

WEST MISSOURI WILDFIRE NEWSLETTER

ISSUE #4 - DECEMBER 2020

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Trustees: Sean Hunt and Arlene Morell

Superintendent: Kevin Auckland

From the Principal's Pen,

A busy and productive fall term of the school year is about to come to an end and already we're heading into the holiday season. Yes, it is December! Last month was full of activities including a very moving tribute to all those men and women who served or who are currently serving our country. Thank you to those who joined us and to Mrs. Bogaert who organized our Remembrance Day Slideshow. Thank you to all of the staff and students who were involved. This event was followed by our participation in the Provincial Bullying Awareness and Prevention campaign to demonstrate our ongoing commitment to ending bullying and promoting positive behaviors in our schools. Bullying Awareness and Prevention week ran from November 16 – 20, 2020. This year's theme was Listen. Learn. Act! By saying something, a student has the power to stop negative behaviors, promote positive behaviors and to lead change. Our students and staff took the 'Pledge' in their rooms and promised to work hard to Live the Pledge this year.

I hope that you had an opportunity to connect with your child's teacher to discuss their general progress in working towards the Provincial curriculum expectations. Research tells us that there is a strong connection between parent involvement and student achievement and well-being. Shared high expectations for our children and parent involvement that is focused on student learning have the greatest impact on student achievement. The greater the support that families provide for their children's learning and educational progress, the more likely their children will do well in school and continue in their education.

WNPS staff and students are busy planning our Virtual Holiday Performance. Information will be sent home with students explaining details of the event in the near future.

December is always a very busy and special month for many people. My wish for everyone is to enjoy all the special moments and wonder that Christmas and the Holiday Season brings no matter which Holidays you celebrate or how you celebrate. I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy and safe Holiday. Enjoy some fun, food and most importantly some special time with family.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
Darryl Mann
Principal
WNPS

Every Student Belongs Survey

The Thames Valley District School Board (TVDSB) is working to gain a better understanding of the diverse backgrounds of students and families across the district. To provide information that will help achieve this goal, TVDSB is launching the "Every Student Belongs Survey" in December 2020. The survey is guided by Ontario's Equity Action Plan, which asks school boards to collect information about students and staff related to their background (for example, their race, ethnicity, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability).

Students in grades seven to twelve will be invited to complete the survey during the school day throughout the month of December. Families will be receiving a letter with more detailed information. Families of children in kindergarten to grade six will be invited to complete the survey on behalf of their child in January 2021. For more information, please visit the website: www.tvdsb.ca/everystudentbelongs.

Home & School News

The West Nissouri Home and School Association is very excited to offer our gift card fundraiser again! Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we have been doing things a little differently this year. All orders must be given directly to Home and School President Sarah Doan. If you would like to order gift cards, please e-mail Sarah at sarah.doan@live.ca to arrange a pick-up or drop-off time on or before **December 7th** for your order with the payment. Only cash and cheques are accepted at this time. Please make all cheques payable to "West Nissouri Home and School."

The last gift cards came in within 6 days of the order due date, so this order should also be in with plenty of time to spare before Christmas.

Thank you to everyone who ordered in November. We raised \$538.82 that will be donated to the school for technology, musical instruments, and outdoor education. Please consider pre-purchasing gift cards for things like groceries, gas, gifts, etc. and just paying with gift cards at that time as this will allow you to have the full value of the card and to help the home and school raise funds for needed items.

<C:\Users\tv41958\Desktop\Gift Card Order Form December 2020.pdf>

Thank you.

- Your West Nissouri Home and School Association

Next H&S and SAC Meeting:

Monday, December 7th Student Advisory Council @ 6 p.m. Home and School @ 7 p.m.

School Bus Loading and Unloading Zones

A reminder to keep our school bus loading zones clear between the hours of 8:30 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. and again in the afternoon from 3 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. Please remember the importance of not walking between busses. The safety of all is our priority, please take the time to walk around not through the busses, if you are in that area the driver cannot see you. We encourage you to wear a mask in our pickup/drop off area as it can be difficult to maintain a 2-metre social distance from others. Our school bus drivers really appreciate this area being clear as it ensures safety for all.



