



# Whitney Public School

## January 2019 Newsletter



### Message From the Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Happy New Year to everyone! We hope you had a restful holiday break. We look forward to a great start to 2019! I am thrilled that winter has arrived, and we can enjoy our favourite winter activities! We will be starting our skating program as soon as possible. Students will need to wear skates and CSA approved helmets. We have helmets available at the school. Be sure to send your child dressed for the weather on skating days! Please let us know if you do not have skates/helmets so we can try to make arrangements for everyone.

The students and staff met together on our first day of 2019 to choose our #oneword2019. Ask your child what they have chosen as their one word. Ask them what their OneWord of 2019 will be! We will also be starting the New Year off by exploring Positivity as the Third Path Condition for January.

We invite you to attend our first School Council Meeting of 2019, on February 4th at 5:30 p.m. - come on out, get involved! January 27th is Family Literacy Day - visit <https://abclifeliteracy.ca/family-literacy> for ideas and activities to try at home. We will be celebrating **Literacy Day at school on Friday, January 25th**. We will be celebrating with a Spirit Day - Dress like your favourite storybook character.

There are many ways you can be involved in your child's school and education! I encourage you to talk to your child about their day at school. Read with your child every day - even older kids benefit from reading aloud. By getting involved you say to your child - 'your education matters'!

As many of you know, we were sad to say goodbye to Ms. Pelley at the end of December. We wish her well in her adventures at her new school. It is with great pleasure now, that we welcome Mrs. Finucane to the WPS community. We know she will feel at home here very soon. Welcome Mrs. Finucane, to Whitney Public School!

May you have a year that is filled with joy, laughter, brightness and hope! As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us at the school.

Remember: We're all in this together!

*Jessica Poff*

*Aim High. Dream Big.*



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

**Happy New Year!**





@Whitney\_Public School

### Family Literacy Day - Sunday, Jan. 27th

Family Literacy Day® is a national awareness initiative created by ABC Life Literacy Canada in 1999 and held annually on **January 27** to raise awareness of the importance of reading and engaging in other literacy-related activities as a family. **January 27, 2019** is the 20th Anniversary of Family Literacy Day!

### New Activities for 2019!

- **I wonder why?** Go online as a family and learn something new. Ever wonder why the ocean and sky are blue?
- **Read ANYTHING!** A book, blog, magazine or letter from grandma. Read together and get in your 20 minutes each day
- **Be a Rockstar:** Sing along with the radio or do Karaoke – maybe a duet?
- **Make something yummy:** Follow a family recipe or create a new one together.
- **Travel the world:** Your library card is your passport to travel the world and to take a learning journey.
- **Jot that down:** Write an e-mail, letter, blog post or text your family and friends. Which is the most fun?
- **Scientist in the House:** Do a kitchen experiment or mix up a batch of playdough.
- **It goes something like this:** Tell your favourite story and give it a new ending, or take turns making up a new story.
- **Crafty Crafter:** Paper, glue, yarn, paint – so many things to create! Do a craft together.
- **Stepper challenge:** Go for a walk and count your steps. How many steps to school, the park, your friend's house?
- **Deal me in:** Play cards and keeping score is a fun way to practice counting.
- **Tell it to me:** Tell someone about your day at dinnertime or pick-up the phone for a chat. What was the best part?
- **Shopper Time:** Make a grocery list together with kids finding what's on the list and checking off the items (and maybe adding one special treat!)
- **I'm on Staycation:** A vacation at home can be lots of fun. Plan a trip in your neighbourhood.
- **Riddle me This:** Tell jokes and riddles while doing chores around the house – can you stump your parents?
- **Know your hood:** Draw a map of your neighbourhood, adding in important places like school, library, doctor and pet store!
- **Game-ON!** Play a board game and plan a family game night – invite your neighbours.
- **Story Dynamo:** Make-up a story and draw a picture to go with it. First, show the picture to your friend and see if they can tell you what your story is about.
- **Building Buddies:** Build something together with modeling clay or building blocks. Check out what Family Literacy Day Honourary Chair Barbara Reid can do with modeling clay!
- **Did you Know?** Teach someone you know something new. Did you learn why the ocean and sky are blue yet?



### 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

**Monday, Jan. 7th** - First day of classes in 2019!

**Wednesday, Jan. 16th** - Junior Class skating afternoon at the community rink and every second Wednesday afternoon in January.

**Thursday, January 17th** - Senior Class skating afternoon at the community rink and every Thursday afternoon in January.

**Monday, Jan. 21st - Friday, Feb. 1st** - Kindergarten Registration for 2019-2020

**Thursday, Jan. 24th** - Sub Day

**Friday, Jan. 25th** - Literacy Day at School - Dress as your favourite storybook character

### 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.

### 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 between:

**Monday, January 21st and  
Friday, February 1, 2019  
from 9:30am - 3:00pm**

OR

You can register your child online at:

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



See sheet attached for more information.

