



École élémentaire James Whiteside Elementary School

9282 Williams Road, Richmond BC V7A 1H1

604-668-6209 | whiteside.sd38.bc.ca

Brett Cameron, *Directeur/Principal* | Sara Lai, *Directrice Adjointe/Vice Principal*

NEWSLETTER #19 – January 23, 2026

FAMILY LITERACY NIGHT

To recognize and celebrate [Family Literacy Week](#) Whiteside invites our families to visit for a fun night of reading activities. Please join us from 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 29th. Enter through the gym to get your activity card and begin your literacy adventure.



GRADE 7 PARENT NIGHT AT MCROBERTS

On January 29th, McRoberts will host a Grade 7 Parent Information Night from **6:00 - 7:00** at McRoberts in the Old Gym (**updated time!**). This evening is for parents who have students registered to attend McRoberts in September 2026.



FREE RICHMOND SOCKEYE TICKETS

The Richmond Sockeye hockey team has provided Whiteside with a limited number of free tickets to an upcoming game (tickets are valid at any home game). Please visit our office to pick up tickets for you and your family. Tickets are available for immediate family members and only available while supplies last.

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 **at 7:45 p.m. on Tuesday, February 19.**



HOT LUNCH - JANUARY 28

Our next delicious hot lunch is Yummy Slice on Wednesday, January 28. Pre-orders are open for Valentines cookies and frozen yogurt order on [Munch-a-Lunch](#). Thanks, PAC!

UNIVERSAL HOT LUNCH PILOT

Utilizing Feeding Futures as well as National School Food Program funding, the Richmond School District has piloted a universal hot lunch program at selected elementary and secondary schools. Our Universal Hot Lunch program will continue for the rest of the year. Please look out for sign up dates as all students need to order online one week prior to each hot lunch day.



PLAY n' EAT IS BACK

Our Play n' Eat breakfast club returned this week and will continue Fridays. Students are welcome to join us in the gym at 8:10 a.m. for light snacks and free games.



January 28 – PAC Hot Lunch (Yummy Slice)

January 29 – Gr. 7 parent night at McRoberts at 6:00 p.m.

January 29 – Family Literacy Night at 4:00 p.m.

January 30 – Grade 7 snowshoeing field trip

February 4 – Kind Mind Dance

February 6 – PAC Frozen Yogurt Day

February 12 – PAC Hot Lunch (Sushi Lovers)

February 13 – Pro-D Day (school closed)

February 16 – Family Day (school closed)

February 20 - Spirit Day: Crazy hair day

February 23/24 – Festival Franco at the Richmond Oval

February 25 – Pink Shirt Day

February 25 – Early dismissal at 11:50 a.m.

February 25 - Learning Conferences (learning update #3)

February 27 – PAC Hot Lunch – Yummy Slice

March 3/4 - McRoberts Basketball Jamboree

March 13 – PAC Hot Lunch

March 13 – Talent Show

March 13 – Last day before spring break

March 30 – First day back after spring break

WHITESIDE BASKETBALL

Our Whiteside basketball season has started. Our coaches this year are Mme Howells, Mr. Lenz, and Mr. Cameron. We encourage our grade 6 and 7 students to come out and join the fun.

Practice Schedule:

Girls: Monday/Thursday at lunch

Boys: Monday at 8:00 a.m./Wednesdays at lunch

Game schedule:

January 27: Bridge (girls at Bridge; boys at Whiteside)

February 3: Lee (boys at Lee; girls at Whiteside)

February 10: Bridge (boys at Bridge; girls at Whiteside)

February 24: DeBeck (boys at DeBeck)



FROM OUR WHITESIDE WOLVES:

Gaga Ball Pit Comes to Whiteside:

For the past few days, the new Gagaball pit has been a great and fun addition to our school. Since the Gagaball pit is a new addition to our school, it has attracted a large crowd of students during recess, lunch, after school, and even during school time! Students stand and eagerly wait to play Gagaball. Students cheer each other on like ardent baseball fans. We are looking forward to playing more Gagaballs in the coming weeks. Thank you, Whiteside PAC, for adding the Gagaball pit to our school." - Edison and Chester (Mr. McCuaig's class)



Translate Site



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TRANSLATE OUR SITE

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



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



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 be outside at all times this year. Students are strongly encouraged to dress appropriately for the weather. It is more important than ever that students have a spare change of clothes at school. Especially the little ones! Please make sure to include pants, socks, shoes and shirts! Playing outside will ensure our students get some fresh air and exercise to enliven their 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.



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 (phones, tablets, smart watches, or computers) 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.

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WOLF WEAR WEDNESDAYS

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



Kindergarten Registration

NOV • DEC • JAN

www.sd38.bc.ca/kindergarten

Richmond School District 38 is excited to welcome kindergarten registration applications for children born in 2021, turning 5 in 2026. These children will begin kindergarten in September 2026. Online registration opens on November 1, 2025. 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>.