



École élémentaire James Whiteside Elementary School  
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Brett Cameron, *Directeur/Principal* | Sara Lai, *Directrice Adjointe/Vice Principal*  
NEWSLETTER #25 – March 7, 2025



### SPRING BREAK

Please remember that Whiteside will be closed from March 15 – March 30. We welcome back our Wolfpack on Monday, March 31.



### WHITESIDE BASKETBALL

Congratulations to our boys' and girls' basketball teams for a successful end to their season. We appreciate the hard work of our athletes and the amazing coaching talents of Mme Howells and Mr. McCuaig.

### WHITESIDE'S GOT TALENT

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



### SUMMER LEARNING 2025

The Summer Learning program and registration dates are now published on our continuing-education website. You can find summer learning 2025 general information on at <https://ce.sd38.bc.ca/programs/summer-learning>.



### PLAY n' EAT

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



### 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](http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm)



### 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!

### 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.



### FESTIVAL CULTUREL FRANCOPHONE

The Richmond School District is excited to host its third annual Festival Culturel Francophone on April 10 at McRoberts Secondary. This event is open to everyone,



regardless of age, background, or French language proficiency. Join us to celebrate, connect with others, and explore la francophonie! Admission is free, so be sure to bring your friends and family along. Please see the attached poster and RSVP.



### 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.

### 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. Students that arrive earlier than 8:40 a.m. are welcome to play on the playground or line up early.



### 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.



**WOLFPACK RUN CLUB**

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 27<sup>th</sup>, 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](#)

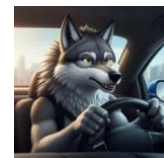
IMPORTANT: Youths under 18 will be \$35 + tax/fees. Adults, over 19, are \$45 + tax/fees. Cost includes a cotton t-shirt and an invitation to all the fun festivities that day. If you register between February 8<sup>th</sup> to March 14<sup>th</sup>, prices increase.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email [slai@sd38.bc.ca](mailto:slai@sd38.bc.ca).

Let’s go Wolves!

**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.



**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. Our next PAC meeting will be online on **April 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.**

**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.

**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.***

Mar. 14	Whiteside’s St. Patrick’s Day – wear green
Mar. 14	Whiteside’s Got Talent at 1:00 p.m.
Mar. 14	Last day before spring break
Mar. 31	First day back from spring break
April 10	Festival Culturel Francophone at McRoberts
April 16	French movie night with CPF
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 6	Sports Day
June 20	Gr. 7 Farewell assembly
June 26	Last day of school
June 26	Final report cards posted on MyEd