

THE **WAT** WHITNEY WORD

EST. 1926

ISSUE 6 NOVEMBER 19 - 30 2018

important dates for
the next few weeks:

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 23
- STEP DAY + PIZZA LUNCH

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 5 -
- WALKING WEDNESDAY

TUESDAY DECEMBER 11 -
- WINTER CONCERT @ 7 PM

THURSDAY DECEMBER 13 -
- HOLIDAY MARKET TO MAKE
SPECIAL HOLIDAY KITS

from the principal

STEP Day November 23
(Moustache Day) & Pizza Lunch

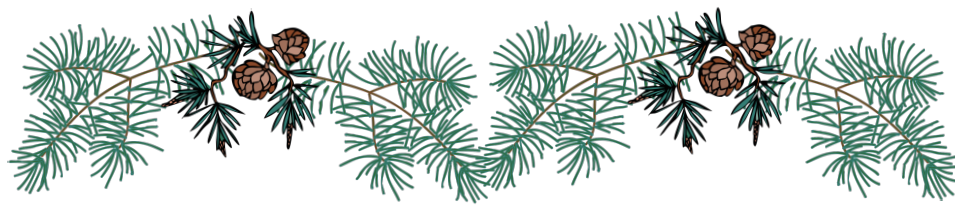
In the month of November, our focus was on EMPATHY. Over the past month, staff discussed this theme in the classroom, and students shared quotes over the announcements that were reflective. Character development at Whitney P.S. is about helping our students learn and practice positive character attributes which will help them not only to do their best, but to be their best. We have been looking out for student actions and language that demonstrated empathy both inside and outside the classroom. Our next STEP day takes place **Friday November 23** at 10:30 am. The Spirit Day will be Moustache Day. Parents/Guardians are always welcome to join in on the fun and attend our assembly.

Chris Rzepa



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!



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. Purchases will be able to be made through Cash On-Line in December. 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!



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.



School Improvement Plan (3 FOCI)

Each year, the TDSB requires schools to create a school improvement plan (SIP) by developing one goal in each of the areas of Achievement, Equity, and Well-Being. The Whitney Vision for Learning template shows the three areas we are focusing on:

Mathematics in Achievement

Mathematics continues to be a focus across the province. We are incorporating more diagnostic assessments to know where students need to improve, creating rich tasks that students can solve creatively and collaboratively, with a focus on understanding and intentional practice. With the help of our Learning Coach, we will strive to meet the needs of all students through best practices.

Community, Diversity and Student Voice in Equity

We want our students to feel their voices are heard and respected. We are celebrating differences and diversity, fostering inclusiveness, exploring Truth and Reconciliation, and working to embed Equity into everything we do.

Belonging, Mindfulness, and Healthy Habits in Well-Being

We work each day to nurture a sense of belonging for all. Through our work with the student census data, we found that students feel safe and cared for but do have a higher level of anxiety than expected. We are planning to promote an active lifestyle, mindfulness, strategies for self-regulation and developing healthy habits (proper sleep, proper nutrition, an appropriate amount of screen time, managing stress), through work in the classroom and special programs brought into the school.

If you have any questions about this plan or would like more information, please contact me.

[Chris Rzepa](#)

Whitney's Vision For Learning 2018–19



NOTE: If the strategies listed above do not prove to be successful the staff will re-evaluate and determine additional strategies.

From the Parent Council



Dear Whitney Parents,

As the holiday season approaches, we look for ways as a community to give back to those in need and offer our students experiences that teach the importance of giving. This year, Whitney has chosen to donate towards the Salvation Army and a great initiative called **Kits for A Cause** (<https://kitsforacause.com>).

Kits for a Cause partners with Salvation Army's Toy Mountain and makes it easy for big groups to donate in an engaged and impactful way (our big goal!). The money collected will go towards purchasing kits for babies, children and teens in need.

