

October 2026

Elementary Campus Monthly Principal Report



Dear Westmount Charter School (WCS) Community,

We are thrilled to share that the Terry Fox event was an outstanding success and surpassed our fundraising goal. On September 29th, we commemorated Orange Shirt Day alongside our students, and on September 30th, staff observed the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation with professional learning at the Confluence. As we welcomed October, we celebrated Custodian Appreciation Day on October 2nd and World Teachers' Day on October 5th. We look forward to concluding the month with Halloween Spirit Day on October 30th!

Please join us in welcoming five new staff members to the Elementary Campus: Ms. Lavayna, Ms. Swapnaja, and Ms. Julia, who will be serving as lunchroom supervisors. Additionally, Mr. Ferg has joined the Grade 1 Team, and Ms. Agnihotri has joined our Teaching and Learning Assistant (TLA) team.

We value communication and encourage you to reach out with any questions or feedback. You can contact Mrs. Bagnall at karly.bagnall@westmountcharter.com or Ms. Cuthbert at ashley.cuthbert@westmountcharter.com. Please take a moment to review this report for updates and upcoming events.

We are looking forward to a wonderful October!

Kind regards,

Karly Bagnall (Principal)
Ashley Cuthbert (Acting Assistant Principal)

Submitted: October 16, 2026



Calendar of Events

Mark
your
Calendar

October 2026

October 2	Parent IPP Questionnaire Due Back
October 2	Coffee Talk In-Person 8:50 a.m.
October 5	Blue Shirt Day-World Day of Bullying Prevention
October 9	Non-instructional Day - No School
October 12	Thanksgiving Day - No School
October 21	Picture Retake Day, Fall Photos, and Class Photos for M/W Kindergarten
October 30	Spirit Day-Halloween

November 2026

November 3-6	Scholastic Book Fair in the Learning Commons
November 4	Spirit Day-Wear Red for Remembrance Day
November 5	Non-Instructional Day - No School Parent/Teacher Conferences 9:00 a.m-3 p.m. 4:00- 7:00 p.m. (in-person)
November 6	Parent/Teacher Conferences-No School 9:00-11:00 a.m. (in-person), 12:00-3:00 p.m. (online)
November 9-13	Fall Break-School Closed
November 18	School Council Online Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
November 20	National Child Day
November 27	Non-Instructional Day - No School



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Upcoming Events

Get ready! **The Scholastic Book Fair** is coming our way (YAY!). Choosing their own books empowers kids and inspires them on their journey to becoming lifelong readers. AND—as always—every purchase at the Fair benefits our school.

The Fair will be hosted in the Elementary Campus Learning Commons from **November 3 - November 6, 2026**.



SCHOOL COUNCIL COFFEE TALK

Join Us In Person!



Date: Friday, January 8th
Time: 8:50 a.m.
In Person @ The EC Campus Staffroom



Information

Admissions

On September 24th, the Elementary Campus held a well-attended Admission Information Evening. Application submissions started on September 25th and will remain open until November 27th at 9:00 a.m.



Movement Lab



Following a successful pilot year in 2025-2026, spearheaded by Ms. Stein-Harries (TLA), Movement Lab is back! Activities are inspired by a sensory diet, combining cognitive and motor exercises to improve executive skills and meet sensory needs.

This proactive approach promotes emotional regulation, mental alertness, improved focus, and enhanced executive functioning skills. This year, Movement Lab activities are being encouraged in classrooms, with support from our Physical Education Specialist, Ms. Roy.

Blue Shirt Day

In recognition of the **World Day of Bullying Prevention**, Westmount Charter Elementary participated in Blue Shirt Day, promoting kindness, inclusion, and a sense of belonging throughout our school community. Students engaged in a Crumpled Heart activity to explore the impact of words and actions on others. Each student then created a paper heart featuring a positive message to help others feel welcome and valued. These hearts were brought together in a school-wide display, reinforcing our commitment to creating a safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environment where every student feels they belong.



Information

Music Update



OCTOBER MUSIC UPDATE



Students have been settling into music class routines and building a strong foundation for a year of musical learning. Through singing games, movement activities, and rhythmic exploration, students are developing their listening skills, keeping a steady beat, and learning to work together musically. We are also focusing on using our singing voices, participating confidently, working together as an ensemble, and showing respect for one another during musical activities.



Singing

Singing is the heart of the music program. We strive to sing in tune together with a beautiful sound.



