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Ms. M. Wong  
Vice Principal / Directrice  
adjointe

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**Newsletter #11: June 29, 2017**

## **See you in September!**

I can't believe that the school year is over. It has been an amazing first year at Whiteside Elementary School, and I have you, the parents and students (and of course our amazing teaching staff) to thank. It has been a fabulous adventure, filled with exciting learning experiences!

As a parent community you have done so much to support both teachers and students, and I am very aware of how lucky we all are. You volunteer your time and energy, to ensure that Whiteside students can have the best educational experiences possible, and this makes Whiteside a truly special place.

Thank you for all of your support through my first year as your principal. I look forward to the many years to come.

## **Staffing Update**

As some of you may be aware, this is a very different year in education. With the Collective Agreement language being restored, class size and composition are improving, which is opening up many more teaching jobs, and creating movement through our schools. Unfortunately, this means many of our Whiteside staff are leaving us. As the year draws to a close it is time to say a fond farewell to some of our staff members:

### **Farewell to continuing staff members:**

**Mme Mason**  
**Mme Lupini**  
**Mrs. Hunter**  
**Mr. Con**  
**Ms. MacDonald**  
**Ms. Bailey**

### **And those new to our staff this year:**

**Mme Oko**  
**Ms. Gaia-Maretta**  
**Mr. McCuaig**  
**Ms. Szlagowicz**



Mrs. Wong will also be moving on this year, and we will welcome Mr. Mitch Ward, our new Vice-Principal

Returning to us will be Ms Tsougrianis and Mrs. Lackner, both from maternity leave.



**September 5th**

The first day of school will be one hour long. Parents who wish to stay are invited to catch up with one another over tea and coffee in our Gym.

Students in Grades 1-3 will attend school on September 5 from 9:00-10:00 am  
Students in Grades 4-7 will attend school on September 5 from 1:00-2:00 pm

Kindergarten students will be mailed a gradual entry schedule by the end of the first week in July.

A list of which classrooms to report to will be posted on our website and on the front door of the school by September 2.

## ***September 6-8***

Regular school hours 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

On Friday, September 8th, 2017, we hope to post new class lists on Mme Leclerc's windows by 8:30 a.m. and students will go to their new classrooms.



### **Looking for Things to Do This Summer?**

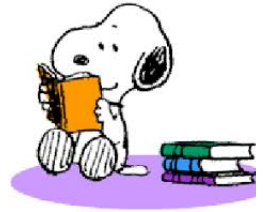
The summer is a time to get outdoors and explore your community.

Are you looking for inexpensive or free things to do with your family this summer? Here are some suggestions;

- ❖ FREE! The Ironwood Branch of the Public Library has FREE summer reading programs. They also have FREE shows and events. Check their website at [www.yourlibrary.ca](http://www.yourlibrary.ca) for more information.
- ❖ FREE! Take a trip to Steveston. Walk on the boardwalk, visit the fisherman in their boats or fly a kite at Garry Point park.
- ❖ FREE! Explore the Shell Road trail.
- ❖ Visit the Richmond Nature Park. Admission is by donation.
- ❖ FREE! Visit Centennial Beach in Tsawwassen and explore the beach environment and/or play on the giant adventure playground.
- ❖ FREE! Visit Stanley Park and walk on the seawall, go to the water park, play on the many playgrounds or relax on the beach.
- ❖ FREE! Visit Granville Island Water Park.
- ❖ Go swimming at one of Richmond's pools; South Arm, Steveston, Minoru or Watermania.
- ❖ FREE! Go fishing at the #3 Road pier.
- ❖ Go ice skating at Richmond Ice Centre
- ❖ FREE! Visit one of Vancouver's many beaches.
- ❖ FREE! Go on a hike along the Richmond dykes, or on the North Shore Mountains.
- ❖ Ride the Canada Line downtown and explore the Waterfront and Gastown. Hop on the Sea Bus and explore Lonsdale Quay.
- ❖ Richmond has many FREE special events on this summer. Find all events happening in Richmond at [www.richmond.ca/events](http://www.richmond.ca/events).
- ❖ There are many more FREE events put on by the City of Richmond and your local community associations this summer. Check out the leisure guide at <http://www.richmond.ca/culture/about/guide.htm> for all the details!



