

Westfield P.S.

November 2021



Mr. I. Dyck
Principal

Mrs. T. Wells
Vice-Principal

Mrs. A. Hudson/Mrs. C. Teston
Elementary Admin. Secretaries

School Board Trustees: G. Hart and B. Yeoman

Superintendent: T. Langelaan

Main Office: 519-842-2461

<https://westfield.tvdsb.ca>

FROM THE OFFICE:

Hello to all my new Westfield friends and families. This week has been an incredible week for me. So many new, friendly faces and so much great energy from the students and staff at this wonderful school. This week I have made a conscious effort to visit each classroom to begin building connections with students and staff. So many students stopped me while I was outside or in the halls to say, "Welcome to Westfield." These kind gestures go a long way towards showing the great character that has been developed in your children by you their parents, as well as the amazing staff here at the school. For the past 17 years I have been a teacher, Vice Principal and Principal with the Peel District School Board. But as I mentioned to the staff this past week, being here at Westfield is a bit of a homecoming for me. I grew up near Tillsonburg and am extremely grateful to be a member of the Westfield team to support and serve this school and community.

If the need arises, I can be reached any time at the school at 519 842 2461 or by sending me an email at i.dyck@tvdsb.ca

I. Dyck

OUR 2021 SCHOOL GOALS:

Students and staff will:

- Develop a deeper understanding of number relationships throughout the curriculum
- Use kind and respectful words when engaging in conversation
- Develop a deeper understanding of writing forms throughout the curriculum

COLDER WEATHER IS HERE

Welcome to fall and the approaching winter weather! Children are outside for two recesses every day and hats and mittens, along with a warm coat and proper footwear help to keep them warm. Please ensure your child is dressed appropriately to spend time outdoors.

Please label all clothing items and encourage your child to check the Lost & Found table on a regular basis. Our Lost & Found table will be emptied frequently this year to align with Covid-19 protocols.

Please also note that we do not have supervision on the school yard in the mornings prior to 8:45 a.m. We ask that you do not drop off students before this time as they will not be allowed in the school or on the school yard.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Thank you for your generous support of our student nutrition program. Your donations help us provide our students with a nutritious snack every day, giving them the opportunity to experience new flavours and new foods.

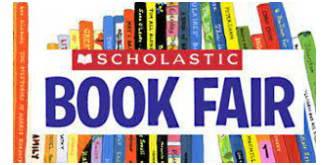
TERRY FOX FUNDRAISER A SUCCESS!

This year, our Terry Fox fundraiser met our goal of \$1,500 and nearly doubled it! As a result of your support, we raised \$2,970 for the Terry Fox Foundation - \$1,505 in t-shirt sales and \$1,465 in online pledges.

A big thank you goes out to Mr. Hopson, Mrs. Dunn and Mrs. DiSalvo for organizing our Terry Fox run and fundraising efforts every year. Great job Westfield Wolves!

BOOK FAIR COMING THIS MONTH

Westfield is excited to host an in-person Scholastic Book Fair from Nov. 15-19! Students will have the opportunity to come down to the book fair with their class and buy books to take home. Books can also be purchased online and proceeds from the Scholastic Book Fair will go towards the purchase of books and resources for our Learning Commons.



WHAT TO DO IF BUSES ARE CANCELLED

If buses are cancelled at the beginning of the day as determined by bus operators due to inclement weather, information will be posted online at www.mybigyellowbus.ca by 6:30 a.m. and the following communications are expected:	
Students who walk to school (and do not receive TVDSB transportation)...	Students who are bussed to school ...
<p>1. It is requested that parents/guardians report any student absence (e.g., illness, inclement weather, etc.) via the reporting system prior to the start of school (1-844-305-3756; www.tvdsb.ca/schoolmessenger or SchoolMessenger smartphone app).</p>	<p>1. It is requested that parents/guardians report any student absence (e.g., illness, transportation cancellation, etc.) via the reporting system prior to the start of school (1-844-305-3756; www.tvdsb.ca/schoolmessenger or SchoolMessenger smartphone app). As schools are open when buses are cancelled, parents/guardians may choose to transport their student to school noting the following: (a) If buses are cancelled in the morning due to fog, they will run at the end of the day as per their regular schedule. (b) If buses are cancelled in the morning due to any other kind of inclement weather, they will remain cancelled for the entire day and parents/guardians are responsible for transportation at the end of the school day</p>
<p>2. Safe arrival calls will be made to parents/guardians of absent students from whom the school has not received communication.</p>	<p>2. Safe arrival calls will be made to parents/guardians of absent students from whom the school has not received communication.</p>

WORKING TOGETHER – RESOLVING CONCERNS

Helping all students reach their potential requires an effective working relationship between home and school with ongoing, two-way communication. However, situations may arise that cause concern for parents, teachers and students. Knowing who to contact at Westfield is important in order to deal effectively with a concern.

