



Whitney Public School

February 2019 Newsletter



Message From the Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Happy Winter! We've been enjoying our skating days - we are enjoying the fresh air and activity together. We invite parent volunteers - many hands helping tie skates gets us on the ice faster! You must have a Criminal Background Check, and **you** must wear a CSA approved helmet to be on the ice surface.

RCDSB recommends inside recess when the temperature falls below -22°C (with wind chill). We do our best to get outside, as children need fresh air and the opportunity to run, jump, and play. Please always ensure your child is dressed for the weather. Extra mittens and socks are always helpful.

We have many activities planned for February, including more skating days, Floor Hockey and more! Mr. Jonathan Pratt will be joining us to make homemade paper on February 12th - a big thank you to Mr. Wannamaker for helping by building the screen frames we need for this exciting activity. We will be participating in Jump Rope for Heart and celebrating National Flag Day on February 15th. We encourage everyone to dress in comfortable Red and White on that day. Pink Shirt Day is on February 27th - visit www.pinkshirtday.ca for more information - and of course, wear pink!

Report cards will be sent home on February 20th. Please take the time to sit with your child and discuss their report with them. I encourage you to get in touch with their classroom teacher and address any questions you/they may have. The end of Term One is a fantastic opportunity for setting goals and self-reflection.

If you are planning on sending a JK student to the school in September 2019, or know a parent who is, we greatly appreciate early registration as this allows us to plan for the coming year. The student must be turning 4 years of age by December 31st, 2019. If you have any questions, concerns - or want to know more about what's going on at school - I am always excited to share - give the school a call!

Remember: We're all in this together!

Jessica Poff

Aim High. Dream Big.



PINK SHIRT DAY

#ChooseKindness



1st Inst Block	08:45 - 10:45
Recess	10:45 - 11:00
2nd Inst Block	11:00 - 12:00
Lunch	12:00 - 1:00
3rd Inst Block	1:00 - 3:00
Recess	3:00 - 3:15
Dismissal	03:15

Why a Pink T-Shirt?

The idea comes from two incredible Nova Scotia high school students in 2007. When a fellow student was being bullied for wearing a pink shirt, they decided to take a stand. They went out and bought pink shirts to give to fellow students to show their support for a boy who was being bullied simply for wearing a pink shirt.

To find out more, visit www.pinkshirtday.ca



@Whitney_Public School

Busing for 2018 - 2019

Jim & Edith Robinson -- Bus Operator

Bus Driver: Craig Route #346



R&L Bus Lines -Laurie Evans - Bus Operator

Bus Driver: Charles - Route #349

Important Dates

Tuesday, Feb. 5th - Senior class skates pm

Friday, Feb. 8th - Primary Class goes to the floor hockey tournament in Palmer Rapids.

Tuesday, Feb. 12th - All students are making paper! (am), Senior class skates pm

Wednesday, Feb. 13th - Primary class skates pm

Thursday, Feb. 14th - Valentines Day activities (dress in pink and/or red)

Friday, Feb. 15th - National Flag Day - dress in red and white & Jump Rope for Heart Event

Tuesday, Feb. 19th - Seniors skate pm

Wednesday, Feb. 20th - Report Cards go home

Thursday, Feb. 21st - Sub Day

Tuesday, Feb. 26th - Seniors skate pm

Wednesday, Feb. 27th - Pink shirt day for anti-bullying, Primary class skates pm



Cold and Flu Season

If your child is sick, please make arrangements to have them cared for until recovered. Sick children are unable to function well at school, infect other children in their classes, and would recuperate faster and more comfortable at home. Children who have been ill should return to school when they are ready to take part in the full day, including recess. Children should not remain indoors unless taking part in an activity directly supervised by a teacher. Please tell us if you have any reason to believe that your child has a contagious condition.

Jump Rope for Heart February 15th

Come prepared to skip on **Friday, February 15th!** Dress in comfortable, red & white clothes, if possible (for flag day) and bring your sponsor sheets in as well for that day! Let's do our best to help the Heart & Stroke Foundation this year!

February 14th - Valentine's Day Events

Below we have included a list of all students' first names in each class if you plan to distribute Valentine Cards this year.

It is dress in pink and/or red as well on Valentines Day to earn points for your Spirit Team.

Our FeWL team is planning some fun events for that afternoon as well!

♥ happy ♥
Valentine's
♥ day ♥

Primary Class

Tristan
Dylan
Freya
Wyatt
Katrina
Jahquan
Malachy
Xavier
Jonathan
Blake
Sam
Roman
Graham
Liam
Isabella
Daniel
Jake



Junior/Senior Class

Joey
Madeline
Shayla
Ayla
Kayla
Hailey
Marcus
Alaina
Tyler
Kymesha
Troy



Kindergarten Registration for 2019-2020

If you have a student who will be four years old by December 31st, 2019 and would like to start Kindergarten at Whitney Public School in September 2019, please come to the school anytime to register OR you can register your child online at:

<http://www.rcdsb.on.ca/en/parents/registration-and-transfers.asp>

Please call us at 613-637-2171 for more information

Inclement Weather & Bus Cancellations

Winter is here! On cold days the children will be kept indoors if the weather (with windchill) is -22 C or colder, otherwise students need to be dressed properly for the weather. Reminder: When school buses are cancelled in the morning, they will not run for the remainder of the day.

To be informed of bus cancellations you can visit the **Tri-Board website** at www.triboard.ca and click on Delays and Cancellations. You can also sign up for email notifications of delays and cancellations. To do this go to the website and click on Delays and Cancellations then click on subscribe and follow the directions.. Check your email and confirm the subscription. You can also follow Tri-Board bussing on Twitter—Tri-Board@triboardbus or on Facebook

Parent Council

The purpose of the Whitney Public School Parent Council is to provide a forum where parents/guardians, community and school staff representatives can meet and discuss items pertaining to Whitney Public School and provide advice to the principal.

