

Whitney Public School

December 2020 Newsletter



Message From the Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians,

December is a short and busy month as we all prepare for the holiday season. It is an important time to stop, take a pause, and spend time with the important people in our lives. As our celebrations may be very different this year, it is even more important that we take a few moments amidst the hustle and bustle to enjoy each other.

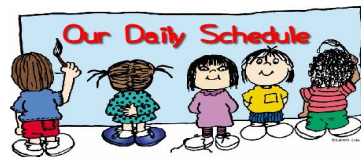
We are very excited to be planning our Virtual Christmas Concert. We are looking forward to sharing our performances - we've been working hard to get ready! Stay tuned – we will host a watch party, much like we did with our June end of year celebration. Let us know if you need any help with accessing our video.

We will be celebrating Kindness this month—we have started our annual ComplimentTREE tradition—students and staff are invited to share compliments about each other and to catch each other being kind. In a world where you can be anything, be kind!

In honour of the season, we will be holding a Christmas whole two-school Bingo on Dec 18th. I hope each family has a happy and healthy holiday. Merry Christmas and all the best in the New Year!

We're all in this together
(Now more than ever)!

Jessica Peff



Merry Christmas!

December 21st - January 1st (incl.)



<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, Dec. 4th - Join us in watching the Virtual St. Francis Memorial Tree Lighting at 6:30pm.

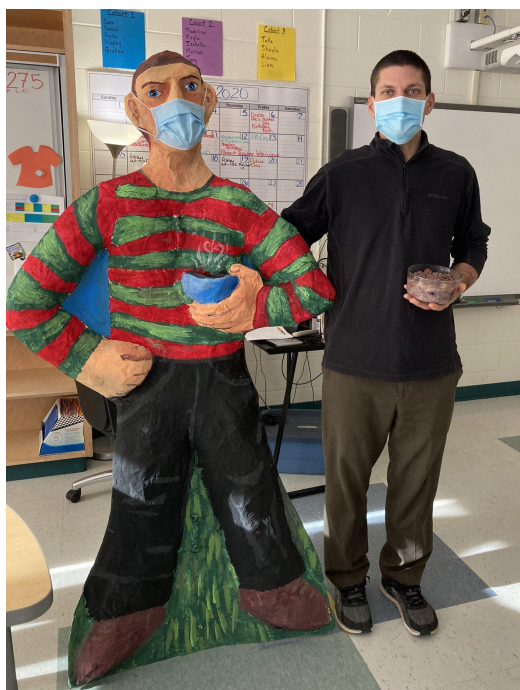
More information on the St. Francis Valley Healthcare Foundation website or Facebook page

Wed. Dec. 16th - Christmas Concert watch party at 6:30pm. More details coming soon!

Fri. Dec. 18th - Last day of school before the holidays & whole school bingo!

Monday, Dec. 21st to Friday, Jan. 1st, 2021 - Christmas Break - Enjoy!

Monday, Jan. 4th - First day of classes in 2021!



The real Mr. Pietras has returned to teach in the Senior class while Ms. Schutt is away. He was surprised to find a version of himself already at WPS! The created version helps students visualize what 6ft looks like - the distance we try to keep between us during this pandemic. Thanks Ms. Manchester for working with students on this project!

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



End of Day Busing Reminders

Just a reminder that the school will follow the default instructions from parents regarding end of day busing, (eg. Tuesday and Thursday to daycare, Monday, Wednesday, Friday home) unless there is a note in their agenda or a call from a parent with a change of instructions. Please do not just let your child know they should go home that day when it is regularly a daycare day as we **MUST** receive a note or call from a parent to make a change.

FWL (Future Whitney Leaders) Spirit Team Events

Throughout December:

Weekly Christmas colouring contests
Door Decorating

Tuesday, Dec. 15th:

Decorate Yourself for Christmas Day

Thursday, Dec. 17th:

Dress in Christmas themed clothes or colours

Friday, Dec. 18th:

Dress in Comfy Clothes or PJ's!



UGLY CHRISTMAS SWEATER
TIME OF THE YEAR

Inclement Weather

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. An email will be sent to you. Check your email and confirm the subscription. You can also follow Tri-Board busing 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.

**** Due to the pandemic restrictions this year around gathering, we will have virtual School Council meetings instead of in person meetings at the school.**

Watch your email for an invitation to join the next virtual school council meeting! Everyone is welcome!

E-library IPADS

Did you know that you can now get free eBooks and audiobooks from the library? It's easy! Just visit <http://rcdsb.lib.overdrive.com> and borrow digital books with your RCDSB username and password. You can enjoy on all major devices, such as iPhone®, iPad®, and Android™ phones and tablets. The collection has books like Big Nate, Diary of a Wimpy Kid, and so much more. Talk to your teacher today for more information or access the site 24/7 through our school website.

Healthy Snacks!

Thank you to **Food for Learning, PC Children's Charity and Camp Madawaska** for the grant money and donations we received this year. A healthy snack is provided to all students at WPS each morning.



Milk Orders

Please let us know if you would like to order milk online for the upcoming month.

We have had very few interested families so far and as a result have not continued ordering milk. If you are interested in ordering, please order online on our **School Cash** system, and students will begin to receive their milk the following week.

School Spirit Days

Watch the calendar each month for our Spirit Days!

Thank you!!

To all of the parents who participated in the virtual Parent-Teacher Interviews on Nov. 12th and 13th

To all of the students from both Whitney Public School and St. Martin of Tours who worked so hard to prepare a meaningful tribute to honour Canadian Veterans with their Community Remembrance Day Presentation. And also to Marta Walczak, secretary at St. Martin of Tours, who put together the students' work into a beautiful video that was able to be shared with the entire community on YouTube!





Join us VIRTUALLY on:

**Wed., Dec. 16th, 2020
at 6:30 p.m.
from the comfort of
your home for the
Whitney Public School
Christmas Concert**



Illness

If your child is not well in the morning, please do the COVID-19 online school screening at: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/> to determine whether they should go to school and how to follow up with their symptoms. Thank you for your continued support in keeping everyone healthy!

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)! Please feel free to call the office if you'd like some help to register or you can follow the instructions we have attached to the right. Thank you



December Days



Tree of Lights Campaign 2020

We need you for something big and very important this Christmas! Give the Gift of healing and help us purchase critical equipment for the Medical Unit at St. Francis Memorial Hospital, including a new VAC Therapy System for wound healing, bedside chairs for visitors, overbed tables for patients, as well as a critical upgrade to the medication dispensing unit.

To learn how you can help with a gift of support, please visit <http://www.sfvhfoundation.com> or call the Foundation at 613-756-3045 ext. 217.

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

- 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.

The screenshot shows the 'Find Student' section of the School Cash Online registration process. It includes fields for School Board Name (School Board 1575), School Name (Eagle High School), Student Information, and a 'Continue' button. A note at the bottom says '(No students? Click here)'. There is also a small disclaimer at the bottom of the form.