FIRST - Contact your child's teacher. Most situations are resolved at this level. Throughout the school year, take advantage of opportunities to talk with your child's teachers. Talking about a concern may be less awkward if you know the teacher first. Also, try speaking with the teacher a second time if your first discussion doesn't resolve the concern.

THEN - Contact the school's principal or vice-principal if a resolution is not reached.

NEXT - If your concern still exists, the administration will be able to advise you who to contact next.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to provide the best learning environment possible for your children.

Westfield PS's Learning Agenda:

Home Connections in Mathematics

November 2021 'Fact Fluency'

"Children should learn their number facts. However, they would benefit from learning their facts by using an increasingly sophisticated sense of strategies rather than by jumping directly to memorization."

(Lawson, 2016)

Knowing Your Facts: Just One of the "Basics"

What do you think of when you hear, "getting back to the basics" in mathematics? Well, the basics can mean anything from counting, to computation, to problem solving. But *basic facts* refers to the set of single digit number facts for addition and multiplication, and their related subtraction and division facts. For example, $7 + 8$, $15 - 7$, 5×6 , $30 \div 6$, are all basic facts.

One of the fundamental skills that children need to have in mathematics is to master their basic facts. *Mastering math facts* involves understanding and recalling math facts using a variety of strategies.

How Should Children Master Math Facts?

Most children will learn math facts gradually over a number of years. During this time, they should be encouraged to use what they already know to help them solve for facts they don't know *yet*. For example, to solve for 6×8 , they may use the known fact $5 \times 8 = 40$ and add one more group of 8 to get 48. Over time, this reasoning will help children master facts and eventually become more fluent.

The goal is not *memorization* of facts, but *automaticity* which is the quick and effortless recall of math facts.

Asking your child to memorize without opportunities to reason and visualize is not an effective way to commit facts to memory.

Games to Master Math Facts

Games are fun to play over and over again, and therefore are an excellent way to provide repeated practise for students to learn their facts. When your child is not able to immediately recall a fact, encourage them to use what they do know to help them solve it rather than simply telling them the answer.

TRY THESE GAMES:

Go Fish for 10!

You need: 2 players
One deck of cards (Aces, Queens and 2 to 10)



Queen = 0 Ace = 1

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8hgbL08XkDg>

Lay the deck of cards face down on the table. Each player selects three cards from the deck. The goal is to make pairs that add to 10. The first player looks for a pair in their hand, and if they find a pair, they lay that down for a point and pick up two more cards from the pile. If they don't find a pair, they ask their partner for what they need to make a ten pair. If the partner has the card, they pass it over. If they don't have the card, they say "Go Fish!" and the first player draws a card from the pile. Switch turns. Play continues until there are no remaining cards.

Addition Challenge

One deck of cards (A to 10)

Players split a deck of cards and flip over the top two cards at the same time. They add their own cards and the person with the largest sum takes all the cards. Person with the most cards at the end of the game wins.

This game can also be played to practice subtraction and multiplication.

Here are several more dice and card games to practice math facts.

November 2021 'Fact Fluency'

[https://www.granby.k12.ct.us/uploaded/faculty/wyzika/Dice and Card Games to Practice Math Facts.pdf](https://www.granby.k12.ct.us/uploaded/faculty/wyzika/Dice%20and%20Card%20Games%20to%20Practice%20Math%20Facts.pdf)

Have fun playing and mastering facts with your child.

Financial Literacy

Penny, Nickel, Dime: In this game you will roll a dice 7 times. For every roll, you take that many pennies, nickels, dimes.

Whoever gets closest to \$1 without going over wins the game.

Please use the chart below to record your findings.

Students can utilize mental math strategies and financial literacy skills in order to improve fact fluency.

Dimes	Nickels	Pennies

Game on!

School Council News:

JOIN US AT THE NEXT MEETING

Interested in what's happening with Westfield's School Council? The first meeting of the year takes place on Monday, Nov. 8 and will be held virtually via Zoom. We will send out the login details by email closer to the date.



Dates to Remember:

- Nov. 5 – Progress Reports go home
- Nov. 8 – School Council meeting
- Nov. 11 – Last day to return Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes
- Nov. 11 – Remembrance Day
- Nov. 12 – PA Day (no school for students)
- Nov. 15-19 – Scholastic Book Fair

**If you require this information in a different format, please contact the school office at 519-842-2461.*