



**WESTMOUNT**  
CHARTER SCHOOL

**MARCH 2025**



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## WELCOME TO THE **EC Monthly Report**

Dear WCS Community,

February was a busy and enriching month at Westmount. We kicked off Black History Month with meaningful discussions and an extraordinary assembly. Students participated in Winter Walk Day and World Read Aloud Day, fostering a love for literacy and active living. School spirit was displayed during Valentine's Day and Pink Shirt Day, reinforcing messages of kindness and inclusion. PE classes enjoyed skating sessions, and Grade 3 students engaged in digital citizenship learning through the Telus Wise Footprint Workshop. We concluded the month with Grade 1 students celebrating the 100th day of school.

March is a vibrant and engaging month at Westmount, filled with meaningful learning experiences and school spirit. Trickster Week at the start of the month provided students with a creative and immersive fine arts experience. We wore purple to honour International Women's Day. Later this month, we celebrate Pi Day with fun math activities. Students and staff will show their spirit by wearing green for St. Patrick's Day, and we will wrap up the month with Parent/Teacher Conferences before heading into a well-deserved Spring Break.

Looking ahead, April begins with World Autism Awareness Day and Green Shirt Day, promoting awareness and community engagement. We welcome students back from break with the start of Spring LEAD and continue our focus on student well-being with events like the Jump Rope for Heart Assembly. The month will also include essential observances such as Earth Day, Administrative Professionals Day, and the National Day of Mourning.

As we move forward, we want to thank staff, students, and families for their ongoing commitment to making Westmount a supportive and inspiring learning community.

Warm regards,

Adriana Klassen (Principal) and Karly Bagnall (Assistant Principal)  
(submitted March 7, 2025)



# UPCOMING EVENTS



## MARCH



- March 3-7: Trickster Week
- March 7: Trickster Performances
- March 7: Westmount Wear Friday
- March 7: School Council Coffee Talk in the Staff Room @ 8:50-9:50 am
- March 9: Daylight Savings Time Begins
- March 10-14: MRU Math Contest
- March 10-14: Substitute Teachers' Appreciation Week
- March 12: School Council Meeting @ 7:00 pm
- March 13: Grade 1 Immunizations with Public Health Nurse
- March 14: Pi Day (3.14)
- March 14: Spring Assembly - Grade 1 & MW Kindergarten
- March 14: Fun Lunch - Noodlebox
- March 14: Winter LEAD Ends
- March 17: Spirit Day - St. Patrick's Day (Wear Green)
- March 17: Gr 1 & 2 Spelling Bee
- March 19: Lost & Found Items - Last Day to Claim
- March 20: Last Day of Classes Before Spring Break
- March 20: Rock Your Socks Day (*World Down Syndrome Day - March 21*)
- March 20: Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:30-7:00 pm (In-Person)
- March 21: Parent/Teacher Conferences: 9:00-11:00 am (In-Person) / 12:00-3:00 pm (Online)
- March 22-April 6: Spring Break - No School

MARCH HOUSE COLOUR  
CHALLENGE: LIMERICK  
WRITING CONTEST

APRIL HOUSE COLOUR  
CHALLENGE: ALICE IN  
WONDERLAND POSTER  
CHALLENGE



## APRIL



- April 2: World Autism Awareness Day
- April 7: Welcome Back from Spring Break
- April 7: Green Shirt Day (*for Logan Boulet Effect / Organ Donor Awareness and Registration*)
- April 11: Westmount Wear Friday
- April 11: School Council Coffee Talk - Online 9:15-9:45 am
- April 11: Spirit Day - Favourite Book Character Day
- April 11: School Council Read-a-thon Assembly
- April 11: Spring LEAD Begins
- April 11: Fun Lunch - Spolumbos
- April 13: Palm Sunday
- April 16: School Council Meeting @ 7 pm
- April 18: Good Friday - No School
- April 20: Easter Sunday
- April 21: PD Day - No School
- April 22: Earth Day / Earth Day Assembly (Gr 2 and TTh Kindies)
- April 23: Administrative Professionals Day
- April 25: Jump Rope for Heart Assembly
- April 25: Principal for the Day
- April 25: Fun Lunch - Mr. Pretzels
- April 28: National Day of Mourning

JOIN US ONLINE!

*School Council  
Coffee Talk*

Date: Friday, April 11, 2025  
Time: 9:15 - 9:45 a.m.  
Location - Zoom



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## MARCH LEARNING COMMONS UPDATE

### AUTHOR VISITS

This month, Canadian author Marty Chan will visit virtually with 4F and 4HO. We are eager to learn more about creating conflict in our writing!

