

Whitney Word

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school dates for **march**

- 4** Wednesday, Afternoon (see Page 4 for times)
iEngage Anti-Bullying Presentation
- 6** Friday
SPA Day
- 16** Monday
First Day of March Break
- 23** Monday
Back to School

from the principal

LOST AND FOUND

Please take a look at our lost and found on the 2nd floor tables and claim any items that include clothing, boots, shoes and lunch bags. Students will be reminded to take home items (especially lunch bags) in the next few weeks prior to March break.



leaving early/returning late?

If your children are leaving early for the March Break or not returning to school by Monday March 23rd, we ask that you send a note or email to [Allison](mailto:allison.walker@tdsb.on.ca) to let us know. Thank you for your cooperation as this helps us out with our automated safe arrival program!

Debbie Stern

Want to report a student absence? Want to know when the deadline is? Need a copy of a field trip form? Save yourself a call and program allison.walker@tdsb.on.ca in your smartphone and email Allison in the office for any of your Whitney School needs.

your school council



On Wednesday, February 18, we hosted the third Whitney School Council - General Council Meeting of this school year. As always, we had a good discussion and here are some updates. For further detail, please read the attached meeting minutes:

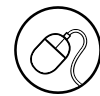
Spending Update for this school year: Our spending year-to-date is in line with projections. Historically, a special spending vote has been held at the February General Council Meeting, with the monies going to fund a resource request list prepared by our Whitney principal and teachers. The priority items on this year's list include: computer purchases and upgrades, assembly chairs, school sound system and additional iPads. We deferred the spending vote until the end of this school year / beginning of next once we know our financial position for the year ahead.

Fundraising Update for 2015/2016 school year: We have raised approximately \$40,000 (\$11,000 from pizza lunches and Harvest Fest, and \$29,000 from Annual Give). Our goal is to source the rest of the funding for next year's council budget through Main Event. Our Annual Give participation rate was 44%, with 83 of our 190 Whitney families contributing. Please join us in a big THANK YOU to these families. Your generosity enables us to continue to fund enhanced programming and capital needs at Whitney, including anti-bullying programs, computers, books, school teams, jump math, visiting scientists, Athletics, visiting artists and more.

Potential Shift in Fundraising: Currently, our council fundraising is back loaded, which can place the funding at risk for the next year. We discussed alternatives including replacing Annual Give with a simpler process at the beginning of the school year and reducing the amount of fundraising at the Main Event, with a smaller silent auction focused on school and community-based experiences that make our Whitney community special.

We also shared updates on the playground and on technology recommendations for Whitney. Debbie Stern shared her Principal's Report, which included projected enrolment and school plans, staffing, report cards, EQAO, anti-bullying speaker and spring performance.

Please click on the link to read the meeting minutes. They are also available in the school office.



Marcia Moffat and Jalyn Anderson
Co-Chairs, Whitney School Council
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Volunteers Needed!

We need help to plan the Main Event - a fun night out for parents and teachers to meet and mingle!

The event will include a silent auction focused on the experiences that make our Whitney community special — kids' fun (like teacher/principal for the day, manhunt parties, girls beach parties) and/or grown up fun (like progressive dinner, cocktails and couture, men's poker night).

Please contact [Merik Koksal](#) or [Marcia Moffat](#) if you are interested in helping out, whether that be in helping plan the event, selling tickets, or volunteering at the event itself.

Go Whitney! **Merik and Marcia**

Whitney's Got Talent!

Whitney is FULL of talented students...

Now it's time to see them in action!

If you are in grade 4, 5, or 6 and you have a talent that you'd like to share, come on out!

art

dancing

POETRY

acting

lip synching

sports

JOKES

singing

air guitar

movie making

storytelling

MAGIC TRICKS

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Let's show off our talents! Whatever your talent may be, we want you to share it with us! If you are interested in being a part of Whitney's Got Talent and are in grade 4, 5 or 6, we would love for you to be a part of the show!

Whether you are interested in being on stage, helping backstage or helping out with poster designs, please make sure to speak with Ms. Hall, Ms. Mandel, Ms. Diniz, Ms. Hargrave or Ms. Carmona!

Students will be receiving a Talent Show schedule for audition times on Friday, February 27th!

We look forward to seeing your amazing talents!

~ The Whitney Talent Show Committee



Healthy students are better able to focus in class and behave in the hallway! On Wednesday March 4th, we will be welcoming Anthony McLean to Whitney P.S. to present a fun and upbeat reminder of the benefits of a healthy lifestyle as well as a call to break the stigma surrounding mental health concerns. His presentation is said to be very entertaining while driving home a powerful message. He uses audience interaction, comedy, pop culture and “freestyle” raps to keep students engaged and he distinguishes between **bullying and conflict** because we want students to know that not every conflict is an episode of bullying. In his presentations, he provides bystanders with practical strategies to tackle bullying effectively.

