

important dates for the next few weeks:

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 5 -
- WALKING WEDNESDAY

FRIDAY DECEMBER 7 -
- PA DAY



TUESDAY DECEMBER 11 -
- WINTER CONCERT @ 7 PM



THURSDAY DECEMBER 13 -
- KITS FOR A CAUSE HOLIDAY MARKET
- RED NOSE CAMPAIGN

FRIDAY DECEMBER 14 -
- STEP DAY + PIZZA LUNCH



from the principal

Winter Holiday Concert

This year's Winter Holiday Concert will take place on **Tuesday December 11th** beginning at 7:00 pm. Students in Grades 1, 2, and 3, together with members of our Junior Choir, Strings, and Band, will be performing in this year's concert.

There will be a **dress rehearsal** beginning at 9:15 am on the 11th so that all students will have an opportunity to see the concert. If you are unable to attend that evening, you are welcome to join us for the dress rehearsal.



WALKING WEDNESDAY

Wednesday December 5th is our next Walk to School day. We encourage everyone to walk, cycle, scooter, or skateboard on this day. The class(es) with the highest percentage of walkers receives the Golden Shoe award!

PA DAY December 7th (No School)

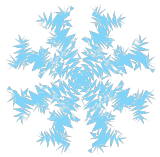
Friday December 7th is a PA Day. There will be no school for students. Teachers will be involved in Professional Learning Activities that day. Enjoy the extra time with family and friends!

Chris Rzepa

Happy Hanukkah

Hanukkah is an eight day Jewish festival of light commemorating the rededication of the temple by Judas Maccabaeus in 165 BC. Observers of Hanukkah light one candle in a candleholder called a menorah, each night for eight nights, in memory of a legend that, when the Temple was rededicated, its lamps burned, without enough oil, miraculously for a week. It is celebrated by Jews in many parts of the world.

This year, Hanukkah begins at sundown on the 2nd of December and ends December 10th. To all of the Whitney staff and families that are celebrating Hanukkah, may love and light fill your home and your heart. Happy Hanukkah!



HOLIDAY WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE/ RED NOSE CAMPAIGN



This month and next month, the Character Traits we are focussing on are Empathy and Kindness and Caring, respectively. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to model these traits during this holiday season and give our students an opportunity to help others. We are trying to focus on and develop student voice and give our children an opportunity to help others through their actions. There are two initiatives that we would like to promote and take part in at this point in the year.

The first is a **Winter Clothing Drive** to donate new or gently used winter clothing (coats, hats, mittens, gloves, snow pants, snowsuits, scarves, boots) for individuals and families in need. Boxes will be set up outside the office.



The second supports **The Toronto Foundation for Student Success** (TFSS) who once again, are offering **flashing red noses** to schools for sale at \$3.00 each. These will be able to be purchased through Cash On-Line beginning December 3rd. **We will give them out on December 13th during the Kits For A Cause Holiday campaign.** All proceeds go to provide food, warm clothing and other essentials to TDSB students in need. Thank you for your generosity and compassion. Have a happy and healthy holiday season.



STEP Day December 14

In the month of November, our focus was on EMPATHY. Over the past month, staff discussed this theme in the classroom, and students shared quotes over the announcements that were reflective. Character development at Whitney P.S. is about helping our students learn and practice positive character attributes which will help them not only to do their best, but to be their best.

During December, we have been using the book *How Full Is Your Bucket?* to focus on our words and actions and make sure we are using both in a positive way. You will notice blue “drops” outside classrooms showing kind words and caring actions represented as reminders of the types of things we want to be doing to add drops to fill other people’s buckets and our own in the process as well.

Our next STEP day takes place Friday December 14th at 10:30 am. We will focus on our December theme of Kindness and Caring. The Spirit Day will be **Pyjama Day**. It is also the next pizza lunch day. Parents/Guardians are always welcome to join in on the fun and attend our assembly.

