

Whitney word

◦ Issue 10 | February 10 | ◦ 2017

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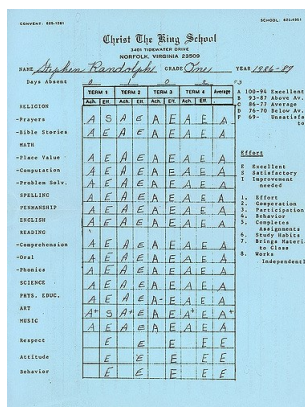
Whitney School Council Co-Chairs
Merik Koksall and Ashley Rutledge
whitneyschoolcouncil@gmail.com

Whitney Public School Principal
Debbie Stern
deborah.stern@tdsb.on.ca

school dates for february

- 16** Thursday
"Battle of the Books" Last Day Team Sign-Up
- 16** Thursday, evening
Parent-Teacher Interviews
- 17** Friday, morning
Parent-Teacher Interviews
- 17** Friday
PA Day
- 20** Monday
Family Day
- 21** Tuesday, 6:30-8:30, grades 4-6
"At Home Alone" Workshop
- 22** Wednesday, grades 4-6
Toronto Symphony Orchestra Trip
- 22** Wednesday, 6:30-7:30
Whitney School Council General Meeting
- 23** Thursday, grades 1-3
Young People's Theatre Trip

from the principal



The first elementary provincial report card (for the period of September 2016 -January 2017) will be sent home on Tuesday February 14th. It is designed to report on your child's achievement of

curriculum expectations and development of the learning skills and work. Parent teacher interviews are not mandatory this term.

However, if you have concerns/questions with regards to your child's report card, please contact your child's teacher to arrange for an interview. Interviews can take place on the evening of February 16th OR on the morning of February 17th. If you are unable to make any of these above times, please arrange an alternate date/time with your child's teacher.

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.

Whitney School Council General Meeting

Wednesday February 22
6:30-7:30pm in the Library

We welcome the participation and input of all parents at every WSC meeting. A minimum of 20 parents is required for any vote to pass.

We respectfully request that all class Parents attend General Meetings, held four times during the school year. Class Parents serve as a vital conduit of news and information for many Whitney parents. The attendance of a representative from every class in the school will benefit the parent community as a whole.

Meric Koksai and Ashley Rutledge
Co-Chairs, Whitney School Council
whitneyschoolcouncil@gmail.com

greetings
from the
school
council



WSC Executive Slate 2016-17

Co-Chairs

Meric Koksai & Ashley Rutledge

Co-Treasurer

Mistine Lauzon & Tracey Butler

Co-Secretaries

Alexis Wise & Ros Wilson

Whitney Word Editor:

Martha McClew

General Liaisons

Jill Spidle, Jane Vokes, Lisa Clark,
Andrew Pollock & Paul Pelton

Principal: Deborah Stern



WSC November 22 2016 Meeting Minutes



WSC YTD Financials

DRAFT

Agenda

Welcome and Motions to Approve Agenda & Past Meeting Minutes (November 22, 2016)

Ashley Rutledge

Treasurer's Report

YTD 2016 Income Statement and Financial Position

Tracey Butler and chairs

Special Spend Vote

Meric Koksai and Ashley Rutledge

Chairs' Report

Meric Koksai and Ashley Rutledge

Principal's Report

Deborah Stern

Motion to Adjourn

Ashley Rutledge



Whitney School Council (WSC) Communiqué

2017 Spending Vote

A general meeting of the Whitney School Council (the “Council”) has been called for Wednesday, February 22, 2017, in the Whitney Library, at which time two (2) motions will be proposed with respect to spending a portion of the excess funds the Council currently has in its bank account.

Parents and teachers are invited to vote in person or to send in a vote by proxy (appended).

Current Financial Position

Historically, Whitney has started each school year with at least 100% of funding in place for the budget at hand. We are in the position of having excess funds above what is required to fund the remainder of the Council’s 2016/2017 operating costs and 2017/2018 operating budget.

(as at January 31, 2017, amounts in \$ thousands)

Bank balances (cash & equivalents)	\$ 128.1
Less:	
2016/2017 net revenue raised to date for 2017/2018 school year – see note (1)	\$ (27.8)
Operating costs remaining for 2016/2017 school year	\$ (47.3)
Surplus funds available for special spend	\$ 53.0

(1) In addition to these funds, the Council expects to raise net revenue of over \$30.0 from the May 2017 Main Event, and \$9.0 from the 2016/2017 Pizza Lunch program. Combined, these are sufficient to fund the Council’s anticipated 2017/2018 operating budget of approximately \$68.0.

