



Whitney Public School

April 2021 Newsletter

Message From the Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The calendar says it's spring . . . and as I write this, gentle rain is falling, readying us for spring flowers. We continue meet together in the mornings to take a few minutes to be together, in the present moment. The students and staff enjoy this time together - building mindfulness *and* community! April will be a short month for us at school - with an adjusted Spring Break, starting on April 12th and the extended Easter weekend as well! We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable Break.

I would like to take a moment to thank you for your continued support with Public Health protocols around COVID-19. protection. Please ensure you are completing the self-assessment daily – available at <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/> We ask that you continue to support your child's efforts with mask-wearing, the importance of hand hygiene, and physical distancing. Many of us are experiencing fatigue. Please consider having a quick conversation with your child(ren) about why we are working on this together.

We usually honour **International Day of Pink** as a school community. This year, it falls during our break, **on April 14th**. Day of Pink was started in Nova Scotia when 2 straight high school students saw a gay student wearing a pink shirt being bullied. The students intervened but wanted to do more. They purchased pink shirts, and a few days later got everyone at school to arrive wearing pink, standing in solidarity. **The message was clear: anyone can bully, any can be victimized by bullying, but together we can stop it.** Each year on the second Wednesday of April, millions of people wear pink and take a stand. For more information, visit dayofpink.org. Please join us in wearing pink!

The students in SMT and the Senior Class of WPS have been working with the Indigenous Education Leads for RCDSB and ALCDSB and a Knowledge Keeper. We have been coming together to learn about ourselves and how we can share the land and space together in a good way. The work is ongoing and exciting – we are focussing on 3 questions:

1. Who am I?
2. Who are We? (in our own classroom communities)
3. Who are we Together (this is where we're headed!)

Ask us about our work with these questions!

We're all in this together,

Jessica Poff



<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>



@Whitney_Public School

Important Dates

Friday, April 2 - Good Friday

Sunday, April 4th - Happy Easter!

Monday, April 5th - Easter Monday Holiday

Wednesday, April 7th - Lumberjack Day!

Week of April 12th - 19th - Spring Break! Enjoy your week off school!

Wednesday, April 14th - International Day of Pink! Please celebrate while at home!

Thursday, April 22 - Earth Day

Wednesday, April 28th - Dress as your Favourite Decade Day!

International Day of Pink

Since International Day of Pink will be during our April Break, we encourage everyone to still celebrate it at home! Explain the meaning behind it and wear pink in support as well!



Pitch in Week

Earth Day takes place on Thursday, April 22nd, so Pitch in Week will be the week of April 19th-23rd. All the students will participate in helping to clean up our community at some point during the Pitch in Week.



Busing for 2020 - 2021

Jim & Edith Robinson -- Bus Operator

Bus Driver: Joe -Route #346



R&L Bus Lines -Laurie Evans - Bus Operator

Bus Driver: Tammy - Route #349

Release From the Health Unit

The screening tool must be completed **everyday** before attending school/daycare. Once the screening is complete, the individuals must follow the instructions they're given.

If a child is ill, the guardian must monitor the illness and keep them home from school/daycare. If you or your child is sick, contact your family doctor, or the Renfrew County Virtual Triage Assessment Centre (VTAC) at 1-844-727-6404 to schedule an appointment.

If it's an emergency - contact 911 or go to the nearest emergency room.

For more information, visit the RCDHU's website at:

<http://www.rcdhu.com/novel-coronavirus-covid-19-2/> or call 613-735-8654 or 1-800-267-1097



<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/context>

If the screening shows a red "X", your child must stay home and follow the instructions to be tested or remain home until symptoms resolve. If the screening shows a green checkmark, your child may come to school!

Check out the Whitney Public School Website at:

wps@rcdsb.on.ca

Kids Help Phone

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Student mental health and well-being is a priority for student success. During school hours, there are school supports and mental health services available for all students. For more information, please talk to the School Support Counsellor and/or Principal/Vice Principal.

Managing stress is an important developmental task and crisis support lines have been designed for children and youth which are safe and helpful resources. Crisis/support lines are staffed with professionally trained counsellors that are always available to offer safe and confidential services to support children and youth.

Within the Renfrew County District School Board, we are promoting awareness of the **Kids Help Phone** and **Good2Talk**.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the RCDSB Mental Health Leader, Lisa LaRiviere at [613-735-0151](tel:613-735-0151) ext. 3332.

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.

In regular years, council meets a minimum of 4 times during the school year. The dates will be posted on the calendar and all meetings are open to the Whitney Public School community .

Milk Orders

Milk is available to order online for all WPS students. You can choose which days throughout the month your child would like to receive milk. Please note this month we have the spring break, so no milk is available for purchase that week!

If you have any questions about how to order online - please feel free to call the school for help at 613-637-2171.

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)!



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.

School Cash Online

Find Student

School Information

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

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

Copy the link and paste it into your web browser. If the link doesn't work, contact support at 1-866-861-2892 or email support@schoolcashonline.com. Thank you.
Your School Cash Online Support Team

MY mask protects YOU.



YOUR mask protects ME.

Renfrew County and District Health Unit
"Optimal Health for All in Renfrew County and District"

