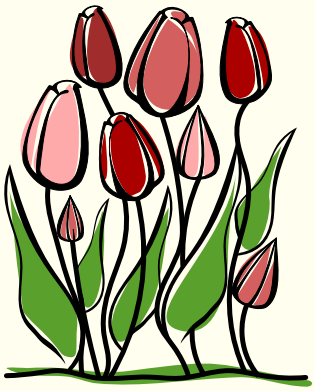
March 2026

Elementary Campus Monthly Principal Report



Dear Westmount Charter School (WCS) Community,

February concluded with a celebration of the 100th day of school for our Grade 1 classes. We also hosted URSTRONG workshops for all grades 1-4 students on February 24th, participated in Pink Shirt Day on February 25th and incorporated karate instruction into Physical Education classes.

Although skating was cancelled in February due to weather conditions, swimming kicked off in March with each student receiving three lessons.

Students are encouraged to participate in the Spring Break Read-A-Thon hosted by School Council from March 16 - April 6. Student can choose to earn pledges based on minutes read. There will be prizes for grade winners, classroom winners, the top fundraiser, and overall grand winner which includes being 'Principal for a day'!

We look forward to seeing many of you at the upcoming Parent-Teacher Conferences on the 19th and 20th of this month. Wishing everyone a wonderful Spring Break!

Kind regards,

Karly Bagnall (Principal) | karly.bagnall@westmountcharter.com
Ashley Cuthbert (Acting Assistant Principal) | ashley.cuthbert@westmountcharter.com

Submitted: March 11, 2026

Calendar of Events

Mark your Calendar

March 2026	
March 6	Westmount Wear Friday/Wear Purple for International Women's day Coffee Talk online 9:15-9:45 a.m.
March 11	School Council Online Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
March 17	Spirit Day-Wear Green for St. Patrick's Day
March 19	Spirit Day- Lots of Socks Day -World Down Syndrome Day *(March 21)*
March 19	Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:30-7:00 p.m. (in-person)
March 20	Parent Teacher Conferences-No School 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. (in person) and 12:00-3:00 p.m. (on-line)
March 23	Spring Break Begins-No School Until April 6th

April 2025	
April 6	Classes Resume
April 7	Spirit Day - Green Shirt Day - Logan Boulet Effect
April 8	Spring Photos & Underclass Grad Photos (M/W Kindergarten)
April 9	Spring Photos & Underclass Grad Photos (T/Th Kindergarten)
April 10	Westmount Wear Friday Coffee Talk In-Person 8:50-9:50 a.m.
April 15	School Council Online Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
April 24	Non-instructional Day - No School

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Music Update

Grade four students have started playing recorders in their music classes. This early introduction to instrument playing sets the stage for band in grade five while also enhancing their note-reading abilities and ensemble skills.

MARCH MUSIC UPDATE

HIGHLIGHTS

To get into the Olympic spirit, students at all grade levels explored pictures and videos from the 1988 Calgary Winter Olympics and were introduced to the inspiring Olympic Theme song composed by David Foster, which helped capture the excitement of the Games.

Click to hear the music!

For Chinese New Year and Lunar New Year, Grade 1 students created fans and used them in a delightful fan dance. The choreography incorporated graceful poses symbolizing images such as a leaf, tree, butterfly, and flower.

MARCH ASSEMBLY

Friday, March 13
9:15 am

M/W KIndergarten and Grade 2 students are hosting the March Assembly.

The Grade 1-2 LEAD choir will also be singing.

MARCH HOUSE CHALLENGE LIMERICK CONTEST

Duing music, each class will have a limerick writing lesson and a chance to write their own limerick. Finalists will be displayed on the bulletin board outside the music room for judging. All winners, including the grand champion, will be announced on our Spirit Day, Tuesday, March 17th.

"Music enhances the education of our children by helping them to make connections and broadening the depth with which they think and feel. If we are to hope for a society of culturally literate people, music must be a vital part of our children's education." – Yo-Yo Ma

Information

Professional Learning

For the third year in a row, elementary campus teachers had the opportunity to attend the Calgary City Teachers' Convention, held from February 12 to February 13, 2026. This event brought together educators from across Calgary for two days focused on professional learning, collaboration, and networking. Our staff enjoyed personalized learning experiences through a variety of sessions, workshops, and keynote speakers.

