



HOLIDAY WISH RETURNS

The Holiday Wish Committee and Whiteside PAC are fundraising to support families in need this holiday season. You can help by purchasing a gift through the provided link, donating to the coin

drive from November 26-29, making a cash donation through SchoolCash Online, or buying a gift card for Walmart, Save-On-Foods, or Safeway through the PAC fundraiser. Any contribution will help ensure all Whiteside families can enjoy the holidays.

PHOTO RETAKES

Our photographer will be back for retakes on November 13th.



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 **in our library later this month**. Childminding will be available.



HOT LUNCH

Sushi Lovers Day is on Thursday, November 21. Thank you, PAC, for your delicious lunches! Remember to bring a recess snack.



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!

November 13 – at Walter Lee (Gr. 6s)

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

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



BAND CONCERTS AND MUSICAL

Ms. LB is busy preparing this year's winter concerts and school musical. Please save the following dates to watch your children shine:

Dec. 10 – Band Concert at 1:30 pm/7:00 pm

Dec. 17 – Musical performance at 1:30 pm/6:30 pm

REMEMBRANCE DAY

WHITESIDE CLOSED

Whiteside will be closed on Monday, November 11th in observance of Remembrance Day. We encourage our families to honour this day at a local event or together as a family.



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Richmond School District 38 is excited to welcome kindergarten registration applications for children born in 2020, turning 5 in 2025. These children will begin kindergarten in September 2024. Online registration opens on November 1, 2024. Please visit our website <http://www.sd38.bc.ca/kindergarten> for more information about our online registration process, required documents, important dates, and FAQs.

Families are encouraged to register any time during the Priority 1 registration period (November – January) for the best chance at attending their catchment school. All registration applications received any time during the Priority 1 registration period will receive placement decisions by February 2025.

Instead of in person information evenings this year, we have posted short videos that provide our new parents with information about the registration process, English Language Learner (ELL) assessments, and District Program Options – Early French Immersion and Montessori. These videos are available in English and Mandarin. Please view the videos at <http://www.sd38.bc.ca/kindergarten>.

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 visitor 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.

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.

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.



D.A.R.E.

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.

- Nov. 11 Remembrance Day (school closed)
- Nov. 12 DARE 5
- Nov. 13 Photo Retakes
- Nov. 14 TCO2 for Gr. 4-7
- Nov. 21 Hot lunch (Sushi)
- Nov. 22 Twin/group dress up day
- Nov. 25 Pro-D (school closed)
- Nov. 29 Hot lunch (pizza)
- Dec. 10 Winter Concert
- Dec. 13 Cozy sweater day
- Dec. 13 Hot lunch (White Spot)
- Dec. 17 Winter Musical
- Dec. 19 Reports published to MyEdBC
- Dec. 20 PJ day
- Dec. 20 Last day before winter break
- Jan. 6 First day back from winter break
- Jan. 8 Saleema Noon parent session
- Jan. 27 Pro-d day (school closed)

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.