



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 #3 – SEPTEMBER 19, 2025

meet the teacher night

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.



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 next PAC meeting will be online at **7:45 p.m. on Tuesday, October 21.**



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT 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.



STUDENT PACKAGE OF FORMS:

Last week, we sent 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.



TRANSLATE OUR SITE

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

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.



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.

BIKE AND SCOOTER SAFETY

We see a lot of our Wolfpack riding and scooting to school every day. Way to go! To be safe on the streets and paths, **everyone must wear helmets** when riding or scooting. Wearing a helmet is the law in B.C. and you could be fined for not wearing one, or worse. Also, please do not ride or scoot on our drop off lane. Visit this link for more information about bike safety and see below for information about e-scooters.



DIGITAL DEVICE POLICY

In January 2024, the Ministry of Education and Child Care mandated all school boards in British Columbia to update their Codes of Conduct to include restrictions on students' personal digital device use.

Students should not have personal digital devices in their possession during the school day unless permission is granted by the supervising staff for educational purposes. This includes during recess and lunch or while outside on the playground or on school property. It is recommended that students do not bring personal digital devices to school.

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.





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2025-2026 SCHOOL CALENDAR

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



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.



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 information.



September 15-24 – HUB Cycling for div. 1-6
September 22 – Non-Instructional Day (school closed)
September 25 – Meet the Teacher Night from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.
September 26 – Hot Lunch (Yummy Slice)
September 29 – Orange Shirt Day Assembly
September 30 – National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (school closed)
October 8 – Individual photos
October 10 – Hot lunch
October 13 – Thanksgiving (school closed)
October 21 – PAC meeting at 7:45 p.m.
October 22 – Early Dismissal (students dismissed at 11:50)
October 23 – PAC Halloween Party
October 24 – Provincial Pro-D (school closed)
October 27-31 – School wide dance classes
November 3 – Photo retake day
November 10 – Remembrance Day assembly
November 11 – Remembrance Day
November 20/21 – PAC family photo nights
December 1 – Pro-D Day
December 10 – Winter band concert
December 16 – Winter musical
December 18 – Term 1 reports published
December 19 – Last day before winter break