

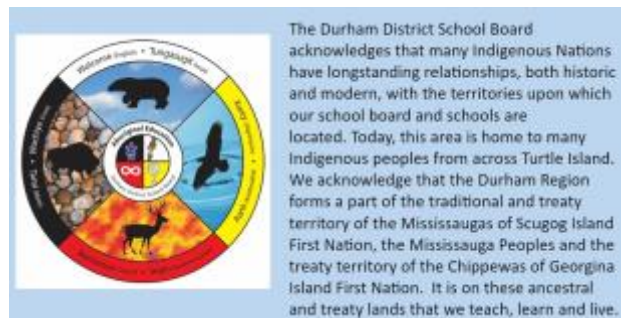


October 2019 Newsletter

Westney Wanderings



1 - In this Issue:



2 - Land Acknowledgement

Key Stories:

- **Lunchroom Supervisors Needed**
- **Terry Fox Run**
- **Lunch Options**
- **Character Education**
- **SCC News**

Message from the Office



Dear Families,

What a wonderful September we had at Westney Heights. Our entire school participated in “The First 20 Days of Belonging,” a staff created initiative to create a safe and welcoming learning environment for all students and give opportunities for them to share their voice in their work, the classroom and school.

Our Student Council was voted upon and these student leaders are already hard at work, incorporating a suggestion box for students at the office, surveying classes for ideas and input and planning spirit days.

Our WE team has also started strong, running a WE Scare Hunger campaign all month, expanding it beyond a food drive. This year the WE team is asking families to donate toiletries (e.g. hygiene products) and household needs (e.g. diapers) as well as accepting non-perishable food items. Thank you to the Westney Community for supporting this drive!

Our school is also raising funds to support the happenings and special programs offered at Westney Heights. Cookie Sales begin this week! **Cookies** are \$1.00 each and sold at the office every lunch hour. For the next two weeks we are also running a **Fresh From the Farm fundraiser**, which supports local farmers and our school! Families can order Vegetable Bundles (\$14) and Apple Bundles (\$15) and the

fresh produce will be delivered in mid-November. It's delicious, nutritious and supports Westney. We appreciate your participation!

There are lots of other programs highlighted in our newsletter this month. Thank you for your continued support of our students.

Yours in Education,

Mrs. Robertson & Mr. Harney

Principal Vice-Principal

Safe Schools



Safe Arrival

If your child is going to be late or absent please call the school messenger safe arrival line at **1-844-350-2646** anytime before 8:55 am.

Parent Portal

It is extremely important that all Westney families have updated their information on the DDSB Parent Portal. This includes up to date phone numbers and email addresses. It can be a challenge to contact parents or guardians in the event of a student illness if the contact information is not up to date. We also send out a number of information items including our school newsletter via email which makes it important to have current email addresses as well. This can be done throughout the school year as contact information changes. We truly appreciate your efforts to stay connected with the school.

Fresh From The Farm



Healthy Fundraising for Ontario Schools

What is Fresh from the Farm?

Fresh from the Farm is designed to provide a healthy fundraising alternative to schools by selling Ontario-grown fruit and vegetables.

Why Participate?

- Families enjoy fresh, Ontario-grown fruit and vegetables.
- *Fresh from the Farm* promotes a healthy school environment while providing an opportunity for students to raise money for school initiatives.
- Provides opportunities for students to learn about agri-food and healthy eating
- Supports Ontario farmers and our local economy

We would like to add additional technology resources to our school for students to use. Your fundraising efforts will support this!

How Does It Work?

- Record customer orders and complete the customer information on the Order Form (back-side of this flyer) and place order **through School Cash Online.**

- All payments and orders are due to the school by **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15TH, 2019**. Unfortunately, late orders cannot be accepted.
- Deliveries take place between **November 4 and December 5**. Westney Heights staff will communicate the exact date of pick up one week before the shipment

What Can You Buy?

Vegetable Bundle: \$14.00

Includes: 5 lb bag white potatoes, 3 lb bag sweet potatoes, 3 lb bag yellow onions, 3 lb bag orange carrots

Apple Bundle: \$15.00

Includes: 8 lb bag Empire variety apples

Special Lunch Days



This year we will continue with pizza lunches and Lunch Lady orders at Westney. Pizza will likely work on a bi-weekly basis and more details will follow. We are very thankful for our SCC and volunteer

involvement in this lunch for our students. Please be on the look out for more details about upcoming dates.