Under Canada Revenue Agency rules for non-profit charitable entities, reserves are to be spent within a finite period of time (1 to 2 years). As such, past reserves have been allocated through an annual spending vote of members of the Council (parents). Uses have included capital expenses such as Equipment and Technology (Computers, iPads, Smartboards and other new technologies), furniture and fixtures (lunchroom tables, chairs, stage curtain, sheds, sports mats) and non-building improvements (materials, books). Click on the link below for details on the proposed special spending for a portion of the excess funds for your review. It also includes the Notice of Motions and Proxy Vote Form.



WSC Spending Vote Feb 2017

The Whitney School Council

1) Kindergarten Playground (Estimated Cost up to: \$4,000)

Purpose: To contribute to the revitalization of the kindergarten playground.

Background: The estimated cost of the approved changes to the playground is \$35,000. Whitney parents have raised \$18,000 to date since the launch of the project. Council would like parents to consider using excess funds to fill any gaps in the fundraise to assure the completion of the renovation. The \$4,000 quoted represents the monies that were left over from the Main Playground Fundraise and rolled into the overall council budget in 2016/17 school year.

2) Reading/Writing Curriculum Enhancement (Cost up to: \$1,500)

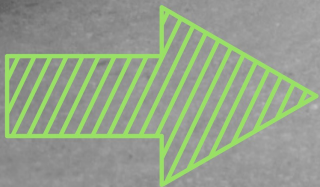
Purpose: Continue to enhance Reading and Writing Curriculum at Whitney for Grades 2-6

Background: We have historically purchased additional reading and writing resources to enhance students learning from Grades 3 to 6. This year we have expanded this to include Grade 2. The additional grade placed us at a shortfall vs budget of \$1,500. Council would like to bridge that gap for 2016/17 school from excess funds. The budget going forward will be increased for Reading/Writing Curriculum Enhancement to reflect additional classes.



KINDERGARTEN PLAYGROUND REVITALIZATION PROJECT

OUR KINDERS
DESERVE
TO
flourish!



HELP US REVITALIZE THIS SPACE FOR THEM!

THE PLAN

1. Enhance our existing outdoor space through the addition of educational elements that will better support our Full Day Kindergarten curriculum and play-based philosophy.
2. In collaboration with an Evergreen/TDSB Senior School Ground Design Consultant, our kinder teachers, staff and team have designed an 'outdoor classroom' - **The Kinder Garden**.
3. The design includes the addition of:
 - Stage area & Log benches
 - Music Wall
 - Line Paintings
 - Chalk Board
 - Large Wooden Table + Loose Parts
 - And revitalized raised garden beds

This design approach fosters crucial skill development and encourages learning through play - outdoors!



THE GOAL

\$35,000 by February 28th, 2017

Approximately \$250 per child will help us reach our goal!

Funds must be in place by Feb. 28th in order to complete the 'outdoor classroom' this summer.

THE BENEFIT

- Donor Recognition (family name) at the Kinder Garden outdoor classroom: tiered recognition for donations of \$750+ [Donation tiers are: \$2,500, \$1,500 & \$750]
- Charitable Tax Receipt
- Our legacy - impacting early-years education at Whitney for years to come
- An outdoor space 'designed for healthy and enriched learning' for our youngest students (Ref: www.ecoschools.ca)

HOW TO DONATE

Donations by cheque will be gratefully accepted by the Whitney School office.
Cheques preferred.

To Donate by Cheque:

Please make cheques payable to 'Whitney School Council' and include the following information (please print clearly!):
name/address/email (for tax receipting)/memo: Kinder Garden 'outdoor classroom'

To Donate Online:

<https://www.canadahelps.org/dn/29814>



For More Information Contact:

Tracey Butler: tracey_butler@rogers.com / 647 328 8927

Ros Wilson: rosmondflynn@gmail.com / 416 816 0775

Stacey Kline: staceyaskline@gmail.com / 416 400 2132

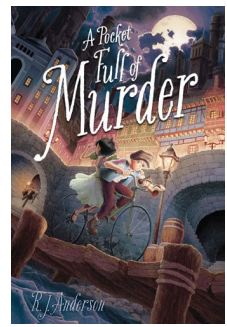
Joanna Rivard: joanna@inkrobin.com / 647 309 3055

Kate Viner: vinerkate@gmail.com / 416 500 9402

Natalie von Teichman: natalie@vonterra.com /

289 314 2745

Battle of the Books 2017



Whitney's sixth annual Battle of the Books has begun!

Battle of the Books is an enrichment book competition for students in grades 4 to 6. Each group of four students is tasked with reading the 10 nominated Silver Birch Fiction titles. Two classroom sets of these books are available for borrowing in each junior classroom, in addition to the school library. On **Tuesday, March 28th**, the competition begins!

