

February 9, 2024

Westmount Elementary website: <https://wmt.hrce.ca/>

Westmount Elementary email wmount@hrce.ca

Westmount Elementary X (formerly Twitter): @WmountElem

Happy Lunar New Year to staff and students who celebrate. Below is a link to an amazing video created by students and staff last year. It gives a heartfelt glimpse into how our families celebrate this event and a great opportunity for learning. Students engaged in Lunar New Year activities throughout the week as well: <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=Lsd62ckl1hk>

Please see below for some reminders and information. Have a wonderful weekend!

Upcoming School Dates:

- February is registration month for new Pre-primary and Primaries for 2024-2025 (details to follow)
- February 10-Lunar New Year
- February 13-Basketball game vs SJAM @Studley Gym (Dalhousie)
- February 15-WSA Movie Night (see below)
- February 19-Heritage Day (no school)
- February 21-International Mother Language Day
- February 22-Basketball game vs Joe Howe @Westmount
- February 27-Grade P-3 concert (snow date February 28)
- February 29-Grade 4-6 (snow date March 1)

Westmount Clothing (email sent February 2)

We are excited to introduce the online Westmount Elementary clothing store! This online store is created and run by Headline Promotions. Go to

<https://shop.headlinepromotions.ca/collections/westmount-school> to view and purchase clothing items available.

Please note that all payments are made to Headline Promotions. You can pick up your orders at the Headline Promotions office in Bedford (they are open for pick up 24 hours per day and 7 days per week) or you can have items delivered to your home for a small fee.

You're invited to a Westmount Elementary Movie night!

Join us on Thursday, February 15 for a fun family movie night. Stay tuned for the movie announcement – votes will be happening in the classrooms soon!

Doors open at 6pm and movie starts at 6:15

Admission is free. Refreshments will be available for purchase. Donations of new or gently used mittens are welcome.

Children are welcome to wear pyjamas and bring a stuffie or pillow (floor seating). **Children must also be accompanied by an adult during the duration of the movie.**

See you there!

Put on by the Westmount School Association

Concert Updates #1 (email sent February 7)

Students in grades P-6 are working hard to prepare concerts for the end of the month. Both performances will have an open dress rehearsal at 1:00pm on their concert day (families are welcome to attend) and a ticketed evening performance starting at 6:30pm (doors will open at 6:00 pm and students can go to classrooms at 6:15pm). Information regarding tickets/seating will be sent at a later date.

Please let your child's classroom teacher know if they will not be attending the evening performance so we can plan for another student to perform their role.

Grades P-3 February 27th (Snow Date Feb 28): *Once Upon a Book* by Grace Lin

Grades 3/4-6 February 29th (Snow Date March 1): *Stone Soup* by Heather Forest

- This concert will also feature performances from the Grade 6 Band and 4-6 Choir.

February is Registration Month (repeated information)

Do you have a child who will be starting pre-primary or primary this fall? It's time to register!

Registration for the 2024-25 school year begins on February 1. To ensure we have the right staff and supports in place for September, it's important that we gather enrolment numbers now.

Tip: Before you begin, make sure you have the following documents in electronic form (image, PDF or Word document):

- Proof of identity/age with one of the following: birth certificate, passport, immigration papers, or legal adoption papers) if you are new to the HRCE;
- Proof of home address (a recently dated official government or utility document with your current address that includes your name and date, such as water bill, power bill, internet bill, home fuel bill, a tax receipt, property assessment or a mortgage contract); and
- Nova Scotia Health Card or Canadian Province Health Card or, for non-citizens while in Canada, proof of Medical Insurance Information.

Visit the [HRCE website](#) for more information and to enrol your child today through PowerSchool Enrollment!

Don't have a child to register? Maybe you know someone who does! Please help us spread the word and pass this information on to friends, neighbours or relatives who will be looking to register for the fall.

Celebrate African Heritage Month 2024 (repeated information)

The theme for African Heritage Month 2024 is "Our Smiles, Our Joy, Our Resilience as African Nova Scotians." This month-long celebration is dedicated to recognizing and honoring the history and culture of people of African descent. The theme coincides with the final year of the United Nations' International Decade for People of African Descent (DPAD) 2015-2024, which aims to promote global cooperation in support of people of African descent, raise awareness, and acknowledge their full and equal participation in all aspects of society.

Nova Scotia is home to more than 50 historic African Nova Scotian communities with a rich, deep, and complex history that spans more than 400 years. African Heritage Month is an excellent opportunity to celebrate and showcase the culture, accomplishments, and contributions of African Nova Scotians, both past and present.

The link to learn more about African Heritage Month in Nova Scotia can be found at [Celebrate African Heritage Month 2024 | African Nova Scotian Affairs - Government of Nova Scotia](#)

Nova Scotia Heritage Day-February 19, 2024 (repeated information)

In honor of **Nova Scotia Heritage Day, 2024**, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development is pleased to provide the biographical profile "**William Hall: Nova Scotia Heritage Day Edition.**"

William Hall was a trailblazer. 2024 marks the **165th anniversary** of Hall being awarded the **Victoria Cross**, the military's highest decoration for valor. It is awarded only to those who have shown extreme bravery in battle. Hall was the **first Black person** and the **first Nova Scotian** to be awarded the Victoria Cross. His story is an essential part of the proud legacy of military service shared by many Nova Scotians.

The information found in the **biographical profile** provides opportunities for students to learn the story of how Hall went from a boy who dreamed of sailing to a decorated hero. Through learning his story, students can consider how he was shaped by his experiences growing up in Nova Scotia, and how through his actions, he continues to inspire others.

Visiting the School (repeated information)

If you are visiting the school for any reason, please come to the main office doors (located on Edward Arab Ave). All doors are numbered, the office is located at door #1. Once you have entered the building through the main doors, you will check in at the main office to drop items off, request your child be called to the office for dismissal, check lost and found, or any other reason.

Water Bottles and Lost and Found (repeated information)

We are asking each student to bring a water bottle to school daily. We have bottle fill stations and want to ensure students have access to water throughout the day. Thank you for your attention to this.

Please write your child's name in their clothing (they often do not recognize their own belongings). This will help us return items to students.