

Welcome to West Bedford Wolves Grade Primary Orientation

For 2024-2025



Welcome to Primary HRCE Video

(click on the picture to access the link)

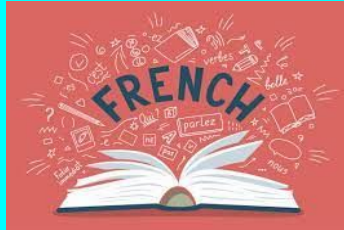


Programs of Study at WBS

- Students can enroll in the English Program



- Students can enroll in the Early French-Immersion Program



(click on picture for a link to more information about EFI)

- Switching programs from English to French/French to English requires family-school meetings prior to a decision being made around switching programs.

WHEN DOES SCHOOL START AT WBS?

- Each morning the doors open for students at 8:05 am
- There is breakfast program available to students most mornings
- It is important for students to arrive at school before 8:25 am so they are ready to start their day.



A Day at WBS

8:05 Students can enter the building for breakfast program and go to their class

8:25 Start Time/Announcements

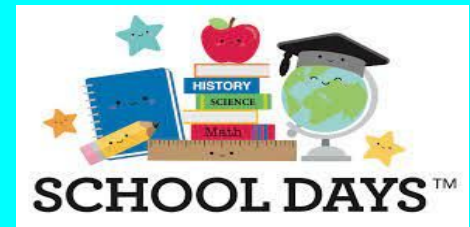
8:25-11:55 Morning Classes; there is a 15 minute recess and snack break for students to play outside and then eat (usually between 10-11 am)

11:55-12:45 Lunch Grades Primary to Grade 3

Cafeteria has an online ordering system. Lunches are delivered to the classroom for students in Primary to Grade 3.

12:45-2:15 Afternoon Classes

2:15 Dismissal to go home



School Readiness:

Here is a list of skills that you can work on with your child to make sure that they are ready for school.

Social Skills:

- Taking turns
- Sharing
- Playing cooperatively
- Listening when others are speaking
- Following directions
- Waiting
- Using manners
- Solving problems effectively

Independence:

- Fasten shoes and outdoor clothing (zippers, buttons, snaps)
- Personal hygiene (washroom routines including using public washrooms), proper use of tissues, coughing in sleeve). There are washrooms in the Primary classes. Students are expected to be able to use the washroom on their own without assistance. Please practice this over the summer.
- Following established routines
- Taking care of personal belongings
- Separating from parents with relative ease

Emotional Regulation:

- Reacting appropriately to a variety of situations
- Staying calm and controlling impulses
- Using words to share feelings
- Asking for help

School Readiness Continued:

Fine Motor Skills:

- Dressing/undressing
- Opening containers
- Holding a pencil correctly and using scissors safely
- Drawing /colouring
- Being familiar with other writing and craft tools (crayons, markers, glue stick, paintbrushes, etc)

Oral Language:

- Talking about shared experiences
- Asking and answering questions
- Playing with pretend situations
- Singing familiar nursery rhymes/songs
- Playing rhyming and letter-sound games

Early Literacy Skills:

- Recognizing name
- Printing name (with a capital letter at the beginning and lowercase for the rest of the letters)
Recognizing, naming and printing letters (beginning with the child's name and then with family members).

Items students will need to bring with them to school:

- ❑ **Indoor Shoes** - students will need one pair of indoor shoes (good for running activities in phys ed class) that will be left at school to be used each day in the classroom. If your child is registered in Excel they will need a 2nd pair of indoor shoes to be left in Excel.
- ❑ **Extra Clothes** - Little children have accidents and if we have some clothing (socks, underwear and pants) on hand they will be able to change and carry on with their day.
- ❑ **Dress for the Weather** - Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. We go outside in all weather conditions unless it is really bad outside.

Items to bring to school continued:

- ❑ **Backpacks** - should be able to hold a full-sized scribbler or duotang laying flat.
- ❑ **School Supplies** - a list of school supplies that your child will need for the year will be posted on our website in the summer.



