
WEST BEDFORD



ELEMENTARY

50 Broad Street
Bedford, NS B4A 0T4
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Principal: Susan Casey

Vice Principals: Courtney Smith
: Joanne Treen

Monday, December 9, 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. **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- doors open at 8:45 am and 1:00pm-doors open at 12:45 pm)

December 12th: 4-6 Concerts (9am- doors open at 8:45 am and 12:15pm- doors open at 12:00 pm)

Everything will take place in our WBS PP-6 gym.

There is no evening concert.

2. **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. There are no tickets for this event. 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. The West Bedford Band Concert is on Wednesday this week. All families and school staff are invited. Doors open at 6:15pm, concert starts at 6:30, no tickets.

There is a voluntary donation to help provide extras for our band program and to start the Bedford Band Instrument Rescue, read all about it:

<https://sites.google.com/gnspes.ca/westbedfordband/concert>

3. **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:** Hello West Bedford Wolves! We were blown away by the amazing outpouring of kindness to our local community and donations for Feed NS. In total we received 1332 items donated to a great cause! We have looked at courage, respect and humility so far this year, and the Wolf Pack has shown they can be counted on when called upon! A special thanks to the grade 6 ambassadors for December as well for helping to gather, tally, and stuff the b



- b. **Sparkles, our WBS Kindness Reindeer**, has appeared and is making their way around the building and modulars.
 - c. **WBS holiday tree**- Our holiday tree is up in our main lobby and classes have been 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. Prizes will be going out to classes throughout the week, along with a whole school treat on December 20th.
4. **Fire Alarms:** As the winter weather arrives, we encourage students to keep a sweatshirt on the back of their chair in case we have to evacuate the building for an unplanned fire alarm. Students will be able to take the sweatshirt with them outside to put on.
 5. **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.

6. **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.
7. **WBS Home and School Association:-** The next home and school meeting is **January 21, 2024 at 6 pm.**
8. **WBS School Advisory Council-** The next SAC meeting is **January 21st, 2024 at 7 pm.**

Upcoming Dates:

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