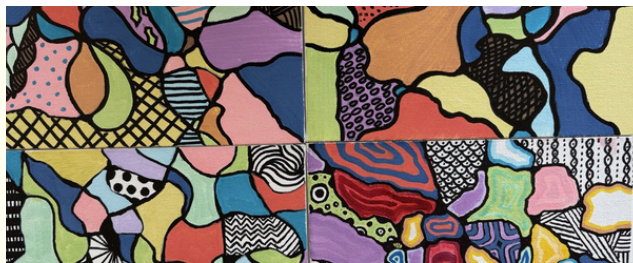
DID YOU KNOW?

SINGING:

- supports language learning
- facilitates learning and memory
- boosts mood
- fosters social connectedness and belonging
- increases prosocial behaviours and cooperation

Deck the Halls Choir

Rehearsals begin on Wednesday, October 7th, and are every Wednesday at lunch recess from 12:15 - 12:35.



Professional Learning (PL)

The 17th International Dąbrowski Congress focused on the theme *In Search of Mental Health: Exploring Multilevel Development in Dąbrowski's Theory*. Five staff members took part in the pre-congress workshop on September 25th, titled "Dąbrowski 101," which was presented by Dr. Linda Silverman and provided a refresher on the Theory of Positive Disintegration.

On October 9th, Ms. Oke led all EC staff in neurographic drawing, a wellness-enhancing practice developed by psychologist Pavel Piskarev in 2014. The term "neuro" refers to the nervous system and brain, while "graphic" refers to visual expression and drawing. This artistic method emphasizes the drawing process to promote a calm mind and emotional balance, rather than focusing on the outcome. Not only did Ms. Oke promote staff wellness, but she also provided guidance on how to incorporate this practice into the classroom to support student well-being.

Inform

Recycle Rangers

Our Grade 4 Recycle Rangers program, led by our dedicated Grade 4 teachers and students, helps keep our school clean and environmentally friendly! On the last school day of each week, our Recycle Rangers visit each classroom to collect recyclable containers, promoting environmental responsibility and encouraging our school community to make a positive difference. Way to go, Recycle Rangers!



Fall LEAD

Fall Lead is now underway! The LEAD Program at the Elementary Campus is an innovative initiative that opens up a world of possibilities. With LEAD classes, the sky's the limit! Teachers dive into their areas of passion to craft eight engaging sixty-minute classes designed to inspire students to Learn, Explore, Acquire, and Discover - LEAD. Students have the opportunity to self-select three LEAD options throughout this school year.

Key features of LEAD classes include incorporating a teaching component, introducing students to new and exciting learning experiences, and providing a fun way to wrap up the week. Fall LEAD ends December 11, 2026.

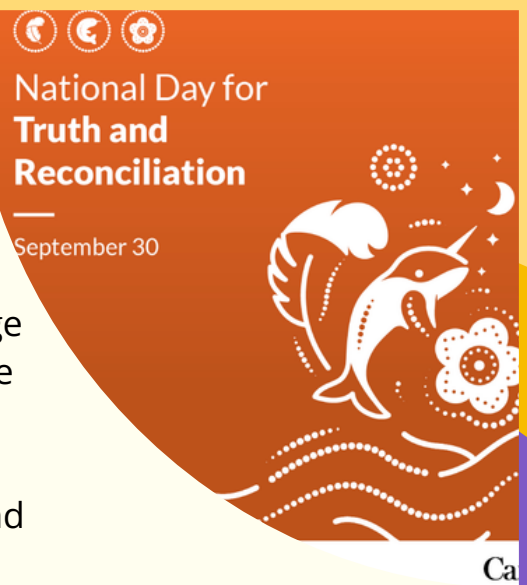


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Information

Orange Shirt Day

On September 29th, the elementary campus honoured Orange Shirt Day with a whole-school reconciliation walk. Earlier in the month, on September 17th, all students in grades 1 to 4 participated in a workshop led by Tyson Storm in our outdoor classroom, where they learned about the land as a teacher and enjoyed the flute music he shared.



National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

On September 30, 2026, WCS staff attended a full day programming at The Confluence. This included storytelling, dancing, poetry, programming in tipis on the land, an artisan-market, and educational walking tours.

