



École élémentaire James Whiteside Elementary School

9282 Williams Road, Richmond BC V7A 1H1

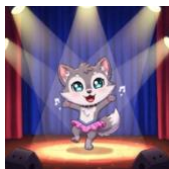
604-668-6209 | whiteside.sd38.bc.ca

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

NEWSLETTER #24 – February 27th, 2026

WHITESIDE'S GOT TALENT

Ms. LB and Ms. Johnson host our annual talent show at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, March 13 in the gym. We look forward to showcasing the amazing talents and abilities of our Wolfpack. Families are invited to attend.



WHITESIDE BASKETBALL

Our Whiteside basketball teams finish their season next week at the McRoberts' Strikers tournament on March 3rd and 4th.



PLAY n' EAT – FRIDAY MORNINGS



Our Play n' Eat breakfast club is on Friday mornings. Students are welcome to join us in the gym at 8:10 a.m. for light snacks and free games.

PARENT GUIDE TO EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Please visit our school website, whiteside.sd38.bc.ca, to view our district guide to emergency preparedness to better understand our district procedures, emergency drills, communication protocols, and the student reunification process.



UNIVERSAL HOT LUNCH

Utilizing Feeding Futures as well as National School Food Program funding, the Richmond School District has piloted a universal hot lunch program at selected elementary and secondary schools. The Universal Hot Lunch program will continue for the rest of the year. Ordering is now open on munchalunch.com.



Translate Site



TRANSLATE OUR SITE

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

SUMMER LEARNING 2026

The Summer Learning program and registration dates are now published on our continuing-education website. You can find summer learning 2026 general information on at <https://ce.sd38.bc.ca/programs/summer-learning>.



WOLF WEAR WEDNESDAYS

To show our school spirit, we invite our students, staff and community to wear their favourite Wolf gear every Wednesday!

March 2-6 – Fusion Lacrosse Week (Thanks, PAC!)
March 3/4 - McRoberts Basketball Jamboree
March 4 – Kindergarten hearing screening
March 13 – PAC Hot Lunch
March 13 – Talent Show
March 13 – Last day before spring break
March 30 – First day back after spring break
April 3 – Good Friday (school closed)
April 6 – Easter Monday (school closed)
April 21 – Class Photos and Panorama
April 23 – Term 2 report cards posted online
May 15 – Pro-D day (school closed)
May 18 – Victoria Day (school closed)
May 20 – Welcome to Kindergarten event
May 20-22 – Gr. 6 Camp at Cheakamus Centre
June 19 – Grade 7 Farewell
June 25 – Final day of school for students



FUSION LACROSSE AT WHITESIDE

We are thrilled to welcome Fusion Lacrosse into our gym from March 2 – 6 to teach our students the exciting fundamentals of Canada's national summer sport! Our Wolves are going to have a fantastic time getting active, learning new

stick skills, and practicing teamwork with these expert coaches. A massive thank you to our PAC for generously sponsoring this program and making this fun opportunity a reality for our school community.

FROM OUR WHITESIDE WOLVES:

This week students in intermediate French classes (both French Immersion and Core French) visited the Oval for Festival Franco. These are two reflections from our students on this amazing celebration of French culture.

“J'ai aimé les jeux qu'on a joués et j'ai aussi aimé qu'il y a des autres écoles parce que mes autres amis étaient là. Je pense qu'ils ont bien fait à mettre les jeux très amusants et qu'il y a des différentes heures pour manger le dîner.” - Zachary, Div 3

“Au Festival Franco, j'ai aimé comment il y avait beaucoup des jeux que nous pouvons jouer. La nourriture qu'ils ont fourni était délicieuse. Le concert de FLOFranco était amusant.” - Aiden, Div 3





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EXTENDED ABSENCES

During the year students may be absent from school for an extended period. It is district policy that students may only be absent for 4 (four) consecutive weeks and retain their place in the school. Upon returning, students may have to re-register at the school board office. If Whiteside is full, the district will find space in the nearest available school. Teachers will not provide work for students on extended absences. ***Our extended absence form needs to be completed if you are planning an absence for a week or longer.***



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. 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, April 21.**



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. It is more important than ever that students have a spare change of clothes at school. Especially the little ones! Please make sure to include pants, socks, shoes and shirts! Playing outside will ensure our students get some fresh air and exercise to enliven their day.



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 (phones, tablets, smart watches, or computers) 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.



Richmond School District 38 is excited to welcome kindergarten registration applications for children born in 2021, turning 5 in 2026. These children will begin kindergarten in September 2026. Online registration opens on November 1, 2025. Please visit our website <http://www.sd38.bc.ca/kindergarten> for more information about our online registration process, required documents, important dates, and FAQs.

Families are encouraged to register any time during the Priority 1 registration period (November – January) for the best chance at attending their catchment school. All registration applications received any time during the Priority 1 registration period will receive placement decisions by February 2025.

Instead of in person information evenings this year, we have posted short videos that provide our new parents with information about the registration process, English Language Learner (ELL) assessments, and District Program Options – Early French Immersion and Montessori. These videos are available in English and Mandarin. Please view the videos at <http://www.sd38.bc.ca/kindergarten>.



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.