



# École Secondaire Windsor Secondary School

## FAMILY NEWSLETTER- JANUARY 2026

We would like to thank the Coast Salish people, specifically the Skwxwú7mesh Nation and Səlilwətaɬ Nation, on whose unceded traditional territory École Windsor Secondary resides.

### IMPORTANT DATES:

#### JANUARY 1

New Year's Day  
Kwanzaa (ends)

#### JANUARY 4

National Ribbon Skirt Day

#### JANUARY 5

Classes resume

#### JANUARY 6

Grad Portraits - Retakes

#### JANUARY 13

8:00am-4:00pm - Ministry Assessment - Literacy 10 & 12  
(Gr. 10 and 12 classes cancelled)

#### JANUARY 14

8:00am-4:00pm - Ministry Assessment - Literacy 10 & 12  
(Gr. 10 and 12 classes cancelled)

#### JANUARY 15

Black Excellence Day

6:30pm- Grade 7 Course Programming Parent Night  
(optional school tour at 6:00pm)  
  
7:30pm- Musical Theatre Performance in Windsor's  
Theatre (see page 4)

#### JANUARY 16

7:30pm- Musical Theatre Performance in Windsor's  
Theatre (see page 4)

#### JANUARY 19

School Based Professional Day (no classes)

#### JANUARY 20

10:40-11:40am - Grade 9 Programming Assembly  
11:45 -12:30pm - Grade 11 Programming Assembly

#### JANUARY 21

10:40-11:40 - Grade 10 Programming Assembly  
11:45-12:30pm - Grade 8 Programming Assembly

#### JANUARY 22

6:30pm - Grades 8-11 Course Programming Parent Night

#### JANUARY 26

Grade 8 rotation #2 ends  
Windsor Music Elementary Feeder Schools Tour

#### JANUARY 27

International Holocaust Remembrance Day

Grade 8 rotation #3 starts  
Windsor Music Elementary Feeder Schools Tour

## SCHOOL FEES

Course fees have been added to your account. Please login to [School Cash Online](#) to make the payment. We appreciate the prompt payment of these fees so the teachers are able to purchase the supplies required for this semester as soon as possible.

Note that students with outstanding athletic and school fees will not be able to pick up their Yearbooks or Grad Gowns in June until their accounts are up to date.

## ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Windsor would like to raise the awareness of families around the importance of attendance and its relation to student outcomes. Attendance matters; research has shown that students who attend less than 90% of the time (this is the equivalent to  $\frac{1}{2}$  day per week; students who miss several consecutive days are even more at risk) have greater academic struggles, disengage from school, and are at risk for not graduating. It also removes them from social circles and can make it challenging for them to reintegrate back with friends, particularly if they have missed important social bonding situations. Please see the [Attendance Matters document](#) which includes some important information for supporting your child's attendance.

### TO REPORT AN ABSENCE:

- Email [windsor@sd44.ca](mailto:windsor@sd44.ca) (preferred) \*

Please remember to include the words **absence** or **attendance** in the subject line

- or Call Attendance Line: **604-903-3707**

### WHEN REPORTING ABSENCES

-You may report an absence on same the day until 3:00 p.m., in advance for a future date if you know ahead of time, or for previous dates that were missed.

Please indicate:

- Student First Name
- Student Last Name (if leaving a voice message please spell the last name)
- Grade
- Date of absence (whole day/portion of the day)
- Explanation for absence ("excused", "ill", "appointment", "vacation").

It is critical that student absence explanations are specific to ensure accurate reporting to the School District and Public Health Unit, when necessary.

- Your name & relationship with the student. (Only messages from parents and legal guardians are accepted)

## CAREER COURSES/PROGRAMS

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Curious about careers, hands-on learning, or skilled trades? Check out these courses/programs:

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### Work Experience 12A/B (WEX 12A/B)

Explore careers, build skills, and earn credits while learning in the real world! WEX places students in volunteer work placements that match their interests and future goals. Students may also use their own paid job if it aligns with their area of interest.

Gain 90 hours of hands-on work experience while discovering your potential!

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### Youth Work in Trades (YWIT)

Are you 15+ and already working in a trade or connected to a certified tradesperson? Start your apprenticeship now and earn up to 16 school credits (4 credits per 120 hours worked), while counting hours toward apprenticeship requirements with SkilledTradesBC.

Students follow a Day 1/Day 2 rotation: one day at school, the other at their workplace.

Applications are due by the end of February.

Learn more at: [Youth Work in Trades - Career Pathways 44 \(sd44.ca\)](https://www.sd44.ca/career-pathways/youth-work-in-trades)

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### Youth Train in Trades (YTIT)

In partnership with SkilledTradesBC, students receive hands on trades training at a local secondary school, post-secondary partner, or a SkilledTradesBC facility. Students will learn directly from skilled instructors through practical workshops and theory.