Lunch Lady is an outside company that delivers hot lunches to our school. There are new owners this year and a flyer will be sent out outlining their offerings. Feel free to visit there website: [Lunch Lady](#)



This year we are very happy to present a variety of special lunch/smoothie days that will support our school and local businesses in the Durham Region as well. These special lunch days will be on select Fridays throughout the year. Families can order lunches for their children through the website **HealthyHunger.ca** up to *five days in advance* of the lunch/smoothie date. Go to the website, 'Register a Student,' and choose Westney Heights PS. All of the dates and restaurant partners will be listed!

Our upcoming lunch/smoothie days are:

Friday, October 25th: *Genesys Carribbean Fusion*

Friday, November 8th: *Quesada Burritos & Tacos*

Friday, November 22: *Booster Juice*

Friday, December 6th: *Mr. Sub*

Friday, December 22nd: *Booster Juice*

Our hope is that these days are a benefit to families. Any feedback that you can provide is welcome, please contact Mrs. Robertson or Mr. Harney to share. If successful, we will arrange for more special lunch days throughout the school year.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING WESTNEY HEIGHTS PS!

Lunch Drop-Off Request



If you are dropping off late lunches, school work, extra clothes, etc., please have these items clearly labelled before you arrive so as not to disturb the office more than necessary. You may leave these items on the counter in the office. Also please be sure your child knows ahead of time that these items are being dropped off, and that they know they should come to the office to pick them up. This way the office staff does not have to interrupt your child's class during the school day.

All students should arrive at school on time. As well, please send all lunches, snacks, and necessary school work/clothes for the day with your child when they arrive first thing in the morning. This will prevent unnecessary "buzzing in" of visitors to the school.

WE Scare Hunger

The We Day Team is putting together our first initiative to help others who are less fortunate than us. It is a 'We Scare Hunger/Personal Hygiene' drive. The items that you can donate are canned food items, tooth brushes, toothpaste, wet wipes, feminine hygiene products, mittens, hats, scarves, socks, little bags to hold personal hygiene products, hair brushes, hair ties, Q-tips, mouth wash, lotion, hand sanitizer, diapers, deodorant, chap sticks, and tissues. We also accept any non-perishable food items.

Thank you in advance to everyone who donates.

Sincerely,

The We Team

Lunchroom Supervisors

Lunchroom supervisors play a vital role in our school. Our wonderful team of lunchroom supervisors support students from our kindergarten classes and developmental classes to our grade 8 students. They ensure our students are safe in both the classroom and on our yard and assist students with problem-solving and with bumps and bruises that happen while playing. We are always looking to add to our team with community members willing to help our students in both a full and part time basis. If you are interested in joining our team please contact Mr. Harney or Mrs. Nugent in the office for an application package.

Westney Spirit Wear



Be on the lookout for our fall spirit wear flyer that will be coming home! There are new shirt and hoodie colour options as well as a baseball hat and toque that will be offered for the first time. Flyers for the online store will be sent home in both paper and digital format.

Terry Fox Run



We held our annual Terry Fox Run on Friday, September 20th. It was an amazing afternoon! Our students, community members and staff walked, ran, and “wheeled” around the course to raise money for cancer research. This year our school raised \$1505.70 for the Terry Fox Foundation.

Thank you to the following people who volunteered to help out at the Terry Fox Run this year:

April Charles-Jodhan, Lynn Allen, Kelly-Anne Fagan, Brian Van Wyk, Irini Atkinson, Nile Godovitz, Gloria Grant, Majeda Degiya, Mahlet Beyene, Elaine Zuser, Jennifer Caesar, Denise Graves, Kaveri Mohanakanth, Tanya Hubler, and Justin Crosby.

You helped us make the Terry Fox Run a huge success!