The remaining STEP Days are as follows:

Friday December 14th
Friday January 25th
Friday February 22nd
Friday March 22nd
Friday April 12th
Friday May 24th
Monday June 24 (No Pizza Lunch)



HOT LUNCH UPDATE

Whitney’s lunch program is available to students Grades 1-6 and is provided by the caterer, The Lunch Mom. In response to questions about the recent romaine lettuce warnings issued on November 20, 2018, here is what The Lunch Mom said: ‘We actually stopped using romaine lettuce last spring with the last scare and have only been using iceberg since then. We found that the kids like the iceberg better than the romaine’.



If your student would like to try the hot lunch program, it’s not too late to join or have a trial period. The menu is available at www.thelunchmom.com. Please send a note to Tricia Tait at tricia@thelunchmom.com if your student would like to give it a try.

Carmen Tang

From the Parent Council



Kits for A Cause

Thank you to those who have already donated to Kits For A Cause!! The students will be assembling the kits for **Ernestine's Women's Shelter** on Thursday December 13th.

The kits will consist of goodies for the women and children at Ernestine's Shelter and the students can feel good knowing their kits are going to make someone smile this holiday season.

For those who haven't contributed yet, but would like to, we will continue collecting donations until end of day this coming **Monday, December 3rd.**

Donations can be made online: <https://tdsb.schoolcashonline.com>

Please feel free to contact the Whitney Parent Council with any questions.

*Remember, the more kits we make,
the greater the impact, and the more fun for the kids!*

Sincerely,

[Whitney Parent Council](#)

whitneyschoolcouncil@gmail.com



GET YOUR TICKETS NOW FOR WHITNEY'S
FIRST ANNUAL PARENT QUIZ NIGHT!

WHEN **Thursday January 17th, 2019**

7:30pm start

COST **\$25 per person includes nibbles**

<https://tdsb.schoolcashonline.com>

CHANG'S CHANNEL

Hi Whitney Parents,

Our late Fall seasons have come to a close as we prepare to get ready for our Winter season.

Boys Triple Ball

The Boys Triple ball season has come to an end. Whitney opened the season with a strong win against Norway. Our second match was against a very strong Frankland side. We dropped the first game, but shook off those nerves and battled back to take the second in a very exciting 26-24 win. Unfortunately, we ended up losing the third and final set by a score of 15-13. In our final game of the season we faced Hawthorne. Again, Whitney overcame first game jitters to fight our way back in the second game ultimately losing 26-24. Our team grew so much this season and should be very proud of the way they played.

Girls Basketball

The Girls Basketball team travelled to Hillcrest this week for their tournament. They were fierce in their first 2 games, winning one and losing one. In their 3rd game they faced eventual tournament champions, Cottingham. Whitney held the highest scoring team to their lowest scoring half of the tournament showing true grit and determination. Whitney is very proud of all of our Wildcats!



New Season:

Hockey

Rink time has been booked at Leaside Gardens for our Hockey Tryouts. The tryouts will be held on:

- December 4th 3-4 PM
- December 18th 3-4 PM



Girls Triple Ball and Boys Basketball

Our Winter season sports will begin over the next few weeks. This will give us an opportunity to form our teams and get some pre-holiday break practice before the seasons start in the new year. Students from Grades 4 to 6 are encouraged to come out to sharpen their skills and to have some fun at tryouts!

TWO WEEKS SPORTS SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

	MONDAY December 3	TUESDAY December 4	WEDNESDAY December 5	THURSDAY December 6	FRIDAY December 7
AM 7:45- 8:30		Girls Volleyball Tryouts	Girls Volleyball Tryouts	Girls Volleyball Tryouts	PA DAY
PM 3:30- 4:30	Boys Basketball Tryouts (Grade 4, 5, 6)	Hockey Tryouts @ Leaside Gardens (3-4 PM)		Boys Basketball Tryouts (Grade 4, 5, 6)	PA DAY
	MONDAY December 10	TUESDAY December 11	WEDNESDAY December 12	THURSDAY December 13	FRIDAY December 14
AM 7:45- 8:30		Winter Holiday Concert	Girls Volleyball Tryouts	Girls Volleyball Tryouts	
PM 3:30- 4:30	Boys Basketball Tryouts (Grade 5 only)	Winter Holiday Concert		Boys Basketball Tryouts (Grade 6 only)	

