss)

Coming Up in May: Tuesday, May 2nd – Adult Book Club/ Adult Art Club 6-8pm in the Art Room and Library! Sign-up here if interested in one or both options: <https://forms.gle/Q45TjZD76Qg6r4e6A>

Chapters Indigo Field Trip


On Tuesday, April 11th, the annual Chapters Indigo Field Trip took place with some of our most avid readers! They purchased novels, graphic novels, non-fiction, and more, thanks to our generous WSS PAC! Thank you for your support!

WESTVIEW LITERACY WEEK 2023

- READING BINGO • WORDLE CHALLENGES •
- DROP EVERYTHING AND READ •
- SCAVENGER HUNT • BOOK TITLE HAIKUS •
- FIND THE QUOTE •




TEAM &
INDIVIDUAL
CHALLENGES!

LOTS OF
PRIZES
AVAILABLE!



**LITERACY WEEK
APRIL 24th – 28th 2023**

Week-long Challenge: Tell Ms. Eddy the author and corresponding poster number of one of the famous quotes/lyrics posted around the school for a candy prize!

Monday 24 th	Tuesday 25 th	Wednesday 26 th	Thursday 27 th	Friday 28 th
<p>WSS' DROP EVERYTHING AND READ DAY!</p> <p>D.E.A.R. Day is usually done as a national day but at WSS, we can do what we want!</p> <p>During F Block, at 10:45am. Ms. Eddy will make an announcement to indicate the beginning of a 15-minute reading period!</p> <p>If your class does not participate, it's not a big deal – you can participate on your own time at any point in the day!</p> <p>Prize for participation: Tag @TheDen.WSS in a post or story of you reading any time before midnight to be entered into a draw for a prize worth up to \$40!!</p>	<p>LUNCHTIME WORDLE CHALLENGE</p> <p>Groups of 1-3 compete to figure out 4 set Wordles.</p> <p>Make sure someone in your group has a device that connects to wifi or data and has a QR code reader.</p> <p>Sign-up in advance here:</p>  <p>Prizes for completing the challenge: - Every single participant gets an ice cream sandwich! - Winning team gets to custom pick a prize worth up to \$75!!</p>	<p>FLEX LIBRARY SCAVENGER HUNT</p> <p>Groups of 2 compete to complete a scavenger hunt in the library!</p> <p>You'll get about 30 minutes to complete the challenge. The first team to complete the challenge OR the team with the most points at the end of the 30 minutes will win the main prize!</p> <p>Sign-up in advance here:</p>  <p>Prizes for completing the challenge: - Every single participant gets an ice cream sandwich! - Winning team gets to custom pick a prize worth up to \$80!!</p>	<p>FLEX BOOK TITLE HAIKUS</p> <p>Groups of 1-3 compete to create Haikus out of the titles of books in the library. The book titles used must be marked down. It would be beneficial to have at least one person who is quick and one person who enjoys creative puzzles.</p> <p>Sign-up in advance here:</p>  <p>Prizes for completing the challenge: - Every single participant gets an ice cream sandwich! - Winning team gets to custom pick a prize worth up to \$75!!</p>	<p>READING BINGO SUBMISSIONS DUE BY 3:00pm</p> <p>Individuals can pick up their Reading Bingo forms at any time from the library!</p> <p>All staff and students are eligible to participate. Bingo prompts include many options to complete – there are easier lines to complete and tougher ones, but the ultimate challenge is the blackout option!</p> <p>All participants will be entered into a draw to win a book of their choice!</p> <p>Bingo Prizes: - One Line = Small Candy or Chocolate - X or T = Ice Cream Sandwich - Blackout = Pizza Party on Tuesday, May 2 in the library conference room!</p>

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES:
 Tuesday, April 11th – Chapters Indigo Field Trip 2:45 – 7:30pm
 Tuesday, May 2nd – Pizza Party for Reading Bingo Blackout Winners!

What's happening in the Classroom!

Elementary Band

Don't forget the deadline to register for Elementary band is **May 30th** and enrollment for grades 9-12 is immediately due! Grade 8 music is by **April 30th**! If you have any questions or concerns, you can email Mrs. Jensen at linda_jensen@sd42.ca for more information.



The Westview Spring concert on April 4th was a smash! One-O-Eight made their debut performance with Journey's *Don't Stop Believing*.

The Jazz Band played a couple of great tunes and the Concert Band wowed the audience with Havana, Sweet Caroline, Pirates of the Caribbean and more.