- ✓ Tuition is covered by NVSD
- ✓ Spaces are limited (applications due by the end of February)
- ✓ Primarily for Grade 12 students, however Grade 11s may be considered

Requirements vary, explore [Youth Train in Trades - Career Pathways 44 \(sd44.ca\)](https://www.sd44.ca/career-pathways/youth-train-in-trades) for details. For more information, contact Ms. C. Misceo, Career Program Advisor, at [cmisceo@sd44.ca](mailto:cmisceo@sd44.ca).

## MUSICAL THEATRE PERFORMANCE

Based on the work of Hans Christian Anderson, come see Windsor Theatre Department's original production of this classic winter tale guaranteed to tug heartstrings and bring to light your holiday spirit! In addition, the first half of the evening pre-intermission will be a Showcase of our Theatre Department's talent featuring scenes, and songs to set the stage for a warm and cozy evening.

Artistic Director: Asher Chapman

Producer and Musical Director: Adam Kozak

Music and Lyrics: Adam Kozak

Choreographer: Jessica Heaven

Date & Time

Jan 15 – 16, 2026

Windsor Theatre

Tickets on sale [here](#)



## 2026 UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO MATH CONTESTS

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The University of Waterloo develops and administers many internationally recognized contests to help to inspire the next generation of students to develop an interest in and love for mathematics and computer science. If you enjoy mathematics or computer science and want to think about these areas in a different way, then you should write a contest. You don't have to be the best student or even one of the top students in your class to do well or get some enjoyment out of a contest.

### **PASCAL, CAYLEY & FERMAT – FOR GRADE 9, 10 AND 11 STUDENTS**

Grade 9, 10 and 11 students can write their appropriate contest on Wednesday, February 25 during tutorial time.

There is a \$6.75 contest fee. Students wishing to participate in the Pascal (Grade 9), Cayley (Grade 10) or Fermat (Grade 11) contest must register by Friday, February 6, 2026, in School Cash Online. No late registration will be accepted.

Please register your child for the appropriate grade level contest:

Grade 9 – Pascal

Grade 10 – Cayley

Grade 11 – Fermat

### **EUCLID CONTEST – FOR GRADE 12 STUDENTS**

Contest will be written on Tuesday, March 31, 2026 from 8:30-11:00am (during tutorial and periods 5 and 6).

There is an \$19.00 contest fee. Payment must be received on or before Tuesday, March 3, 2026, in School Cash Online. No late registration will be accepted.

Preparation material can be found on the CEMC website at

[https://www.cemc.uwaterloo.ca/contests/euclid\\_eWorkshop.html](https://www.cemc.uwaterloo.ca/contests/euclid_eWorkshop.html).

## WINDSOR LIBRARY

### FEBRUARY READING CAMPAIGN



It is widely acknowledged that youth are [reading less than in the past](#), with some experts citing that, today, only [1 in 3 students are reading for enjoyment](#). While teens may be reading on their devices or accessing stories through audiobooks, the fact remains that there is a lot of competition for young people's attention, and focused, sustained reading of text is declining.

The good news, however, is that at Windsor, there is a well-established culture of silent reading in the English Language Arts classes and the library is always pleased to support these efforts with high quality, up to date and engaging books.

To celebrate the love for reading at Windsor, the Library Student Advisory, inspired by Ms. Madar, has dreamt up a month-long initiative to encourage reading and build awareness of the importance of literacy with a variety of fun events. They are busy planning and drumming up support and we hope that we can call on the Windsor community to join in!

There will be a "Read-a-Thon" for junior grades, a bookmark contest, a senior 'Vote for the best class novel' awards for top readers and a showcase for the top staff picks! We are also planning for a used book swap and a book drive for gently used titles to be gathered and dropped off at a local non-profit organization. Stay tuned for more details about February's Reading Campaign, but in the meantime, enjoy some wintertime cozy reading of BOOKS!



