

THE WORD

ISSUE 17 MAY 14 - MAY 25 2018

important dates for
the next few weeks:

TUESDAY MAY 15 -
SCHOOL PANORAMIC PHOTO DAY

MONDAY MAY 21 -
VICTORIA DAY - NO SCHOOL

THURSDAY MAY 24 -
GRADE 6 FREEZIE SALE!
\$2 for grades 1-6 (jumbo freezie)
\$1 for kinders (1/2 size)



MAY 28 - JUNE 1 -
EQOA ASSESSMENTS (Grade 3 and 6)

Whitney Panoramic Photo

Bright Pics will be at Whitney on **Tuesday May 15th** at 1:45 pm to take the annual School Panoramic Photo. Copies of the print will be available for sale.

from the principal

Happy Mother's Day

Mother's Day takes place this coming **Sunday, May 13th**. We would like to wish all of the Whitney moms and caregivers who are parents, guardians, or staff members, a very special Mother's Day. Please enjoy this time with your children and family. We hope you are spoiled, appreciated, and treated with the respect you



Victoria Day (No School May 21)

A reminder that **Monday May 21st** is Victoria Day. It is a holiday and therefore there will be no school on this day. We look forward to seeing everyone again on Tuesday May 22nd. We hope everyone enjoys this special time with family and friends.

Chris Rzepa

May is Asian Heritage Month at the TDSB

This year, TDSB celebrates Asian Heritage Month in May with the theme: “Let us surprise you. Learn who we are.”

More than 40% of TDSB students identify as Asian and heritage months are a valuable opportunity to celebrate the many achievements and contributions of Asian Canadians and recognize the narratives and wisdom of various Asian cultures.

Asia is a land of great political, economic, social, ethnic, cultural and religious diversity; this diversity creates challenges when we attempt to define Asia in geographic and political terms. The inclusive and broad definition of Asian used by the TDSB Asian Heritage Month committee includes, but is not limited to, all people whose ancestors came from:

- ♣ East Asia (China, Japan, Korea, Taiwan);
- ♣ South Asia (India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan);
- ♣ Southeast Asia (Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Brunei, Philippines); and
- ♣ Central Asia (Afghanistan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan)



There are several activities planned for students, including the Asian Heritage Month Launch at Rockford Public School. Students in Grades 2-12 were invited to participate in a photography exhibition and poster competition to bring this year's theme to life. The photography exhibit will be on display at 5050 Yonge Street until the end of May.

Jewish Heritage Month - May 2018

“Ontario is home to approximately 200,000 Jewish Canadians. Since the 1800s, the Jewish Canadian community has made significant contributions to the growth and prosperity of Ontario, while overcoming tremendous obstacles. May is a significant month for the Jewish Canadian community. Israeli Independence Day (Yom HaAtzmaut) and Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom HaShoah) frequently occur in May, as do various Jewish artistic and cultural events. By proclaiming the month of May as Jewish Heritage Month, the Province of Ontario recognizes the important contributions that Jewish Canadians have made to Ontario's social, economic, political and cultural fabric. Jewish Heritage Month is an opportunity to remember, celebrate and educate future generations about the inspirational role that Jewish Canadians have played, and continue to play, in communities across Ontario. Therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario, enacts as follows: Jewish Heritage Month.”

Throughout this month, we invite you to celebrate the many contributions of Jewish Canadians.

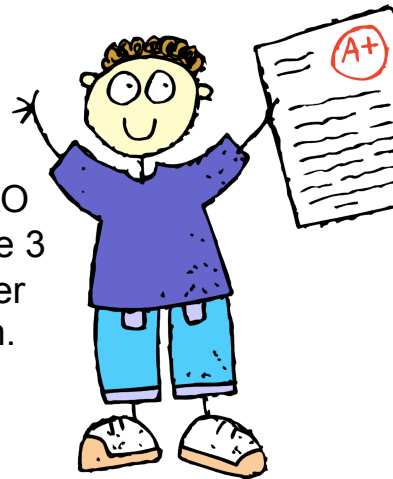
RAMADAN



Ramadan is the ninth month in the Islamic calendar. It is a period of prayer, fasting, charity-giving and self-accountability for Muslims in Canada. The first verses of the Koran (Qu'ran) were revealed to the Prophet Muhammad (also written as Mohammad or Muhammed) during the last third of Ramadan, making this an especially holy period. Many Muslims in Canada fast during the daylight hours in the month of Ramadan, which begins this year on May 16th. To all Whitney staff and families who are observing Ramadan, we send good wishes during this period of fasting, self-

EQAO May 28 - June 1

Our Grade 3 and 6 students will be involved in the provincial EQAO assessments on **May 28th to June 1st**. We ask that all Grade 3 and 6 students be present on these days so that we can administer the tests to the group as a whole. We appreciate your cooperation.