Our next concert will be a Cherry Blossom Concert near the end of April in front of the school. Date TBA (weather dependent). **Westview is holding an Applied Arts Showcase May 30th at 6pm**, showcasing student work across many disciplines, such as: Visual Arts, Media Arts, Drama, Woodworking, Photography and Music.

The WSS Summer Concert will be held June 7th at 7 pm in the main gym. This concert will feature Concert Band, Jazz Band, Beginning and Advanced Elementary Bands. If you are interested in joining one of our music groups for September please email Mrs. Linda Jensen at: linda_jensen@sd42.ca. New students are always welcome.

Numeracy Assessments

Ms. Kaun will be hosting Numeracy Assessment Prep drop-in sessions for students on Tuesdays after school from 3-4:30pm until Tuesday, April 18 in the CLC room, room 1027. She will have practice tests as well as written response example answers for students to gain an understanding of how the assessments will be marked. The Numeracy Tests will be written the week of April 24-28.

WSS Courtyard Garden

Spring is here, Earth day is near, and the garden is kicking back into gear...

The WSS Courtyard Garden is a student-driven environmental project located in the heart of our school. Over the past few years, WSS students have been building an ecological space to help save our local pollinators (we have been focusing on planting native flowering plants), promote healthy and sustainable eating habits (we have started to incorporate veggies), as well as continue building pride, respect, and a positive community at WSS.

This is truly meant to be a student-centered project and multiple groups of students have contributed over the years by planting, researching, planning, watering, building garden boxes, making and preparing garden spaces, bringing in soil, weeding, maintaining, pruning, painting pots, making signs and decor.

This spring and in the spirit of Earth day, some science classes will be planting in alliance with the environmental aspects of the science curriculum. Last semester, students planted in anticipation for the spring. Additionally, the garden serves as a volunteer opportunity for WSS students. This runs Tuesdays after school (3 pm to 4 pm) with Miss Salas. *Newcomers are always welcome.*

Club Happenings!

Badminton Club

Badminton Club has started on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3-4pm. This club is supported by our generous PAC and therefore there is no cost to participate. It is open to all students, no matter age, gender or experience! See Coach T for more details.

Golf team

The Golf team has been practicing at the range and look forward to their upcoming tee times as they learn the game. While it is too late to join the team this year, stay tuned for opportunities next year.

Anti-Racism

Thank you to everyone (students and staff) who were (and continue to be) involved in some incredibly important equity and anti-racism focused conversations. We appreciate your leadership and voice!

Running Club

Continues to *run* every Wednesday at 3pm! We meet in the front foyer – see Ms. Eddy or Coach Mac for details!

Athletics Updates

PE Department

The upcoming PE field trip for April is Extreme Air Park in Langley on April 28th with a cost of \$30. Forms are available at the PE office; the trip is limited to the first 40 students to sign-up. May's field trip will be at Wildplay, more info to come!

Volleyball

Volleyball skill development drop-ins have begun and happen each Tuesday and Thursday from 3-4:30pm. The first half of these sessions focus on individual skill building and drills followed by game play. These sessions are open to all students, no matter age, gender or experience and are a great way to build confidence and work towards joining a team in the fall or just for fun! See Coach Mac for more details.

Welcome back Track and Field!

We are excited to welcome back a track and field team to Westview! With the guidance of our amazing coaches, Mr. Elliot, Ms. Allan and Mrs. Job our students will be heading out to meeting starting this spring. If you are interested in joining the track team, practices are Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 3-4pm. We are a very relaxed group that aim on overall improvement and skill set. Students will get the opportunity to try all the different events to see what they are most interested in and will then begin working on specific skills to improve.

Spring Athletics

After Spring Break, we will move into the Spring season for Athletics. We will be looking for coaches and/or staff sponsors for our spring teams.

Spring sports include:

- Badminton - drop in session available after school with Mrs. Job
- Ball Hockey - Mr. Hallate and Mrs. Carlyle
- Golf - Coach Mac
- Rugby - Mrs. Kendall
- Soccer - Mr. Schmidt & Mrs. Stainsby
- Track and Field - Ms. Allan, Mr. Elliott, Mrs. Job
- Ultimate Frisbee - Ms. Doran Eddy

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.

