



## NEWSLETTER #22

February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023



### PINK SHIRT DAY

Pink Shirt Day is on Wednesday, February 22! All members of the Whiteside community are encouraged to show their support to erase bullying by wearing pink shirts.

Help us “*lift each other*

*up*” and support programs that encourage healthy self-esteem and teach empathy, compassion and kindness.



### HOT LUNCH DAY - FRIDAY

Our next hot lunch day is Subway Day on Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup>.

### BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Every February, people in Canada are invited to participate in Black History Month festivities and events that honour the legacy of Black Canadians and their communities. The 2023 theme for Black History Month is: “*Ours to Tell*”. You can learn more about Black History Month [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#).

### 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](http://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.



### 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](mailto:whitesidepac@hotmail.com) for more information and an invitation link for our next PAC meeting on **February 21<sup>st</sup>**.



### 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!



### PRO-D DAY and FAMILY DAY

Whiteside will be closed on Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup> for our district professional development day and on Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup> for BC's Family Day.



### GRADE 6/7 CAMP UPDATE:

The deadline for the second payment of \$120 has been extended to Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup>. Please pay online. If you have any concerns, please contact Ms. Navin at [whiteside@sd38.bc.ca](mailto:whiteside@sd38.bc.ca). Also, we've inquired about additional WaterSafe dates, and there are no more dates for February. Starting

March, the City is moving to a new system where WaterSafe will be open to all and not booked by individual schools. When the City sends out the new registration codes in early March, we will forward them.



### WOLFPACK BASKETBALL

Our basketball season is slowly wrapping up. We have had a great season and look forward to carrying this success to the Strikers basketball tournament at McRoberts after spring break.

#### ***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



### 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.



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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 1<sup>st</sup>, 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.***



### 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](mailto:whiteside@sd38.bc.ca). Informing the office will prevent unnecessary calls home. Thank you!



### 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.



### 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.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb. 24	Hot lunch day
Feb. 28/Mar 1	Student Led Conferences (early dismissal)
March 9	Talent Show
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