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## school dates for **june**

29

Thursday, 9:00 -11:15am Bike Rodeo (Grades 1-3)

- Monday, 2:15pm Student Awards Assembly
- Tuesday School Report Cards Go Home
- Tuesday, 5:30pm, Gym Grade 6 Graduation
- 28 Wednesday School BBQ
  - Thursday Last Day of School





### from the principal

As I wrap up my last few weeks at Whitney, a flood of wonderful memories come rushing in. From my first day of school, wandering the playground and meeting so many new faces, children and parents who have now become like family. Whitney will always have a special place in my heart.

SUMME

Thank you for all your support and I wish you all a safe, relaxing and fun summer with family and friends!

All the best!

**Debbie Stern** 

# Farewell...

**Mr. Brad Gadsden** We would like to take this opportunity to thank Ms. Gadsden for being such a wonderful addition to the Whitney staff. Mr. Gadsden came to Whitney five years ago and has taught many different grades in the primary division. Mr. Gadsden's willingness to teach any grade assignment he is offered, year after year, is to be admired. He is flexible and kind in all that he does. Mr. Gadsden will be moving to Arbor Glen P.S. in September 2017, with a much shorter driving commute! He will be missed and we wish him all the best in his future endeavours!

**Ms. Leslie Cauchi** We would like to thank Ms. Leslie Cauchi for all her efforts this year. Ms. Cauchi was hired as a long term occasional teacher last fall to provide resource support for some of our primary students as well as drama and media literacy prep. She has made great strides in working with our students and so we thank her and wish her all the best! **Ms. Maytel Brenner** Ms. Brenner arrived at Whitney in the middle of May 2017 to take over Ms. Hall's grade 3 class while she went on an extended leave of absence. Ms. Brenner has been a long time occasional teacher at Whitney and continues to bring her knowledge, experience and enthusiasm with her every day! The staff students and parents have been fortunate to have had Ms. Brenner during this time and we thank her for all her efforts!

#### Ms. Shannon Wrighte We would

like to extend a thank you to Ms. Wrighte for all her hard work this past term. Ms. Wrighte has been working with our kindergarten team, in a FDK classroom while Ms. Steane is on a maternity leave. Ms. Wrighte has been wonderful addition to the school and we wish her the best!

# & Welcome

**Ms. Jackie Walker** We would like to extend a warm welcome back to a former Whitney teacher...Jackie Walker. Ms. Walker has been on a 3 year term leave working centrally in Caring and Safe Schools in Learning Centre 1. Ms. Walker will be re-joining the Whitney team and sharing her experiences and expertise learned over the last 3 years. Welcome back, Jackie!

# Goodbye & Hello

It has been such a wonderful privilege to be your Whitney Word Editor for the past eight years. I have had the pleasure of helping to represent a school that has meant the world to my children and family. Emma and Declan will forever be better people for having attended Whitney. Thank you to Debbie and all the amazing, loving, compassionate staff and teachers for allowing me to shine a light on the remarkable contribution you make every day in our small community.

I am so happy to introduce your new Whitney Word Editor for 2017: Kate Viner. Kate has three sons, the oldest entering grade 1 in 2017, the second joining JK and the third only 15 months. I am grateful to Kate for her willingness to take on this role next year.



Emma & Declan in JK



Emma & Declan Today



On Thursday June 22<sup>nd</sup> from 9:00-11:15am, there will be a BIKE RODEO here at the school – this event is for the grade 1-3 students only!

The Toronto Police Service will be running this event and will be teaching the children all about bike safety, biking skills etc. please make sure your child brings his/her bike to school (in good working order) on this day.

As well, ALL students who are participating MUST have a helmet in order to participate. Training wheels are acceptable; bike pumps will be on site. **We all asking for 2-3 parent volunteers** from each class to help us out. Please let your child's teacher know if you are able to help on this morning. Thank you!





