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Mr. M. Ward
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Newsletter #4: December 1, 2017



While the dark days of December are here, there are many great activities happening at Whiteside to keep things bright. The many opportunities at Whiteside, supporting students with a wide array of needs and strengths, ensures that everyone has a place where they can shine. The Remembrance Day assembly was a beautiful demonstration of the caring and respect our students can show, both by listening quietly, and performing a number of songs and poems. As we head towards the holidays, we have both a musical and a band concert to look forward to, thanks to the hard work of Ms. Lozovsky-Burns. Whiteside is truly a fabulous community.

Reporting

With two types of reporting occurring, you can expect to either be receiving a portfolio check-in, or a regular report on December 21st. For those whose classroom teachers are using portfolios, you can expect the following:

1. Ongoing portfolio posts by your children and their teachers
2. Dec 21st Learning check-in
3. Week of Feb 20th Conference and mid-year summary
4. Apr 20th Learning check-in/ optional conferences
5. June 28th End of year summary



For those receiving regular report cards you can expect the following

1. Dec 21st Summative report card
2. Feb 20th and 21st Conferences
3. March 14th Summative report card
4. June 28th Summative report card

Band Concert

On Tuesday, December 12th, at 7:00 pm, grade 6 and 7 band students will be showcasing their skills. There will be a demonstration for the rest of the school at 1:30 pm on the same day. Parents are welcome.



Winter Musical

Our Christmas Musical, "Dear Santa" will be presented on Tuesday, December 19th, at 1:30pm and 6:30pm. Please bring non-perishable food items to support the food-bank collection.





Holiday Wish

As many of you know, we are supporting a number of families with our Holiday Wish program.

Please ensure that your gifts are in by Friday, December 15th.

Photos with Santa

On Thursday, December 14th each class will have the opportunity to visit Santa and have their photo taken for \$1. All proceeds will go to support our Holiday Wish families.



Food Drive



The food drive begins this Monday, December 4th.

Whiteside will be collecting non-perishable food or cash donations for the food bank before school and at lunch in the front hallway.

For each item a student donates, they will receive an entry into our gingerbread house raffle where they can win one of four gingerbread house kits.

Thank you for your support.



Snow Days At Whiteside

What To Expect:

Snow days cause inconvenience for all of us. Closing schools is a difficult decision for the school district – trying to weigh the safety of all with the repercussions for working families. To help assist families, we would like to outline what you can expect from us on a snow day.

The following things will happen:

1) Schools will be OPEN unless conditions reach civic emergency proportions. Radio announcements will only announce those schools that are CLOSED. Most of these will be private schools. For information, please listen to radio CKNW 980AM, NEWS 1130AM, CBC 690AM, 1470AM, CHQM 103.5FM or watch on television CBC, BCTV, City TV and CTV. Please do not phone the school. Staff will be too busy planning the day and ensuring students are safe and will not be able to answer the phone.

2) A “snow day” will not be a regular school day, as many students and teachers may be absent. We will ensure that the children are cared for and are safe. Many alternate activities may be planned so that students who are absent will not miss any work.

3) School will remain open until 3:00 p.m. and in the event that we have to close early, students will not be sent home without contacting parents first.



As parents, you have some choices on snow days:

- Students are not required to attend school on a snow day if you feel that their safety or your own safety may be at risk. You may keep them home.
- Make plans in advance for what you and your family will do on a snow day.
- You may send your child / children to school knowing that they may be participating in alternate activities for the day.

In summary, please plan that schools will be open in the event of snow. If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at the school.

PAC Corner

Wednesday, December 6th - 6:30pm PAC meeting

Friday, December 8th – A&W Hot Lunch and Movie Night (6:15pm)

Wednesday, December 6th – Friday, December 8th

Order
Pick Up

Purdy's, Gift Cards & Poinsettias

**The last day of school before the holiday break is Friday, December 22nd.
Happy Holidays!**



See you back on Monday, January 8th, 2018!