



# Whitney Public School

## October 2020 Newsletter



### Message From the Principal

Dear Parents and Guardians,



I would like to begin by thanking everyone for their diligence in completing the <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/> each morning before heading out the door — and staying home if the school screening says “Do not go to school”. We understand this has been disruptive and appreciate your understanding of the need to contact Public Health. Thank you for your patience and understanding with all of the challenges. While we will continue do our best to ensure you have the most up to date information, we also encourage you to visit [www.rcdhu.com](http://www.rcdhu.com) often!

The first month of school has flown by quickly. Our students have already been involved in great learning, Mindfulness, and community building activities such as The Terry Fox Walk/Run, PJ Day, and Orange Shirt Day! Orange Shirt Day recognizes the negative impact residential schools had on many Indigenous children and their culture. The theme is Every Child Matters. Looking forward, we invite everyone to participate in Dress Purple Day on Tuesday, October 27, 2020. All Ontarians are invited to wear something purple to show children, youth, and families that Children's Aid Societies across Ontario are here to help!

We are considering hosting a virtual Meet the Teacher evening, if our families are interested — please see the survey in this newsletter. On September 21st, we had our first Parent Council Meeting. We will hold another Virtual School Council Meeting later this fall, in which we will formally select our Parent Council roles — we encourage everyone to get involved! We will be sending an invitation home — please consider getting involved!

The Week of October 4th-10th is Fire Prevention Week - and we look forward to learning from and exploring with visitors from the Fire Department. This year's theme is - “Serve up Fire Safety in the Kitchen”. October 30th we will celebrate an early Hallowe'en with Dress in Orange & Black or Hallowe'en costumes. Please remember costumes must be school appropriate — and cannot include Hallowe'en masks! Students will be decorating masks at school

Finally, I would like to wish everyone an enjoyable Thanksgiving Weekend. We're all in this together (now more than ever),

*Jessica Poff*

Principal, Whitney Public School



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



@Whitney\_Public School

## Important Dates

Friday, Oct. 2nd - Pyjama Day  
Monday, Oct. 5th-11th - Fire Prevention Week  
Monday, Oct. 6th - Fire Presentation Outside  
Sunday, Oct. 11th - Happy Thanksgiving!  
Monday, Oct. 12th - Holiday  
Tuesday, Oct. 27th - Dress in Purple Day  
Friday, Oct. 30th - Halloween Costume day or  
Dress in Black and Orange day

### COVID-19 School Screening

Please complete the COVID-19  
School Screening for  
**each of your children, every morning  
before school.**

It can also be found online at:

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

If the screening result says *"Do not go to school"* please stay home and contact  
**RC VTAC at 1-844-727-6404**  
for next steps.

We appreciate your understanding  
and patience through  
these challenging times!

Please continue to watch the Renfrew  
County District Health Unit's site at  
[www.rcdhu.com](http://www.rcdhu.com) for updates  
and new information.

Check out the Whitney Public School Website at:

**wps@rcdsb.on.ca**

### 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.



### Bus Safety Presentations in October

Ask your student what  
they learned!

**YOU ARE NOT ALONE.**

YOUR COMMUNITY IS HERE TO SUPPORT YOU.

Ontario **Dress Purple Day**, which is led by  
Children's Aid Societies across the province,  
is a day of action to raise awareness about  
the community's responsibility to look after  
children and youth. This year, on October  
27th, communities across Ontario will go  
purple and collectively speak up to share the  
message that children and youth have a right  
to safety and well-being and that help is  
available.

*"It takes a community to  
care for kids."*

**Dress Purple October 27th**

## Halloween Reminders

- Please no Halloween masks as they interfere with the masks students need to wear as a barrier to protect against COVID-19.
- **Treats!**  
This year we are unable to accept any home baked/prepared snacks but if you would like to send in treats for the students please call the school to let us know at 613-637-2171 and, if possible, please drop off individual, pre-packaged candy by the end of the day on Thursday, October 29th to be distributed on Friday.



Thank you for your support!

## Big Thank You's!

Camp Madawaska was very generous in making a donation to our Healthy Snack Program again this year!

We appreciate their help so much as the required individual, pre-packaged snacks are more expensive to provide for all students!



We have also received funding again this year for our Healthy Snack Program from Food for Learning and PC Childrens' Charity - Many thanks for supporting the students at Whitney Public School with healthy snacks everyday!



Elaine McEathron, who did some supply EA work with us over the last couple of years, recently sent a surprise package of homemade cloth masks for the students at WPS! There were many fun patterns and colours and we appreciate her generous donation so much!

Thank you Holly Hayes from the Township Office for inviting our students to decorate the planter boxes for Fall! Our junior class is busy making plans and collecting corn stalks and gourds to make it a work of art! Check it out next week!



## Milk Orders are Available in October!

Milk is available now to order through **School Cash Online ONLY**. You can choose which days throughout the month your child(ren) would like to receive milk.



If you have any questions about signing up for or using School Cash online - feel free to call the school and we will be happy to help you get set up!



