

THE



WORD

ISSUE 2 SEPT 25 - OCT 6 2017

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important dates for SEPT 25 - OCT 6

SEPT 25 - WHITNEY PARENT
COUNCIL GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING
(GCM) @ 6PM in the school library

SEPT 26 - TERRY FOX RUN @
9AM - *volunteers still needed!*

SEPT 26 - WELCOME BACK
WHITNEY BBQ (*formerly Harvest Fest*)
@ 4:30 - 7PM

SEPT 29 - GR 1-6 CROSS
COUNTRY MEET @ ASHBRIDGE'S BAY

SEPT 29 - ORANGE SHIRT DAY

OCT 4 - PICTURE DAY!

OCT 5 - STEP DAY & PIZZA LUNCH

OCT 6 - PA DAY

from the principal

I would like to thank all those who were able to join us for our Celebration of Learning (Curriculum Night) on the 19th of this month. It was wonderful to meet many of you and share the vision for this coming year. I hope you enjoyed visiting all the classrooms and that you will continue to introduce yourselves to me. Please remember that my door is always open to you. I welcome feedback, suggestions, and opportunities to learn. If there is an issue you would like to discuss, please let me know and we can schedule a time to speak. We are all partners in the school's success!

October 5th marks World Teachers' Day! A special thank you to the amazing teachers at Whitney. They dedicate themselves to helping our students to be successful. They create caring and supportive learning environments and devote lots of time to giving our students so many opportunities in the arts and athletics. We celebrate all they do and the wonderful people they are. We are fortunate to have them at our school.

Rosh Hoshana is a time for joy, a time for new beginnings, celebrations, and counting our blessings. To all families that are celebrating, we wish you Good Health, Happiness, Peace and Prosperity all through the year for a sweet new year. Shanah Tovah!

Chris Rzepa



Editor's Note: Tuesday September 26th is a big day with the Terry Fox Run and the Welcome Back BBQ. If you take any photos from these or any Whitney events, please send along to whitneyword@gmail.com Thanks!

Dear Parent(s)/ Guardian(s)/ Caregiver(s):

Welcome to a new school year at Whitney Public School! It was wonderful to see so many people out at our Celebration of Learning (Curriculum Night) this week.

Every September, schools review actual student enrolment as compared to initial projections from last April, and reorganize classes where required. We do our best to plan for the new school year, but there are always factors, such as new or departing students, that might affect how classrooms are organized. In addition, to ensure smaller class sizes, the Ministry of Education sets out specific class size requirements to benefit student learning.

As a result of student enrolment at our school, we will need to reorganize our Junior Division, in particular the two Grade 5/6 classes to best support our students. For your child, if they are in Grade 6, they will remain with their current teacher in their current Room. Students in Grade 5 will have a new teacher in Room 304. We will try to update you with the name of the teacher as soon as interviews have been completed and approval has been granted. Changes to classes at our school will take place by October 2, 2017.

We know that for students and parents, changing classes may be difficult and may require an adjustment period. Students will be supported as they transition through these classroom changes. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or your child's teacher.

At Whitney, we are looking forward to a successful and rewarding school year.

Sincerely,

Chris Rzepa

Principal

SPA DAYS are now STEP DAYS

S – Spirit Days

T – Together as a Team (assemblies)

E – Equity

P – Pizza Lunch

The essence of the day remains the same with Spirit Days, Pizza lunches, and assemblies taking place on these days. There will be opportunities to have students recognized and to celebrate what has been going on in their classrooms. The main change in these days is the content and opportunity to have either a **Character Education focus (TDSB Character Traits)**, an **Equity focus**, or **both**.

We are also looking to focus on goal setting and self-improvement. This gives us 10 opportunities in the year to reflect on how we are doing and think of a way to improve or do better. It might be related to academics, work habits, social interactions, kindness...the possibilities are many. Students and Staff can focus on something meaningful to them.

In the month of September, our focus was on **RESPECT**. Over the past month, staff discussed this theme in the classroom, and students shared quotes over the announcements that were reflective. We have been looking out for student actions and language that demonstrated respect both inside and outside the classroom.

Our first STEP day takes place Thursday October 5th at 10:30 am.

Room 307 will be presenting and focussing on our October theme of **RESPONSIBILITY**. We will recognize those students who demonstrated respect during the month of September at this assembly.

