

#### École élémentaire James Whiteside Elementary School

9282 Williams Road, Richmond BC V7A 1H1 604-668-6209 I whiteside.sd38.bc.ca

Brett Cameron, Directeur/Principal I Sara Lai, Directrice Adjointe/Vice Principal

#### **NEWSLETTER #8 - OCTOBER 24, 2025**



#### "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)

#### **HALLOWEEN DANCE WEEK**

Next week we welcome the Jess Dance team to Whiteside to teach our Wolf Pack how to line dance. We will have a final school performance on Friday at 1:45 p.m. in the gym. We hope you can join us to



watch. Thank you, PAC, for this amazing experience.



#### **HOT LUNCH – SUBWAY – OCTOBER 31**

Our next hot lunch will be spooooky subs on Subway Day on October 31. Please see the attached flyer for more information and place your orders until October 24 at Munch-A-Lunch.



#### **RUN CLUB IS BACK!**

Mme David-Harel, Mme Swordy, and Mme Lai brought back run club. All students are welcome. Please meet in the gym at 8:10 a.m. on Wednesdays and Fridays. Our Cross Country Fun Run at Garry Point is

scheduled for after school on October 29th.

Join the Whiteside Wolves Team for the 2026 Vancouver Sun Run on Sunday, April 19th! Key Details & Action 🧏

Vancouver Sun Run (2.5 km Mini or 10 **Event** 

km Youth Team Challenge)

October **31st** (for the **lowest Deadline** 

registration fee)

**Team Name Whiteside Wolves** 

**Access Code PRPGFA** 

Registration Link

**Team member registration** 

Open to all families. Training starts in February.

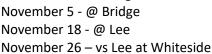


## PRO-D DAY - FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24

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

#### **VOLLEYBALL SEASON**

Our Wolves have started to bump, set, and spike in our gym. Mr. Mme Jien McCuaig, and our intermediate students started our new volleyball season this week. We look forward to seeing you at our home games soon! Go Wolfpack! October 29 – vs. Bridge at Whiteside





### **LEARNING BUDDIES NETWORK** AT WHITESIDE

Whiteside is happy to welcome back the Learning Buddies Network, an engaging afterschool program for our students. It pairs local high school and



college volunteers with a small group of younger children to build foundational literacy and numeracy skills in a fun, one-on-one setting. This partnership is a fantastic way to boost academic confidence and foster positive mentorship right here in our community.



#### **WOLF WEAR WEDNESDAYS**

To show our school spirit, we invite our students, staff and community to wear their favourite Wolf gear every Wednesday! This Wednesday, October

22, we also encourage our Wolfpack to wear Blue Jays gear to support our baseball team!



#### **CHECK IN AND CHECK OUT**

If your child is arriving late to school, please check in at the office through the front entrance. If your child needs to leave

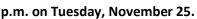
school early, please sign your child out at the office and wait at the front entrance for them.

#### **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. Our first meeting will be scheduled soon! Please reach out to our PAC at whitesidepac@hotmail.com for more information. Our next PAC meeting will be online at 7:45





#### École élémentaire James Whiteside Elementary School

9282 Williams Road, Richmond BC V7A 1H1 604-668-6209 I whiteside.sd38.bc.ca

Brett Cameron, Directeur/Principal I Sara Lai, Directrice Adjointe/Vice Principal

#### **NEWSLETTER #8 – OCTOBER 24, 2025**

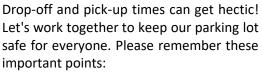


#### FSAs for Grade 4 and 7:

In October students in grades 4 and 7 will complete the Foundation Skills Assessment. The Foundational Skills Assessments (FSAs) help us understand your

child's progress in key areas like reading, writing, and math, providing insight into their learning. These assessments allow both teachers and parents to identify strengths and areas where additional support may be needed, ensuring each student reaches their full potential. This assessment is one of many that provides information about student learning at Whiteside and throughout the province.

# PARKING LOT SAFETY: A FRIENDLY REMINDER





- 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!



#### TRANSLATE OUR SITE

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



## 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 be outside at all times this year. 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.

## 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.



October 24 – Provincial Pro-D (school closed)

October 27-31 – School wide dance classes/finale at 1:45 p.m.

October 29 – Cross Country Fun Run at Garry Point at 3:30 p.m.

November 3 – Photo retake day

November 10 - Remembrance Day assembly

November 11 - Remembrance Day

November 20/21 – PAC family photo nights

December 1 - Pro-D Day

December 10 – Winter band concert

December 16 – Winter musical

December 18 – Term 1 reports published

December 19 – Last day before winter break