



École élémentaire James Whiteside Elementary School

9282 Williams Road, Richmond BC V7A 1H1

604-668-6209 | whiteside.sd38.bc.ca

Brett Cameron, *Directeur/Principal* | Sara Lai, *Directrice Adjointe/Vice Principal*

NEWSLETTER #1 – SEPTEMBER 5, 2025

TERRY FOX RUN

This year, Whiteside “ran across Canada” to recognize and celebrate Terry Fox’s achievements. Thank you to Mme Jien and her class for organizing and leading our run. Thank you to our PAC for providing our healthy, post-run snack. And thank you to Ms. Johnson and Ms. Dineen for their contributions. As a result of our fundraising, Whiteside raised over \$1000 and Ms. LB cut her hair this afternoon. Way to go Ms. LB and Whiteside!



PAC MEETINGS

PAC are amazing resources for our entire school community. A strong PAC bonds our school community with our families. PAC is an excellent way for our families to connect directly with the action at our school as well as develop relationships within the parent community. Our first meeting will be scheduled soon! Please reach out to our PAC at whitesidepac@hotmail.com for more information. Our first PAC meeting will be online at **7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 16.**



NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY and the NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

Just a reminder that school will be closed for our first professional development day of the year on **Monday, September 22.** Whiteside will also be closed in observance of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on Tuesday, September 30th. Our Orange Shirt Day assembly will be held on Monday, September 29th.



HOT LUNCH – YUMMY SLICE

Our PAC has opened ordering for our first hot lunch of the year, Yummy Slice on September 26th. Please visit <https://munchalunch.com/login> to order by September 19.

SCHOOL HOURS 2025-2026

Students welcomed for learning	8:40 a.m.
Recess	10:10 – 10:35 a.m.
Lunch	11:50 – 12:42 p.m.
Students dismissed	2:45 p.m.



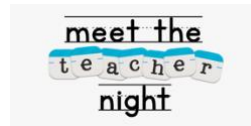
STUDENT PACKAGE OF FORMS:

Next week, we will send home a package of permission forms and information forms to be filled out and returned to your child’s teacher. It is important that we have up-to-date information, including contact numbers and appropriate medical information. During the year if anything changes, please let Ms. Huh know in the office as soon as possible.



STUDENT PHOTO DAY

Wednesday, October 8th is Photo Day here at Whiteside. Edge Photography will be taking individual pictures for families to purchase if they choose.



MEET THE STAFF NIGHT – THURSDAY!

We invite you to join us from 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 25 for Meet the Staff night.

We invite you inside Whiteside for scavenger hunt and some time to introduce yourself to your children’s teachers at 5:00 p.m. The evening will conclude at 6:00 p.m. Please remember that this is not a learning conference but an opportunity to say hi, share a little about your children and learn more about our school.

GRADE 7 FAREWELL HOODIES!

It’s that time of year for our Grade 7’s to order their Grade 7 farewell hoodies! Please order on SchoolCashOnline, where you will select your child’s preferences for size and style (the colour will be black). Sample sizes are available outside of the office. If you have any problems or concerns, please contact the office (whiteside@sd38.bc.ca). Orders are due **September 30th**. No late orders.



SCHOOL FEES

Every year we collect \$35 for our school fees which includes all basic supplies for our students for the year. There is an extra Cooking and Craft fee (\$22) for students in our Kindergarten and K/1 classes only.



There is an additional \$7 fee for school planners. Planners are an excellent way for grade one to seven students (grade 1-7 only), staff, and children to communicate school assignments and upcoming events. We encourage our students and their families to review their planner regularly.

There may also be additional costs for educational field trips during the year. Teachers and staff will be sharing a list of potential field trips and their associated cost shortly. Please use [CashOnline](#) to make your payment early. Please contact the office if you have questions about our school fees or need assistance in paying.



