

THE WORD

ISSUE 11 FEBRUARY 12 - 23 2018

important dates for the next few weeks:

MONDAY FEB 12 -

**100s DAY FOR KINDERGARTEN
STUDENTS**

TUESDAY FEB 13 -

REPORT CARDS SENT HOME



WEDNESDAY FEB 14 -

**SAVE A CHILD'S HEART
DANCE-A-THON**

VALENTINE'S DAY



THURSDAY FEB 15 -

**PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS
(EVENING)**

GRADE 6 GRAD BOOK SALE

FRIDAY FEB 16 -

**PA DAY - NO SCHOOL
PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS**

GRADE 6 GRAD BOOK SALE

MONDAY FEB 19 -

FAMILY DAY - NO SCHOOL

from the principal

Family Day

Monday February 19th is Family Day and therefore school will be closed that day. We wish everyone a wonderful long weekend with family and friends. We hope you enjoy this time together.

Lunar New Year

We would like to wish all Whitney staff and families who are celebrating Lunar New Year, a very Happy New Year filled with luck, good fortune, and prosperity! Lunar New Year begins February 16th this year and it will be the Year of the Dog. Kung Hey Fat Choy!



Chris Rzepa

Report Card & Parent/Guardian/Teacher Interviews

Elementary Report cards will sent home with students in FDK to Grade 6 on

Tuesday February 13th.

In Grades 1-6, this report card will record students' grades in all subject areas and show how they are working towards the achievement of curriculum expectations and their development of learning skills and work habits from September to this point in the school year. The new TDSB Kindergarten Report will be sent home with Kindergarten students and will present progress in four areas: Belonging and Contributing, Demonstrating Literacy and Mathematics Behaviours, Problem Solving and Innovating, and Self-Regulation and Well-Being.

Parent/teacher interviews will take place on **Thursday, February 15th** in the evening, on **Friday, February 16th** in the morning, or at other mutually convenient times. Interviews are not mandatory for all students during this round. Teachers or Parents/Guardians may request interviews at this time, if either feel it is necessary.

Friday February 16th is a PA Day for Interviews and therefore there will be no school for students on that day.

****Please remember to return your child's Report Card envelope so that we can reuse it for the next one.****

February is Chinese Heritage Month

The Toronto District School Board is proud to recognize Chinese Heritage Month (CHM) during the month of February. The theme selected by the CHM Planning Committee for the year is

“Year of the Dog”.

During this month, we celebrate the energetic culture and traditions of the Chinese community with students, staff and community members of the Toronto District School Board and the City of Toronto. The winner of our TDSB poster competition was unveiled at the Chinese Heritage Launch on February 1st, at Seneca Hill Public School.

The Chinese community is integral to the growth and success of the City of Toronto and Canada. Members of the Chinese community represent approximately 10 percent of the total GTA population and form its second largest visible minority group. Canadians remember and appreciate the Chinese workers who helped build the Canadian Pacific Railway that united our country.

Chinese-Canadians will recognize Chinese New Year on [Friday, February 16th](#) with celebrations throughout the month of February.

As outlined in the article by Laura Neilson Bonikowsky, and revised by Maude-Emmanuelle Lambert, the Chinese New Year is also known as the Spring Festival or the Lunar New Year. This occasion is celebrated over many days and includes a range of activities from fireworks displays, drumming, distinctive foods and arts and crafts.

For additional information on Chinese New Year in Canada, please see the following link: <http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/chinese-new-year-in-canada/>

From Canada Post: “Canada Post has released its annual two-stamp issue to mark the Lunar New Year, the 10th in this most recent lunar series. True to the traditional aspects of the celebration, the Year of the Dog stamps incorporate Chinese lanterns as a central design element. A Permanent™ domestic-rate stamp features an endearing small dog that looks ready to rush headlong into the year ahead, while the international-rate stamp shows a larger, dignified canine, one foot raised in anticipation. The customary red and gold dominate the design.”



Are you ready to Dance?

On **Wednesday February 14th**, Whitney will be holding a FUN-raiser!

Classes will have an opportunity to be in the gym dancing to some tunes “spun” by a professional DJ!

A donation of \$5 is suggested. All proceeds will go to a special charity called “Save A Child’s Heart” to provide a child with heart surgery due to a heart condition. More information can be found at www.saveachildsheart.ca

Students can bring these donations with them on the day to the gym where a large jar will be used to collect all funds or you are welcome to use School Cash Online to make your donation.

We will be strengthening our hearts, saving a child’s heart and celebrating “Heart Day” (Valentine’s Day)!



If you’re interested in checking out the fun, the Dance-A-Thon Schedule is as follows:

8:55 - 9:30 am Grades 3-4
9:30 - 10:05 am Grades 1-2
10:05 - 10:40 am FDK
10:40 - 11:20 am Grades 5-6

Prologue Show - Fana Soro

The show *Yamo! Yamo! Greetings from West Africa* is coming to Whitney on **February 23rd** at 12:45 pm for our Grade 3-6 classes. We will discover West African music and culture through drumming and dance. Yamo! Yamo!” means (“Hello! How are you doing!” in Baoulé).

