



Ecole élémentaire James Whiteside Elementary School
9282 Williams Road, Richmond, B.C. V7A 1H1
Tel: 604-668-6209 Fax: 604-668-6419
Early Warning: 604-668-6154
Email Address: whiteside@sd38.bc.ca



Ms. R. Corneil
 Principal/Directrice

Ms. M. Wong
 Vice Principal / Directrice
 adjointe

Newsletter #7: March 1, 2017



Spring is almost here, and with it, more exciting learning experiences for the students of Whiteside. Many of our intermediate students are preparing speeches for our school-wide speech contest, while others are perfecting their performance acts for “Whiteside’s Got Talent”.

Sun Run training has continued, and the number of students who have signed up for both the 2.5 K and the 10 K races is growing; over 90 students at this time! Teachers have continued to participate in a number of professional growth experiences, which in turn are supporting our collaborative learning community. There is much to look forward to in the next few months.

School Safety – Changing our Habits:

Staff and parents are continuing dialogue in the development of an appropriate process to ensure the safety of our students, staff and visitors. Currently, we are asking parents/ family members to drop students off at the front lobby or door outlined by the classroom teacher. We are asking anyone entering the school, past the front lobby, to sign in and put on a visitor badge. If there are any changes in the specifics of the policy, parents/guardians will be notified by both a letter and a message on the school website.



Lockdown Drill:
 Tuesday, March 7th, 2017 at 12:00 pm



The Vancouver Sun Run



Students are continuing to train for the Sun Run. Mlle Mason and Ms. Corneil welcome anyone new who would like to join. Practices for students in Grades 5, 6, and 7 are on Monday and Friday mornings from 8:00 until the start of school, as well as Wednesday afterschool at 3:10. Students in Grades 2, 3 and 4 may join Wednesday afterschool practices, supported by McRobert students.



Speech Contests/ Concours – March 3rd



Students in our intermediate grades will be participating in speech contests the week of February 27th. Those who win the contests in their classes, will participate in a school-wide contest on Friday, March 3rd. The English speeches will begin at 11:45 am, and the French speeches will begin at 1:30 pm. The grade 6 and 7 French students who win at the school level may move on to the district-wide Concours. Many thanks to Mme Curran for coordinating this event. Parents are welcome to attend.

Whiteside’s GOT TALENT

Students have been preparing their acts for Whiteside’s Got Talent, a talent show occurring on Friday, March 10th at 1:30 p.m. We are excited to see a showcase of a multitude of acts. The kids always look forward to it. Thank you Mme Lupini, Mme Torrance, and Ms. L-B for making this annual event.



Reporting Season

Depending on whether or not your child is working with a portfolio/ conference system, or a report card system, March and April reporting sessions will be different. Those who participated in a student led informal conference on February 21st or 22nd, will receive a formal report card on March 9th. Those who received an informal paper report the week of February 20th, can expect a formal conference in April.



Spring Break will run from March 13th to March 24th. School will not be in session at this time. Classes will resume on March 27th.



Hip Hop will begin at Whiteside on Monday, March 27th and will continue for a two-week period. There will be a show on the afternoon of April 7th. Thank you to the PAC for making this happen.

Traffic Before and After School

It has come to our attention that parents and other family members are NOT FOLLOWING the appropriate guidelines for our parking/ drop –off spaces, making it inefficient and unsafe. Please respect the following:

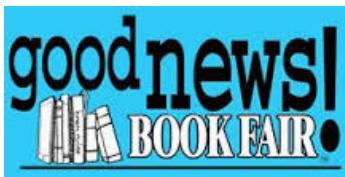


1. If your child is old enough and lives close by, consider having him/her **walk** to and from school – with a buddy. Alternately, arrange a drop off/pick up location nearby (if your child is old enough to responsibly walk a small distance).
2. If you do drive your child, please budget enough time. We don't want you to rush. On rainy days, traffic is slower and there are more cars entering our parking lot. Budget extra time. Students are welcomed at school as early as 8:45 am (15 minutes before school starts) so please don't leave your drive to the last moment.
3. We have had great success with the single entrance through our *western* most driveway (nearest South Arm). This really helps with the flow of traffic. Thank you.
4. After school, if you drive to pick up your child, **please pull into a stall**. As you enter our parking lot you may go either left (east – towards the front of the school) or right (west – towards South Arm pool). Either way, please park in a stall. The drop-off/ pick-up lane is not meant for parking – you are to remain in your car.

PAC Corner



PAC meeting – Monday, March 6th, at 6:30 with special guest Ornella Svalestuen. She will be speaking about the importance of having a Growth Mindset.



Our Book Fair last week, held during Parent-Teacher Conferences, was a great success. Thanks to all the parents who came out to browse the fair and purchase books. Thanks also to the wonderful parents who volunteered to help run the fair. The fair could not run without your assistance, and it is very much appreciated. This year, we were able to take approximately \$570.00 worth of books from the fair, and made about \$540.00 cash. These monies will be used to purchase books and other resources for the library.

Congratulations to our winners! Angela from division 13, Yirui from division 3, Matthew from division 13, Codie from division 8, Allysha from division 11, Sadie from division 5, Joddy from division 13 and Alex from division 6 all won a book from the fair through the Question of the Day contest. Codie in division 8 won the family event draw, which is worth \$25.00 worth of books. His teacher, Mr. Con, also won \$25.00 worth of books from the fair.

Thanks again to everyone for helping make this another successful Book Fair!



Training Partner Red Cross Babysitting

Registration open for grade 6+ students.
 Course at James Whiteside, May 1st, from 8:30am to 3:30pm.
 Link: <http://www.firstaidhero.com/babysitting-vancouver.html>



March 28th - Class Photos and Panorama
 March 30th - Spring Fair Planning Meeting
 March 27th - 31st - **CLOTHING DRIVE** Fundraiser



An Awesome Basketball Season Wolf Pack!

Our Grade 6 and 7 basketball teams have been practicing since January with the leadership of their coaches. We are especially excited to have the use of our scoreboard this year thanks to the PAC successfully securing a grant from G&F Financial Group. The scorekeepers have been doing a fantastic job making sure we are always on top of the baskets.

Thanks to this year's coaches; Ms. Yoshimaru, Ms. Bailey, Mrs. Wong, Ms. Adjei-Achampong and Mr. Ball for supporting this year's basketball teams! Thanks also goes to the numerous parents who have offered to drive to all our away games.

The Gr. 7 Girls and Boys teams will be participating in the annual McRoberts' Striker Tournament. They will have the opportunity to meet other feeder elementary schools. **COME OUT AND SUPPORT YOUR TEAM!!**

Tuesday, March 7th	Gr. 7 Boys and Girls games at 3:00 and 4:00 pm
Wednesday, March 8th	Gr. 7 Boys and Girls games at 4:30 pm
Thursday, March 9th	Gr. 7 Boys and Girls games at 3:00 pm