## Keep Up Your Reading and Math Skills This Summer!



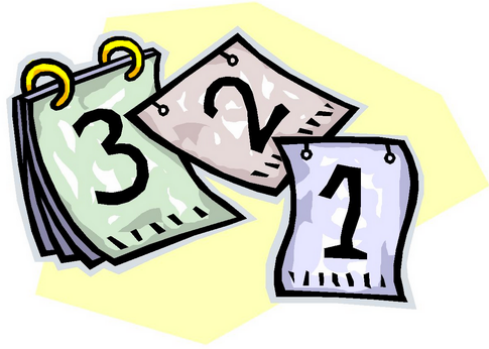
It's always a good idea for students to keep up their reading and math skills over the long summer break. Find books and magazines that interest your child at the local library and/or read the free local newspapers together to find out what is going on around our city.

### 2017/18 School Calendar

#### Length of School Day:

#### School Operation:

8:45	Students may enter the school
8:55	A.M. Bell
9:00	Morning classes begin
10:40-10:55	Recess
12:35-1:27	Lunch (warning bell at 1:22)
3:00	Dismissal



**Office Hours:** 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Mon., Sept. 4	Labour Day
Tues., Sept. 5	First Day of School
Wed., Sept. 13	Band Rental Evening
Tue., Sept. 19	Individual Photo Day
Mon., Sept. 25	Pro-D Day
Thurs., Sept. 28	Terry Fox Run Meet the Teacher night
Fri., Oct. 6	Turkey Trot
Mon., Oct. 9	Thanksgiving
Wed., Oct. 11 -	Leadership Conference
Fri., Oct. 13	
Tue., Oct. 17	Early Dismissal
Wed., Oct. 18	Early Dismissal
Fri., Oct. 20	Pro-D Day
Fri., Nov. 10	Remembrance Day Assembly
Mon., Nov. 13	Remembrance Day Holiday
Fri., Nov. 24	Curriculum Implementation Day (no school)
Thurs., Dec. 14	Band Concert
Tues., Dec. 19	Winter Concert
Thurs., Dec. 21	Report Cards Home
Dec. 25 -Jan. 8	Winter Vacation
Mon., Jan. 26	Pro-D Day
Mon., Feb. 12	Family Day
Tues., Feb. 20	Early Dismissal
Wed., Feb. 21	Early Dismissal
Fri., Feb. 23	Pro-D Day
Wed., Mar. 14	Report Cards Home
Fri., Mar. 16 -	Spring Break
Fri., Mar. 30	
Mon., Apr. 2	Easter Monday
Mon., Apr. 23	Pro-D Day

Fri., May 18	Pro-D Day
Mon., May 21	Victoria Day
Thurs. May 24	Kindergarten Orientation
Thurs., May 31	LFI Orientation

Tues., Jun. 12	Parent/Staff Appreciation Luncheon
Thurs., Jun. 14	Band Concert
Fri., Jun. 15	Sports Day

Fri., Jun. 22	Gr. 7 Farewell
Thurs., Jun. 28	Report Cards Home
	Last Day of School
Fri., Jun. 29	Admin Day

## **Thank you PAC!**

A big thanks goes to our PAC members who work tirelessly on behalf of the parent community to raise funds so that the students at Whiteside can have technology, sports equipment, supportive learning environments and go on great field trips. They also work hard to provide community building events.



## **Happy Summer!**

On behalf of the Whiteside staff we wish you all a safe and fun summer! We look forward to hear about all your adventures when we return in September.

