



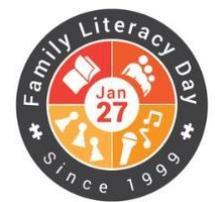
NEWSLETTER #18

January 20th, 2023



LUNAR NEW YEAR

Lunar New Year is Sunday, January 22nd. We want to wish all of our families who celebrate Lunar New Year a happy and prosperous year ahead.



FAMILY LITERACY WEEK

The provincial [Family Literacy Day](#) is January 27th. The theme for Literacy Day is "Celebrate your Heritage". Canada is a great diverse country full of different

cultures. Take time to explore and learn about your heritage. Celebrate what you've found and share your culture with others. There's no better way to learn about your family, than together as a family.

[Family Literacy Week](#) is coming up from January 22 - 29! This year's theme is "Make it count! Play * Sort * Measure." Numeracy is everywhere. Children start using math the moment they start exploring the world. Sorting, counting and measuring are ways of playing with math. Talking about math with children helps build a positive attitude towards math. Math talk helps your child connect math with daily activities.



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 or park in staff parking spots;** if you need to come into the school, please park in a parking space closer to

South Arm Community Centre. 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.

PARENT SURVEY

Each year the Ministry of Education asks parents, grade 4&7 students, and school staff to complete a learning survey. Please take a little time to visit www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm to share your thoughts and ideas. Your opinions will help guide the future of education in BC.



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!



WOLFPACK BASKETBALL

We are excited to welcome back Wolfpack basketball this season.

Girls' team:

Coach: Mr. Pelletier

Practices: Monday at lunch/Wednesday after school

Gr. 7 boys' team:

Coaches: Mme. Howells and Mr. McCuaig

Practices: Tuesday after school/Wednesday at lunch

Gr. 6 boys' team:

Coaches: Mme. Navin and Mr. Cameron

Practices: Monday after school/Thursday at lunch

Our game schedule:

Jan 25th - Maple Lane Girls @ Whiteside

Jan 26th - Whiteside Gr. 7 Boys @ Maple Lane

Feb 2nd - Bridge Boys @ Whiteside Gr. 7 Boys

Feb 2nd - Whiteside Girls @ Bridge

Feb 9th - Whiteside Girls @ Maple Lane

Feb 9th - Maple Lane Boys @ Whiteside Gr. 7 Boys

Grade 6 boys' team games will be scheduled shortly



WEST COAST PLAY

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. To be prepared to be outside in the rain it is important for

your child to have appropriate clothing such as:

- A rain jacket
- Rubber boots
- Rain pants
- An umbrella
- A rain hat or coat with a hood
- ***A change of clothes to be kept at school (sweatpants, underwear, socks, t-shirt, etc.)**
- When students use their change of clothes, please send another set to school for the next time.

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 on **February 21st**.

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.



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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 opened 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.



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.

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.***



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!



UPCOMING EVENTS

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| Jan. 24 | Spirit Assembly |
| Jan. 30 | Pro-D |
| Feb. 17 | Pro-D |
| Feb. 20 | Family Day |
| Feb. 28/Mar 1 | Student Led Conferences (early dismissal) |
| March 9 | Report cards posted |
| March 10 | Last day before Spring Break |
| March 27 | Whiteside re-opens |
| April 4-6 | Striker Gr. 7 Bball tournament |
| 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 |
| May 23 | McRoberts Gr. 7 Day |
| May 25 | Spring Fair |
| June 13 | K/1 and 6/7 Immunization |
| June 16 | Sports Day |
| June 23 | Gr 7 Farewell |
| June 29 | Last day for students |