

# THE **WAT** WORD

WHITNEY  
EST. 1926

ISSUE 15 APRIL 16 - 27 2018

important dates for  
the next few weeks:

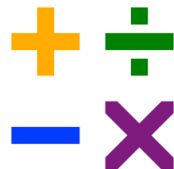
WEDNESDAY APRIL 18 -  
GRADES 1-3 TSO FIELD TRIP

THURSDAY APRIL 19 -  
WHITNEY'S GOT TALENT 9am and 7pm

TUESDAY APRIL 24 -  
LICE CHECK

THURSDAY MAY 3 -  
FAMILY MATH NIGHT

THURSDAY MAY 10 -  
WHITNEY MAIN EVENT!!!  
7pm at the Toronto Lawn



*Whitney's Got Talent*

**TALENT  
SHOW**

Come one, come all! Whitney parents and guardians are invited to the Whitney Talent Show on [Thursday April 19th](#) beginning at 7:00 pm.

Students in Grades 4, 5, and 6, as well as the Grade 6 Band and the school Choir were invited to participate. There will be a dress rehearsal at 9:00 am for anyone who is not able to attend in the evening.

## Lice Check

Our final Lice Check of the year takes place [Tuesday April 24th](#) throughout the school day. Nitwits, a professional company, will be in to check all students. Thank you to the School Council for providing the funds for this service. If there is any reason your child should not be checked, please let the office know.

Chris Rzepa

## **APRIL** is Sikh Heritage Month at the TDSB

On 22 March 2016, Trustees voted to designate April of each year as Sikh Heritage Month, making TDSB the first school board in Canada to do so, and matching recognition by the Province of Ontario in 2013.

As stated in the Sikh Heritage Month Act, 2013, c. 12, s. 1.:

"Sikh Canadians have lived in Ontario since the middle of the twentieth century. They represent a growing and dynamic population. April is an important month for the Sikh community. In this month, Sikh Canadians celebrate Vaisakhi, which marks the creation of the Khalsa and the Sikh articles of faith. The Province of Ontario recognizes the important contributions that Sikh Canadians have made to Ontario's social, economic, political and cultural fabric."

Sikh Heritage Month is to provide an opportunity for staff, students and community members to learn more about Sikh traditions and history, and celebrate the many contributions of Sikh Canadians. It is also a time to reflect on both the struggles and accomplishments of the many communities that contribute to Canada's rich cultural mosaic. From being turned away on Canada's shores during the historic Komagata Maru incident in 1914 to the many Canadians, such as award winning Canadian Sikh Women authors such as Rupinder Kaur and Lily Singh, we must continue to progress.

The theme for this year's TDSB Sikh Heritage Month is one of the core Sikh Values – SEVA: Selfless Service. We are also celebrating HERitage of Sikh Women in Canada through a poster. It is an opportunity to continue dialogue on Equity and Inclusive curriculum throughout the year. The poster is on display in the school.

## **April** is also Latin-America History Month at the TDSB

The theme for Latin-America History Month (LAHM) 2018 is: Recognizing our Diverse Spiritualities Through Our Stories: Learn About Our Many Roots. Latin-America/Abya Yala heritage is shared by more than 5000 students across TDSB, Encompassing the peoples of 21 different countries, linguistically, it represents over 500 hundred different languages spoken, including Indigenous and African languages such as Kuna and Garifuna.

Last year, TDSB's LAHM theme was: Hear Our Voices: Our Living Experiences! Escuchen Nuestrxs Voces: Nuestrxs Experiencias!, calling on us to subvert the singular understanding of Latin-America/Abya Yala's ethnic and racial identities. Building on this theme, the aim of the LAHM 2018 and K-12 Related Initiatives Planning Committee is to support TDSB staff and students to engage in courageous conversations and critical literature, building understanding around the many ways that students and families of Latin-America/Abya Yala and its diasporas practice their spiritualities, and centering its marginalized and silenced voices, lived experiences, and realities, including but not limited to those of Muslim Latinxs, Sikh Latinxs, as well as Mapuche or Garifuna youth).