The Spirit Day will be **Blue and Yellow** – School Colours (wear your Whitney shirts or Terry Fox shirts!). Parents/Guardians are always welcome to join in on the fun and attend our assembly!

*"A journey of a thousand miles
begins with a single STEP."*

Whitney P.S. Calendar Dates & Events 2017–18

P.A. Day

Friday October 6th

Thanksgiving (no school)

Monday October 9th

Remembrance Day

Friday November 10th

Progress Reports go home

Tuesday November 14th

P.A. Day for Parent/Teacher
interviews

Friday November 17th

Holiday Concert Dress
Rehearsal

Thursday December 14th @
9:00AM

Holiday Concert Celebration

Thursday December 14th

Winter Break Holidays

December 25 to January 5
(inclusive)

P.A. Day

Friday January 19th

First Term Reports go home

Tuesday February 13th

P.A. Day for Parent/Teacher
interviews

Friday February 16th

Family Day

Monday February 19th



March Break

March 12th to March 16th

Good Friday

Friday March 30th

Easter Monday

Monday April 2nd

Spring Event

Thursday April 12th

Victoria Day

Monday May 21st

P.A. Day

Friday June 8th

Final Reports go home

Tuesday June 26th

Grade 6 Graduation

Tuesday June 26th

Play Day and BBQ

Wednesday June 27th

Last Day of Classes

Thursday June 28th

P.A. Day

Friday June 29th





TORONTO DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
Whitney Public School
2017 - 2018

H Statutory Holiday
B Board Break
PA PA Day

September						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4 H	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Respect						

October						
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8	9 H	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				
Responsibility						

November						
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			5	6	7	8
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 PA	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		
Empathy						

December						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1 PA	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 H	26	27	28	29	30
31						
Kindness & Caring						

January						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1 H	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19 PA	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			
Teamwork						

February						
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				3	4	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 PA	17
18	19 H	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			
Fairness						

March						
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				1	2	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30 H	31
Honesty						

April						
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					
Co-operation						

May						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
		2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 H	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		
Integrity						

June						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
					4	
3	4	5	6	7	8 PA	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 PA	30
Perseverance						

Professional Activity Days:
 Friday, October 6, 2017
 Friday, November 17, 2017
 Friday, December 1, 2017
 Friday, January 19, 2018
 Friday, February 16, 2018
 Friday, June 8, 2018
 Friday, June 29, 2018

First Day of School:
 Tuesday, September 5, 2017

Last day of school for students:
 June 28, 2018

Dates to Remember:
Labour Day: September 4, 2017
Thanksgiving: October 9, 2017
Christmas Break: December 25, 2017 to January 5, 2018 inclusive (last day of school December 22; school resumes January 8)
Provincial Family Day: February 19, 2018
Mid-Winter Break: March 12 to 16, 2018
Good Friday: March 30, 2018
Easter Monday: April 2, 2018
Victoria Day: May 21, 2018

Total Instructional Days: 188



The 27th annual Whitney P.S. Terry Fox Run is **Tuesday September 26th** (storm date Wednesday September 27th)



Your kids should have been sent home with a Pledge Sheet but if you would prefer to donate online, here is the link to the **Whitney P.S. Team Fundraising Page**:

<https://secure.terryfox.ca/registant/TeamFundraisingPage.aspx?teamID=746108&langPref=en-CA#&panel1-2>

October 4th is Picture Day at Whitney!



Please make sure students are at school ready to smile at 8:45 am. (9 am for kinders!)



Mark your calendars as Friday October 6th is the first P.A. Day of the year.



Going to be late for school? Need to report a child absent? Make sure to program allison.walker@tdsb.on.ca into your contacts for all of your Whitney School needs!

Orange Shirt Day

(Declared annually across Canada)

On **Friday September 29th**, students and staff across the TDSB will come together and wear Orange Shirts to recognize the harm that the Residential School System did to First Nations, Métis and Inuit children and to recognize that **"Every Child Matters."**

Orange Shirt Day is a movement that officially began in 2013 but in reality it began in 1973 when six year old Phyllis Webstad entered the St. Joseph Mission Residential School, outside of Williams Lake, BC. The date, September 30, was chosen because that was the time of the year the trucks and buses would enter the communities to "collect" the children and deliver them to their harsh new reality of cultural assimilation, mental, sexual and physical abuse, shame and deprivation.