GRADUATION

On **Wednesday June 27th**, our Grade 6 students will take part in our Graduation ceremonies beginning at 5:30 pm in the School Gym. We congratulate all of our graduates and look forward to celebrating their hard work and accomplishments.

Multi-Year Strategic Plan Consultation

The Toronto District School Board is working on a Multi-Year Strategic Plan and wants to hear from you!

The Multi-Year Strategic Plan will act as a high level statement of intent for the TDSB for the next three or more school years, set direction and identify system goals to support its 246,000 students and 583 schools. We value input from parents/guardians, families, students and staff and invite you to provide feedback on the draft Multi-Year Strategic Plan documents. To learn more and provide input online, please visit: www.tdsb.on.ca/MYSP



**KIDS' RUN FOR
NATURE**

JUNE 2018

ATTENTION WHITNEY STUDENTS (AND PARENTS)!

Whitney is one of TWO schools that has been invited to participate in the **WWF Kids' Run For Nature** at Branksome Hall on **Monday June 4th!**

At the Kids' Run for Nature, kids and families come together in their own communities to support the conservation of the wildlife about which they care deeply. All funds raised contribute to major conservation projects, including initiatives to create a sustainable and healthy future for the Arctic.

There is a 1km, 3km and 5km fun run as well as fun activities while the event goes on at the Kids Zone - all starting at 4pm on the branksome campus.

It's only \$12.50 to register and kids are encouraged to fundraise (ahem... Grandma and Grandpa...) It's all for FUN and for a GREAT cause.

SIGN UP HERE TO JOIN IN ON THE FUN AND TAKE ACTION FOR NATURE:

<http://www.kidsrunfornature.ca/run-details-branksome-hall>

FUNDRAISING REWARDS JUST ANNOUNCED!

We have a new fundraising rewards structure in place this year – designed to get kids excited about fundraising and thank them for all of their hard efforts. Our goal is to get every participant to raise at least \$20, and the more they raise, the more they earn. We have also created a new fundraising [page online](#) that has tips and guides to help jump start fundraising for participants (many are first time fundraisers and need some help!).

Kids' Run for Nature Fundraising Reward Structure:

\$20 – receive a personalized certificate

\$40 – receive a personalized certificate & wildlife stickers

\$60 – receive a personalized certificate, wildlife stickers & a wildlife keychain plush

\$100 – receive a personalized certificate, wildlife stickers, wildlife keychain plush & a small wildlife plush





WITTENBERG'S WALL



Boys Slo Pitch

Congratulations to the members of the boys slo pitch team on their outstanding regular season. The boys finished up with a 2-1 record, defeating Frankland and Withrow, but coming up just short against Williamson Road. The ball was flying out of the park against Withrow, as the Whitney batters hit five home runs, and had Josh Donaldson and the rest of the Blue Jays worried about their spots with the team!! The boys will need to wait and see if they advance to the playoffs, but either way, your coaches are extremely proud of the way you played all season. A big thank you to Janice for all of her coaching expertise and help throughout the season.



Girls Slo Pitch

Congratulations to the members of the girls slo pitch team on their incredible play throughout the season. Despite being small in numbers, the girls are playing some amazing team baseball. This past week, they played two very close games against Cosburn and Withrow, both of which could have gone either way. A big thank you to Ms. Karadimas, Ms. Walker and Janice for all of the hard work they put in with the team!

Track and Field

Whitney will have 40 athletes competing at the South Conference regional meet on Wednesday May 16th at Birchmount Stadium. All athletes were sent home with a letter (my fingers are crossed the letters made it home!!), detailing information regarding the event times and the need for drivers. Good luck to all of the athletes and an enormous thank you to Ms. Diniz, Ms. Frew and Mr. Corlett on their outstanding coaching!



TWO WEEKS SPORTS SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

MONDAY
May 14

**1500m and 800m
practice (8:00 am)**

**80m, 200m, 400m
practice (10:05 am)**

**Relay and Hurdles
(12:00 pm)**

**Jumping and Shotput
(1:55 pm)**

TUESDAY
May 15

**Girls Slo Pitch Practice
(3:30 pm)**

WEDNESDAY
May 16

**Track & Field Meet
@ Birchmount**

THURSDAY
May 17

**Grade 6 Ultimate
Practice (7:30 am)**

**Grade 6 Ultimate
Tournament @
Rosedale Park (2:00 -
4:30pm)**

FRIDAY
May 18

**Grades 4/5 Ultimate
Tournament @
Rosedale Park
(morning only)**

MONDAY
May 21

NO SCHOOL

TUESDAY
May 22

**Grade 6 Div 3
Ultimate Practice
(7:30 am)**

**Girls Slo Pitch
Practice (3:30 pm)**

WEDNESDAY
May 23

**Girls Slo Pitch game
vs Frankland
(3:30 pm)**

THURSDAY
May 24

**Grade 6 Div 3
Ultimate Practice
(7:30 am)**

FRIDAY
May 25