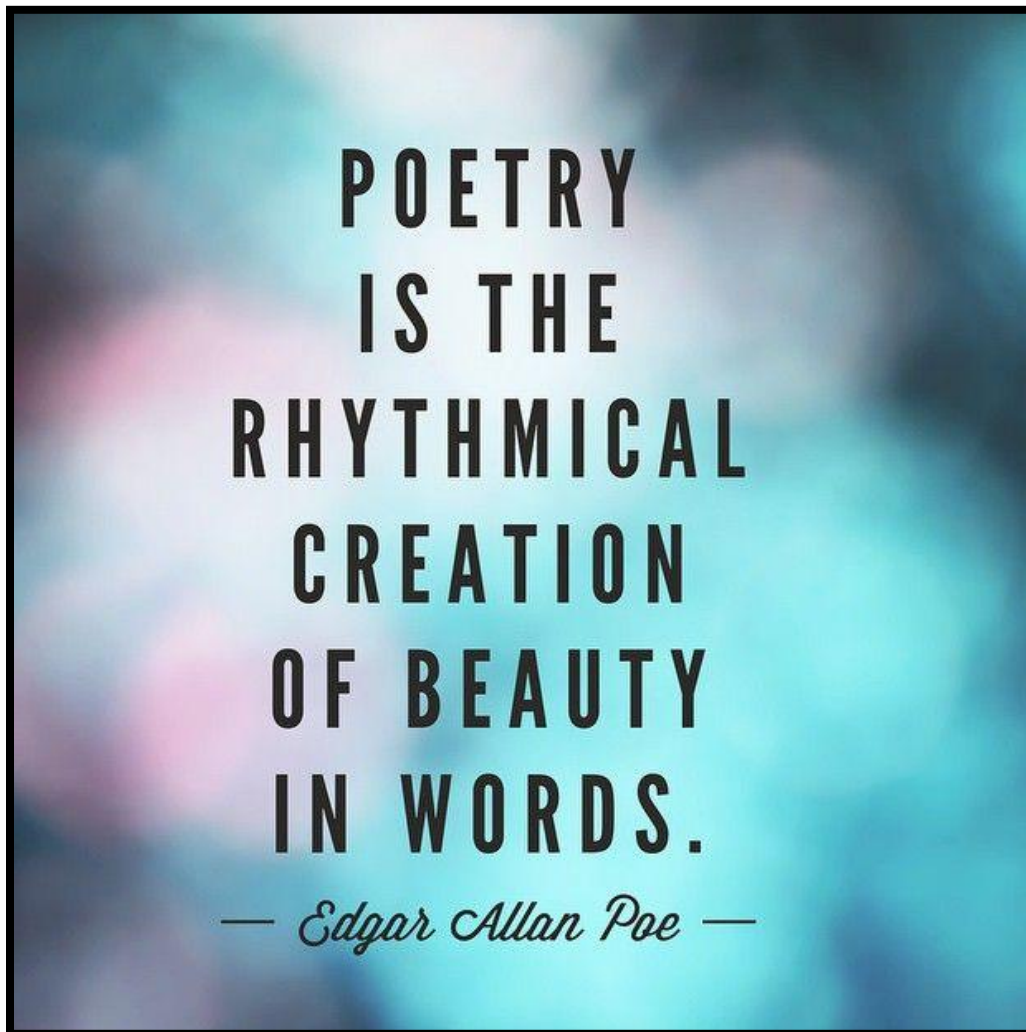
5) **Foundry (App)** – <https://foundrybc.ca/virtual/>

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 - National Poetry Month



Sikh Heritage Month

April is [Sikh Heritage Month](#) across Canada. Canada is home to the second largest Sikh population in the world and the month of April is designated to celebrate and educate Canadians about the contributions of the Sikh community to our country. Here are a couple of links to online resources:

- [Sikh Heritage Month Resources](#)
- [Sikh Heritage BC](#)
- [SHMC - Sikhs in Canada - Timeline](#)
- [Becoming Canadians - Pioneer Sikhs in Their Own Words](#)

Important Dates

- **Thursday, Apr 20** - Report Cards available in MyClass
- **Thursday, Apr 20** - Spring Swing Dance @ WSS 6-9pm
- **Friday, Apr 21** - Late start 9:55am first bell
- **Friday, Apr 21** - Art Field Trip to KPU
- **Monday, Apr 24** - PAC Meeting @ 7pm in the Library
- **Tuesday, May 2** - Dry Grad Parent meeting @ 7pm in the Library
- **Tuesday, May 2** - Adult Book Club / Adult Art Club 6-8pm in the Art Room 1152 & Library
- **Wednesday, May 10** - PRO D Day (No School)
- **Friday, May 19** - Late start 9:55am first bell & School Spirit event - The Amazing Race
- **Monday, May 20** - Victoria Day (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 - Grade 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!

