



**SPRING BREAK**

Please remember that Whiteside will be closed from March 15 – April 1. We will welcome back our Wolfpack on Tuesday, April 2.

**WHITESIDE'S GOT TALENT**

Ms. LB and Ms. Johnson host our annual talent show at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 14. We look forward to showcasing the amazing talents and abilities of our Wolfpack.



**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION GR. 4&7 PARENT SURVEY**

Each year the Ministry of Education asks parents of grade 4&7 students, and school staff to complete a learning survey. Please take a little time to visit [http://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.



**WHITESIDE BASKETBALL**

Our Whiteside basketball season is about to start. Our coaches this year are Mme Howells, Mr. Lenz, Mr. McCuaig, and Mr. Pelletier. We look forward to our upcoming Strikers Tournament at McRoberts on March 11 – 13.

**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!



**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. 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.



**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. **Our next meeting is on Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.!** Please reach out to our PAC at [whitesidepac@hotmail.com](mailto:whitesidepac@hotmail.com) for more information.

**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. Only students in our breakfast program may enter the gym early during the week. We do not have morning supervision for students.



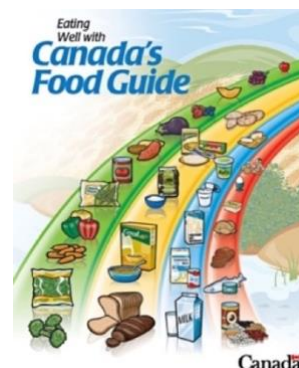
**SUBWAY DAY HOT LUNCH - MARCH 8**

Our next Hot Lunch Day will be on Friday March 8th featuring Subway sandwiches with choose your own toppings.



**HEALTHY EATING HABITS**

Creating a healthy food environment (The factors that affect your food choices, including whether you are able to access food, the types and quality of foods available, and the health information you need to make informed decisions) by shifting the focus to healthier foods helps children in many ways. It can:



- increase their access to healthy foods and drinks.
- limit their exposure to highly processed foods and drinks.
- show them what healthy meals and snacks consist of.
- help them use what they learn at school about healthy eating in other environments.

Learn more at:

<https://food-guide.canada.ca/en/tips-for-healthy-eating/parents-and-children/>



**FEEDING FUTURES**

Recently, the provincial government announced a new Feeding Futures School Program Fund, designed to assist schools in the development and enhancement of school meal programs and other nutritional supports for students. We currently provide breakfast and lunch options for students that need extra support during the school week. If you would like to request support for your child at school, please reach out to our principal, Brett Cameron ([bcameron@sd38.bc.ca](mailto:bcameron@sd38.bc.ca)).



**STUDENT AFFORDABILITY FUND**

Recently, the provincial government announced a new, one time [Student and Family Affordability Fund](#). This fund is designed to assist families who require financial assistance with school-related costs such as school and course fees, workbooks, specialty supplies, field trips and other school-related charges and costs. The additional funding will also be used to support school meal programs and other nutritional supports for students.



Currently, we are requesting that families reach out to our principal, Brett Cameron ([whiteside@sd38.bc.ca](mailto:whiteside@sd38.bc.ca)) if you need assistance with school supplies, fees, or other school-related costs. As always, all requests will be treated with dignity and your privacy will be respected. We want to work with our families to ensure that our students, your children, have everything they need to be successful at school. Please do not hesitate to reach out if we can help.



**WHITESIDE READING INFORMATION OF THE WEEK**

Have conversations before, during, and after reading together. Having conversations when

reading with children helps them develop higherlevel thinking and language skills, such as predicting, problem solving, or contrasting. While reading books aloud, ask the child questions and talk about the content of the story together before, during, and after reading.

- Use open-ended questions to ask the child to think about the book’s messages and what is happening. See the box below for examples of questions to ask children when reading different types of books.
  - Ask the child to apply the book’s messages to the world around him by connecting events to his own life.
  - Ask more and more complex questions, so the child continues to build her vocabulary and language skills.
- Example questions for informational books that explain facts about the world, such as books about animals:
- Why do birds fly south for winter?
  - Why is it important to recycle?
  - What would happen if you planted a tree in the desert?
- Example questions for narrative books that are about a series of events, whether fictional or nonfictional, such as stories:
- Why did the character do what he did?
  - What else could she have done?
  - If you were in that story, what would you have done?

Having conversations about what they are reading helps children build vocabulary and develop skills using language typically found in school settings. Building their skills to think and connect ideas from many contexts allows children to follow more complex language, which they might find in stories, instructions, and descriptions of historical events or nature.



**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.



**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.



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|----------|---------------------------------|
| Mar. 14  | Talent Show                     |
| Mar. 14  | Last day before Spring Break    |
| April 2  | Whiteside re-opens              |
| April 17 | Class photos                    |
| April 25 | Term 2 reports published        |
| May 1-3  | Grade 6 Outdoor Education trip  |
| May 13   | Speed Control concert           |
| May 17   | Pro-D day                       |
| May 20   | Victoria day                    |
| May 22   | Welcome to K event              |
| May 24   | Ian Maskin concert              |
| June 4   | Gr. 7 rafting trip              |
| June 14  | Sports Day                      |
| June 21  | Grade 7 farewell celebration    |
| June 27  | Last day of school for students |