



NEWSLETTER #15

December 16th, 2022



WINTER HOLIDAYS

To celebrate the winter holidays, Whiteside will be closed from December 17th –

January 2nd. We will reopen for a new season of learning on Tuesday, January 3rd.



WINTER BAND CONCERTS AND MUSICAL

Thank you to Ms. LB, our dedicated staff, our stage crew, and all our performers.

Our performances were a festive and amazing way to ring in the holidays!



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 and an invitation link for our next PAC meeting.



SNOW DAYS

On a snow day, our school will remain open if possible. No announcement will be made

saying that schools will be open. **Only closures will be announced** via the SD38 Twitter account, school and district websites, and on the radio at CKNW AM 980, News AM 1130, CBC AM 690, Fairchild AM 1470, CHQM FM 103.5. Closures will be announced as early as possible.

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!



"IN" DAYS AND "OUT" DAYS:

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.



COMMUNICATING STUDENT LEARNING

Our report cards this year were posted on the [MyEdBC parent portal](#) on Thursday, December 15th. We encourage our parent community to log on and review your child's fall report card. Core Competency reflections will be sent home or posted on your child's SD38 portfolio. We hope you and your children enjoy a conversation about their learning together.



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Richmond School District 38 is excited to welcome kindergarten registration applications for children born in 2018, turning 5 in 2023. These children will begin kindergarten in September 2023. Online registration opens on November 1st, 2022. Please visit our website <http://www.sd38.bc.ca/kindergarten> for more information about our online registration process, required documents, important dates, and FAQs.

EXTENDED ABSENCES

During the year students may be absent from school for an extended period of time. It is district policy that students



may only be absent for 4 (four) consecutive weeks and retain their place in the school. **After 4 weeks, students will be removed from the school register.** Upon returning, students will have to re-register at the school board office. If we have space, your child will be placed in a class, but not necessarily the class they left. It will take a few days for your child to be placed, so he/she cannot begin school on the day you return. 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.**



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 in order 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 at all possible, please do not send food to school containing nuts.



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LATE ENTRY & ABSENCES

We understand that things happen in the morning that can derail your normal routines. If students are late in the morning, please ring the doorbell and wait at the main door. A member of our staff will greet the students and bring them to their class. All family members must remain outside.



If you know your child will be away, please call the school office and leave a message at any time (604-668-6209 or 604-668-6154). You can also email absences to whiteside@sd38.bc.ca. Informing the office will prevent unnecessary calls home. Thank you!



PARKING LOT SAFETY

Please help keep our students safe by using the drop off zone for picking up and dropping off students only. Please do not

leave your car unattended in the drop off zone; if you need to come into the school, please park in a designated parking space. When walking to school, please use the designated paths south and adjacent to the driveway as you enter the school grounds. Please follow arrows to keep our students safe and keep our parking lot accident free. Please remember the east parking lot is for school and construction staff only. Please do not park or drop off children in this area.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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|-------------|-------------------------------|
| Jan. 3 | Whiteside re-opens |
| Jan. 19 | Kung Jaadee performance |
| Jan. 30 | Pro-D |
| Feb. 17 | Pro-D |
| Feb. 20 | Family Day |
| March 10 | Last day before Spring Break |
| March 27 | Whiteside re-opens |
| April 7 | Good Friday – school closed |
| April 10 | Easter Monday – school closed |
| April 24-26 | Gr. 6/7 camp |
| May 17 | Welcome to Kindergarten |
| May 19 | Pro-D |
| May 22 | Victoria Day – school closed |
| June 13 | K/1 and 6/7 Immunization |
| June 16 | Sports Day |
| June 24 | Gr 7 Farewell |
| June 29 | Last day for students |