

# WESTERMAN WORD



Westerman Elementary School  
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Principal: Ms. L. Susan Clough  
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P.A.C. President: Mrs. R. Savady  
Secretaries: Mrs. Julie Morrell  
Mrs. Linda Thompson

February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Newsletter #7



Many students, parents and staff are excited about the Olympic Games in Sochi! Westerman School hosted its own Olympic Opening Ceremonies with flags from many countries, various speeches from students and staff and of course, we lit the flame (elementary school style). In our bear pit by the library, our Inukshuk stands with pride and a replica of the torch and flame (made with tin foil and tissue paper) stands on top of it. *Go Canada Go!*

January was a very busy month at Westerman! There was the Annual Inukshuk Floor Hockey Tournament, gymnastics lessons for all students and the basketball season started too! Mrs. Baker has begun rehearsals for, “The Emperor’s New Clothes” which will be performed on Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. and 6:45 p.m. Students are very fortunate to have so many staff who volunteer their time and expertise to provide a variety of opportunities for our students!

Report cards go home to parents on Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup>. We hope to see many parents on our early dismissal afternoon of Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, for parent/teacher conferences. Until then, we are looking forward to more sunny skies and warmer days as spring approaches!

## **PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC) MEETING ~ FEB. 18<sup>TH</sup>, @ 6:00 P.M.**

Our Westerman P.A.C. always welcomes parents at our meetings! The next P.A.C. meeting is on **Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014, at 6:00 p.m.** in the Library. Please mark it on your calendar! We hope to see you there!



## **NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY ~ FRIDAY, FEB. 21<sup>ST</sup>**

Please remember that this Friday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, is a non-instructional day.  
**Students do not attend school this Friday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014.**



## "PINK SHIRT DAY" - WED. FEB. 26<sup>th</sup>

# PINK SHIRT DAY

Wednesday, February 26, 2014



"Pink Shirt Day" is another name for "Anti-Bullying Day". Bullying happens when someone hurts or scares another person on purpose and the person being bullied has a difficult time standing up for himself/herself. Usually, bullying happens over and over. On February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014, we encourage everyone to wear something pink to symbolize that we as a society will not accept bullying anywhere. This idea came from two incredible Nova Scotia high school students. Here is a snippet of the Globe & Mail article that inspired "Pink Shirt Day":

"David Shepherd, Travis Price and their teenage friends organized a high-school protest to wear pink in sympathy with a Grade 9 boy who was being bullied because he wore pink. [They] took a stand against bullying when they protested against the harassment of a new Grade 9 student by distributing pink T-shirts to all the boys in their school.

'I learned that two people can come up with an idea, run with it, and it can do wonders,' says Mr. Price, 17, who organized the pink protest. 'Finally, someone stood up for a weaker kid.' So Mr. Shepherd and some others headed off to a discount store and bought 50 pink tank tops. They sent out the message to schoolmates that night, and the next morning they hauled the shirts to school in a plastic bag. As they stood in the foyer handing out the shirts, the bullied boy walked in. His face spoke volumes. 'It looked like a huge weight was lifted off his shoulders,' Mr. Price recalled. The bullies were never heard from again."

We hope to see many students wearing pink on "Pink Shirt Day"! At Westerman, we will be distributing pink wrist bands for every student and staff member.



## Hoops for Heart (Heart & Stroke Foundation)



Start date: Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup>  
Celebration date: Friday, February 28<sup>th</sup>



"Hoops for Heart" is an in-school fundraising basketball program that supports vital research, medical advances, social change and health education. Students get active shooting hoops.

- Students are encouraged to raise funds and in turn they can earn thank you prizes for their individual fundraising efforts.
- The money raised helps all kids keep their hearts strong through funding research and education.
- There will be collection envelopes to raise pledges from family, friends and neighbours, not door to door.

## REPORT CARDS AND PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014

~ REPORT CARD #2  
HOME TO PARENTS.



Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014

~ 1:32 p.m. EARLY DISMISSAL  
FOR PARENT/TEACHER  
CONFERENCES



The second formal report card will be going home on Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Parent/ teacher conferences will be on Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> and students will be dismissed one hour early at 1:32 p.m. We encourage all parents and guardians to meet with their child(ren)'s teacher(s). Closer to the date, please call your child's teacher to set a date and time convenient for both of you to discuss your child's progress. We look forward to meeting parents on Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 1:32 p.m. See you then!

## SPRING VACATION NEWS!

All Surrey schools will be closed for spring vacation beginning the week of Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup>. Please remember that all Surrey schools will be **closed for two weeks** this spring vacation. Please see the calendar below:



Fri., March 14<sup>th</sup>/14

- Last day of school before spring vacation.

Mon., March 17<sup>th</sup>/14  
(School Closure.)

- First day of spring vacation.

Fri., March 28<sup>th</sup>/14  
(School Closure.)

- Last day of spring vacation



Monday, March 31<sup>st</sup>/14

- Schools re-open after spring vacation.



## CLASS, GROUP & PANORAMA PHOTOS - WED. MARCH 5<sup>TH</sup>



Class pictures, group pictures and the panorama picture will be taken on Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>. Lifetouch provides free class pictures for all students. The panorama picture and group pictures may be purchased. Order forms for the panorama picture and group pictures will be available at the office.



### KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION:

#### Registration for Full Day Kindergarten

If your child was born in 2009, please register him or her for Kindergarten at **Westerman School**.

★ Upon registration at the school, **the following documents must be provided:**

- Proof of birth date for the student (birth certificate or passport)
- Proof of guardianship (parents / guardians' as shown on birth certificate or other appropriate legal documentation)
- Proof of citizenship for both the parents and the students (birth certificate, citizenship card, passport, landed immigrant document, permanent resident card)
- Proof of residency (purchase or rental agreement, property tax document, Hydro or gas bill).

★ Documents which are helpful **include** :

- Health-related documents (immunization records, medical condition information)

### SCHOOL GOAL NEWS!

Our school goal is:

*“To improve the core competencies (critical thinking, creativity, problem solving, digital literacy, emotional literacy, interpersonal skills, collaboration) of learning for all students using formative assessment practices.”*

What is formative assessment? In order to improve learning, five elements are required to be in place:

- provision of effective feedback to students
- active involvement of students in their own learning
- adjustment of teaching to take into account the results of assessment
- recognition of the profound influence assessment has on the motivation and self-esteem of students, both of which are crucial influences on learning
- need for students to be able to assess themselves and understand how to improve