
WEST BEDFORD



ELEMENTARY

50 Broad Street
Bedford, NS B4A
0T4

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Principal: Susan Casey

Vice Principals: Jacinta Heckman
: Joanne Treen

Monday, November 17, 2025

Dear WBS Families,

To ensure the safety of all students during morning arrival and afternoon dismissal, we will be **closing the upper parking lot to all vehicles for the near future**. This includes Pre-Primary families. Only Excel families dropping off before 8:00 a.m. or picking up after 4:00 p.m. are permitted to use the upper lot during this time.

This decision comes after ongoing safety concerns, including multiple close calls involving students. We need to reset expectations and ensure our procedures are followed consistently.

We have noticed the following issues:

- Vehicles parking in non-parking areas and leaving vehicles blocking in other cars
- Families not in Pre-Primary are entering the upper lot rather than using the lower parking lot as required.
- Cars continue to enter the emergency vehicle loop for student drop off, which must remain clear for safety.
- Vehicles also continue to drive around to the back of the school to park before staff supervision begins, creating unsafe conditions.

To support safe and proper use of our parking areas, our school liaison officer will be onsite this week to help reinforce our school parking procedures. We will revisit the parking situation at the end of the week to determine whether the upper lot can be reopened. This decision will depend on how closely families follow the procedures during the week.

We appreciate your cooperation and understanding as we work together to maintain a safe and orderly arrival and dismissal routine.

Susan Casey, Principal

Seasonal Events:

Beginning December 1, our WBS Kindness Tree will be displayed in the main lobby. Sparkles, our travelling Kindness Reindeer, will visit different spaces in the building each day, looking for students demonstrating our four core values: Respect, Responsibility, Relationships, Reciprocity. WBS will also be participating in the Feed NS food drive and stuff a bus with Santa in early December.

During the final few weeks of classes, homerooms will be invited to participate in a “Sparkles STEAM challenge”, a door decorating challenge, and a hot chocolate event put on by our Home and School Association.

We are encouraging all classes to explore cultural learning connected to the diverse celebrations and traditions represented within our school community—Christmas being just one example.

West Bedford Schools Community Spirit Week- December 8–12, 2025

We are excited to share that this December, West Bedford School and West Bedford High will be partnering to host our first Community Spirit Week—a celebration marking the official opening of our shared building. While our music team shifts the traditional December concert to a P–6 performance in March, this week of events will give our school community a wonderful opportunity to come together, celebrate student creativity, and showcase the many talents of WBS and WBH students.

Highlights of Community Spirit Week

Special Evening Events

Tuesday, December 9 — Coffee House Night (Time TBD)

- Performances by:
 - WBS Choir
 - WBS Ukulele Club
 - WBH student performers
- **Location:** Cafetorium stage
- **Fine Arts Night:** A gallery walk throughout the WBS building, and WBH’s main floor and mezzanine.

Wednesday, December 10

- **Grade 6–12 Band Concert** (Evening in the Gym)
- **Fine Arts Night** continues with the gallery walk open for families to enjoy.

Extras:

- The WBS Home & School Association will offer tea, coffee, and water on December 9th.
- The Scholastic Book Fair will run all week, with an evening opening on December 9th.

Daytime Events (During the School Day)

- **Spirit Week Theme Days:** Organized by WBS Grade 6 Student Ambassadors (Drew Fournier & Mary Cobb) and the WBH Student Council.
- **Primary–Grade 2 Special Event:** Our music team has partnered with Halifax-based artist Meaghan Smith—a Canadian musician, storyteller, and visual artist—to spend time with our Primary to Grade 2 students. Ms. Smith will share her new book, *It Snowed*, inspired by her hit song of the same name. This special event will take place on December 9 during the school day for all students in Primary to Grade 2.
- **Scholastic Book Fair** open throughout the week.

Building Ceremony (Date TBD)

A school-wide ceremony will mark the official opening of our building, including:

- A virtual assembly for Grades P–12 to participate in this experience

Fine Arts Gallery Walk — Student Showcase

Students will have the opportunity to create artwork or projects to be showcased during the Fine Arts evenings. These may be pieces completed individually, as a small-group, or class pieces. Displays will be set up around the school building.

WBS November Highlights

School Liaison Officer Presentations

In the final few weeks of November, we are excited to welcome our School Liaison Officer, Constable Andrew Paquet, who will be delivering important presentations across various grade levels:

- *Stranger Danger* for Primary and Grade 1 students
- *Being a Good Digital Citizen* for Grades 2 and 3
- *Internet Safety and Cyber Bullying* for Grades 4-6

These sessions are a valuable part of our commitment to keeping our students safe and informed.

Picture Day Re-takes and Class Photos

- **Picture Re-takes:** Tuesday, December 2, 2025
- **Class Photos:**
 - Grades Pre-Primary to 3: Tuesday, December 2, 2025
 - Grades 4-6: Wednesday, December 3, 2025

Home and School Association (HSA)

The next Home & School meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, November 18, 2025** from 6:00–7:00 pm in the seminar room.

School Advisory Council (SAC)

The next SAC meeting will also take place on **Tuesday, November 18, 2025** from 7:00–8:00 pm in the seminar room.

2025-2026 Yearbooks

Yearbooks are now on sale for \$40. Pre-order yours today! [Order Your Yearbook Here](#)

WBS Catchment Area:

Families are reminded that students must attend the school that serves the catchment area in which they reside. When families choose not to attend their designated school, it creates significant pressure on class sizes at WBS, with some classes reaching or exceeding hard caps. Please note that the new apartment buildings across the roundabout in the Brookline area are **not** part of the WBS catchment; they fall within the Kingswood Elementary zone. Kingswood Elementary has small class sizes and is an excellent school community. With Term 1 ending on November 21, this is an ideal time for students who live outside the WBS boundary to transition to their catchment school for the start of Term 2.

Please note that the school will continue to verify that all students are attending their designated catchment-area school. We strongly encourage families to initiate this transition on their own if they are not living within the WBS boundary, rather than waiting for the school to force your move. This proactive step helps ensure smooth transitions for students and supports balanced class sizes across our school communities.

Upcoming Dates

November

- **Friday, November 21:** Assessment & Evaluation Day- End of Term 1 (No Classes for Elementary/Middle/Junior High)
- **Monday, November 23rd**- Term 2 begins

December

- **Tuesday, December 2:** WBS P-6 Report Cards sent home
- **Thursday, December 4:** Professional Learning Morning / Family-Teacher Meetings (1:00-3:30 pm & 5:30-7:30 pm)
- **December 8-12:** Special Events Week (Scholastic Book Fair, Band, Choir, Ukulele Performances, and Fine Arts Events)
(Please note that this special events week is in lieu of a holiday concert)
- **December 19:** Final day of school for Students; Hot chocolate event

School re-opens Monday, January 5th ,2026