Track and Field Congratulations to Beats and Nick on their outstanding accomplishment of qualifying in the TDESAA Track and Field City Championships! The weather conditions for the city finals were less than ideal, as the entire meet was delayed twice due to lightning and crazy amounts of rain. Both athletes represented Whitney extremely well, and Beats even came home (actually she boarded a train for Ottawa!) with a bronze medal in the 200m race! Way to go Beats and Nick!!



Grade 4/5 Div 2 Ultimate Congratulations to the 14 members of the grade 4/5 division 2 Ultimate Frisbee team on their conference championship victory! The day started at Central Tech, as the team went up against a great squad from Palmerston in the conference semi finals. It was back and forth early on, but eventually our mighty crew flexed their muscles, and clawed out a 6-3 victory.

The team then jumped into their cars (thank you so much to the parents for getting the students to a variety of venues!), and made their way to Cosburn MS to play in the finals against Queen Victoria...the team that handed Whitney their only loss in the one day tournament. This game, was a game that will go down in Whitney folklore. Queen Victoria defeated Whitney 12-4 in a very lopsided game during the season, but our squad was ready for battle in a winner take all rematch! The game started well for Whitney as they jumped out quickly to a 2-0 lead, with some incredible, flicks, catches and shut down defense.

However, the QVic team was not about to give up so quickly, and before we knew it, Whitney was trailing 3-2 at halftime. The second half though proved to be one of the most exciting and hotly contested halves in ultimate history. Not long into the second half, Whitney tied the game up 3-3, but then found themselves down 4-3. As the time

wound down, our mighty Wildcats put together a brilliant side stack that lead to a great end zone catch tying the game up at four. The score remained at four as the teams battled into the final minute of the game.

Whitney gained control of the disk, and we quickly realized that QVic had made some defensive switches that left Taimur wide open. A quick flick down the field, a great catch by Taimur, had the Wildcats five yards outside the endzone with only seconds remaining. Tyler C came storming down the field, and Taimur floated the frisbee into the air..9...8...7...6...5...CATCH IN THE ENDZONE!!!! Whitney avenged their only regular season loss and won the game 5-4! Thank you to all of the families for supporting the team throughout this magical season!

Grade 4/5 Div 3 Ultimate Good luck to the members of the grade 4/5 division 3 ultimate team, as they head to North Toronto CI on Monday for a full day of ultimate frisbee!



#### Thank You

I cannot believe my 6th year at Whitney is coming to an end. This year has been easily one of the most exciting, and definitely a year presenting a whole new set of challenges. Needless to say, it would not have been so fantastic without a million helping hands.

To begin with, I would like to thank all of the Whitney students. Your enthusiasm in Phys Ed, and your unbelievable desire to play extra curricular sports makes being a coach and teacher so exciting. Without your hard work, your willingness to get out of bed in the early hours of the morning, our extra curricular sports program simply wouldn't be so outstanding.

Second, I would like to thank all of the families who have supported the PE program, as well as the extra curricular teams. Whether you are driving to games, waking up your children early in the morning (sorry about that!), supporting your children through adversity, and listening to them when they are crazy excited, without you, Whitney wouldn't be the amazing school that it is.

Third, I would like to thank all of the teachers and administration at Whitney for supporting everything within the school I know it is not easy to deal with all of the disruptions, but it is clear that you also see the value in all of these activities. I promise not to run any early morning practices or one day tournaments over the next two months! A special thank you also must go out to Allison and Ms. Stern who are always there to help me out with all of the behind the scenes work (there is a ton of it, and it simply wouldn't be possible without you).

Finally, I would like to say a special thank you to Martha. Throughout the past six years, Martha has been putting together easily the most professional and incredible school newsletter I have ever seen. She consistently makes the Wittenberg Wall look a million times better than the emails that I am sending her with information. I know for sure that the entire Whitney community will miss having you as part of our family!

I hope everyone has a wonderful summer, and we will hit the ground running in September!

Cheers... Mr. W