



Woodbridge Farms School Newsletter #1 August 30, 2017

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Phone: 780-464-3330 Website: www.woodbridgefarms.ca
Check us out on twitter at @wbfschool!



Welcome Back! Its going to be a wonderful year. Here are some important notes for returning back to school on August 30.

From the Principal's Desk...

Happy New Year! On behalf of the entire Woodbridge Farms staff, I am delighted to welcome you to an exciting new year of teaching and learning. To our new students and families, welcome to Woodbridge Farms! To our returning students and families, welcome back!

Typically there is one monthly newsletter, issued on the first Friday of the month. There will be another newsletter a little later in the month as we're a bit more settled into our routines. Most assemblies will be alternating between Thursdays and Wednesdays. We will continue with a short student-led presentation, most likely related to the 7 Habits, and will also have student recognition.

Kindergarten has staggered entry this week, followed by their regular schedule starting on Tuesday, September 5. Even though there are reminders in every newsletter, as well as a general letter that is sent home to all families, I would like to briefly point out that we are "allergy aware", which includes being "nut aware". Please refrain from sending products that have or may contain nuts to school.

We will also have our "Meet the Staff" evening coming up soon! Look for the bright orange form sent home with your child(ren).

Best wishes for a happy and successful year of Teaching and Learning!
Sven Danzinger
Principal

ALLERGIES ALERT! WE ARE ALLERGY AWARE!

There are people in our building with severe allergies, including allergy to peanuts. For the health and safety of all students, staff and visitors to the building, including parents, please do not send food containing peanuts or other nuts to school in lunches or snacks. Many food products have the "no nuts" symbol on them. This will be especially important for late October when Halloween approaches.



ALLERGY/ANAPHYLAXIS/ASTHMA / MEDICAL CONCERNS

If your child requires an epi-pen for severe allergies/anaphylaxis, if they have asthma, or if they have other medical concerns, please inform the office and your child(ren)'s teacher(s) as soon as possible. Parents/guardians need to fill out a current **Anaphylaxis Emergency Plan** and **Child/Student Medication Management Plan** and return it to the school. It will be a parental decision as to whether students wear a fanny pack or not. Please note that due to a recall ALLERJECT epinephrine dispensers are no longer approved and should not be brought to school.

VISITOR TAGS AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICE

All visitors are asked to please remember to sign in and get a visitor tag at the office. This helps us know who is in the building and is important information in the event of an emergency.

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2017

- Aug 30–Sept 1 Kindergarten staggered entry
Sept 4 Labour Day – No School
Sept 5 First regular day for Kindergarten students
Photos for TTh & AM Kindergarten 9AM
Sept 6 Staff Meeting – early out 2:13 PM
Fall Photos
Sept 14 Meet the Staff BBQ 5 - 7 PM
Sept 15 Dot Day
Sept 18 Annual Fire Safety Inspection 1:00 PM
Sept 28 Terry Fox Run 2:00 PM
Sept 29 Orange Shirt Day

OCTOBER 2017

- Oct 2–6 Read in Week: *I'm a READER. I read for ME!*
Oct 2 Assembly 9am
Oct 4 Staff Meeting – early out 2:13 PM
Newsletter
Oct 5 World Teachers' Day
Professional Learning Day – no school
Oct 6 Professional Learning Day – no school
Oct 9 Thanksgiving Day – No School
Oct 16 Civic Election – gym used for election
Oct 16-22 Soles 4 Souls Shoe Drive
Oct 18 Photo Retakes
Oct 27 Family Dance
Oct 31 Halloween (PM activities)

NOVEMBER 2017

- Nov 1 Staff Meeting – early out 2:13 PM
Nov 3 Newsletter
Nov 9 Remembrance Day Ceremony 10:45 AM
Interview bookings open <https://www.schoolinterviews.ca/>
Nov 10 School Closure Day
Nov 11-19 Fall Break - No School
Nov 13-19 National Bullying Awareness Week
Nov 20-24 EIPS Bullying Awareness Week
Nov 20 Assembly 9:00 AM
Nov 27 Report Cards Issued – electronic only
Nov 28 Alberta Opera 9:30 *Jack and the Beanstalk*
Nov 29-30 Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews 4:30-7:30



Parents and grand-parents are *always* welcome at our assemblies!