With your help, each Whitney student will have the opportunity to contribute by assembling the kits (together with their class), and making cards for the individuals at the school during a special holiday market on **Thursday December 13th**.

How to Donate:

- Please click on Holiday Kits on the Cashless site: <https://tdsb.schoolcashonline.com>
- The suggested donation amount is \$30 (per student) which is the cost of one kit, however, there are options to donate less or more. Buy as many or as few kits as you'd like! The more kits, the greater the impact, and the more fun for the kids.

(*Note Kits for a Cause gets discounted/wholesale prices, so the value of one \$30 kit is actually closer to \$75-100 in actual goods!)

We believe this is a meaningful message for our children and hope you share in our excitement for this wonderful cause!

Sincerely,

Whitney Parent Council
whitneyschoolcouncil@gmail.com



Missing Boots!

A pair of brand new black Hunter rain boots went missing from school last week. Please check inside for your child's name if you think you may have an extra pair that was brought home! (Size 1 or 2)

QUIZ NIGHT

WHO'S GOT GAME?

FIND OUT AT WHITNEY'S FIRST ANNUAL PARENT QUIZ NIGHT!

ENJOY AN EVENING OF GROWNUP COMPANY!

WHERE The Quail and Firkin - 1055 Yonge Street

WHEN **Thursday January 17th, 2019**
7:30pm start

COST \$25 per person includes nibbles



Book your spot by following the link below. Teams will be assigned by random selection. Note we can accommodate 30 people seated and 90 people standing. First come first serve!

<https://tdsb.schoolcashionline.com>

If you wish to form your own team of 8 or choose specific team mates, please notify Gary Goba garygoba@chestnutpark.com or Sandra Ross sandratwiner@gmail.com

**DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO CLAIM THE
WINNER'S PRIZE?!**

BRING IT ON!

All proceeds go to Whitney Parent Council (a non-profit organization)

CHANG'S CHANNEL

Hi Whitney Parents,

Our Mid-Fall season is well underway with Boys Triple Ball (Volleyball) and Girls Basketball in full swing.

Triple Ball (Volleyball)

Our Boys Triple Ball team faced Norway in their season opener this past week at Whitney. Our Wildcats were excellent, demonstrating great control and focus winning in two straight sets. They showed great sportsmanship and a wonderful attitude. We look forward to our next game against Frankland on Monday.



Basketball

Our Girls Basketball team continues all their hard work practicing for their upcoming tournament on **November 27th** at Hillcrest Community School.

Hockey

We are currently in the process of booking rink time to hold tryouts for our Hockey team. Keep an eye out in the next Whitney Word for more information.



Here are the next 2 weeks at a glance:

TWO WEEKS SPORTS SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

MONDAY
November 19

TUESDAY
November 20

WEDNESDAY
November 21

THURSDAY
November 22

FRIDAY
November 23

**Boys Triple Ball
Practice (7:45 am)**

**Boys Triple Ball
Practice (7:45 am)**

**Boys Triple Ball
Practice (7:45 am)**

**Girls Basketball
Practice ((3:30 pm)**

**Girls Basketball
Practice ((3:30 pm)**

**Boys Triple Ball
Game Frankland @
Whitney (3:30 pm)
HOME GAME**

MONDAY
November 26

TUESDAY
November 27

WEDNESDAY
November 28

THURSDAY
November 29

FRIDAY
November 30

**Boys Triple Ball
Practice (7:45 am)**

**TENTATIVE -
Boys Triple Ball
Practice (7:45 am)**

**TENTATIVE -
Boys Triple Ball
Practice (7:45 am)**

**Girls Basketball
Tournament @
Hilcrest Community
School**

**TENTATIVE - Girls
Basketball Practice
(3:30 pm)**

**TENTATIVE - Girls
Basketball Practice
(3:30 pm)**

**Girls Basketball
Practice (3:30 pm)**

**Boys Triple Ball
Game Whitney @
Hawthorne (3:30
pm) AWAY GAME**

