



PAC HALLOWEEN PARTY

Our amazing PAC is having a Halloween party and dance is on October 29th. Our gym will transform into a spooky party at 5:30 p.m. with games, treats, a costume contest, and more family fun. At 6:30 p.m., we will clear the floor for a haunted dance party until 7:30 p.m.

“Trick or Treat” Others with Respect

The time to plan costumes is upon us. Halloween can be fun. However, we need to be aware that celebrating Halloween needs to be fun for ALL and not at the expense of equity seeking groups. Halloween offers an opportunity to have meaningful conversations about costume choices with colleagues and students and requires consideration. In doing so, it is important to keep in mind that we need to be sensitive to groups that have been marginalized through mimicry and cultural appropriation during Halloween and other ‘dress up’ events. A few things to keep in mind: It’s good to keep in mind that the following are NOT Costumes:

- RACE (black face/brown face)
- CULTURE (Indigenous regalia/dreadlocks)
- RELIGIOUS FAITH (religious figures/gods/saints/gurus/hijab)
- GENDER (gender switching for humour or to mock)
- TRAUMA (hangman’s noose/weapons)



RUN CLUB:

Thank you for all the support and enthusiasm for our 2024 Run Club. We enjoyed our healthy start to the day and the celebration at Garry Pt. Thank you to our parents and staff for their dedication.



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 **on Teams at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 22**. A link will be sent closer to our meeting. Check your email ☺



UNICYCLE, BIKE AND SCOOTER SAFETY

We see a lot of our Wolfpack riding and scooting to school every day. Way to go! To be safe on the streets and paths, **everyone must wear helmets** when riding or scooting. Wearing a helmet is the law in B.C. and you could be fined for not wearing one, or worse. Also, please do ride or scoot on our drop off lane. Visit [this link](#) for more information about bike safety and see below for information about e-scooters.



PRO-D DAY – FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25

Whiteside will be closed for our provincial pro-d day on Friday, October 25, 2024.



VOLLEYBALL SEASON

Mr. Whelan, Mme Rogak and our intermediate students started our new volleyball season with practices in our gym. Games are being scheduled for October, November and December. We

look forward to inviting you to our home games soon! Go Wolfpack!

October 30 – at Whiteside vs. Bridge (Gr. 7s)

November 6 – TBD

November 7 – TBD

November 13 – at Walter Lee (Gr. 6s)

November 14 – Maple Lane at Whiteside (Gr. 6s)

November 20 - TBD

November 21 – TBD

November 27 – Lee at Whiteside (Gr. 7s)

PARKING LOT SAFETY: A FRIENDLY REMINDER

Drop-off and pick-up times can get hectic! Let's work together to keep our parking lot safe for everyone. Please remember these important points:



- *Drive slowly and cautiously:* Children can be unpredictable, so always be alert and watch for pedestrians.
- *Use designated parking spaces only:* Do not park in the fire lane or drive-thru lane, as this blocks traffic flow and creates hazards.
- *Hold your child's hand:* Always supervise young children and hold their hands when walking through the parking lot.
- *Be aware of your surroundings:* Look for moving vehicles and be mindful of blind spots when backing up.

Thank you for your cooperation in making our school a safe place for all!



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 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.



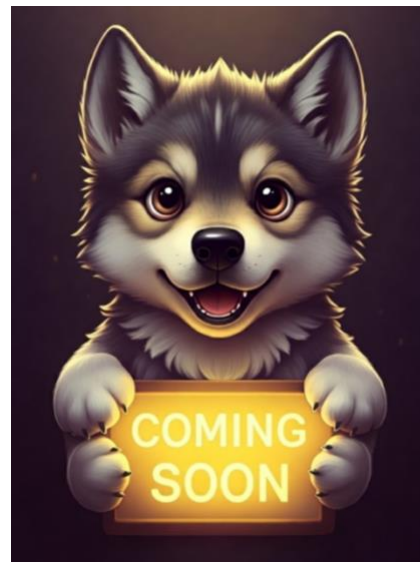
WEST COAST RECESS:

During recess and lunchtime breaks, students are expected to always be outside. 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.



DARE:

Students in grades 5 and 6 are now participating in the DARE program with the Richmond RCMP. The DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program equips students with the knowledge and skills to make safe and responsible choices, helping them avoid involvement with drugs, alcohol, and risky behaviors. Through engaging lessons and discussions, the program empowers children to build confidence and make positive decisions that will benefit them throughout their lives.



- Oct. 29 Halloween Party & Dance at 5:30 p.m.
- Nov. 1 Hot lunch (pizza)
- Nov. 8 Remembrance Day assembly at 1:00 pm
- Nov. 11 Remembrance Day (school closed)
- Nov. 14 TCO2 for Gr. 4-7
- Nov. 15 Hot lunch (Subway)
- Nov. 25 Pro-D (school closed)
- Nov. 29 Hot lunch (pizza)
- Dec. 10 Winter Concert
- Dec. 13 Hot lunch (White Spot)
- Dec. 17 Winter Musical
- Dec. 19 Reports published to MyEdBC
- Dec. 20 Last day before Winter Break



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.

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) 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.