SCHOOL COUNCIL & PARENT ASSOCIATION 2017 2018 MEETING DATES

All meetings are at 6:30 PM in the Library

- Tuesday September 26
Wednesday October 25
Thursday November 23
December No Meeting
Tuesday January 23
Wednesday February 21
March No Meeting
Thursday April 26
Tuesday May 29 AGM



WOODBIDGE FARMS PARENT ASSOCIATION & SCHOOL COUNCIL FIRST MEETING: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 AT 630 PM IN THE LIBRARY

Each year Woodbridge Farms Parent Council does many things to enhance learning opportunities for all students in the school. There are many important things happening, and this is an excellent way to be involved in the life of the school.

In and around the School

BELL SCHEDULE

Our bell schedule is the same as last year.

| Regular Day | | Staff Meeting / Early Out | |
|-------------------------|-------|---------------------------|-------|
| First bell | 8:39 | First bell | 8:39 |
| Morning classes start | 8:42 | Morning classes start | 8:42 |
| Recess start | 10:15 | Recess start | 10:15 |
| Warning bell | 10:27 | Warning bell | 10:27 |
| Classes continue | 10:30 | Classes continue | 10:30 |
| ECS Bell | 11:30 | | |
| Noon recess | 12:00 | Noon recess | 12:00 |
| Return from Recess Bell | 12:22 | | |
| Lunch Eating | 12:25 | Lunch Eating | 12:29 |
| Afternoon classes start | 12:51 | Afternoon classes start | 12:56 |
| Afternoon break | 2:08 | Dismissal | 2:13 |
| Afternoon break ends | 2:13 | | |
| Dismissal | 3:13 | | |

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

1. LUNCH TIMES are different for the short/ early dismissal days.
2. **Staff meetings** are held the first Wednesday of each month and students are dismissed at 2:13 p.m.

E.C.S SCHEDULE

| | |
|---|---|
| Full Day classes | Same as the rest of the school |
| Morning class** | 8:39 - 11:33 a.m.; ECS bus leaves at 11:36 AM |
| **There are no Morning Kindergarten classes on Staff meeting / Early Dismissal days (first Wednesday of each month) | |

REPORTING LATES OR ABSENCES

A reminder to parents that we require a phone call (780-464-3330) or please use the contact form from our website <http://woodbridgefarms.ca/contact> letting us know when your child will be either late or absent. If no one is available to take your call, please leave a message for the school secretaries.

WOODBIDGE FARMS BARBECUE

We invite you to meet the staff at the WBF Barbecue on Thursday, September 14, 2017 between 5:00 and 7:00 p.m. Order forms will be coming home this week and should be returned by Friday, September 8. We are looking forward to seeing you there!

Staff List 2017-2018

We welcome to our school these new and newly returning staff:

Mrs. A. Cundliffe (Educational Assistant), Mrs. E. Anderson (Grade 1), Mrs. M. Burns (Grade 1), Ms. D. Spalj (Grade 2), Mrs. M. Malak (Grade 2/3), Mrs. J. Massel (Grade 3), Ms. T. Belesky (Grade 4/5), Ms. M. Smith (Counselor), Mr. A. Cunningham (Assistant Principal)