ALLERGY ALERT:

All families should be aware that Whiteside School has many students with severe, life-threatening food allergies. Some classrooms may be designated nut free to protect the health of these students. Please help us limit the nut products entering our school overall, as the impact on a student can happen anywhere in the school. If possible, please do not send food to school containing nuts.

Translate Site



TRANSLATE OUR SITE

Did you know you can translate our whiteside.sd38.bc.ca website? 😊



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PARKING LOT SAFETY

With school starting up, it is important to remind both drivers and pedestrians to keep traffic safety in mind and remain alert during their commutes.

Here are some tips for drivers, pedestrians, and parents from ICBC to make travelling to and from school safe for everyone.

Drivers

Stick to the Speed Limit

A 30 km/h speed limit is in effect in school zones from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. every school day, unless otherwise posted. In playground zones, a 30 km/h speed limit is in effect every day from dawn to dusk.

Scan Crosswalks and Intersections from Left to Right as You Approach

Watch for pedestrians waiting to cross, especially during school hours.

Leave Your Phone Alone

Distraction is the leading factor for drivers in crashes involving pedestrians and cyclists.

Notice if Other Drivers are Slowing Down or Stopping

If a vehicle is stopped in front of you or in the lane next to you, they may be yielding to a pedestrian, so proceed with caution and be prepared to stop.

Give Yourself Enough Stopping Distance

You need more time to stop when you're driving fast. At a slower speed, motorists have better chance to react when children or others are crossing the road. This could be the difference that saves a life.

Watch for School Buses

When their lights are flashing, vehicles approaching from both directions must stop.

Pedestrians

Cross Only at Marked or Controlled Crosswalks

Do not jaywalk or cross when it isn't your turn.

Look Both Ways Before Crossing the Street

Ensure it is safe to cross from both directions of traffic before setting foot on the crosswalk.

Make Eye Contact with Drivers Approaching the Crosswalk

Be certain they see you and that they've committed to slowing down to a stop.

Double-Check Lights and Signals are Working at Controlled Crosswalks

Make sure that the flashing traffic lights are operational and haven't timed out before crossing.

Parents

Let Your Child Enter and Exit Your Car on the Side Closest to the Sidewalk

It's safest to drop off and pick up as close to the sidewalk as possible. Do not allow your child to cross mid-block.

Before Starting Your Car, Check for Small Children Hidden from Your View

Walk around your car and always look carefully for pedestrians when backing up.



WEST COAST RECESS:

During recess and lunchtime breaks, students are expected to be outside at all times this year. Students are strongly encouraged to dress appropriately for the weather. You may also send a change of clothes to school just in case your child gets wet. Playing outside will ensure our students get some fresh air and exercise to enliven their day.

2025-2026 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Please visit our website or see our weekly email for next year's school calendar.



WHITESIDE WEBSITE

Our Whiteside website (<https://whiteside.sd38.bc.ca/>)

hosts important information and reminders. Please visit to check our calendar, read the newsletter, see our school story, sign up for SchoolCashOnline or Munch-a-Lunch, and more



OPTIONAL STUDENT INSURANCE:

The "InsureMyKids®" accident insurance program offers protection against the potentially high costs of any injury resulting from unexpected accidents and is especially valuable for families who:

- do not have medical or dental plans,
- have limited plans, as it may help supplement health and dental benefits, or
- have active children who enjoy sports and outdoor activities.

Please visit www.insuremykids.com for more information.



- Sept. 15-24 – HUB cycling begins for div. 1-6
- Sept. 22 – Non-Instructional Day (school closed)
- Sept. 25 – Meet the Teacher Night
- Sept. 29 – Orange Shirt Day Assembly
- Sept. 30 – National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (school closed)
- Oct. 8 – Individual photos
- Oct. 13 – Thanksgiving (school closed)
- Oct. 22 – Early Dismissal (students dismissed at 11:50)
- Oct. 24 – Provincial Pro-D (school closed)
- Oct. 27-31 – School wide dance classes