Pre-Service Teachers

From February 18th to April 24th, two pre-service teachers from the Werklund School of Education, Cassidy (working with Ms. Young's grade 1 class) and Richard (paired with Mrs. Hogg in grade 4), will participate in their Field Experience IV. They will work closely with their mentor teachers to design whole-class instruction, increase teaching time, and gain insight into the teacher's role.

Westmount Wear Friday

Friday, March 6th was Westmount Wear Friday. Staff and students were also encouraged to wear purple for International Women's Day.

Information

Karate

On February 25th and 26th, all students participated in workshops hosted by the Canadian Karate Academy during their Physical Education classes. These sessions provided a unique opportunity for students to learn new skills and techniques under the guidance of an experienced karate instructor. The atmosphere was filled with energy, focus, and enthusiasm making it a memorable event.

Swimming

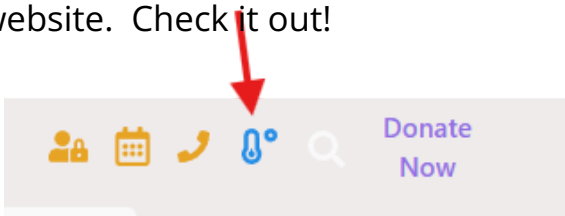
On March 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 9, students took part in a swimming field trip as part of the Physical Education Program, where they had the chance to complete the Swim to Survive Program offered by the City of Calgary. The students enjoyed three lessons, each lasting 45 minutes. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the numerous parent volunteers who contributed to this enriching experience, as well as to Casino Fundraising for their generous support of this initiative.

Movement Lab

During the week of swimming, the main gym was set up for all classes to explore Movement Lab activities. These activities are inspired by a sensory diet, integrating cognitive and motor exercises to enhance executive skills and address sensory needs.

Weather

We use Environment and Climate Change Canada (Environment Canada) as our primary source for weather information. It is now linked on our website. Check it out!



With the shifting weather from cold and snowy to wet and muddy, please make sure your child is appropriately dressed for the weather to stay comfortable and protected during outdoor activities.

We also encourage students to bring a change of clothes and socks to school, just in case.

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House Colour Challenges

Kindness Quest

The February House Colour Challenge was the “Kindness Quest”! Each week, we focused on a different kind of kindness: toward ourselves, others, our school, and the wider world. On the morning announcements we shared simple daily kindness ideas and recognized students showing genuine kindness. The **ORANGE** house was the winner of the kindness quest!

Limerick Challenge

The March House Challenge is a Limerick Contest!

Each class will receive a lesson on limerick writing and time to compose their poem during music class.

Finalist entries will be displayed on the bulletin board outside the music room.
· Submission Deadline: Friday, March 13
· Winner Announced: Spirit Day, Tuesday, March 17

Staff members are also encouraged to join the fun!

Award Categories:
· Funniest
· Most Creative
· Overall Winner & House Champion
· Honourable Mentions (if applicable)
· Best Staff Submission

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Clubs

Spring Intramurals

Spring Intramurals for grades 3 and 4 will begin right after the break on April 6th. This year, we are excited to bring back Wheelie Ball! Please remember that students must have a signed permission form to take part in the activities.

Jr. Spelling Bee Club

Throughout the school year, grade 1 and 2 students participating in Junior Spelling Bee Club met weekly to enhance their spelling skills through games and activities. They learned about spelling bees and participated in mini competitions. On March 9th and 11th the Elementary Campus hosted our annual Junior Spelling Bee. There were 42 participants! The top three spellers from our school competition will have their names submitted to the National Super Spelling Bee organization and will have the opportunity to compete at a national level. Congratulations to Avyukt (2AV), Eliana (2AU), and Talia (2D)!