Teachers

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Mrs. A. Clark | ECS |
| Mrs. S. Siminick | ECS |
| Mrs. E. Anderson | Grade 1 |
| Mrs. M. Burns | Grade 1 |
| Mrs. D. Smith | Grade 1 |
| Ms. H. Squair | Grade 2 |
| Mrs. L. Sundell & Ms. D. Spalj | Grade 2 |
| Mrs. Mirna Malak | Grade 2/3 |
| Ms S. Carruthers | Grade 3 |
| Mrs. J. Massel | Grade 3 |
| Ms Lynne Nadema | Grade 4 |
| Ms. S. Zarowny | Grade 4 |
| Mrs. Sheryl Dermott | Grade 5 |
| Ms. Donna Jossy | Grade 5 |
| Mr. Garth Baker | Grade 6 |
| Ms Antonia Triska | Grade 6 |
| Mrs. Anita Sisson | FMNI/Learning Assistance |
| Mrs. Lynnette Newton | Music |
| Mrs. Marie Berg | Communication Skills Program |
| Mrs. Christina Ganert | Elementary Transitions Program |
| Ms Eddy Gorek | Speech-Language Pathologist |
| Ms. M. Smith | Counsellor & Registered Psychologist |
| Mr. A. Cunningham | Assistant Principal |
| Mr. S. Danzinger | Principal |

Support Staff

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Ms J. Andrekson | Educational Assistant |
| Mrs. M. Black | Educational Assistant |
| Ms. S. D'Lima | Educational Assistant |
| Mrs. C. Cummings | Educational Assistant |
| Mrs. A. Cundliffe | Educational Assistant |
| Mrs. D. Fleck | Educational Assistant |
| Mrs. P. McIntyre | Educational Assistant |
| Mrs. C. Plant | Educational Assistant |
| Mrs. J. Reaney | Educational Assistant |
| Mrs. M. Sawatzky | Educational Assistant |
| Mrs. V. Tannahill | Educational Assistant |
| Mrs. C. Sargeant | Library Technician |
| Mrs. F. Davies | School Secretary |
| Mrs. K. Wells | School Secretary |

PARENT/STUDENT FORMS FOR 2017 2018

During the first week several forms will be sent home. These include:

- Meet the staff BBQ Order form,
- PowerSchool Correction Form
- Confidentiality Undertaking for Volunteers
- Website/Social Media Consent Form
- Network and Internet Access Student Agreement (for grade 4s and new students in grades 5, 6)

We will also send home two parent information letters:

- Annual "nut aware" letter reminding parents/students to enjoy nut products at home
- Google Apps for Education (GAPE) letting parents know students use this (e.g. on Chromebooks)

SAFETY DRILLS

Over the course of the year, we practice safety drills to help keep us safe. For example, we are required to complete 6 fire (evacuation) drills each year. The schedule below is to help keep parents and the school community informed of these drills. Please note dates are tentative.

New this year is a “cold weather evacuation”. Since we enjoy many months of winter, we need to practice during cold weather as well.

| | |
|---------|---|
| Sept 11 | Fire Drill #1 this week <i>(will be on the 11th approx.930 AM)</i> |
| Sept 25 | Fire Drill #2 this week |
| Oct 23 | On Alert/Lockdown #1 this week |
| Nov 6 | Shelter-In-Place/Duck-cover-hold this week |
| Jan 15 | Fire Drill #3 (cold weather) this week |
| Jan 29 | On Alert/Lockdown #2 this week |
| Apr 23 | Fire Drill #4 this week <i>(weather permitting)</i> |
| May 14 | Fire Drill #5 this week |
| May 28 | Fire Drill #6 this week |
| June 4 | Severe Weather drill this week |

PARKING AREAS & NEW SIGNAGE

Last year, Strathcona County Transportation and Agriculture Services completed a traffic safety assessment of the school zone at Woodbridge Farms School. The map has been slightly revised this year to include the addition of the crosswalk at the north-west bus-loop entrance.

GRADE 5 IMMUNIZATIONS

Grade 5 students will receive a series of 3 immunizations over the course of the year. The standard practice AHS advises is to keep the date as a “surprise” for students to help reduce feelings of anxiety. Parents who have concerns or questions about the date or want to be there please contact Brenda Bandura 780.342.4634 or Deborah Partica at 780.342.4689.

In and around the District

ENHANCING LITERACY AND NUMERACY

As part of Elk Island Public Schools’ (EIPS) ongoing efforts to enhance the literacy and numeracy of students in all grade levels, the Division is once again planning to administer two assessment tools during the 2017-18 school year—STAR 360 and Math Intervention/Programming Instrument (MIPI). The tools focus on literacy and numeracy, are digitally based and offer an opportunity for students to demonstrate their learning. The goal: to provide timely information to teachers, help enhance classroom instruction and ensure student learning needs are identified.