Enjoy Family Literacy Day together on Sunday, January 27th, 2019!

## 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](http://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. Consider getting involved in YOUR school council.

The next meeting is scheduled for: **Monday, February 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.**

**\*\* Note: We have increased the price of the the subs to \$5.50 per to cover the cost including HST**

## 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!

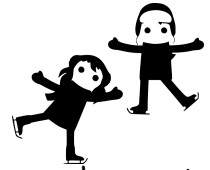
**Thank you!! ...**



... To staff, students, parents and families who helped to prepare all of the students and came out to support the Christmas Concert this year!

It was a wonderful evening enjoyed by all!

# 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 from every Thursday 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.**

Check out the Whitney Public School Website at:

# wps@rcdsb.on.ca

## 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



January Days



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

- a) 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.
- b) 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.

- a) Enter the School Board Name
- b) Enter the School Name
- c) Enter Your Child's Name & Birth Date
- d) Select Continue
- e) On the next page confirm that you are related to the child, check in the Agree box and select Continue
- f) 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.

School Cash Online

### Find Student

**School Information**

School Board Name: School Board 15/15  
Looking for a student in a different school?

School Name: Eagle High School

**Student Information**

Do you have the student number?

Student Number:

First Name:

Last Name:

Birth Date:  Date format: mm/dd/yyyy

[Help](#) | [Contact Support](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Terms of Use](#) | [Feedback](#) | [Accessibility](#) | [Site Map](#) | [Parent Registration](#)

Copy the link and paste it into your web browser. If the link doesn't work, contact support at 1-866-863-2887 or email parenthelp@rcdsb.on.ca. Thank you.

Your School Cash Online Support Team

# Kindergarten Registration 2019

## Registration for JK/SK Children – January 21 – February 1, 2019

To find out which school your child will attend, visit <http://www.rcdsb.on.ca/en/parents/registration-and-transfers.asp>

## French Immersion

The RCDSB is expanding its French language programming. Beginning in September 2019, families will be able to access additional French language instruction in the Arnprior, Renfrew and Pembroke family of schools. Head to the RCDSB website, to find out more details about how the programming will be rolled out, and what it means for your child.

## **There are two ways to register your child for kindergarten.**

### Online Registration

To register your child for JK/SK for September 2019 use our online system anytime by visiting <http://www.rcdsb.on.ca/en/parents/registration-and-transfers.asp>. Please be sure to complete the School Based Extended Day Program Family Survey that is at the end of the online registration if you are interested in a licensed child care program. You will receive a confirmation email after submitting your online registration.

### In Person

Visit the school for a registration package between 9:30 a.m and 3:00 p.m. on Monday, January 21 to Friday, February 1, 2019. If you are interested in a licensed child care before and after program, complete the School Based Extended Day Program Family Survey online at <https://goo.gl/yJg6rA>.

Both registration methods require you to bring the following documents to your school. If you have questions about the registration process, contact the elementary school nearest you.

### **Required Documentation (bring to the school):**

- Completed, signed and dated registration form (access the form online, complete it and bring it to school)
- Proof of address (Utility bill or proof of ownership/ tenancy)
- Proof of student's birth date (birth certificate, passport, birth registration, citizenship card or statement of live birth)
- Child's immunization records (Students entering from outside Renfrew County should contact Renfrew County and District Health Unit at 613 735-8666.)
- Proof of custody where applicable (custody orders, court ordered Guardianship)
- Immigration documents where applicable

### Voluntary Early Years Experiences Data Collection

Included in the registration process will be an additional voluntary survey through which the Ministry collects information from families about the experiences of children in child care and early years programs in Ontario. This information will help the government understand how families access programs and services in their communities and better define how the early years experiences influence children's outcomes.

### Extended Day Program for Children between Ages of 3 - 12

The Renfrew County District School Board and your school may be offering a School Based Extended Day Program for students (from JK up to age 12) starting September 2019. This School Based Extended Day Program will operate within the school by an Early Childhood Educator before and after school and is meant to complement the regular day program.

The School Based Extended Day Program is contingent on enrolment and is funded from parent fees. Subsidies may be available from the County of Renfrew <http://www.countyofrenfrew.on.ca/documents/childcare/FeeSubsidyApplicationForm.pdf>.

The School Based Extended Day Program Family Survey form can be completed from the *Online Registration portal* if you are new to RCDSB and completing the online registration form or from the *Google Survey link* <https://goo.gl/yJg6rA>, at the *Board's website* <http://www.rcdsb.on.ca> select the *Extended Day Program* page from the *Programs* drop down menu.