

# Westerman Elementary

7626 122 St., Surrey, BC, V3W 1H4

T: 604-572-4054

Principal: Mr. T. McQuarrie Vice Principal: Ms. P. Aulak

[www.surreyschools.ca/westerman](http://www.surreyschools.ca/westerman)

*\*Westerman Elementary is located on the shared traditional territories of the Katzie, Semiahmoo, and other Coast Salish Peoples.*

**PRINCIPAL'S COMMENTS:** WELCOME BACK, EVERYONE! On behalf of the entire Westerman staff, Mrs. Aulak (Vice Principal) and I would like to welcome you and your child(ren) back to in-person instruction at Westerman!

As you are well aware, schools across British Columbia are still having to contend with the COVID 19 pandemic and, as such, several safety protocols will remain in place for the time being. These include such things as:

- Parents reviewing the Daily COVID 19 Health Check with their child(ren) every morning before school, and keeping their child(ren) at home if they are exhibiting any symptoms (ie., if your child is not feeling well, please keep them at home and please call the school to let us know);
- Keeping children at home for 14 days if and when they return from travel outside of Canada;
- Mandatory mask wearing for all grade 4-12 students and all adults while *inside* the school;
- Regular handwashing, cleaning, and sanitizing in the school;
- Limited public access to the school building while students are in attendance;
- Sending your children to school with a lunch, a full water bottle, and recess snacks. Lunch drop offs are not permitted at this time;
- No sharing of food or bringing in food for special events such as birthdays, etc..

**Note:** While masks are not required for children in Kindergarten-Grade 3, we greatly appreciate it when parents provide a mask for their children and encourage them to wear it at school, regardless of their age. Thanks for your help and support with this 😊

Despite the continuation of several protocols, the relatively high rates of vaccination in BC and the most recent Public Health Office guidance should allow for a more typical school experience for children this year. This is a good thing for the mental, social, intellectual, and physical well-being of all of our children at Westerman.

We look forward to seeing everyone again on Tuesday, Sept. 7, and welcoming children back for a great year at Westerman!

## THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL (Tuesday, Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>)

Please remember that students attend for one hour on Tuesday (10:00-11:00 am) and all students in grades 1-7 resume full day attendance (8:30-2:30) on Wednesday. It is extremely important for all students to attend on Tuesday. If it is not possible for your child(ren) to attend that day, you must contact the school office at 604-572-4054 to let us know. Thanks for your help with this!

Children in Kindergarten are to follow their gradual entry schedule and will attend their first full day of school on Monday, Sept. 20. If you do not have a copy of your child's Kindergarten gradual entry schedule, please contact the school as soon as possible.

## WHERE DO I GO AND WHAT DO I BRING?

When your child arrives on Tuesday morning (please do not send them before 9:45 am), there will be a number of staff members around the school to help guide them to where they need to be. Students will be organized by grade on the first day (and possibly for the first week). Please remind your child that their permanent classroom and teacher(s) will not be assigned for several days.

As for what to bring, we just need students to bring a pencil case, if they have one, and their happy, smiling selves 😊

## COMMUNICATION FROM THE SCHOOL ON TUESDAY, SEPT. 7

Please anticipate more detailed information about the year ahead to be sent home on Tuesday, Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>. The intent of this newsletter was to remind everyone that school starts next week and that we are looking forward to seeing you all 😊

**Enjoy the Labour Day Weekend! See you on Tuesday!**



## Upcoming Events

### Tues., Sept. 7 (10:00-11:00)

First day of school (K-7)

### Wed., Sept. 8 (8:30-2:30)

First full day of school for grades 1-7 only

### Mon., Sept. 20

First full day for Kindergarten

### Mon., Sept. 27

Non-Instructional Day  
(No classes for students)

### Wed., Sept. 29

Orange Shirt Day

### Thurs., Sept. 30 (NEW)

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation  
(All schools closed)

## Bell Schedule (2021/2022)

8:15 Outside supervision begins

8:25 Welcome Bell

8:30 Instruction begins

10:10 Recess

11:45 Lunch starts

12:30 Instruction begins

2:30 Dismissal

2:45 Supervision ends (all students are expected to be on their way home and/or under the supervision of a parent or caregiver by this time)