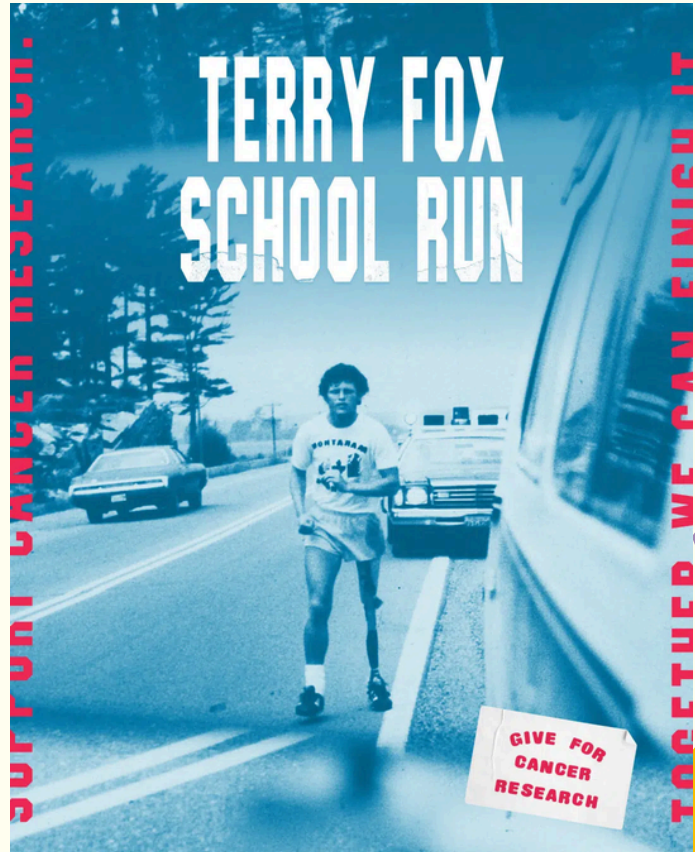


Celebrate

On Friday, September 18, 2026, we celebrated our annual Terry Fox school run. Students participated in various activities, taking part in a walk/run while proudly wearing their house colors! Thank you to Ms. Roy, the Terry Fox Run committee, and all the parent volunteers for their invaluable contributions to the success of this event!

We were also excited to welcome Terry Fox's brother, Fred Fox, on September 22nd for a school assembly, where he shared stories and family photos from Terry's Marathon of Hope. We were presented with a cheque representing the total amount raised over the past 20 years of support.

We sincerely appreciate all the donations. This year, we surpassed our fundraising goal of \$7,000, raising an impressive **\$11,677.10** to aid cancer research.



Celebrate

Clubs

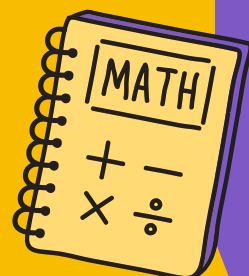
Run Club

Congratulations to all of our Grade 3 and 4 Run Club Participants! The final session took place on October 7, 2026, with a Fun Run to celebrate students' hard work, participation, and growth throughout the season. A huge congratulations also goes to our Grade 4 Meet participants who represented Westmount throughout the season. WCS EC finished 3rd overall for the Cross-Country Boys Division at the League Championship! Way to go, Westmount!



Math Club

This optional lunch-time math club for Grade Four students 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 Four teaching team will help facilitate the club.



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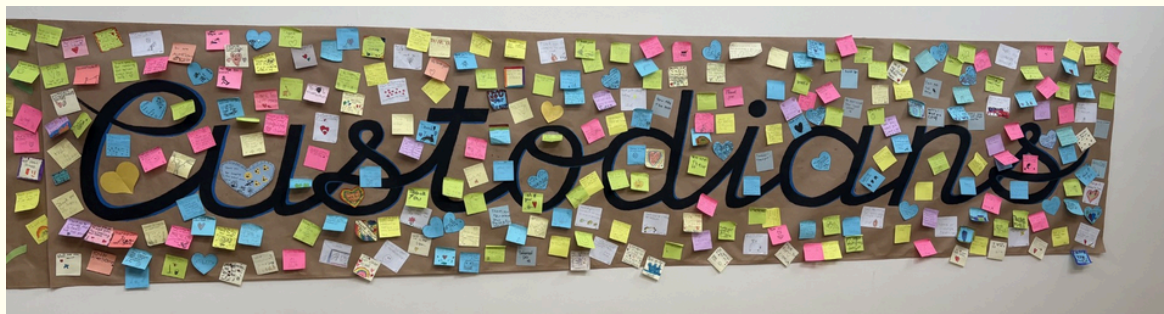
Celebration

World Teacher Day



We celebrated our staff on Monday, October 5th, in recognition of **World Teacher Day**. The School Council generously provided delightful treats for the occasion.

Custodian Appreciation Day



We acknowledged our fantastic custodial staff on October 2nd, which was **Custodial Appreciation Day**.

Poster Contest

All Kindergarten to Grade 4 students were invited to show their creativity and school spirit by participating in the 2026 Poster Contest inspired by the EC theme: "**Be Kind, Be Curious, Bring Out the Best in Each Other!**"

Each winning poster, one from each grade level, will be proudly displayed in a gold frame in our school hallway. All poster contest submissions will be displayed in the main hallway as well for one month. Thank you to all students who participated and showed our school spirit through art! Winners will be announced at our student assembly next week!