Thank you to Ms. Ambrosio, Ms. Allegro, Ms. Grandmont, and Ms. Young for leading this club. Also thank you to Mrs. Kondrat and Mrs. Stein-Harries for their support!

Math Club

This optional lunch-time math club for grade 4 students is back for a spring session, starting in April! This club offers a fun and engaging space to delve into mathematical concepts and enhance problem-solving skills, nurturing a passion for math beyond standard classroom lessons. The club is led by Bill Keen, a former teacher who dedicated 20 years to teaching grades 3 and 4 at Westmount Charter School before his retirement. Additionally, the grade 4 teaching team will help facilitate the club.

Field Trips

Telus Spark

The grade 3 students went on a field trip to TELUS Spark for a LEGO coding program. Students worked in groups to build carnival rides using LEGO and then coded them to move. They learned how to give clear instructions, test their ideas, and fix problems when something did not work. Students enjoyed working together and trying different solutions. It was a fun experience that helped build confidence with coding and problem-solving.

URSTRONG WORKSHOPS

On February 24th all students (grades 1-4) participated in a virtual URSTRONG workshop.

- Grade 1 and 2: Fuzzies and Friends: Students learned the basics of friendship including The 4 Friendship Facts, qualities of a Green-Zone Friendship, and how to use the Friend-o-Meter to reflect on how they're feeling in their friendships.

- Grade 3 and 4: Heart of Friendship: Students explored The 4 Friendship Facts & learned the WWW strategy to get strategic in their friendships.

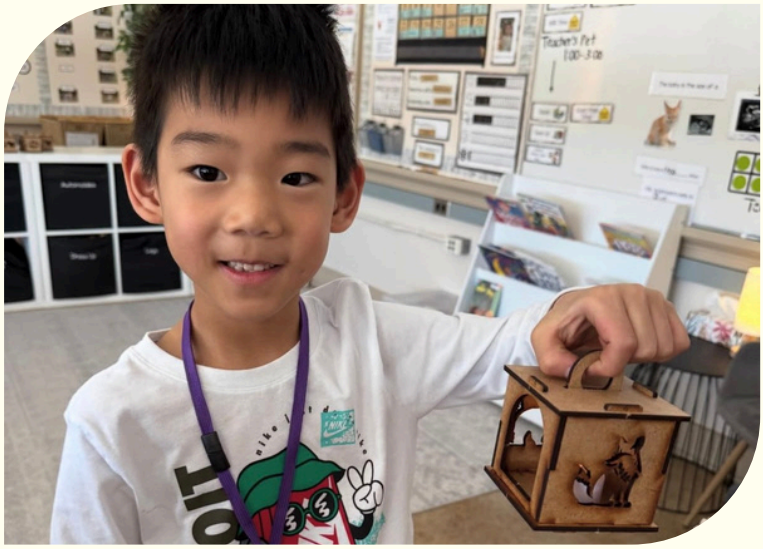
Field Trips

Teachers Pet

Teachers Pet programming in-school field trips have or will visit all K-3 classrooms with activities focused on the Social Studies Curriculum. Thank you to all the parent volunteers for supporting these experiences!

Programs:

Kindergarten: Captain Needs and the Wants Squad
Grade 1: The Friendly Forest Exchange
Grade 2: Government: Who's in Charge?
Grade 3: Government in Action: Alberta



Celebrate

We had many reasons to celebrate including Valentine's Day, Chinese New Year/Lunar New Year, Ramadan, and Holi, honouring the diverse cultures and traditions in our school community.

Celebrate

The Grade 1 classes recently celebrated the **100th Day of School** which was an exciting milestone as students marked being “100 days smarter!” Throughout the day, each class engaged in a variety of hands-on learning experiences, including numeracy activities focused around the number 100, science experiments, collaborative learning stations, and students worked hard to form the number 100 as a group. These activities reinforced key concepts in numeracy and inquiry while encouraging creativity, problem-solving, and teamwork.

Celebrating Birthdays

At the elementary campus we celebrate student birthdays by:

- Wishing a Happy Brithday to students during the morning announcements
- A birthday pencil and sticker
- A monthly birthday bulletin board with student photos