

Whitney Word

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school dates for october

- 20** Monday, 8am (*Repeat weekly*)
Choir Rehearsal
- 24** Friday, 11:55am (*Repeat Weekly*)
Choir Rehearsal
- 31** Friday
Halloween Parade

school dates for november

- 7** Friday
SPA Day Theme: Empathy (Gr 4/5 Rm 303)
- 10** Monday Through Thursday
Grade 5 Island School Trip
- 11** Tuesday, 10:30am
Remembrance Day Assembly
- 11** Tuesday
Progress Reports Home
- 13** Thursday, 3:30-7:30pm
Parent/Teacher Interviews
- 14** Friday
P.A. Day
- 14** Friday, A.M. Only
Parent/Teacher Interviews

from the principal



Safe Arrival Program – New Automated System Coming Soon!

One measure of keeping your children safe is to ensure we can account for any absences or reasons for them being late to school. We would like to remind you that if your child is going to be absent or late for any reason, we ask that you contact the office immediately and report the reason for the absence.

If we are not informed about the absence, we will make attempts to contact you to determine the reason for the absence through our Safe Arrival Program. In the near future, we will be moving to an automated call-out system for our Safe Arrival Program.

Today, your child will be bringing home a student verification letter, which is the first step in this transition. Please take a moment and read it carefully. The information you provide to us will help us as we move towards the automated call out system. If you have any questions, please call the office.

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.

Working Together for a Safer Community

One of the best parts of living in the Whitney community is the variety of activities we can enjoy in our parks and public spaces all year round. The beginning of the school year presents a good opportunity to remind everyone to take extra care in enjoying all the outdoors can offer.

As you know, we are fortunate to have a number of safety measures, programs, and policies that contribute to a safe and caring school. However, most incidents happen away from school and outside school hours. All parents, students and staff are reminded of the need to be aware and alert at all times, even in the most ordinary and everyday routines. Our staff regularly speak to students about how to stay safe. I know that you too will want to help ensure our community is as safe as possible. See to the right for some tips that you may find helpful when discussing safety with your child.

Our staff also periodically review street and traffic safety with our students. We ask that you reinforce these safety messages with your children as well. Below is a list of tips that might be helpful to review:

- stop, look, and listen for traffic
- only cross at corners and crosswalks
- never run into the street
- obey crossing signals
- walk on sidewalks
- where there are no sidewalks, walk as far away from traffic as possible facing traffic.

For those who drive, please take extra care on the roads, especially in areas where children might be present.

Working together, we can make our communities safer for our children.



- Always walk with a buddy to and from school
 - Always tell your parents where you are
 - Never accept gifts from strangers and never approach or enter a stranger's car; adults have no acceptable reason to offer a ride or to ask children for directions or assistance
- If a car is following you, change directions and run
 - When help is needed, go to the nearest store or school, the home of a friend or run towards a group of people or a parent with children
- Know your name, address and phone number
- Know that police officers are friends and can help you
- Tell your parents or teacher whenever someone treats you in a way that makes you feel uncomfortable or unsafe; TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS.



French Programs Application Deadline

For families interested in the Toronto District School

Board's French Immersion or Extended French programs, we offer an online process for applying to:

- Early French Immersion (EFI) which begins in Senior Kindergarten;
- Junior Extended French (JEF) which begins in Grade 4
- Middle Immersion which begins in Grade 4 (available in a limited number of schools)

We guarantee an offer of placement in the program (not a specific school) to all on-time applicants. Transportation is provided as per the Board's Transportation policy. This year, there is an important change to the timelines for applying for these programs for September 2015.

Applications for Early French Immersion (for a Junior Kindergarten aged child), must be completed online between Nov. 3rd and Dec. 5th 2014. Applications for Junior Extended French or Middle French Immersion (for a child currently in Grade 3), must be completed online between Jan. 5th and Jan. 29th 2015.

Offers of placement within your chosen program will be made to all on-time applicants in the weeks following the close of the application window. Please note: families with an older sibling currently in a French program are still required to complete an online application for the new student. Further information on French as a Second Language programs and the application process is available online at www.tdsb.on.ca/french.