Bus Delays/Cancellation Reminder

When our buses have been cancelled the SCHOOL WILL BE OPEN unless there have been school closures announced by Thames Valley District School Board. Check the board's website for the most accurate information: www.tvdsb.ca.

For our bussed families, *if you do not choose to bring your child(ren) in to school, please* **report their absence via School Messenger and select Transportation Cancelled**. For pick-up of students at the end of the day please see procedure below.

Parents/Guardians are asked to pick up their child(ren) who attend school at 3:30 p.m.

Any parents needing to pick up before 3:30, please ring the doorbell and we will call them down.

Students who walk will be dismissed at 3:30 as normal to meet parents/guardians.

Bussed students will be escorted to the bus loading zone area by their teacher where parents/guardians can meet them.

Parents/Guardians are asked to meet their child(ren) on the sidewalk by the bus loading zone for safety. As you are waiting for your child(ren) please stay behind the fenced area, social distance and wear a mask.



West
Nissouri
Public
School
Advisory
Council

December 2020

School Council Executive for 2020-2021

If you have any questions, please feel free to email us at – sc-westnissouri@tvpic.ca

Our WNPS Council Member Executive:

Chair: Tiffany Grubb

Secretary: Alexis Juliao

Treasurer: Tara Santagapita

Community Reps: Jeannine Poulton, Andrew Poulton

Parent Reps: Amanda Borges, Michelle Coughlin, Blair Masse, Kendra Bricker

Teacher Rep: Carissa Kanters

The code of conduct is updated annually and can be found on westnissouri.tvdsb.ca under “our school”. It was last updated in March 2020.

There was a safety reminder sent out on school messenger for the following agenda items that were discussed in our meeting–

Parents drop off and pick up, bus loading zones and the WNPS parking lot.

Social distancing and mask use is encouraged. There is an option of a safe drop off/pick up location within five minutes of the school and are asked to please stick to the available sidewalks and stay alert for pedestrians.

The school calendar is now updated with important dates for quick reference & reminders.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email us at sc-westnissouri@tvpic.ca

You can find us on Facebook at - **West Nissouri Public School Advisory Council** The minutes will be shared from each meeting on our school website - westnissouri.tvdsb.ca. It can be found under the “Parents” tab and by selecting “School Council”.

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The Ten Days of Holidays Food Drive 2020:

Student Voice is organizing a Holiday Food Drive beginning **Tuesday, December 1st** and wrapping up on **Monday, December 14th** to support the Dorchester and Area Food Bank. Suggested donations are listed below. Please feel free to send in other items on any day. **ALL donations are greatly appreciated!**

Please leave item in their original packaging (i.e., juice boxes, snack packs of pudding) and please ensure that products have **not reached their expiration dates. **

Tues., Dec 1st	Paper goods (i.e., facial and bathroom tissue)	Tues., Dec. 8 th	Breakfast Items Oatmeal, cereal
Wed., Dec 2 nd	Canned/Boxed Soups/ Kraft Dinner/canned fish	Wed., Dec 9 th	Dessert items such as boxed pudding/cake mix/ Jell-O etc.
Thur., Dec 3 rd	Pet Supplies Cat/Dog food and toys	Thur., Dec 10 th	Baby food/ wipes/diapers
Fri., Dec 4 th	Canned vegetables/Fruit	Fri., Dec 11 th	Rice, dry noodles, pasta sauce, Hamburger Helper
Mon., Dec 7 th	Juice (boxes and cans)	Mon., Dec 14 th	Hygiene products (i.e., toothbrushes/paste, soup)



ART CLUB

Thank you to everyone who participated in the November Art Contest! Special congratulations go out to our Primary Division winner Rachel Brown, and the J/I winner Jordin Stevens for their excellent Geometry themed art! This month's theme is Winter/Christmas/Holidays and I just snow that we will have some amazing submissions! Anyone who would like to sign up should consult their classroom teacher!



BY JORDIN S.



BY RACHEL B.