
WEST BEDFORD



ELEMENTARY

50 Broad Street
Bedford, NS B4A 0T4
902-405-0337, wbs@hrce.ca

Principal: Susan Casey

Vice Principals: Courtney Smith
: Joanne Treen

Monday, December 2, 2024

Hello WBS Families,

Please visit our school site [WBS website](#) for the latest news from the school and the HRCE. Our weekly memos can also be found on our school site. Have a wonderful week!

1. **Family-Teacher Meetings** are happening on December 5th from 1:00-3:30 pm and 6:00-8:00 pm. To book an appointment to speak with your child's teacher, please use this sign up link: <https://schoolinterviews.ca/code/rayx7> . Please note that each appointment is 10 minutes long. If you feel a longer meeting time is needed, please reach out to your child's teacher directly to book a time.

2. **WBS December 2024 Concert:**

Our **theme** for our concerts this year is **Blanket of Snow: Our Community is a Quilt**. Our concert is based on the common themes of *friendship, community, and togetherness* that exist within the cultural holidays that happen during this time of year. The intention of the performance is to share songs that feel cozy and warm. The song list includes Canadian artists, songs about snow, light, and being together. It is called Blanket of Snow because we are centering the concert around the idea of quilting.

Quilting has been a Nova Scotian tradition over many cultures for hundreds of years. The different patches were sewn together to create images that told stories or marked safe houses along the Underground Railroad into Nova Scotia. During WWII, Nova Scotia sent the first and the 1000th quilt to Britain to families who had lost their homes. Acadians were crafters and artists who created intricate quilts throughout the generations.

Just like a quilt, the WBS community is bringing together many different pieces of the world and creating something beautiful.

Dates & Location:

Our concerts will take place over 2 days in December in the WBS PP-6 gym.

December 11th: P-3 Concerts (9am and 1:00pm)

December 12th: 4-6 Concerts (9am and 12:15pm)

Everything will take place in our gym.

There is no evening concert.

3. **Grade 6 Band Concert:** The band concert is on Wednesday, December 11th. The GREEN main doors will open at 6:15 pm with the concert starting at 6:30pm. The performance will feature songs by the Grade 6 band, Grade 7&8 band, and the Grade 9+ band. Please plan to remain for the entire concert so that the grade 6 students can hear the older band students perform. For more details, please visit: : <https://sites.google.com/gnspes.ca/westbedfordband/concert>. The concert will take place in the WBH gym.
4. **Holiday Spirit at WBS:** Over the next three weeks, students and staff will have the opportunity to engage in many different activities to celebrate the holiday season.

We know that there are many different celebrations being observed across different cultures and countries. At WBS, we are fortunate enough to be able to learn about a lot of them. When the different cultural holidays are examined, common themes of togetherness, kindness, and community can be found (hence our holiday concert theme). I would like to share with the community some of the activities and events that the students, families, and staff will be invited to participate in:

- a. **Stuff A Bus Food Drive:** Next week we will be collecting food for Feed Nova Scotia for their annual stuff a bus food drive and we need your help to spread kindness and support for those in need. Families and students are invited to bring non-perishable food items such as canned goods, cereal, pasta, pasta sauce, baby formula and baby food. Feed NS has also indicated that they are looking for female menstrual products, deodorant, toothpaste, and toothbrushes. The food drive will run from December 2 to December 6th.
- b. **Sparkles, our WBS Kindness Reindeer,** will appear on Monday, December 2, 2024 and be around the school building until December 20th. "Sparkles" will change locations each evening in the hopes the students will find him the next day.
- c. **WBS holiday tree-** Our holiday tree will be put up in our main lobby and classes will be invited to create an ornament for the tree.

- d. **December Scholastic Book Fair**- held in our library the week of December 9-13th
 - e. **Holiday Concerts** will be held on December 11th and December 12th
 - f. **Holiday Spirit Week will run Monday, December 16th to Friday, December 20th**
 - o December 16- Spirit Week- Festive Sweater or Favourite Sweater Day
 - o December 17- Spirit Week- Flannel and Funky Socks Day
 - o December 18th- Spirit Week- Festive or Favourite Hat and Slipper Day
 - o December 19th- Spirit Week- Festive Colours and/or Sequins Day
 - o December 20th- Spirit Week- Comfy Cozy clothing or PJ Day
 - g. **“Sparkles” STEAM Challenge**- Classes can choose to participate in a challenge that involves our kindness reindeer
 - h. **Holiday Clue game**- This is a whole school game that will occur over the final week of school; a morning clue will be provided to all, in the hopes that a school mystery can be solved.
5. **School Bus safety**: Over the past week or so we have noticed that students are rushing to board their school bus. We provide daily reminders to students to stay away from the curb as the bus pulls in and to wait until the bus is stopped before heading to the bus doors. Some students are rushing and knocking into other students, causing falls. We encourage families to have a conversation with your child(ren) about school bus safety.
6. **Extended Absence**: Please email our Admin Assistant, Katelynn Armstrong and your child’s teacher if you are going to be away for longer than two weeks (10 school days). As a school-family team, we would like to have a conversation about the extended absence, as it could impact your child’s schooling and possible report card distribution.
7. **Safe Arrival Number**: If your child is going to be absent for the any part of the school day or arrive late, please call **Safe Arrival: 1-833-582-6940**. Please note if your child will be late arriving to school you must select that they will be absent for the day. When they arrive our admin team will update their attendance.
8. **WBS Home and School Association**:- **The next home and school meeting is January 21, 2024 at 6 pm.**
9. **WBS School Advisory Council**- **The next SAC meeting is January 21st, 2024 at 7 pm.**

Upcoming Dates:

December 3- Report cards are emailed out to families via EduPost **by end of day.**

December 5- Professional Learning morning for staff/ Family-teacher meetings 1:00-3:30 & 6-8 pm NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

December 9-13- Scholastic Book Fair

December 11- **Holiday Concert Primary to Grade 3 students- 2 performances- 9am and 1:00pm**; Grade 6 Band Concert in the WBH gym (6:15 pm Main green doors open)

December 12- **Holiday Concert Grade 4 to 6 students- 2 performances- 9am and 12:15pm**

December 13- Weather date for either Holiday concert (if cancelled due to weather)

December 16- Spirit Week- Festive Sweater or Favourite Sweater Day

December 17- Spirit Week- Flannel and Funky Socks Day

December 18th- Spirit Week- Festive or Favourite Hat and Slipper Day

December 19th- Spirit Week- Festive Colours and/or Sequins Day

December 20th- Spirit Week- Comfy Cozy clothing or PJ Day, Last day of school before Winter Break

2025

Thursday, January 2, 2025- Professional Learning Day for Staff- **NO SCHOOL for Students**

Friday, January 3, 2025- First day back for Students and Staff