### BOOKS TO BORROW

During book exchange blocks, students will have the opportunity to borrow books by Canadian authors and illustrators, as well as books celebrating International Women's Day and Ramadan.



**Reminder: Spring Break begins March 21st. If you are travelling, please leave Learning Commons books safe at home!**

A special mention to one of our Westmount parents, Pin Sahota, who wrote and illustrated a book about trailblazing South Asian women. Congratulations!



### DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP

March is a short month in the Learning Commons due to Trickster and Spring break. During our tech blocks this month, students will learn more about digital citizenship including how to stay safe online and using technology responsibly. They will think about whether a resource is reliable and trustworthy, and consider meaningful ways to take breaks from tech. Check out our SMART rules below:

- S Stay Safe:**  
To help us stay safe online, we must remember to always keep personal information private. This might be our full name, date of birth, telephone number, address or school.
- M Meet:**  
Never meet up with someone you have met online. If anyone suggests this, tell a trusted adult straight away.
- A Accept:**  
Check with a trusted adult before accepting anything anyone sends over the Internet or clicking on any links. Files, videos or photos shared with you can store viruses or may be unsuitable or frightening.
- R Reliability:**  
Always check the reliability of what you read online with a trusted source. People can write anything they want on the Internet so it is best to check with a source you know you can rely on.
- T Tell:**  
Always tell a trusted adult straight away if you see anything that upsets, worries or frightens you online.



## MARCH MUSIC UPDATE

Kindergarten students are exploring steady beat through many songs, rhymes and games. They enjoyed learning songs about Penguins during our cold snap.

Grade 1 students have enjoyed the musical story of Peter and the Wolf by Prokofiev. They have explored the instruments and musical themes that represent each character in the story. Click the image of the wolf to watch a performance.

Grade 2 students are learning many new songs to prepare new rhythmic and melodic learning and have worked cooperatively to learn a double circle song and dance, Tideo.

Grade 3 students have done some vocal improvising and are learning new songs and rhymes. They have worked in pairs and groups on hand-clapping games.

Grade 4 students will begin recorders after Spring Break!



Peter and the Wolf  
Click here



### SPRING ASSEMBLY

Friday, March 14  
9:20 am

M/W Kindergarten and Grade 1 students are working hard in preparation for the Spring Assembly.

The Grade 1-2 LEAD choir will also be singing

### SHARE YOUR MUSICAL TALENT

Congratulations to all students who performed! There is so much talent at Westmount! We were treated to a wide variety of performances including piano, violin, cello, guitar, electric guitar, drums, voice, speech arts, as well as many artistic dance styles.

Thank you to all of the parents and guardians who support and encourage their students and provide them with opportunities to develop their talents. It would not be possible without you!



Music helps to build self-esteem, develops key social and emotional skills and boosts activity in the brain.



## Pre-Service Teachers

From February 19<sup>th</sup> to April 25, two pre-service teachers, Quinnlan (paired with Ms. Cuthbert in PE) and Emma (paired with Mrs. Martin in grade 3) from the Werklund School of Education, joined us for field experience IV. They will collaborate with their partner teachers to plan whole-class instruction, increase teaching time, and understand the teacher's role. With guidance, they will set professional goals and gain valuable experience in collaboration, collegial relationships, and teamwork, making it an exciting and rewarding opportunity.

## Alberta Education Assurance Survey

As part of Alberta Education's ongoing commitment to ensuring quality education for all students, parents and guardians of WCS Grade 4 students are invited to participate in the Alberta Education Assurance (AEA) Survey. Note - all WCS teachers are also invited to participate.

The survey presents a significant opportunity for parents, students, and teachers to provide feedback on our students' educational experience. Their insights help Alberta Education and our school identify areas of success and aspects that need improvement.

The survey is open from February 18 to March 21, 2025. Parents/guardians,, students. and teachers received a unique access code from WCS to complete the survey online. All responses are confidential.

Survey Topics Include:

- Welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe learning environments.
- Student learning engagement.
- Parental involvement in their child's education.