The Whitney Junior Choir started on Friday, October 17th. The kids sounded great and we are excited to work with them this term. This is the last call for sign-up. Parents of choristers: please complete the permission form and return it to the office or ask your child to bring to the next rehearsal. You will need to fill out this new form, even if you've already completed Ms. Gray's form. The next rehearsal is at 8am on Monday, Oct 20 in the music room.

Carmen Tang, Parent Volunteer & Ms. Fulton, Student Teacher



[Choir Permission Form](#)



On October 16, **David Carroll** visited the school

author visit

and gave an energetic and dramatic presentation about his Silver Birch nominated book "Ultra" to about 90 grade 4 to 6 students. He talked about running and his inspiration for writing this story and included pictures of his races with special sound effects and stories. Many students took him up on his offer to sign books and he ran with them at recess. A wonderful Whitney thank you to him and to the Parent Council who sponsored his visit.

Claude Watson School for the Arts

Each year the Claude Watson School for the Arts auditions students for admission to the school. Auditions for possible vacancies in grades 4-8 will be held. The screening process for students is a series of studio experiences in dance, drama, visual arts and music. Auditions take place at the school, located near Yonge St. and Sheppard Ave. and are conducted by a team of adjudicators, both professional artists and teachers.

The auditions will be conducted on Saturdays during the months of February and March. The school will be holding two information evenings at the Claude Watson School for the Arts, 130 Doris Ave. on **Monday, Oct. 20 & Tuesday, Oct. 21 at 6:30 p.m.**



School parking is limited so families should leave sufficient time to find street parking. These meetings are to inform parents of the school's program, to review the application process and to provide parents with an opportunity to ask questions.

We have introduced an on-line application process which is now available. To apply on-line parents are asked to visit www.claudewatson.org under Admissions. The deadline for submission of applications is December 31, 2014.

Please visit the website and use their contact information if you are interested.

wittenberg's wall

sports | house leagues | wildcats

Cross Country

Here are some of the incredible results from the first cross country meet on October 7th:

Beate - 1st

Noah - 8th

Robbie - 6th

Nate - 20th

Russell - 25th

Grade 3 Girls (Ellie, Ella, Riley, Audrey and Jamie) 2nd place

Grade 3 Boys (Tyler, Tyler, Tyler, Hudson and Taimur) 3rd place

Grade 4 Boys (Ethan, Turner, Charlie, Matthew and Owen) 2nd place

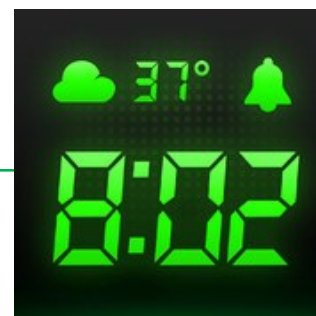
Grade 5 Girls (Lily, Rebecca, Ellen, Caitlin and Gillian) 2nd place

An enormous thank you goes out to **Sean Gilday and Kathy Clarke** who have given up so much of their time and effort to train all of our fantastic Whitney athletes!

Boys Football

Congratulations to the members of the boys football team on a fantastic season. The boys were practicing early in the morning throughout the past month, in preparation for their tournament last week. The boys went up against two very strong teams from Deer Park and Brown. The first game they played didn't go exactly as planned, but the team put the loss behind them, and played an outstanding second game against Brown. Sadly the boys did not advance from their tournament, but definitely made all of their coaches (Taite, Brian and Mr. W) very proud of how they pulled things together. Thanks for a great season boys!!

Girls Baseball



MONDAY

Cross Country

South Conference Finals

@ **Ashbridge's Bay** (only for students in grades 3, 4, 5 and 6 who qualified)

TUESDAY

Girls Basketball Practice (Gr 4-6)

7:30 a.m. in the gym.

WEDNESDAY

Boys Volleyball practice (Gr 4-6)

7:45 a.m. in the gym

THURSDAY

Girls Basketball practice (Gr 4-6)

7:30 a.m. in the gym

FRIDAY