Many team groups have already been submitted, showing that we have some very keen readers at Whitney! In the Battle of the Books, teams compete against each other in a 'game show' format answering factual questions about the books. Each team has a bell and the first team to ring in and say a correct answer gets a point. The team with the most points in every round wins!

Our wonderful parent volunteers are busy reading the books and compiling lists of questions for each book. i.e. Q: What is the name of the ship that Jonah wakes up on in "The Incredible Space Raiders from Space!"? (A: The Fantastic Flying Squirrel).

The 'battles' generally take place in the mornings before school at 8:00 a.m. in the library, computer room and French room, and will run for approximately two weeks ending with a final 'BATTLE' assembly between the top two teams. Parents, please encourage your Grade 4/5/6 kids to participate in this year's Battle of the Books!

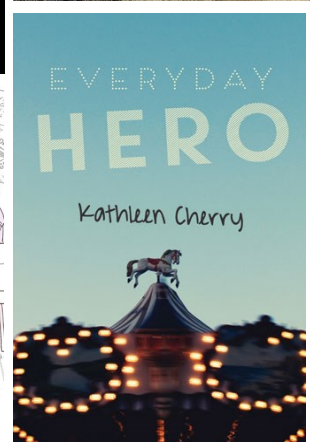
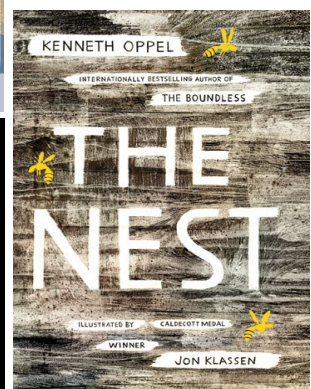
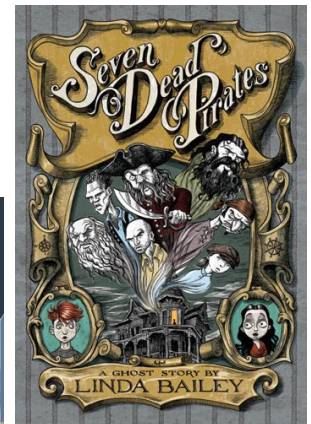
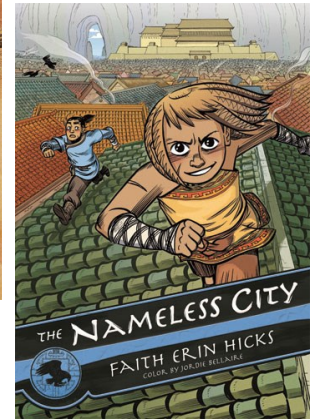
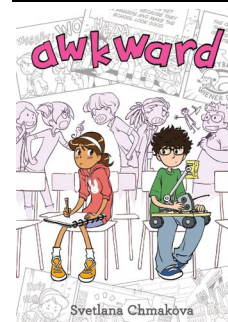
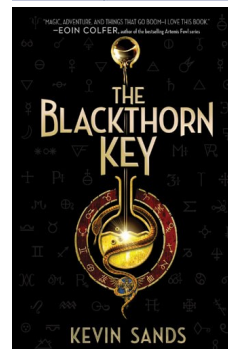
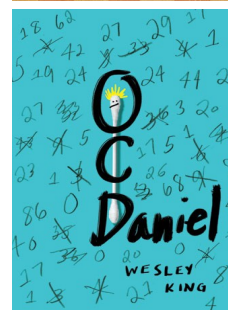
The battles are lots of fun and the benefits are many • the momentum created by reading (up to) ten books encourages further reading • it encourages 'book talk' amongst friends - imagine! • it encourages deeper reading and understanding of books • it gives students the opportunity to have fun with friends around books!

Interested students should tell their teachers their group members' names by **Thursday, February 16th**. If any student is interested in participating but having difficulty finding a team please inform your teachers - we will make every effort to get them on a team! Parents can also contact Kathy Clarke if they have any questions.

You can find a list of the books and summaries [here](#).

Thank you,

Kathy Clarke & Jeffrey Winter



TSO Toronto Symphony Orchestra Grades 4, 5 & 6 - *Lights, Camera...Orchestra*

On Wednesday February 22nd, Whitney's Grade 4, 5 & 6 students will be enjoying a concert at Roy Thompson Hall. To help learn the instruments of the orchestra, all students are asked to draw a poster of one of the instruments from the Toronto Symphony and hand it in to Ms Werbitsky by Feb. 22nd. This assignment has been discussed in class time. Thank you to the caregivers who have agreed to accompany Whitney students for this excursion.

