



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 2025 theme for Black History Month is: **Black Legacy and Leadership: Celebrating Canadian History and Uplifting Future Generations.**

<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/black-history-month.html>

PRO-D DAY and FAMILY DAY

Whiteside will be closed on Friday, February 14th for our district professional development day and on Monday, February 17th for BC's Family Day.



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, School Messenger alerts 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 BASKETBALL

Our Whiteside basketball season has started. Our coaches this year are Mme Howells and Mr. McCuaig. We also host intramurals 3 v 3 basketball for grade 5/6 students. Our game schedule is attached to our weekly email. Our next games are at Whiteside on Monday (G), at Lee on Wednesday (G) and Lee on Thursday (B).



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION 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 to share your thoughts and ideas. Your opinions will help guide the future of education in BC.

http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm

HOMEWORK CLUB

Ms. Quan and her team are back for another season of supporting our Wolfpack. Homework Club provides an opportunity for students in grade 4-6 to have a quiet space for extra time and extra support on their school work. If interested, please connect with your classroom teacher for a referral.



THE RUN CLUB HAS STARTED UP AGAIN!

Come join us and practice Mondays and Thursdays at 8:10 am. We will meet in the gym, do some stretching and then run some laps inside OR outside (weather permitting).



The Run Club's goal over the next couple of months is to prepare for the SunRype Youth Team Mini Sun Run 2.5 km Challenge at the Vancouver Sun Run on Saturday, April 27th, 2025. If your child (and/or yourself) are interested in participating, come join the Whiteside Wolves. We will need a minimum of 14 individuals (7 must be students) to create a team.

Team Name: Whiteside Wolves

Team Access Code: FSQSBH

Link to JOIN OUR SUNRYPE YOUTH TEAM: [team member registration](#)

IMPORTANT: Register before February 7th, youths under 18 will be \$30 + tax/fees. Adults, over 19, are \$45 + tax/fees. Cost includes a cotton t-shirt and an invitation to all the fun festivities that day. If you register between February 8th to March 14th, prices increase.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email slai@sd38.bc.ca.

Let's go Wolves!

READING RESOURCES

It is good to balance reading physical (paper) books and reading online. To support reading at home, here are some websites you can go to for free that will support your child with their reading, both fiction and non-fiction.



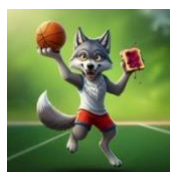
- <https://storylineonline.net> The SAG-AFTRA Foundation's Daytime Emmy-nominated, Storyline Online, features celebrated actors reading high quality children's books to inspire a love of reading.
- <https://kids.nationalgeographic.com> National Geographic Kids Kids can read non-fiction text too!
- <https://www.starfall.com/h/> Starfall This website is more appropriate for younger learners, K – 3.
- <https://www.timeforkids.com/> Time for Kids More non-fiction text. You can choose the appropriate grade for your child prior to reading an article.



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!



PLAY n' EAT

Our Play n' Eat breakfast club will continue every Friday morning at 8:10 a.m.



DIGITAL DEVICE POLICY



Last year, 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.

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.



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EXTENDED ABSENCES

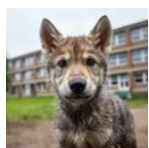


During the year students may be absent from school for an extended period of time. It is district policy that students may only be absent for 4 (four) consecutive weeks and retain their place in the school. Upon returning, students may have to re-register at the school board office. If Whiteside is full, 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.***



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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 should 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. Please reach out to our PAC at whitesidepac@hotmail.com for more information. Our next PAC meeting will be online **on February 18th at 6:30 p.m.**

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| Feb. 13 | Spirit Day - Red, pink or white day |
| Feb. 14 | Pro-D day (school closed) |
| Feb. 17 | Family Day |
| Feb. 25 | Hannah Beach virtual parent session |
| Feb. 26 | Early dismissal at 11:50 a.m. for learning conferences |
| Feb. 26 | Pink Shirt Day |
| Mar. 14 | Whiteside's St. Patrick's Day – wear green |
| Mar. 14 | Last day before spring break |
| Mar. 31 | First day back from spring break |
| April 18 | Good Friday (school closed) |
| April 21 | Easter Monday (school closed) |
| April 29 | Term 2 report cards posted on MyEd |
| May 16 | Pro-D day (school closed) |
| May 19 | Victoria Day (school closed) |
| June 20 | Gr. 7 Farewell assembly |
| June 26 | Last day of school |
| June 26 | Final report cards posted on MyEd |

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.