In September and May, EIPS students in grades 2 through 12 will complete the STAR 360 assessment, which evaluates reading comprehension. Grade 1 students will take the STAR 360 exam in October. The assessment takes approximately 20 minutes and can be taken on any digital device. Also in September, students in grades 2 through 10 will complete the MIPI assessment, which is a mathematic screening tool used to inform teachers about a student’s math skills. For students in

grades 7 through 10, the MIPI takes approximately 50 minutes and for students in grades 2 through 6 it takes approximately 20 minutes. The results of each offers the teacher a clearer picture about a student's learning needs and helps determine if subsequent instructional planning is required.

The scores of the assessments are not used towards a student's grade and there is no need to study ahead of time. They simply provide the teacher with information to better understand where each student is in terms of reading comprehension and mathematic ability. If, after analyzing the results, it's determined a student can benefit from extra support, the teacher will contact the family to discuss possible support strategies.

For more information about the Division's STAR 360 and MIPI assessment tools, contact Deb Barron, the director of Learning Supports, at 780-464-3477.

QUICK FACTS: EIPS BUSES ARE ALL EQUIPPED WITH VIDEO SURVEILLANCE

Did you know each EIPS bus is equipped with video surveillance? The video surveillance and equipment helps:

- ensure the safety of all students, drivers and property; and
- deter from destructive acts.

On a regular basis, EIPS Student Transportation reviews the video recordings, in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FOIP). The recordings assist the department with monitoring student and driver conduct, and may be used as evidence in a disciplinary matter.

For more information about the collection, use and disclosure of personal information, contact the EIPS FOIP co-ordinator at 780-464-3477.

IMPROVING HOME-SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

To enhance communication between families and schools, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) has developed a how-to guide entitled, "Communication Protocol for Schools." Topics include appropriate channels to use, standard formats and structures, timing and sequencing for regular and ongoing home-school communication, and ways to bring forward questions or concerns. Additionally, the manual offers useful tools and resources schools and families can use to enhance face-to-face meetings, emails and any social media efforts. The "Communication Protocol for Schools" is available at www.eips.ca/download/40981.

SYNC THE SCHOOL CALENDAR TO YOUR PERSONAL CALENDAR

Did you know you can sync the school calendar to your own personal calendar? You can. Just visit

<http://woodbridgefarms.ca/about/calendar> and click on one of the following calendar options you want to subscribe to:

- Add to Google Calendar
- Subscribe to Calendar (Outlook)
- Download iCal

NOTE: Using a mobile device, these options are located above the calendar. Using a computer, these options are located below the calendar.

Once you click on the calendar option you want to subscribe to, follow the instructions. Within seconds, your personal calendar will contain all of Woodbridge Farms' important dates including holidays, school-closures days, planned activities, events and more.

PAY SCHOOL FEES ONLINE

School fee information for the 2017-18 school year is expected to be posted on the PowerSchool Parent Portal by early October. All fees are due within 30 days of being posted. To access your fee information, simply log in to the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) and go to "Student Fees." There you can view your fees and pay them online using Visa, MasterCard or INTERAC Online—when available from your financial institution.

Don't forget to log in to the PowerSchool Parent Portal regularly throughout the year. Fees are often added to your child's account to cover the cost of various school activities such as field trips, class projects, athletic-team fees and more. Additionally, junior high and senior high fees can change as courses are added and deleted. For information about the course change deadline please contact your child's junior high or senior high.

If circumstances exist where you are unable to pay your students fees you can apply to have [fees waived](#) by submitting an [Application for a Waiver of Fees](#). The application deadline is Dec. 15, 2017. For more information about school fees, waivers and payment deadlines visit www.eips.ca/schools/fees/fees. Alternatively, contact Mrs. Wells at Woodbridge Farms at 780-464-3330.

WOODBIDGE FARMS STUDENT STRIVE TO:

*Be Safe, Show Respect, Work Hard,
Finish Strong, Be You!*