Fana Soro is the charismatic ambassador of West African culture! In this dynamic and interactive performance of the Senoufo people, he shares the musical traditions of his home country to showcase the soaring melodies, driving rhythms and spirited dances of ancient West African performing arts.





FROM THE GRADE 6 GRAD COMMITTEE



BOOK SALE!!

**THE GRADE 6 STUDENTS ARE RUNNING A BOOK SALE FUNDRAISER
FOR THEIR GRADUATION.**

**THURSDAY FEBRUARY 15TH - ALL DAY - INCLUDING THE EVENING
FOR PARENTS INTERVIEWS AND FRIDAY MORNING!**

**ADULT BOOKS \$2
KIDS BOOKS. \$1**

**SWING BY THE TABLES TO BROWSE THE SELECTION. NOVELS,
COOKBOOKS, SELF-HELP, CAREER AND SO MUCH MORE!
PLUS A GREAT GREAT KIDS SELECTION.**

PICK UP SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE IN THE FAMILY TO ENJOY!



Kindergarten Open House

Calling all new Kindergarten students to Whitney!

If you have a child who will be entering Junior Kindergarten in September 2018, we invite you join us on **Tuesday February 27th** beginning at 6:00 pm. If you know of a neighbour with children ready for JK this coming September, please pass this information on to them. Children who will be four years old prior to December 31, 2018 (born in 2014) may enter Junior Kindergarten next school year. If a child is born in October, November, or December of 2014, parents/guardians have the option to begin Junior Kindergarten in September 2019 in all TDSB schools.

Kindergarten Registration at Whitney is expected to begin the beginning of February for the majority of the new students. Registrations can be taken at any point until the first day of school in September (and beyond for anyone living in our school district). Please e-mail Allison Walker, Allison.Walker@tdsb.on.ca to get on a distribution list to receive updates and registration information as well.





WITTENBERG'S WALL



Rowing Club (Help please!! Ergs needed!)

The first session for the Whitney rowing club was a HUGE success. An enormous thank you goes out to Ben Givertz-Steele, Jennifer Givertz-Steele, and Sunny Edmunds for helping bring all of the ergs to Whitney, and for teaching the students all about this amazing sport. **We are in need of ergs to help the program run properly. So, if you have an erg at home that you are not using, and wouldn't mind lending it to the Rowing Club, please let me know!!** It would be great to get up to 10 ergs, so that the kids can get as much exposure to rowing as possible. Thank you!!



Boys Basketball

Grade 6 Div 1

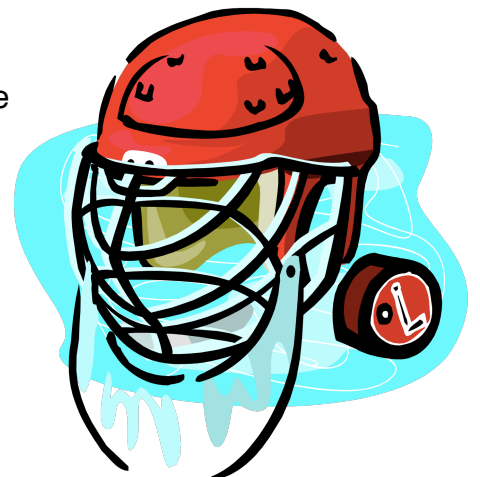
Congratulations to the members of the grade 6 div 1 boys basketball team on their amazing performance at Gledhill this past week. Although the team didn't come out victorious, their team play improved throughout the entire day, and even earned them compliments from the officiating crew on their outstanding effort and their willingness to play as a team! Way to go boys! The boys are ready for one more game, as they challenge their parents sometime before the end of February.

Grade 5 Div 3

Good luck to the members of the grade 5 div 3 basketball team, as they get ready for their upcoming tournament on March 6th at Selwyn PS.

Hockey

Congratulations to the members of the hockey team on finishing up the regular season in first place. Whitney dominated the game against Brown, winning 4-1, and then earned their redemption against Regal Road, escaping with a 7-6 victory! The team is now set for a quarter final game taking place on Valentine's Day. Good luck team!



TWO WEEKS SPORTS SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

MONDAY
February 12

**Grade 6 Girls
Volleyball Practice**
(7:30 am)

Girls Volleyball Game
Whitney @ Frankland
(3:20 pm)

TUESDAY
February 13

**Grade 5 Div 3 Boys
Basketball Practice**
(7:30 am)

WEDNESDAY
February 14

**Grade 6 Badminton
Tryout** (7:30 am)

**Whitney Wildcat
Hockey** 12:00 pm @
Forest Hill

THURSDAY
February 15

**Grade 4/5 Badminton
Tryout** (7:30 am)

FRIDAY
February 16

PA DAY

NO SCHOOL

MONDAY
February 19

FAMILY DAY

NO SCHOOL

TUESDAY
February 20

**Grade 5 Div 3 Boys
Basketball Practice**
(7:30 am)

WEDNESDAY
February 21

**Grade 6 Badminton
Tryout** (7:30 am)

THURSDAY
February 22

**Grade 4/5 Badminton
Tryout** (7:30 am)

FRIDAY
February 23

**Grade 4-6 Drop In
Badminton** (8:00 am)