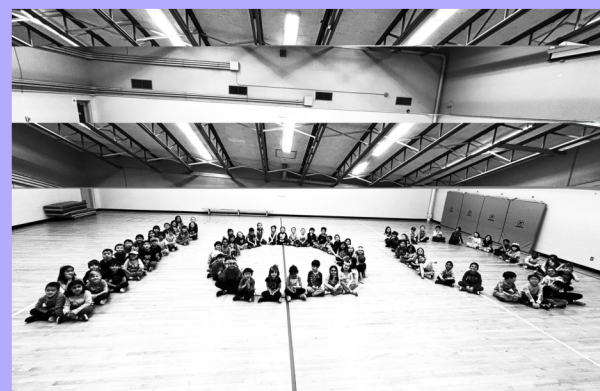
Participation is greatly valued and contributes to ensuring we continue to provide an excellent learning environment for all students.





## Pink Shirt Day / February House Colour Challenge

On February 26th, we observed Pink Shirt Day, which marked the beginning of Kindness Month with a variety of engaging activities, including the Kindness Bingo House Colour challenge. Teachers utilized bingo cards to motivate students to perform kind acts, rewarding those who completed them. Initiated in Nova Scotia in 2007, Pink Shirt Day advocates for friendship and inclusivity, encouraging everyone to demonstrate kindness, irrespective of their differences. Students donned pink attire and took part in daily announcements that emphasized the day's importance. Furthermore, teachers were provided with resources for related activities, including origami projects and discussions on anti-bullying. Congratulations to Orange House for winning the February House Challenge!



## Celebrating 100 Days of School

On Friday, February 28, our Grade 1 students marked an exciting milestone—100 days of school! The day was filled with engaging activities, creativity, and a celebration of all the learning and growth that has taken place since the beginning of the year.

## Celebrating International Women's Day



In celebration of International Women's Day on March 8th, one of our school parents, Pin Sahota, generously donated copies of her book, *The First but Not the Last: A Book About Trailblazing South Asian Women*, for our teachers and our K-2 students. Thank you to Pin for this meaningful contribution to our school community!





## Skating



A sincere thank you goes out to all the parent volunteers who helped with skating in February. We are also grateful to the Casino Fundraising Society for funding this PE field trip for students in grades 1-4. Every class had the chance to skate at least once, as we faced some weather challenges.



## Black History Month Assembly

A big thank you to Mrs. Walsh and her first-grade students for launching Black History Month by welcoming Wunmi on February 7th, where students had the opportunity to learn African dance. We also appreciate our Casino Fundraising Society for supporting this school event.



For the second consecutive year, our teachers had the chance to participate in the Calgary City Teachers' Convention, which took place from February 13 to February 14, 2025. This event gathered teachers from all over Calgary for two days dedicated to professional development, collaboration, and networking. The convention's goal was to promote teacher growth, encourage innovative practices, and improve students' overall quality of education. The 2025 Calgary City Teachers' Convention effectively served as a platform for professional development, equipping teachers with new insights and tools to elevate their teaching methods. This event highlighted the significance of continuous learning and community-building in teaching.





## Trickster Theatre



March kicked off with great excitement as our school engaged in a thrilling Artist in Residence program with Trickster Theatre from March 3rd to 7th. The program concluded with two interactive performances featuring all Grade 1-4 students, each allowed to invite two guests to enjoy the show.

We extend a heartfelt thank you to the School Council and Casino Fundraising Society for sponsoring this initiative, as well as to the parents who generously volunteered their time throughout the week to ensure the event's success.

Kindergarten students also got involved by learning a special song, which was recorded and shared with their families through their homeroom teachers.

In preparation for the residency, students delved into the Seven Grandfather Teachings of character development in their classrooms. This foundational knowledge shaped their creative endeavours during the residency, culminating in two performances on Friday, March 7th, centred around the theme: "What We Learn from the Land: Setting Our Intentions for Land Acknowledgment."

Once again, we thank the School Council and Casino Fundraising Society for their generosity—programs like this are made possible by their support, and we truly appreciate their dedication to enhancing our students' learning experiences.

Save the Date  
**TRICKSTER**  
performance

Friday, March 7, 2025

Performance 1: 10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.  
1AL, 1AM, 2AV, 2AU, 3C, 3LO, 4AA, 4F  
Doors Open @ 10:35 a.m.

Performance 2: 12:50 p.m. – 1:50 p.m.  
1W, 1Y, 2G, 2D, 3M, 3R, 4HU, 4HO  
Doors Open @ 12:40 p.m.

Due to space limitations,  
please note only 2 guests per student.

**MARCH 7**



Westmount Charter School  
Elementary Campus



@wcselementary