The impact of residential schools affects every Canadian.

(Bob Joseph, Working Effectively with Indigenous Peoples, 2015)

Honouring this day shows our commitment to Reconciliation.



Walk to School

International Walk to School Day is a global event that involves communities from more than 40 countries walking and biking to school on the same day. It began in 1997 as a one-day event. Over time, this event has become part of a movement for year-round safe routes to school and a celebration – with record breaking participation – each October.

We will observe this day at Whitney on **Wednesday October 4th** this year. Each month this year at our school, we will have a Walking Wednesday (usually the first Wednesday of each month) where we will encourage all students and adults to walk, cycle, scooter, or skateboard to school. We will award the **"Golden Shoe" trophy** to the class that has the highest percentage of participants each time.



KINDER CORNER

Kindergarten Families and Friends!

As we start the new school year we have so much to be thankful for. The Teachers and staff wanted to send out a huge **thank you** to our spear heading committee of Tracey Butler and Jo Rivard as well as all of the other parents who supported this venture by volunteering their time to make the new Kinder Garden Outdoor Classroom happen. What an amazing vision they had. The new space is so inviting and full of life!

The children love exploring with the new activities. The chalkboards and stage is a big favorite among all. Building and creating with the many new loose parts has sparked so much new interest and inquiry. We love the endless amount of fun and adventure the new area provides for our children. We are bound to have many years of learning and discovery in our new playground.

Thank you so much to everyone who made this happen.

The K team



REMINDERS:

Kinder students need **running shoes** and a **change of clothing** all the time at school. If you end up taking home a wet t-shirt, for example, don't forget to bring a new one the next day!

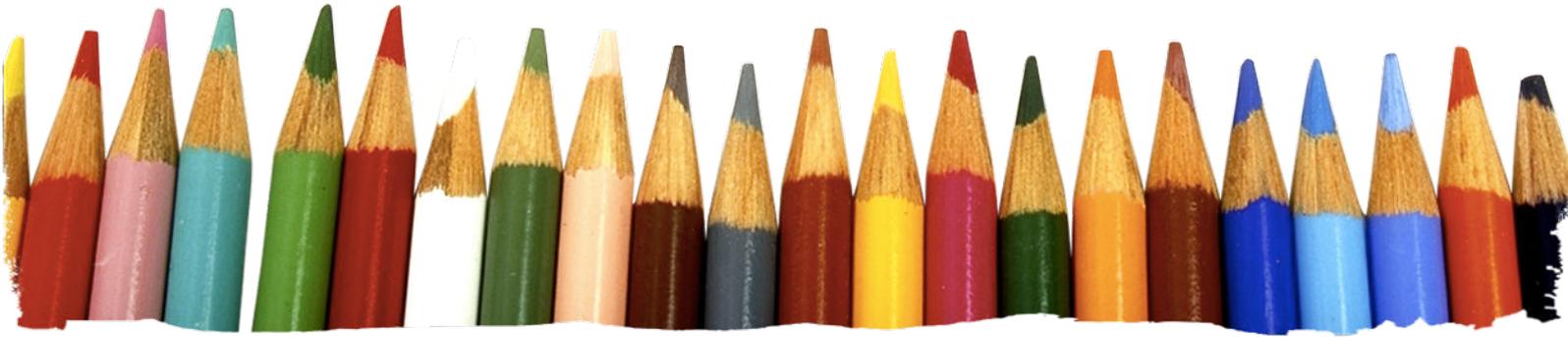
The times for our [Full Day Kindergarten program](#) are as follows:

Students can be dropped off between **8:45 and 9:00 am** in the Kindergarten playground. Staff will be there to receive and supervise students. The instructional day is between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm with a lunch hour between 11:30 am and 12:30 pm. There is supervision from **3:00 pm and 3:15 pm** as well. Students should be picked up by 3:15 pm. Times have not really changed from last year, but we have defined the instructional day more clearly and changed the FDK lunch hour from 75 minutes to 60.

If anyone has any questions or would like clarification, please e-mail Mr. Rzepa, Christopher.rzepa@tdsb.on.ca



News From the Parent Council



GET YOUR WELCOME BACK BBQ TICKETS!!!