Ms Werbitsky

Program Highlights:

Lalo Schiffrin - Theme from Mission: Impossible
Richard Wagner - Ride of the Valkyries
Pyotr Tchaikovsky - Romeo & Juliet Fantasy
Leonard Bernstein - Mambo - West Side Story
Ludwig van Beethoven - Excerpt from Symphony #8
John Williams - Theme from Star Wars
Hector Berlioz - Dreams of a Witches Sabbath -
Johann Strauss Jr. - The Blue Danube
John Williams - Main Theme from Jaws

Young People's Theatre, Grades 1-3

On February 23rd in the afternoon, all students in grades 1, 2 and 3 will be travelling to the Young People's Theatre to see an exciting performance of *James and the Giant Peach*! This rollicking musical version of the beloved children's classic returns due to overwhelming demand after a nearly sold-out run in 2014. A wonderfully whimsical journey to warm up the winter months. Roald Dahl's *James and the Giant Peach* is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).



TDSB Parents as Partners Conference 2017

Toronto District School Board This year's TDSB Parents as Partners Conference will take place on Saturday, April 1st 2017. Be sure to save the date! Planned by TDSB parents, for TDSB parents, this popular annual event will feature a variety of workshops and resources to help every parent support their child's achievement and well-being, both at school and at home. The conference is free and all parents are welcome. Lunch will be provided, and childcare, transportation, and translators will be available. Registration opens in mid-February. Visit parentsaspartners.ca for updates and details.

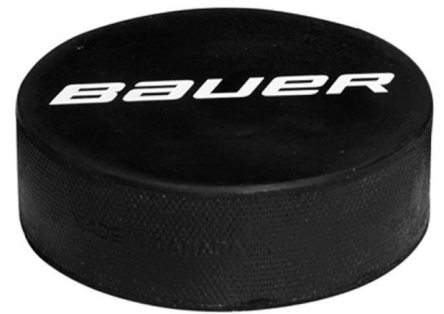
wittenberg's wall

sports. house leagues. wildcats



Whitney Wildcats Hockey

Congratulations to the Wildcats hockey team on their impressive season to date. There are two games left in the regular season (Monday and Tuesday), but the team has already booked its spot in the playoffs! Despite coming up one goal short against a terrific squad from Palmerston, our outstanding athletes showed incredible determination, clawing back from 3 three goal deficits to lose 6-5. The team is ready to avenge their one loss of the season on Valentine's Day, as the two teams will battle for first place in the pool. Good luck team!



Boys Basketball

Following a hard fought first game of the season, the members of the boys division 2 basketball team have been on a roll. They played their second game of the season at Davisville, where they exploded for 40 points, on route to a 40-18 victory! This game truly demonstrated all of the hard work the boys have been putting in early in the mornings, as they played suffocating defense, ran pick and rolls better than the Raptors, and had passing as great as Steph Curry! The boys followed up this game with an epic battle against a fantastic team from Withrow. This game went back and forth, and had fans (and coaches) shocked with their tenacity. The 24 minutes of regulation were not enough to decide the outcome of this game, so the teams went into OT, where our super defense took over, and shut the door on the Withrow Wildcats, and a clutch jumper by Turner led to a 12-10 victory!! The boys have one more game on Monday, as they host a talented team from McMurrich.



Girls Volleyball

Congratulations to the members of the girls volleyball team, as they continue to improve their skills and battle hard against other schools. Despite the results not going our way of late, the girls are focused on finishing the season on a high note, as they host Niagara Street PS on Tuesday after school.

Drop In Badminton

On Friday February 24th, any student in grade 4, 5 or 6 is welcome to come to the gym in the morning to play some badminton.



at a glance two weeks

sports, house leagues, wildcats

Monday 13 — Friday 17

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
13	14	15	16	17
<p>12:00 Hockey – Whitney vs. Oriole @ North Toronto Arena</p> <p>3:45 Boys Basketball McMurrich @ Whitney</p>	<p>7:30 Girls Volleyball Practice</p> <p>12:00 Hockey – Whitney vs. Palmerston @ Bill Bolton</p> <p>3:45 Girls Volleyball Niagara @ Whitney</p>	<p>Boys Div 2 Basketball Practice 7:30</p> <p>Hockey – Whitney vs. Palmerston @ Bill Bolton</p>	<p>Girls Volleyball Practice 7:30</p> <p>Girls Volleyball Game Davisville @ Whitney</p>	<p>Boys Div 3 basketball practice 7:30</p>

Monday 19 — Friday 23

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
19	20	21	22	23
<p>FAMILY DAY</p>	<p>7:30 Grade 6 Badminton Tryout</p> <p>**Possible Hockey Semi Final**</p>	<p>7:30 Grade 4/5 Badminton Tryout</p>	<p>**Possible Hockey Semi Final**</p>	<p>7:30 Drop in Badminton for grade 4, 5 and 6</p>