## Virtual Meet the Teacher Night

Please let us know if you would be interested in joining us for a Virtual Meet the Teacher night on **Thursday, October 22, 2020.**

Please let us know by Friday, October 9th either by phone 613-637-2171 or by returning this slip. Thank you!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ YES, I would like to participate

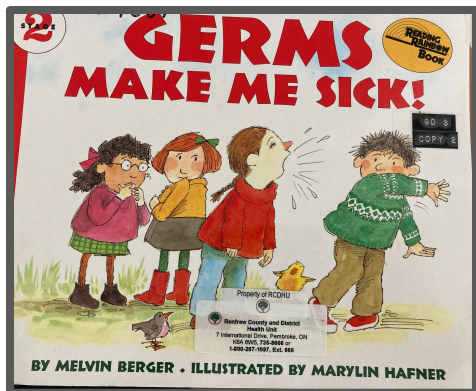
☐ NO, I would rather not



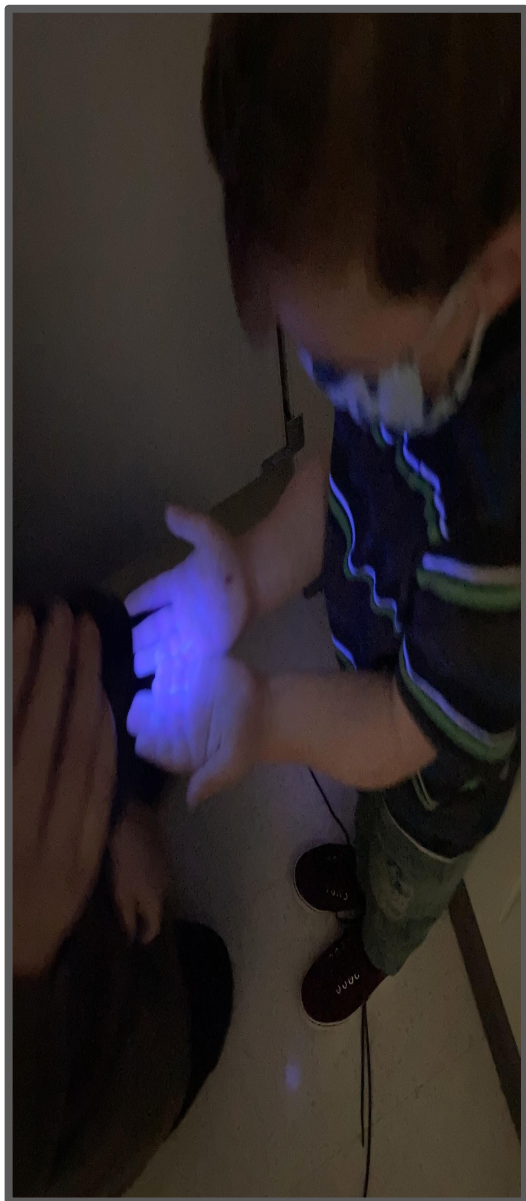
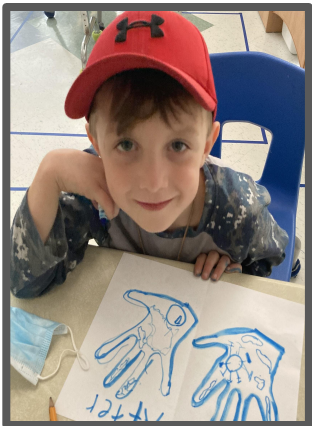
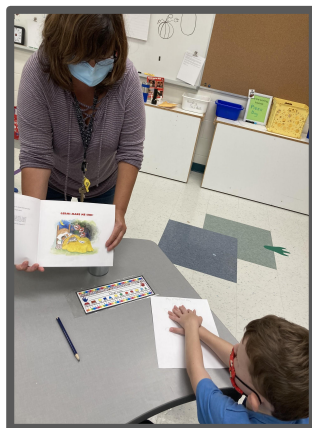
# WPS Student Work

## Germes Make Me Sick

The junior class shared a story, put some pretend germs on their hands and made predictions — would they be able to wash off all the pretend germs?

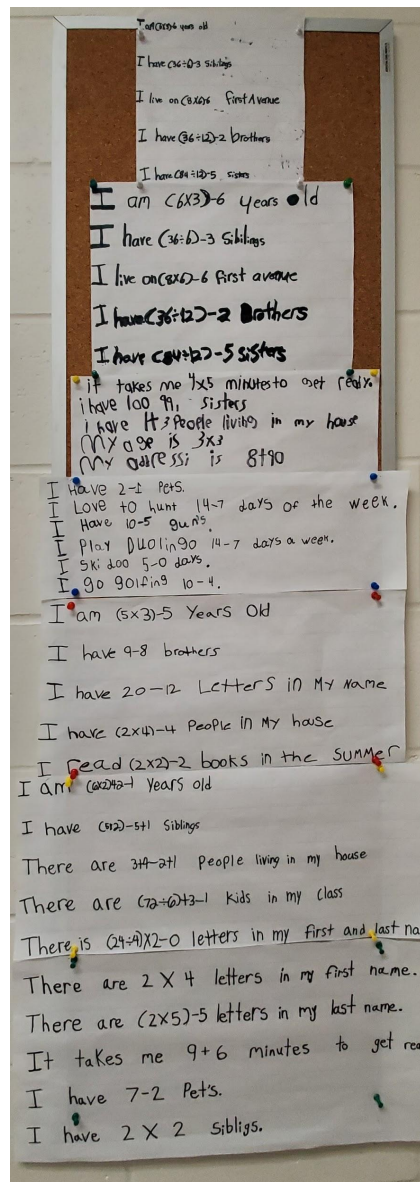


“Wait, how do you draw clean?”