The Terry Fox Committee

(Ms Hargreaves, Mr. Williams, Ms Mulligan, Ms Fallaize, Ms Cupelli and Ms Truscott)

Project of Heart

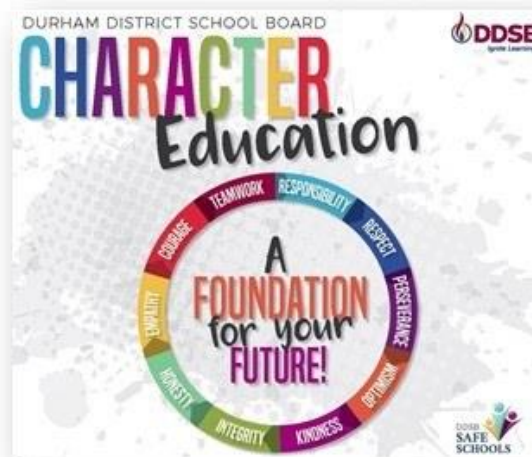


All junior and intermediate students and staff will be taking part in this project that is to begin in October! The project includes creating art on a “tile” to acknowledge a residential school survivor or someone who did not survive residential school.

Wikipedia describes the Project of Heart as “a collaborative art based education **project** designed to teach about the history of Indigenous people in Canada. The initiative aims to foster reconciliation, commemorate those students who died as a result of residential schools, and encourage social justice among Canadians.”

The tiles will eventually be displayed in the school. Thanks to all in advance who will participate!

Character Education at Westney



As part of the Durham District School Boards on going and updated focus on Character Education, Westney Heights staff will be highlighting the importance of strong character traits. As well, the Safe Schools Department and the DDSB social media platforms will be highlighting that trait during that month. Here are the character traits that we will focus on during the months of the school year:

September- **Optimism-**

October– **Teamwork-**

November- **Empathy-**

December- **Integrity-**

January- **Responsibility-**

February- **Kindness-**

March- **Respect-**

April- **Honesty-**

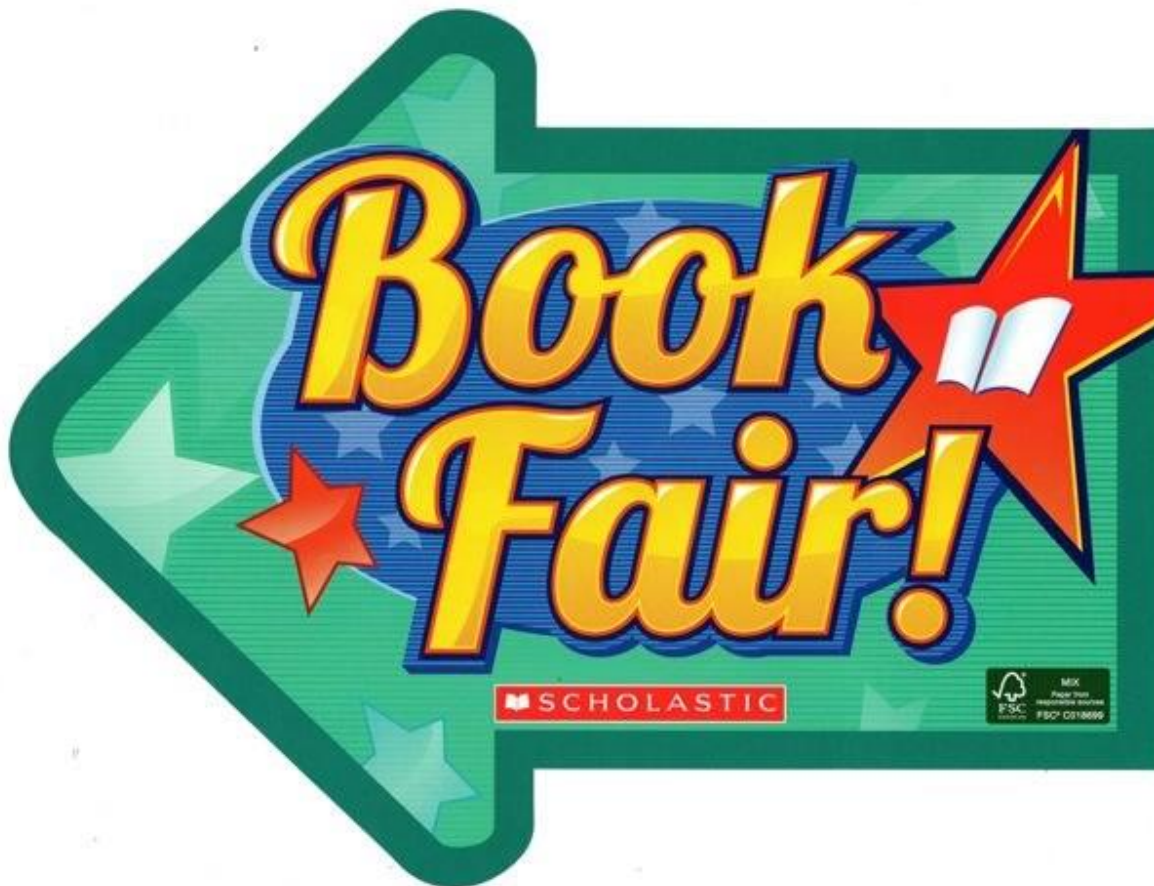
May – **Perseverance-**

June- **Courage-**



<https://sway.office.com/j3Upbxxm1amErBIX#content=pJwNzd91eZiJnL>

Book Fair



A Big THANK YOU!!!

Thanks to everyone for their support of our recent Book Fair which ran from the 16th-20th of September. As a community we were able to earn over \$1400 worth of books and resources for our School!!

What a great community!!

Mrs. Smith

We are learning to sort by putting items in groups by attribute.





School Community Council

SCC Meeting—Wednesday, October, 30 @ 5:30pm in The library - Everyone is welcome.

The role of the School Community Council Members is to act as a link between the council and the community, and to reflect the views of parents during the decision-making process.

The council typically meets on the last Thursday of most school months.

Proposed dates for the 2018-2019 school year:

Wed. Oct. 30, 5:30pm

Nov. 28, 5:30pm

Jan. 30, 5:30pm

Feb. 27, 5:30pm

Mar. 26, 5:30pm

May 28, 5:30pm

Membership of the SCC May Include:

- School Principal or Vice Principal—non-voting member
- One teacher—voting member
- One community member—voting member
- One support staff member—voting member
- A minimum of 6 and maximum of 11 parents/guardians of students enrolled at Westney Heights P.S. —voting members
- 2 rotating representatives from student council—non voting member

School Volunteers



Volunteers at Westney Heights

There are many programs and events in our school that rely on community volunteers. We are so happy to have an active volunteer group at Westney Heights. Some of the ways volunteers help are: Additional supervision on field trips Driving to sports events Helping at special events such as the Terry Fox Run Reading with students Preparing our Health Snack program Scientist in the Schools Classroom special events All of our volunteers who will spend time with students require a volunteer police check. We understand that this may be different expectation than in the past. If you are interested in being a volunteer at Westney Heights, please inform the office to receive a personalized volunteer check letter. This letter can be brought to any police station and the cost of the volunteer check is reduced.

Dates of Significance



Faith Days in October:

October 9 -Yom Kippur

October 13-20 Sukkot

October 19-Dussehra

October 21 Simchat Torah

October 27 Diwali

October 29 Birth of the Bab

October is Hispanic Heritage Month, Islamic History/Heritage Month, and Women's History Month

Hispanic Heritage Month Ontario is home to more than 400,000 first-, second- and third-generation Canadians of Hispanic origin. As early as 1914, Canadians who originated from the 23 Hispanic countries began immigrating to the province and today the Hispanic community is one of the fastest growing in Ontario. Hispanic-Canadians represent a dynamic community that has made significant contributions to the growth and prosperity of the Province of Ontario. October is a significant month for the Hispanic community. Each year, during the month of October, peoples of Hispanic origin around the world come together and pay tribute to their shared culture. Celebrations are held around the world, such as Hispanic Day (Día de la Hispanidad), the Day of the Cultures (Día de las Culturas), Day of the Race (Día de la Raza), Day of Respect for Cultural Diversity (Día del Respeto a la Diversidad Cultural), Day of Indigenous Resistance (Día de la Resistencia Indígena), and the commemoration of Hispanic Heritage Month in North America. In 2014, the City of

"Consciousness and healing melt the seals keeping the blueprint of oppression locked inside individuals and organizations." -Anne Bishop

Toronto joined in this commemoration and officially named October as Hispanic Heritage Month.

