



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 #28 – April 10th, 2026



SMILE - CLASS PHOTO DAY

April 21 is class photo day. Our photographers will be on site to take group, class, and school photos in the morning.

TRACK ATTACK

Our "Track Attack" program for our Grade 4-7 students this week! As an exciting part of our physical education curriculum, students will rotate through a variety of track and field stations to build their skills, practice good sportsmanship, and try new activities. Our stations include classic events like the High Jump, Long Jump, Shot Put, Relays, Sprints, Long Distance, and the Softball Throw. We are also very excited to introduce two brand-new events this year: Frisbee and the Football Throw! Students will be practicing at these stations on upcoming Friday afternoons (April 17th, 24th, and May 1st) as we prepare for our school Track Meet on Monday, May 11th. Let's get out there, stay active, and have some fun!



HOT LUNCH – APRIL 17

Our next hot lunch is Yummy Slice Day on April 17. Please remember to send a recess snack and water bottles. Thank you, PAC!

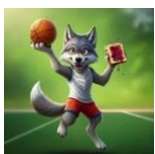
PARENT GUIDE TO EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

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.



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>.



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.

TRANSLATE OUR SITE



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



April 15 – McRoberts band concert at Whiteside

April 21 – Class Photos and Panorama

April 23 – Term 2 report cards posted online

May 11 – Track Meet at Minoru

May 15 – Non-Instructional 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 12 – Sports Day

June 19 – Grade 7 Farewell

June 25 – Final day of school for students

FROM MR. CAMERON:

As many of you know, today, April 10, was my last day as principal of École Élémentaire Whiteside Elementary before I move on to help open a new school in our district. It has been an absolute privilege to work with your children over the last four years, and I am deeply grateful for the strong, supportive partnership we have built together as a community. While it is hard to say goodbye, I know the school is in excellent hands with Ms. Lai and Mme Rooney stepping in to lead for the remainder of the year. Thank you for welcoming me into your children's journeys, and I wish you all a wonderful, successful spring term.



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.**



WOLF WEAR WEDNESDAYS

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



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.



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MORNING ROUTINES AT WHITESIDE

Our Wolfpack are expected to enter school from their outside doors until 8:45 a.m. Please ensure that your children make their way to the back of the school to meet their teachers. This ensures that all children are met by their teacher or supervising adult and can begin the day with their class.

Play n' Eat is on Friday mornings only. Students who arrive earlier than 8:40 a.m. are welcome to play on the playground or line up early.



IMPORTANT: HOT LUNCH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Thank you to our PAC for providing yummy hot lunches. We need more volunteers to join us on our PAC hot lunch days to organize and distribute the meals to our students. Without the hard work of this team, our hot lunches can't happen. If you can help, please email our team at jameswhitehotlunch@gmail.com.

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.



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.***



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.



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.