## Math About Me!

The senior class did an amazing job with their Math About Me this month. Can you solve which one belongs to who...?





# 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.

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 who 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.

# WPS School Support Counsellor

*As some of you may already know, my name is Michele Kicksee and I am the new School Support Counsellor at Whitney Public School! I am thrilled to be here and have been enjoying connecting with all of the wonderful students who attend WPS! I am here to listen to student concerns and support them in taking care of their emotional and mental well-being, which in turn, helps them to learn and grow. I look forward to the year ahead and would encourage you to feel free to contact me if you have any concerns or questions. And remember - "You do not just wake up and become the butterfly - growth is a process." (Rupi Kaur)*

## School Cash (Ordering items online)

All milk orders must be placed through  
School Cash Online this year.

If you have not registered or set up ordering online in the past, please feel free to call the office at 613-637-2171 and we can help you register and help you place your initial orders.

Instructions are also attached below! Thank you



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.

### Find Student

#### School Information

School Board Name: School Board 1575  
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

**Continue** (No students? [Click here](#))

For more information, please contact your school board or visit our website at [www.schoolcashonline.com](http://www.schoolcashonline.com).  
Copy the link and paste it into your web browser. If the link doesn't work,  
contact support at 1-866-963-1889 or email [parenthelp@schoolcashonline.com](mailto:parenthelp@schoolcashonline.com).  
Thank you,  
Your School Cash Online Support Team

School Cash Online - Parent Registration

September  
Fun!



Group Inc.

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# WHAT DO I DO IF I HAVE ANY COVID-19 SYMPTOMS?

**UPDATED** Guidance on  
Testing and Isolation.  
Sep 22, 2020



## SYMPTOMATIC PERSON

**1.**

The person with symptoms **must self-isolate AND get tested.**

**2.**

The person with symptoms can go back to school/work **when** they receive a **negative test** result

**AND**

it has been **24 hours** since symptoms started improving

**AND**

they have **not had a fever** (without medication) for **24 hours.**

## HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS

**1.**

**Household members must self-monitor** for any symptoms but do not need testing if they do not have symptoms.

**2.**

Household members can continue to attend school and work with careful attention to **physical distancing, masking** and **hand-washing** rules.



**Minor symptoms** known to persist in children (i.e. runny nose) should not keep the child away from school, so long as a **negative test result** has been received **AND** it has been **24 hours** since symptoms started improving **AND** they have **not** had a fever (without medication) for **24 hours.**



If a person **with symptoms** does not get tested, they **must self-isolate for 14 days** from the **onset of symptoms.**



**A doctor's note IS NOT required** for return to work/school, **once the above criteria have been met.**

\* The most up to date information can be found online at **RCDHU.COM**



**RC VTAC**  
Regional Vocational Training and Assessment Centre



**Renfrew**  
County of  
Ontario - Canada  
Experience Our History. Share Your Future.

# RCDSB Return to School and Work Resource Guide

KEEPING YOU SAFE

## **REMINDER**

The process for online learning will be a combination of live online instruction along with assignments and activities. Students participating in online learning are expected to be available and present for all scheduled instructional times and complete all assignments. Grades (1 to 12) will be required to complete 225 minutes of learning per day. Kindergarten will be 180 minutes.

Academic expectations for students learning from home will be no different than those learning in the classroom. Online learners will still have access to mental health and special education supports as needed.

**The RCDSB would like to highlight for parents/guardians that students who enter online learning will not be in the same class, or with the same teacher, as they would be at their regular school with in-person learning.**

**In order for the District and our staff to deliver online education, students learning from home will be part of an online classroom, with other online students in their grade or multiple grades from schools across the District. Each classroom will be assigned an online teacher.**

Parents/guardians will have the opportunity at four separate times throughout the school year to switch their children from remote learning to in-person learning, or vice versa. Dates are as follows:

### **Elementary**

#### **Parents/Guardians must commit by:**

Aug. 17th

Nov. 2nd

Jan. 18th

March 29th

#### **Effective on:**

Sept. 8th

Nov. 16th

Feb. 2nd

Apr. 12th

If you have questions or require assistance in the start-up of your child's online remote learning, there is a dedicated email: [remotelearning@rcdsb.on.ca](mailto:remotelearning@rcdsb.on.ca). Staff will respond to you as quickly as possible.