Source: <https://www.ola.org/en/legislative-business/bills/parliament-41/session-1/bill-28>

Islamic History/Heritage Month

Muslims have been contributing to all aspect of Ontario's prosperity and diverse heritage for generations. Islamic history and culture encompasses a broad range of individual and collective experiences, as well as important contributions to literature, math, science, art and history. In 2007 the Government of Canada declared the month of October in each year as Canadian Islamic History Month. The Province of Ontario recognizes and wishes to affirm the important contributions that Muslims make in Ontario as part of the vibrant social, economic, political and cultural fabric of our province. Proclaiming a month to be Islamic Heritage Month in Ontario will provide all Ontarians, both today and in future generations, with an opportunity to reflect, celebrate and learn about the rich and longstanding Islamic history in the Province and the diverse roles and contributions of Muslim people in communities across Ontario. This new understanding will in turn help combat anti-Islamic sentiment.

Source: <https://www.ola.org/en/legislative-business/bills/parliament-41/session-2/bill-23>

Women's History Month

October is Women's History Month in Canada, a time to celebrate the achievements and contributions of women and girls across the country and throughout our history. This 2019 theme is still #MakeAnImpact, in honour of the women and girls who've made a lasting impact as pioneers in their

field. Whether as business leaders, politicians, researchers, artists or activists, these women of impact have helped shape Canada into a thriving, diverse and prosperous country through their achievements and desire to make a difference. As part of the celebrations, we launched Women of Impact in Canada, an online gallery that celebrates the achievements of more than 100 women and girls through photos and biographies that capture some of their many successes. The gallery is an educational resource, an introduction to the lives of these remarkable women, and a starting point for further discovery. Learn more about their contributions by exploring the gallery's interactive map and timelines, as well as the Learning Toolkit. As always, educators are encouraged to seek to reflect and/or promote inquiry of a range of identities under the umbrella of people who identify as women. <https://cfc-swc.gc.ca/commemoration/whm-mhf/theme-en.html>

Additional Resource:
<http://www.etfo.ca/buildingajustsociety/womensissues/pages/whm.aspx>

October 2nd National Custodial Worker's Day

On October 2nd National Custodial Worker's Recognition Day is a day set aside to show appreciation to the people who keep our schools and workplaces across the nation running smoothly. Custodial workers operate behind the scenes and are often under-appreciated for the hard work they do day after day keeping schools, hospitals, office buildings, museums, churches and other buildings clean and well maintained. While delivering outstanding services and running a well-maintained operation building, they contribute to important first impressions and the success of any business.

HOW TO OBSERVE If you know a custodial worker, THANK THEM. Use #CustodialWorkersRecognitionDay to post on social media. And we can all do our part to help them do their jobs too. We can be clean ourselves by keeping work stations clean, picking up after ourselves in the lunch/break room and even do some light dusting around our desk, office or cubicle. There is no reason to leave a mess for anyone else when we can simply do our part to help.

Source: <https://nationaldaycalendar.com/national-custodial-workers-recognition-day-october-2/>

October 5 th World Teacher's Day (UNESCO)

World Teachers' Day commemorates the anniversary of the adoption of the 1966 ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers. This recommendation sets benchmarks regarding the rights and responsibilities of teachers and standards for their initial preparation and further education, recruitment, employment, and teaching and learning conditions. The Recommendation concerning the Status of Higher-Education Teaching Personnel was adopted in 1997 to complement the 1966 Recommendation by covering teaching and research personnel in higher education. With the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goal 4 on education, and the dedicated target (SDG 4.c) recognizing teachers as key to the achievement of the 'Education 2030 agenda, WTD has become the occasion to mark progress and reflect on ways to counter the remaining challenges for the promotion of the teaching profession. World Teachers' Day is co-convened in partnership with UNICEF, UNDP, the International Labour Organization, and Education International. In 2019, World Teachers' Day will celebrate teachers with the theme, "Young Teachers: The future of the Profession." The day provides the occasion to celebrate the teaching profession worldwide, to take stock of achievements, and to address some of the issues central for attracting and keeping the brightest minds and young talents in the profession.