Details of educational opportunities for students, parents/guardians, and staff will be shared in the coming weeks, along with the winning poster from the LAHM 2018 Artwork Competition.



## Family Math Night

Whitney's Math Night takes place on **Thursday May 3rd** this year. Classrooms will be open for all to learn more about how mathematics is taught. On display will be Learning Goals, Success Criteria, information about rich tasks and three part math lessons. There will be math challenges for you to test your skills in each room as well.

**Hold the date!** We will send out an invitation electronically and ask that you RSVP the number of people from your family that will attend so that we have a idea of numbers for dinner. Pizza will be provided for those attending! More information will be sent home and will appear in the next Whitney Word as well.



**A HUGE SHOUT OUT TO MR RZEPA, MR WITTENBERG AND ALL OF THE AMAZING VOLUNTEERS WHO HAVE BEEN BRAVING THESE (FREEZING) COLD APRIL MORNINGS TO MAKE WHITNEY'S FIRST KISS & RIDE PROGRAM SUCH A SUCCESS!**

**WE ARE SO GRATEFUL FOR EVERYONE'S EFFORTS TO KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE.**

**THANK YOU.**

**PARENTS - IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN**

# **Whitney Main Event**

**AND WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

**We are in need of donations for our fabulous Whitney Main Event Silent Auction and “Balloon Pop” activity which together raise important funds for the school year.**

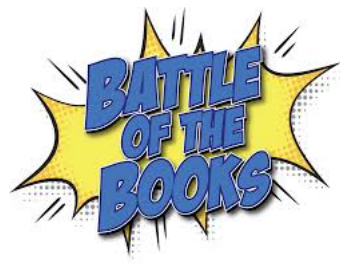
**For the Silent Auction, we are asking parents to consider donating an EXPERIENCE such as music, sports, or theatre event tickets, ski lift passes or yoga classes. Anything fun for parents, students or families would be greatly appreciated! Please contact Ros Wilson ([rosmondflynn@gmail.com](mailto:rosmondflynn@gmail.com)) or Ashley Rutledge ([Ashley.rutledge@snapchat.com](mailto:Ashley.rutledge@snapchat.com)) to coordinate efforts.**

**As for the Balloon Pop activity, we are looking for donations of any gift cards (5 per class) in any denomination over \$25. These cards can be from the LCBO, the Gap, the Keg, Home Depot, etc and may be dropped off in a well marked bin in the school office.**



**Thanks in advance for your help - and see you at the Toronto Lawn at 7pm on May 10th!**

**(DON'T FORGET TO BOOK YOUR BABYSITTER!)**



# The Finals



We had an amazing two weeks of matches for the Battle of the Books this year! The teams were well prepared and hungry for battle. We have never seen a group of students more enthusiastic and motivated to read. They were all super competitors and supportive of one another. It has been truly inspiring!

Congratulations to the two Finalist Teams: **Thunderbirds** (Katie, Seb, Taimur, Jack) and **Turtle Gang 422612** (Eamon, Tyler G., Henry, Wesley). Both teams won some pretty incredible battles to get to the finals, which we hosted in the gym in front of grades 3-6. They proved stronger than ever in the final match, with **Thunderbirds winning the tournament**. They will be sharing their pizza party with the rest of their class next week.

Congratulations also, to our consolation winners: **The Big Bois Betallion** (Jake, Sam H, Ryan L, Evan).

I would like to extend my gratitude to all the parent volunteers who helped read the books, come up with the questions and host the tournament: Amber Friesen, Jane Vokes, Cathy Brochu, Suzie Clapp, Leslie Vermeersch, Isla and of course **Heather Hall** who did all of the above, was our biggest supporter and best MC in BOB history!

Thank you to the teachers and Mr. Rzepa for their support of this program, and to the students who continue to surprise and delight us every year, with their enthusiasm and love of reading. We are all proud of their effort!