The school's Welcome Back BBQ will be held on Tuesday, September 26 from 4:30pm-7pm. Everyone is welcome! All students JK to Grade 6, their siblings and their parents and/or caregivers. Bring along friends from the neighbourhood too!

BBQ Entry Fee:

- \$10 per person, 3 years and up (including adults)
- Free, 2 years and under



The entry fee gets you entrance to the yard to enjoy the festivities and a BBQ ticket. Baked goods and smoothies will be available for an additional donation (bring your loonies and toonies!)

For ticket payment, we are moving onto our cashless system which you can access via <https://tdsb.schoolcashionline.com>. Please print your receipt for entry at the door.

Come out to meet Christopher Rzepa, our new Principal. Enjoy delicious BBQ, groove to great music and show your support for Whitney!!

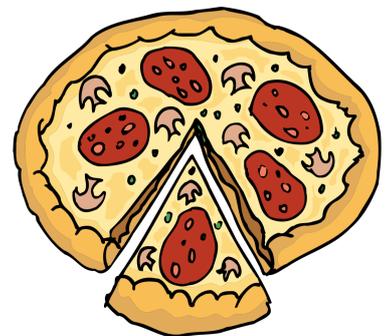
Spirit Together Equity Pizza

STEP (Spirit Together Equity Pizza) days are one of Whitney's many ways to bring our children together as a team to celebrate character traits. The pizza lunches allow our children to enjoy a shared lunch with their classmates. They also serve as a fundraising program for the school's parent council.

PIZZA lunches include a choice of unlimited pepperoni or cheese pizza for only \$75 for 9 fun, shared lunches! Go to <https://tdsb.schoolcashionline.com> for payment and to sign up your child(ren)! The first STEP day is coming up on Thursday October 5th so don't put it off!

Mark your calendars for planned STEP Days:

October 5
November 3
December 8
January 12
February 2
March 2
April 6
May 4
June 1



Please email Meric at mkembar@gmail.com or Ros at rosmondflynn@gmail.com
-For any dietary restrictions
-If you would like to volunteer to help on STEP days!

Parent Council news continued



Dear Parents of Whitney Jr PS students 2017-18,

On [Monday, September 25th](#) the Whitney Parent Council will be hosting the first General Council Meeting (GCM) in the Whitney Jr PS school library beginning at 6pm. This important meeting is an opportunity for the parents of Whitney students to learn about the initiatives the Parent Council supports throughout the year and provide feedback on current and future needs. In addition to providing the following information at the Sept 25th GCM, our new principal, Chris Rzepa will be present to provide a report and answer questions.

Topics to be covered:

- June 2017 end of year Council notes
- Council Chair Update
- Latest financials
- 2017/18 budget
- Principal's report
- Q&A

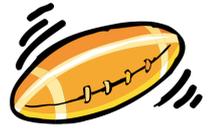
On behalf of the Whitney Parent Council, I hope to see you at our first 2017-18 school year GCM. Again the meeting details are as follows:

Monday, September 25th
6pm Start
Whitney Jr PS school library

Best,
Ashley Rutledge
Chair, Whitney Parent Council



WITTENBERG'S WALL



This week's news:

Cross Country

We are only one week away from the first cross country meet of 2017! The race will take place on Friday September 29th at Ashbridge's Bay. A letter was sent home on Friday with information about the meet. Please make sure to check your child's backpack!

Also, on Monday September 25th, Jimmy Semes (a teacher at Williamson Road) will be running a practice for any student interested in running the course down at Ashbridge's Bay before the big race. If you are interested, Mr. Semes will meet all students and parents at Pantry Park (across the street from Ashbridge's Bay) at 4:30 p.m.

Boys Soccer

The boys soccer team will be playing a one day tournament on Wednesday October 11th at Deer Park PS. Please make sure to check the Weeks at a Glance for practice time.

Girls Soccer

The girls soccer season gets under way next week, with games against Frankland and Withrow. On Wednesday after school, Frankland will play Whitney over at Rosedale Park, and on Thursday, the girls will travel to Withrow to battle the other Wildcats! The girls wrap up their regular season on Thursday October 5th at Norway (no passport required!). Good luck girls!

Boys Football

The boys football team will be playing a one day tournament on Thursday October 5th at Forest Hill Memorial Arena. Please make sure to check the Weeks at a Glance for practice time.

