



École élémentaire James Whiteside Elementary School
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NEWSLETTER #34 – May 23, 2025



TRACK UPDATES

Our track date is set for Monday, May 26th. Please see last week's parent letter for more information about the track meet, our expectations, and your child's events. We look forward to a great day of running, jumping, and throwing. Go Wolfpack!



PLAY n' EAT

Our last Play n' Eat will be May 30th. Thank you for a great year of Friday morning fun!



PAC UPDATES

Come Join the Fun – We Need YOU!

The Whiteside PAC is a powerhouse of parents who work together to make our school an even better place for our kids — building community, supporting students, and making school life extra memorable!

Our amazing events like **Sports Day** and **After-School Snack Sales** wouldn't happen without the helping hands of parent volunteers — and this is where YOU come in! Whether you have a special talent to share, want to try something new, or are simply looking for a fun way to get more involved, we'd love to have you on board.

We're currently looking for volunteers to help out this spring *and* welcoming new faces who might want to join the PAC team for next year (nominations happen at our June AGM!).

If you're curious, excited, or even just a little bit interested, reach out to us at WhitesidePAC@hotmail.com — we'll happily share more about the different ways you can get involved.

Thank you for making Whiteside such a wonderful community!

Our next PAC meeting will be our AGM online **on June 17th at 7:00 p.m.** Thank you for your support! - Whiteside PAC



SPRING WEATHER

Spring weather in Richmond can be unpredictable and we play outside every day. Please ensure your child is dressed in layers and ready for the rain. We encourage our Wildcats to keep a spare change of clothes and

shoes at school just in case they get wet.

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.



YEARBOOKS PRE-SALE

Yearbooks are available for pre-sale now! Have your order in by **Monday, May 26th** to have your book delivered before the end of the school year. Please note, the school will NOT be purchasing extra yearbooks for sale. And there will be no

individual purchasing if you miss this deadline. Order on [SchoolCash Online](https://www.schoolcashonline.com): Softcovers are \$22 and Hardcovers are \$36.

Book Collection and Book Swap

Whiteside Wolves are invited to bring in their old, well-read story books, novels, and comic books to donate to our Whiteside Book Swap. Every student will receive one ticket for each donated book. With their tickets, they can choose another book to take home.



DIGITAL DEVICE POLICY

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.



SPRING EVENTS

Whiteside looks forward to welcoming back traditional spring events and creating new memories and opportunities for experiential learning. Please continue to read our newsletter and check in with your classroom teacher for event details.



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



TRANSLATE OUR SITE

Did you know you can translate our whiteside.sd38.bc.ca website? ☺



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.

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.



May 26	Track Meet at Minoru
May 27 – 30	Book collection
June 2	Book Swap
June 6	Grand Marché
June 12	Band Concert at 1:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
June 13	Sports Day
June 13	Hot Lunch – White Spot
June 20	Gr. 7 Farewell assembly
June 26	Last day of school
June 26	Final report cards posted on MyEd