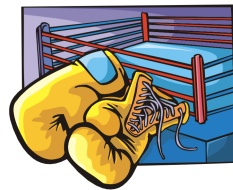
Until next year!  
Kathy Clarke

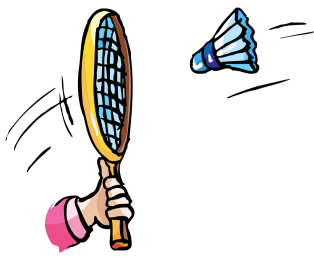


# BATTLE OF THE BOOKS



# 2018

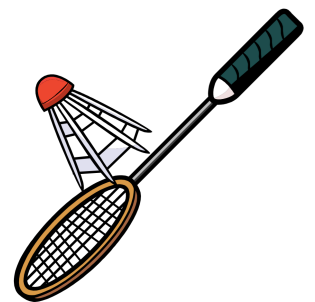




# WITTENBERG'S WALL

## Grade 4/5 Badminton

Congratulations to the members of the grade 4/5 badminton team on their AMAZING performance this past week. The team finished 2nd in their pool, and went into the conference semi finals against a super squad from Keele St. PS. Knowing that they were up against a formidable opponent didn't scare our mighty Wildcats, as the entire match and spot in the conference finals hinged on the mixed team of Fiona and JP. The bird was flying back and forth, as each team took their opportunities to smash the bird as hard as they could and put the other team in trouble. At the end of the match, our dynamic duo, held on for an exciting victory 24-22 sending the team into the Conference finals! Unfortunately, the bird didn't land the way we wanted in the finals, but everyone at Whitney was so proud of the way our team performed, and the 4/5 team brought home Whitney's first banner of 2018!! Thank you to all of the families for their ongoing support throughout the season!



## Rowing Club

Good luck to the members of the Whitney Rowing Club, when they travel to Fern PS on Friday April 20th to compete in a 500m erg competition! The team has been working extremely hard throughout the past couple of months, and are ready to take to the "waters".

Practices next week will take place at recess on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Please check the white board by the gym!

# TWO WEEKS SPORTS SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

<p><b>MONDAY</b> April 16</p> <p><b>Girls Slo Pitch Tryout</b> (3:30 - 4:30 pm)</p>	<p><b>TUESDAY</b> April 17</p> <p><b>Grade 6 Ultimate</b> (7:30 am)</p> <p><b>Grade 4/5 Ultimate</b> (12:00pm)</p> <p><b>Boys Slo Pitch Tryout</b> (3:30 pm)</p>	<p><b>WEDNESDAY</b> April 18</p> <p><b>Grade 6 Ultimate</b> (7:30 am)</p> <p><b>Grade 4/5 Ultimate</b> (12:00pm)</p> <p><b>Girls Slo Pitch Tryout</b> (3:30 pm)</p>	<p><b>THURSDAY</b> April 19</p> <p><b>Grade 6 Ultimate</b> (7:30 am)</p> <p><b>Grade 4/5 Ultimate</b> (12:00pm)</p> <p><b>Boys Slo Pitch Tryout</b> (3:30 pm)</p>	<p><b>FRIDAY</b> April 20</p> <p><b>Rowing Competition</b> @ Fern PS (departing Whitney at 9:00 am)</p>
<p><b>MONDAY</b> April 23</p> <p><b>Boys Slo Pitch Practice</b> (3:30 pm)</p>	<p><b>TUESDAY</b> April 24</p> <p><b>Grade 6 Ultimate Practice</b> (7:30 am)</p> <p><b>Girls Slo Pitch Practice</b> (3:30 pm)</p>	<p><b>WEDNESDAY</b> April 25</p> <p><b>Grade 4/5 Ultimate Practice</b> (7:30 am)</p> <p><b>Boys Slo Pitch Practice</b> (3:30 pm)</p>	<p><b>THURSDAY</b> April 26</p> <p><b>Grade 4/5 and 6 Ultimate Practice</b> (7:30 am)</p> <p><b>Girls Slo Pitch Practice</b> (3:30 pm)</p>	<p><b>FRIDAY</b> April 27</p>