Source: <https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/worldteachersday>

October 11th International Day of the Girl

On International Day of the Girl Child (11 October), themed “With Her: A Skilled GirlForce”, join UN Women as we stand with girls everywhere as they inspire, innovate and take charge of their own future. “This is a critical time for the girls of our world” On the International Day of the Girl Child, Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, UN Under Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN Women, writes a letter to all the girls of the world to celebrate their strength and the potential. Read more» The 1.1 billion girls of today’s world are challenging the status quo. They’re redefining girlhood, and they’re doing so against the odds. Across the world, girls face adversities that hinder their education, training and entry into the workforce. They have less access to information, communication technology and resources, such as the internet where the global gender gap is growing. A quarter of young people, most of them girls, are neither employed nor getting an education or training. This year alone, 12 million girls under 18 will be married, and 21 million girls aged 15 to 19 years will become pregnant in developing regions. And yet, they persist, they succeed. They are innovating technology to solve global challenges, they are standing up for the environment, they are raising their voices against violence and they are preparing to run for office.

Source: <https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/girl-child>

October 14th Thanksgiving Day

Traditions of giving thanks long predate the arrival of European settlers in North America. First Nations across Turtle Island have traditions of thanksgiving for surviving winter and for receiving crops and game as a reward for their hard work. These traditions may include feasting, prayer, dance, potlatch, and other ceremonies, depending on the peoples giving thanks. When it comes to European thanksgivings in Canada, we have a few tales to tell.

Source: <https://www.canadashistory.ca/explore/arts-culture-society/the-history-of-thanksgiving-in-canada>

October 17 th International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

Theme: “Acting together to empower children, their families and communities to end poverty” This year marks the 30th anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) on 20 November 1989. This landmark human rights treaty sets out the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of every child, regardless of their race, religion or abilities. In particular, the Convention recognizes the right of every child to a standard of living adequate for the child’s physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development. Poverty hurts children’s development and, in turn, leads to lower income and health in adulthood. When child poverty is recognized as a denial of children’s human rights then people in positions of responsibility and power are legally bound to promote, protect and fulfil children’s rights. Above all, it is imperative to recognize and address the specific discriminations experienced by the girl child.

Source: <https://www.un.org/development/desa/socialperspectiveondevelopment/international-day-for-the-eradication-of-poverty-homepage/2019-2.html>

October 24th United Nations Day

UN Day marks the anniversary of the entry into force in 1945 of the UN Charter. With the ratification of this founding document by the majority of its signatories, including the five permanent members of the Security Council, the United Nations officially came into being.

October 31st Halloween

Halloween is observed annually on the night of 31 October. It is believed to have originated primarily as a Celtic celebration marking the division of the light and dark halves of the year, when the boundary between the living and the dead was believed to be at its thinnest. Halloween customs, such as wearing disguises to ward off ghosts and offering food to appease malevolent spirits, were brought to Canada in the mid-to-late 1800s by Irish and Scottish immigrants. North America's first recorded instance of dressing in disguise on Halloween was in Vancouver, British Columbia, in 1898, while the first recorded use of the term trick or treat was in Lethbridge, Alberta, in 1927. Halloween became increasingly popular with adults beginning in the 1990s and by 2014 was estimated to be a \$1-billion industry in Canada, making it the second most commercially successful holiday behind Christmas.

Source: <https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/halloween>

October Upcoming Dates and Events



October

- 1 Bus safety presentations and bus evacuations
- 4 Cross country area meet (PM) @ Lekeridge
- 8 Cross country regional finals (AM) @ Lekeridge

- 10 Grade 3 Hazard House presentation
- 11 PA Day
- 14 Thanksgiving Day (Schools closed)
- 21-25 Spirit Week
- 24 DDSB Volunteer of Distinction ceremony 7pm @DDSB
- 25 Healthy Hunger Lunch (Genasys Caribbean Fusion)
- 28-31 Vision Screening

OUR PROGRAM



INDOOR SOCCER

BOYS AND GIRLS

DEVELOPMENTAL AND GAMES



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SEASON END
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FUN, FUN AND
MORE FUN

TO REGISTER

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AGES U3-U12

Registration Closes on October 12th, 2019

For more information please

email info@ajaxsoccer.ca or call 905.683.0740

U11 and U12 schedule could change based on numbers.

Contact Us



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Visit us on the web: [Westney Heights Homepage](#)

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[@Westney_Heights](#)

Did you know that Westney Heights has it's own Twitter account?

[@Westney Heights](#)

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