2. Food at school:

- ❑ **Recess** - students need to bring a recess snack to eat. Snacks should be easy for the student to handle and not take very long to eat.
- ❑ **Lunch** - students need to bring lunch to school every day unless they order from the cafeteria. The food they bring should be easy for your child to handle and not take more than 20 minutes to eat.
- ❑ **Cafeteria** - Our cafeteria will be open and parents can order meals on-line for their children. All information about the cafeteria and how to order can be found on our website.
- ❑ **Food Allergies** - WBS is a **Nut Smart and 'Scent'sitive School**. We have several students who have life threatening allergies to peanuts and nut products. Nutella is a nut product. Additionally, many of our students have medical conditions which can be worsened by scented products.
- ❑ **Excel** - If your child is registered in Excel they will also need an afternoon snack for Excel.

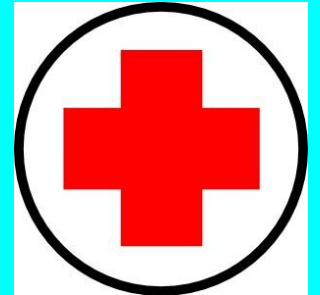


Suggestions

- To help promote independence it is a good idea to practice opening snacks, containers and juice boxes before school starts.
- Children who are beginning school should have clothing that they can get into and out of easily. Practicing over the summer would be a good idea.
- Tying laces is not a simple task for four or five-year-olds. Please help your child learn to tie, but in the meantime, consider having him/her/them wear Velcro-style sneakers at school.
- Please make sure **all clothing**, boots, backpack etc are **labelled with your child's name** - Our lost and found is always full of beautiful clothes that we would gladly return to the owner if we could find a name.

Medical / Administration of Medication (If applicable)

- ❑ The office **MUST** be notified of all students who are on medication or who may have life-threatening allergies.
- ❑ Please reach out to our office so that we can send you the forms that you will need. Please complete and return the forms to your child's classroom teacher during the first week of school.
- ❑ All medications must be kept in the prescription containers with the appropriate instructions and the child's name affixed on the container. All medications will be kept in the office and administered by office staff.



Your Child's Health is Important - Please help them:

- Get enough sleep (10 – 12 hours)
- A nutritious breakfast is especially important. A healthy snack for recess will reinforce these habits. Please **DO NOT SEND PEANUTS OR NUT RELATED PRODUCTS.**
- Develop habits of cleanliness and independent personal hygiene. Proper handwashing is very important!
- Keep them at home when they are ill (contact the school's safe arrival to report an absence).
- Inform the school of any medical problems that might affect your child's well-being or progress in school.



Before & After School

- ❑ **Morning supervision** begins at 8:05 am.
- ❑ After school - Dismissal is at 2:15 pm.
- ❑ Students enrolled in Excel will be dismissed to their Excel leader.
- ❑ Students being picked up or taking the bus will walk out with a teacher.



Please make sure you make contact with your child's teacher before taking them from the dismissal line- otherwise we will worry!

Toys/ Electronics



- ❑ We strongly discourage children from bringing their toys, electronics or anything of value to school because they will not be allowed to play with them during school time.
- ❑ Toys often get broken or lost at school, which can be very upsetting.
- ❑ We prefer children to interact with the educational activities that have been carefully chosen to support the curriculum.

Your Contact Information

- ❑ **Don't Forget** - Let the school know if you:
 - ❑ Change your phone number (home, cell or work)
 - ❑ Change your address or email address
 - ❑ Have a change to the makeup of your family



Transportation to and from school:

- ❑ Bus transportation is organized by the transportation team at the HRCE. Families will be contacted via email in the summer about bussing for September. Transportation inquiries should be referred to **HRCE's Transportation Team at 902-431-4723 (HRCE) or via email (transportation@hrce.ca)**.
- ❑ Many students who attend West Bedford are eligible for bussing and we encourage families to send their children on the bus. The bus is a very safe mode of transportation, they are rarely late and it helps alleviate traffic issues around the school.



Transportation continued:

- ❑ A bus courtesy seat can be requested through an online form on the HRCE website under transportation if your address does not qualify for bussing.
- ❑ Students attending a daycare or a sitter before and/or after school must have the daycare/sitter information registered in our student information system.
- ❑ We encourage families to travel to school by foot, bike, scooter, or wagon if possible.
- ❑ Personal vehicles bringing students to school are to park in the lower parking lot. Students should then be walked by an adult to their entrance door.
- ❑ If there is a change in dismissal plans please send a note to your child's teacher or call the office.



Next Steps:

Current WBS Pre-Primary Families:

<https://forms.gle/2qqi5gg1XPYvRsnD8>

New Primary Families to WBS:

<https://www.hrce.ca/families/student-registration-updates>

Questions??

