



Weekly Update for Friday Sept. 13th

Hello Willows Families; happy Friday to you!

We are back into the full swing of school this week with all our students settling into their classes and building connections with their teachers and their classmates. It has been great seeing our Kindergarten students touring the building and popping into the office to say hi and meet all us office staff.

Grade 3, 4 and 5 students interested in choir had their first practice today. Choir practice will be each Thursday at lunch time. Mr. Fraser Gibson is our Music and Strings teacher this year. He and Mrs. McKee will be running our Choir practices. Mr. Fraser will be sharing Strings information with Grade 5 students and families very soon... stay tuned!



Reminders / Information items for families:

Our two **Crosswalks** are supervised 30 mins before/after the bell - 8:15 to 8:45 and 2:37 to 3:07

Supervision outside starts 15 min before/after the bell - 8:30 to 8:45 and 2:37 to 2:52

If your child didn't have time for **breakfast** in the morning, we have a cart outside the office that they can visit at the start of the day to get a snack.

If your family could use a bit of **financial support** this year for supplies, food for the kids at school or fees for special events/outings, please let Badge or Veronica know in the office (they're very discreet).

The **Lost and Found** collection is already starting to grow. The rack of unclaimed items is outside each day for students and families to look through, located at the covered area to the left of the main front entrance.



Did you know that over the past few years we have had **MANY** library books not returned to the library, despite the school's efforts to send reminders to 'look under the bed', and notices sent out listing titles of books borrowed but not returned? We would like to be able to replace these missing books so others can enjoy them too but with upwards of 1000 books missing it is **VERY** challenging with our school budget to cover the costs for replacement books.

We want to start this year with students having a clear book borrowing record so they can enjoy their class' visit to the library and check-out books of their choosing (and return them the next week). If you know that your child has a lost book or if you are feeling kind and generous and are able to contribute funds to the library to restock our lost books, we would happily accept donations via CashOnline accessed through the Willows website found here: <https://willows.sd61.bc.ca/>

Upcoming dates to note

Tuesday	Sept. 18	First PAC Meeting Everyone Welcome	7:00-8:30 School Library
Thursday	Sept. 19	Meet the Teacher in the classrooms Family Picnic on the school grounds	5:00 – 6:00 6:00 to 7:00
Monday	Sept. 23	Professional Development Day for staff No school in session for students	All day
Friday	Sept. 27	Orange Shirt Day Assembly for staff and students	9:30 am
Monday	Sept. 30	National Truth and Reconciliation Day No School is session for staff or students	All day
Thursday	Oct. 3	Individual Student Picture Day with Edge Imaging	Starting with Ks, ending with 5's

From the PAC

PAC Contribution Drive

This year, the Willows PAC will be raising funds for the school through a contribution drive in addition to other fundraising opportunities throughout the year. The contribution drive is posted on the Fun Lunch website and families can make a donation at the same time as ordering fun lunch. We are grateful for any contribution that feels right for your family. The money raised through this year's contribution drive will go to support classroom field trips, transportation (buses), craft supplies, learning tools, etc.

It also allows the PAC to support initiatives that have been identified - which in the past have included a new water bottle filling station, announcement screen, new gym equipment, picnic tables, etc.

If you have questions about the Contribution Drive, please contact the PAC: WillowsPAC@gmail.com

Willows Fun Lunch Program

We are excited to announce that our first fun lunch for the 2024-25 school year will be on Thursday, September 26. Please visit <http://willows.hotlunches.net> to order. **You will need to register for a new account** even if you had an account in previous years, using code **WHL**. Orders for the first lunch are due on **Sunday, September 15th**. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions at: willowsfunlunch@gmail.com.

Are you able to Volunteer for Fun Lunches?

We will need 1-2 volunteers from each division to come and help distribute the lunches into the classroom on each fun lunch day. Please sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/index.cfm?go=s.signup&urlid=10C0848AAAB2AA1F4C25-51067469-willows&useFullSite=true#/>

Information For Kindergarten

A letter and log in information was sent home to each family to participate in the CHEQ (Childhood Experience Questionnaire). If you would like more detailed information about the CHEQ or if you have any questions about this project, please visit the CHEQ website: <https://earlylearning.ubc.ca/monitoring-system/cheq/cheq-overview/> or contact the CHEQ Project Team: cheq@help.ubc.ca or 604.822.3361.