Girls Football

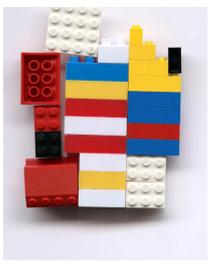
The girls football team will be playing a half day tournament on Wednesday October 18th at Deer Park PS. Please make sure to check the Weeks at a Glance for practice time.



TWO WEEKS SPORTS SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

MONDAY September 25	TUESDAY September 26	WEDNESDAY September 27	THURSDAY September 28	FRIDAY September 29
<p>Gr. 1-3 Cross Country (8:00 am @ Whitney)</p> <p>Boys and Girls Football Practice (3:30 pm @ Whitney)</p>	<p>Girls Soccer Practice (7:30 am @ Whitney)</p> <p>Boys Soccer Practice (3:30 pm @ Whitney)</p>	<p>Boys and Girls Football Practice (7:30 am @ Whitney)</p> <p>Gr. 4-6 Cross Country (7:45 am @ Whitney)</p> <p>Girls Soccer - Frankland vs Whitney (3:45 pm @ Rosedale Park)</p>	<p>Boys Soccer Practice (7:30 am @ Whitney)</p> <p>Girls Soccer - Whitney @ Withrow (departing Whitney @ 3:20 pm)</p>	<p>Gr. 1-6 Cross Country Meet @ Ashbridge's Bay!!! (all day event, starts @ 10 am)</p>
MONDAY October 2	TUESDAY October 3	WEDNESDAY October 4	THURSDAY October 5	FRIDAY October 6
<p>Boys Football Practice (3:30 pm @ Whitney)</p>	<p>Girls Soccer Practice (7:30 am @ Whitney)</p> <p>Boys Soccer Practice (3:30 pm @ Whitney)</p>	<p>Boys Football Practice (7:30 am @ Whitney)</p> <p>Gr. 4-6 Cross Country (7:45 am @ Whitney)</p> <p>Girls Football Practice (3:30 pm @ Whitney)</p>	<p>Boys Football Tournament @ Forest Hill Memorial</p> <p>Girls Soccer - Whitney @ Norway (departing Whitney @ 3:20 pm)</p>	<p>P.A. DAY No School</p>





Mooredale After 4 at Whitney

Just a reminder that Mooredale after school programs at Whitney started September 18th but there is still time to join! Programs are run by Mooredale but take place at Whitney after school.

Go to Mooredale.com to look for the Fall Schedule and to sign up! *(Note: you will need a Mooredale membership for any programs)*

- **Monday: French Early Learning.** Grades 1 – 3. 3:40-4:30 pm in Room 304
- **Tuesday: School Play** featuring Disney's Mulan. Grades 1 – 6. 3:40-5:15pm in the Gym
- **Wednesday: Karate.** Grades 1 – 6. 3:40 – 4:45 for new students, and 5:15 for returning students.
- **Thursday: Jr. Lego Robotics and Remote Controls.** Grades 1-4. 3:40 – 4:40 in Room 304

Remember: Sign up for After 4 Programs is via Mooredale.com





COMING UP!

Whitney's first **Visiting Author** of the year will be Susan Aguilo! She will be speaking about the writing process that goes behind the making of a book. Susan will be doing three different presentations in the library geared towards grades 1 - 6 on October 11th. We've had Susan Aguilo come to Whitney before and she is a wonderful and engaging presenter. (Her books are great too!)

Check out the next Whitney Word where you will have an opportunity to pre-order an autographed copy of her book(s) if you wish to do so.

We look forward to Susan Aguilo's visit on October 11th!

[Heather Hall, Teacher Librarian](#)

MEET CANADIAN CHILDREN'S AUTHOR
Susan Aguilo

Alexander Spear of Destiny
Susan Aguilo

Adventure in the Amazon
Susan

Mummy on the Nile
Susan

ADVENTURE IN ANTARCTICA
Susan Aguilo

AN ISLAND SECRET
Susan Aguilo

The Earth's End
Susan Aguilo
AGE 8-13
TWEEN NOVEL

CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOKS AGE 5-8

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 11TH, 2017
WHITNEY PUBLIC SCHOOL

www.abedtimeadventure.com