He teaches students to:

STAND UP to the bully when it is safe

REACH OUT to targets of bullying and isolated peers

TELL SOMEONE when another student is being hurt

Check out his website <http://www.iengage.ca/>

Parents are always welcome!

**Presentation (JK-3) – Wed March 4th
1pm to 1:45pm**

The best way to communicate to these young students is to speak to them on *their* level. Anthony’s presentation gives students a good grasp of what bullying is: When someone is being mean on purpose and they are doing it again and again and again. If it only happens once, its’ not bullying. If it was an accident, its’ not bullying. We talk about treating others the way we would like to be treated and using your words — not your hands — to tell people how you’d like to be treated. We also encourage kids to try to solve problems among themselves before getting a teacher involved.

**Presentation (Gr.4-6) – Wed March 4th
2:20pm to 3:05pm**

This presentation drives home the importance of not being a passive bystander in bullying episodes. We get students up on their feet role playing the RIGHT and WRONG way to handle a bullying scenario. And we warn students that the words “Just Kidding!” don’t make an inappropriate joke any more appropriate! These students are also taught about cyber bullying and the all important on-line mantra: “Think before you click!”



Way to Whitney students **Jaqueline, Caitlin and Ellen** of the North Toronto Huskies. The team conducted a book drive on behalf of the Children's Book Bank, collecting 400 books, 10% of the total books the bank goes through EVERY MONTH!

The team now has the opportunity to gather votes every day until February 28 to win a chance to train, eat, play like a Raptor at the ACC! You can vote here to support the girls in their effort:

<https://raptors.forddrillsandskills.ca/Home/View/8815db52-db29-4d10-94bb-591cbfb95079>

**Special Education
Information Sessions for
Parents/Guardians/Care-
givers of TDSB Students**

Topics:

The Individual Education Plan (IEP)
&
The Identification, Placement and Review Committee (IPRC)

February 24, 7-9pm



Notice something missing?

The City of Toronto moved the city garbage can at the corner of McLennan and Rosedale Heights. This has triggered an unfortunate response with dog walkers now placing their doggie bags in our silver garbage can, or worse, tossing it on the school property. Can you please remind any and all dog walkers to take their baggies home with them?





Evergreen Brick Works - Spend the day at Evergreen Brick Works and don't forget your skates. This rink is perfect for beginner skaters of all ages. The trail of ice winds around planted gardens. Ice skate rentals are available on site and skating is free. www.evergreen.ca



Colonel Sam Smith Park - Another awesome City of Toronto run outdoor rink on our list, Colonel Sam Smith Park is a true jewel in the city. The skating trail is located steps from Lake Ontario. The Power House Recreation Centre houses a change room/washroom space for visitors. Skate the completely naturalized ice trail...a real treat for skaters of all skill levels and ages. www.toronto.ca/parks



Natrel Rink at Harbourfront - The rink is now open! Enjoy a skate on the edge of Lake Ontario on this iconic outdoor ice rink. Skating is free and there is a skate rental facility on site.



Greenwood Park - The first fully covered outdoor rink opened in the east end Greenwood Park. Visitors can now enjoy a leisurely skate on the 215 metre ice trail or inside the covered hockey rink. The new facility has a change room space, with large windows overlooking the ice path. www.toronto.ca/parks

wittenberg's wall

sports | house leagues | wildcats



grade 4/5 girls volleyball

Congratulations to the members of the girls volleyball team on a wonderful season. The team advanced from their pool in second place, and went up against a strong team from Balmy Beach. Our girls played very well, and were involved in some of the best rallies of the year. Honourable mention goes out to Beate who made many amazing bumps, and Ellen who once again scored on five consecutive serves. Thank you to all of the parents who supported the team throughout the season.



boys basketball

There Congratulations to the boys basketball team on a hard fought 31-28 victory over West Prep in the South Conference Quarter Finals. The team traveled to West Prep on a chilly Thursday morning and went up against a team of giants. Despite some strong defense from West Prep, our boys, lead by Noah's many outstanding drives, built up enough of a cushion to advance to the conference semi finals. The boys will play on Wednesday February 26th at Withrow. Good luck boys!



MONDAY

Grade 6 Co-ed Volleyball tryouts
7:30am in the gym

TUESDAY

Boys Basketball practice
7:30am in the gym

WEDNESDAY

Grade 4/5 Co-ed Volleyball tryouts
7:30am in the gym
Grade 6-2 Boys Basketball Semi-finals @ Withrow
Departing Whitney at 3:20pm

THURSDAY

Boys Basketball practice
7:30am in the gym

FRIDAY

Drop-in Badminton (Gr 4,5,6)
7:30am in the gym
Grade 6-3 Boys Basketball Tournament @ Withrow