Council meets a minimum of 4 times during the school year. The dates are posted on the calendar and all meetings are open to the Whitney Public School community .

A note about finances: The school council works VERY hard to support our school. Fundraising efforts make it possible for all of our students to attend field trips and other events that would not be possible without school council support. For example, the upcoming bus trip for the junior class to attend the floor hockey tournament costs \$475 plus HST. We would love to have new parents join us as we plan for the best opportunities for our kids at Whitney Public School. Consider getting involved in YOUR school council.

The next meeting is scheduled for: **Monday, March 4th, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.**

Healthy Snacks

We are looking for some help with our healthy snack program as well. We received a grant from Food for Learning in approximately half the amount that we received last year and the school council has generously offered to donate to the fund to ensure the kids still get a healthy snack every morning at school.

If you would like to donate to this cause as well, we would greatly appreciate it in the form of a monetary donation or a donation of fresh fruit or vegetables, whole wheat crackers, tostitos or marble cheese.

Many thanks in advance for your help!



Milk Orders & Sub Days

We have a milk & sub order form attached to this newsletter - you can choose which days throughout the month your child would like to receive milk. You may choose to return the order form with payment **or order online on our School Cash system.**

School Spirit Days

Watch the calendar each month for our Spirit Days! Students show school spirit and earn points for their spirit team by participating!

RCDSB PIC - Parent Involvement Committee



Wednesday, May 1st, 2019 from 6:00pm - 8:00pm at MVDHS for Madawaska Family of Schools

Monday, June 3, 2019 PIC Wrap Up, Reflection and Next Steps
6:30pm - 8:30pm in Pembroke at the RCDSB Office
All RCDSB Parents are invited to attend!

Weekly Skating for WPS Students

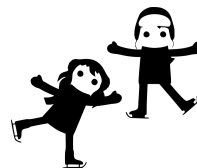
Students at Whitney Public School are excited to skate each week at the Whitney Community Rink in town as part of their phys. ed. program for the winter.

Our junior students will skate every other Wednesday afternoon, providing we have enough parent volunteers on those days to help, and our Senior students will skate every Tuesday afternoon.

As always, you must have a Vulnerable Sector Check to volunteer with students. Please be aware that our insurance requires that YOU wear a CSA approved helmet to skate.

The students will be walking to and from the rink, weather permitting. Students **MUST** wear a CSA approved helmet with cages. If your child does not have a helmet, the school will provide them.

Please let us know as soon as possible, if your child/ren will need to borrow a helmet.



Winter use of playgrounds present a greater risk to students. Frozen ground does not provide a protective surface for falls. OSBIE has been a long-time advocate of playground safety programs that include, but are not limited to, the provisions of the CSA Standard CSA-Z614- 98, and any preceding Guidelines.

It continues to be RCDSB practice that our playground remains closed to RCDSB students through the winter months.

Our playground structure has recently been inspected, and the determination has been made that it is safe for use, only for students age 5 and older. We will be addressing options for our younger students, as we prepare to open the playground in the spring.

School Cash (Ordering items online)



We are hoping to have ALL parents and guardians at Whitney Public School register with School Cash to order items online (milk/pizza)! Please feel free to come into to the office if you'd like some help to register or you can follow the instructions we have attached to the right. Thank you



February Days

Check out the Whitney Public School Website at:

wps@rcdsb.on.ca



For safety and efficiency reasons, Renfrew County District School Board would like to reduce the amount of Cash & Checks coming into our school. Please join the thousands of parents who have already registered and are enjoying the convenience of paying ONLINE! It takes less than 5 minutes to register. Please follow these step-by-step instructions, so you will begin to receive email notifications regarding upcoming events involving your child(ren).

NOTE: If you require assistance, select the **GET HELP** option in the top right hand corner of the screen.

Step 1: Register

- If you have not registered, please go to the School Cash Online home page <https://rcdsb.schoolcashonline.com/> and select the "Get Started Today" option.
- Complete each of the three Registration Steps:
*For Security Reasons your password, requires 8 characters.
Of those 8 characters you need , one uppercase letter, one lowercase letter and a number.

Step 2: Confirmation Email

A registration confirmation email will be forwarded to you. Click on the link provided inside the email to confirm your email and School Cash Online account.
The confirmation link will open the School Cash Online site prompting you to sign into your account. Use your email address and password just created with your account.

Step 3: Find Student

Note: Student Number is Not Required

This step will connect your children to your account.

- Enter the School Board Name
- Enter the School Name
- Enter Your Child's Name & Birth Date
- Select Continue
- On the next page confirm that you are related to the child, check in the Agree box and select Continue
- Your child has been added to your account

Step 4: View Items or Add Another Student

If you have more children, select "Add Another Student" option and repeat the steps above. 5 children can be added to one parent account.

If you do not wish to add additional children, select "View Items For Students" option. A listing of available items for purchase will be displayed.

The screenshot shows the 'Find Student' section of the School Cash Online registration process. It includes fields for School Board Name (pre-filled with 'School Board 15/15'), School Name (pre-filled with 'Eagle High School'), and Student Information (First Name, Last Name, Birth Date). There are checkboxes for 'Do you have the student number?' and 'I agree to the terms and conditions'. A 'Continue' button is at the bottom. A footer note mentions '© K&V Group Inc.' and 'School Cash Online - Parent Registration'.