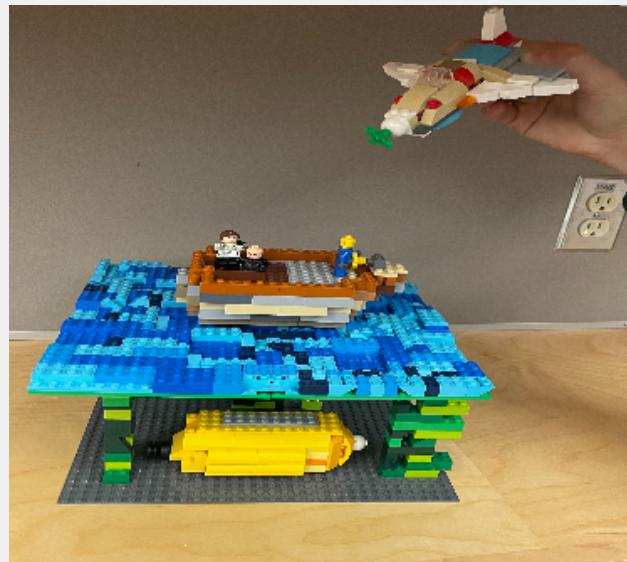
## WINDSOR LIBRARY

### LOVING THE LEGO

The Windsor Library is calling for any and all donations of LEGO pieces or figurines! Since acquired, the Windsor LEGO has been used by several classes for a variety of learning experiences and our hope is to increase the collection.

Some students used LEGO to represent a scene from their English novels, or to recreate a fond memory or feeling for an introduction to poetry in an ELL class. Below are some photos of a Science Humaines 10 students signifying the traumatic impact of World War I.

LEGO is a creative and collaborative way for students to showcase their learning and engagement is very high when using these resources! Your help in building our LEGO collection is much appreciated.



# TRADITIONAL INDIGENOUS CANOE-BUILDING

By: Shayne (Gr. 11 student)

Our English class recently had the unique opportunity to learn about the traditional Indigenous canoe-building process from one of our fellow students, Wesley Billy-Baker. Wesley shared the cultural significance of canoe-making, explaining how it's not just a craft, but a way to reflect deep connections to the land, water, and community. Through his demonstration and stories, we gained a deeper appreciation and understanding for the skill, patience, and knowledge passed down through generations. During his presentation, we had the opportunity to ask him questions about the process of making canoes, which made our learning experience richer and further deepened our understanding of the art. Wesley answered thoughtfully, explaining the traditional process of making canoes, the tools involved, and the care required to shape each part of the canoe with intention. Hearing all of this from a student in our school made the presentation especially meaningful. This experience grew our understandings of Indigenous traditions and the importance of learning directly from Indigenous voices from within our community.



## WINDSOR PHE DANCE PROJECT

Students in PHE 8,9 and 10 spent the days leading up to winter break developing and refining their dance skills in class. Each period awarded a certificate to the winning group - congratulations to all of our PHE dancers on a job well done!



## THANK YOU, WINDSOR PAC

Food Studies students and staff would like to thank the Windsor PAC for their donation of games to the Foods room!



## FOOD ACCESS FOR STUDENTS

Windsor has had, for a number of years, a food access program available for students in need. A hot and cold water station with a microwave exists on the 300 level. There are a number of breakfast and snack items available.

We want to make sure that as a community we are looking out for each other and those students who are in need are priority for this program.

Any students interested in volunteering for the breakfast program are asked to come to the office.

## KEEP US IN THE LOOP!

### Contact information

Please ensure your contact information, especially email and phone number, are up to date. You can see the contact information that Windsor has in MyEd. MyEd is also where you can access your students' timetable, report cards and attendance records.

### My Ed BC Portal Tips & Resources

When changing your mailing address, please attach a copy of proof of address. An example would be a utility bill, BCID, Drivers Licence, credit card invoice etc.

### Vacations and Extended Absences

If a student is away for more than a couple of days, parents need to fill in a Student Extended Absence form, to be signed by teachers. The form can be found on the [Windsor website](#).

Thank you for helping us to keep up to date!

## PARKING AT WINDSOR

Parking is limited during the school day. With the need to provide adequate parking for school and district staff, guests, community, and students, we request that everyone adheres to the parking guidelines we have in place.

To park at Windsor students and staff must:

- register their vehicles in the office
- display decal on their windshield
- park in the correct lot
- adhere to the parking regulations

**1. Broadview Lot:** Parking in the front lot is for school & district staff and visitors only. **Students may not park in this lot.** Parents, please park in the available visitor spots. Please do not drop off students in the Broadview parking lot as this is a student safety issue

**2. Lytton Lot:** Parking is for staff and students. Unfortunately, if this lot is full, students will need to park off school site.

We have noted an increase in the number of vehicles parked illegally including in areas clearly marked as no parking. For example, vehicles parked in yellow zones, areas marked for emergency vehicles, and in front of waste disposal bins.

Students who park illegally will have their parking privileges revoked. Additionally, illegally parked vehicles may be towed without warning. While we are reluctant to resort to this, repeated warnings have not been followed. If your vehicle is towed, please contact Payless Auto Towing.

We continue to encourage students to walk or take transit to school.

