

## Westerman Elementary

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

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Principal: Mr. T. McQuarrie Vice Principal: Mrs. 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.*

### ORANGE SHIRT DAY/NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

The federal government passed legislation this summer to mark Sept. 30 as National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

Our schools have previously observed September 30 as Orange Shirt Day, a movement to recognize the colonial and violent legacy of residential schools and commit to the ongoing process of reconciliation. This year, students are encouraged to wear orange on Sept. 29, and all schools in BC will be closed on Thursday, Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>.

The following is an excerpt from the Surrey School District Statement on National Day of Truth and Recognition:

*"Orange Shirt Day recalls the experience of residential school survivor Phyllis Webstad, who at six was stripped of her new orange shirt on her first day attending the St. Joseph Mission Residential School near Williams Lake, BC. The date of September 30 was chosen because it was the time of year when Indigenous children were typically removed from their families and forced to attend residential schools.*

*Our district is committed to educating students and our community about the importance of how residential schools created intergenerational trauma that deeply affects Indigenous Peoples today. We know that each of our 131 schools will find their own unique way to show support to mark this important date.*

*We continue to show gratitude to members of our Aboriginal Education Council, and the Elders, Leaders and families from the Katzie, Kwantlen, Semiahmoo and other Coast Salish Peoples, as well as our Indigenous staff, students and their families who continuously share their voice and their stories with our staff and students and provide their counsel in relation to our programs and services."*

If you would like to view the full statement, please click on the link below.

<https://www.surreyschools.ca/NewsEvents/Posts/Lists/Posts/Post.aspx?ID=1148>

See next page for more information.



### Upcoming Events

#### 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)

#### Fri., Oct. 1

Terry Fox Run  
(Classes will run a different times throughout the day)

#### Mon., Oct. 11

Thanksgiving Day  
(All schools closed)

#### Thurs., Oct. 21 (1:30)

Early Dismissal-Conferencing

#### Fri., Oct. 22

Non-Instructional Day  
(No classes for students)

### PAC Meeting

TBD

## DAILY HEALTH CHECKS

Please remember it is a parent responsibility to conduct a daily health check with their own child(ren) every morning before they arrive at school. If a child is exhibiting any symptoms of COVID 19, or are otherwise not feeling well, please do not send them to school.

For your reference, please find attached a copy of the updated Daily Health Check. If you have any health-related questions throughout the year, please make an appointment with your doctor or call the provincial, free-of-charge, BC Healthlink, at 811, for medical advice and information. If you are experiencing a medical emergency, please call 911.

Also, if your child will be away from school for any reason, please contact the office (604-572-4054) to let us know. Thanks!

## CONDOLENCES

At the end of the summer, a former Westerman teacher passed away after a brief battle with cancer. Mr. Turcotte, who taught at Westerman for 17 years and who retired in 2017, had a deep commitment to Westerman and was instrumental in the development of many of the wonderful traditions that continue to this day.

I never had the chance to meet Mr. Turcotte in person, but it is clear to me that his impact on students was significant. In the past three years that I have been at the school, a number of former students have dropped by to see if Mr. Turcotte was still here and available for a visit. They frequently told me how important he was to them and I know he will be deeply missed by his students, their parents, and his friends and colleagues. Mr. Turcotte was an avid supporter of the Terry Fox Run, and should anyone wish to make a donation to the Terry Fox Foundation in his memory, we know he would have appreciated the gesture. You will always be a Wildcat, Mr. Turcotte!

*-Mr. McQuarrie, Principal*

## TERRY FOX RUN

Westerman's Annual Terry Fox Run is scheduled to take place throughout the day Friday, Oct. 1, on school property (we will not be running through the community this year). We will be collecting "Twoonies for Terry" every day during the week of Sept. 28-Oct. 1, and students are encouraged to make a donation of any amount (loonies, twoonies, or other amount). If you would like to make a specific donation in memory of Mr. Turcotte, please place donation in an envelope and state "Terry Fox Run-in memory of Mr. Turcotte". All money will be donated to the Terry Fox Foundation, in support of cancer research. Thank you for your generosity and thoughtfulness!

Students who donate \$5.00 or more can have their name entered in a draw to win a Terry Fox t-shirt.

To learn more about Terry Fox, please click on the link below:

<https://terryfox.org/terrys-story/>