

Whitney Word

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school dates for december

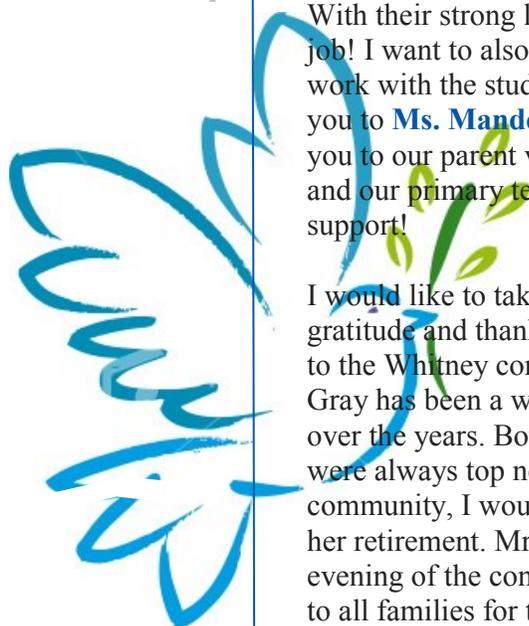
19 Friday
Last Day of School

school dates for january

5 Monday
First Day Back to School

vacation alert

Are you and your family going on vacation this holiday season? Please don't forget to let the office know if your child(ren) will be missing school. You can call the safe arrival hotline at [416-393-9384](tel:416-393-9384) or you can email the dates you will be away to Allison.walker@tdsb.on.ca.



As I write this section of the Whitney Word for the last time in 2014, I find it hard to believe that year has come to an end so quickly.

I could not think of a better way to end this year than with the fantastic Holiday Concert on Tuesday night. What a special evening! I would like to thank **Carmen Tang and Deirdre Fulton** for their wonderful work with the choir. With their strong leadership, the students did an amazing job! I want to also acknowledge **Ms. Vlassis** for all her work with the students in grades 1-3 and a special thank you to **Ms. Mandel** for organizing the entire event! Thank you to our parent volunteers for the beautiful decorations and our primary team of teachers for their ongoing support!

I would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude and thank you to **Mrs. Gray** for all she has given to the Whitney community over the past 25 years. Mrs. Gray has been a wonderful inspiration to all her students over the years. Both her music program and junior choir were always top notch! On behalf of the staff and parent community, I would like to wish Mrs. Gray all the best in her retirement. Mrs. Gray was truly touched on the evening of the concert and wanted to express her gratitude to all families for their support over the years. She will be greatly missed!

As well, I would like to wish the Whitney community as well as the staff a Happy New Year! Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah to all! See you in 2015!
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.

Playground Update

We would like to thank all the parent donors for the amazing new rope climber. It has been a huge success with all students and they are loving it!

Separately, some of you may have noticed that the large wooden playground, the round web climber and the teeter totter have been closed for a few weeks. The reason for these closures is safety.

The large wooden structure has had its day, no longer meets safety compliance, and will have to be removed immediately. Please know that we were not aware of these concerns when we embarked on the playground revitalization over the past school year.

As such, we are examining our options:

- This week, we have been informed that the web climber will be fixed to meet safety standards and open to students sometime in the new year. The TDSB will cover this cost.
- The teeter totter will have to be removed. Prior funds raised for the playground will go toward purchasing two new previously contemplated pieces of equipment, which will be installed at no charge by the TDSB.
- In terms of the large wooden structure, our school has been placed on a “renewal list” for a replacement play structure, at the TDSB’s expense, and will be considered sometime in the 2015/2016 school year.

**Debbie Stern and
the Whitney School Council Executive**

Kindergarten

**WHITNEY P.S. KINDERGARTEN
INFORMATION NIGHT 2014**

Tuesday January 27th 6:30–7:30pm

CALLING ALL NEW KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS TO WHITNEY If you have a child who will be entering Junior Kindergarten in September 2015 OR you are new to Whitney P.S. and just want to hear about our outstanding program for Senior Kindergarten, then this is your night!

Please join us on **Tuesday January 27th, 2015** to hear about our Junior/Senior kindergarten program for next September 2015. If you know of a neighbor with children ready for JK in September 2015 please pass on this information to them.

Children who will be four years old by December 31, 2015 (born in 2011) may enter Junior Kindergarten this September 2015.

Registration will occur between February 2nd and February 13th.

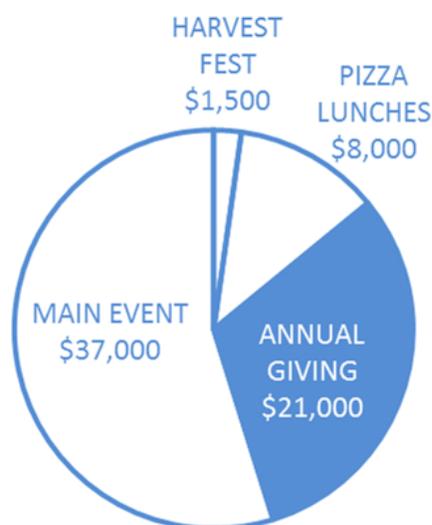
A little goes a long way...

WHITNEY SCHOOL COUNCIL
2014/2015 ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN

Why?

We fund educational enhancements that are not paid for the TDSB. These would not exist without your financial support.

Each school year, we fundraise for the next year to ensure continuity of programming.



$$\text{🎯 } \$67,000 \text{ annual budget} \div 280 \text{ students} = \$240 \text{ enhancements per student per year}$$

How?

DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.
DONORS WILL BE RECOGNIZED IN THE WHITNEY WORD.

Online at www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/whitney-school-council
By cheque to "Whitney School Council" together with information below

Name: _____

Address: _____

Amount: \$ _____ Email (for charitable tax receipt): _____



Campaign ends
January 30, 2015.

Thank You!



**Progress Update:
\$5,000
raised of
\$20,000 target!**

What's Happening in

Room 205

This week during 'Mind Up', Room 205 grade 2 students were asked to read the following passage:

"We have been doing 'Mind up' for 13 weeks now. It's time to check in and reflect. What does 'Mind Up' mean to you?"

Here are their responses.

breathing **relaxing** **closing your eyes** **being calm** **tranquility**
exercising your brain **being quiet** **being peaceful** **stretching**
using your senses **being happy** **learning about yourself**
thinking about what is right **using your brain wisely** **self control**
making the right choice **listening** **think first, then act** **dreaming**
respect **compromising**

These are positive responses and insightful reflections by 7 year olds.

Mrs. Allen

What's Happening in Room 303

On Thursday 11th December, my class went on a fantastic trip to City Hall and I want to tell you all about it.

First, we hopped on the bus to go to a school to learn a few facts about government before going to City Hall. There were three stations (activities) but we could only do two stations, station 3 and station 2. On station 3 we were looking at how ideas become into by-laws. We also had dice which said either 'yes' or 'no'. There was a red one, a green and a yellow one. Then on station 2, we tried to find which picture matched with a type of municipal service.

Second, we went back on the bus for City Hall. When we arrived at City Hall, a lady greeted us and told us to follow her downstairs where there was a room with lots of seats for us to sit and leave all of our stuff there before we go and see the **Mayor John Tory**! I couldn't believe my ears! Then we all went back upstairs in a room with speakers. Suddenly, John Tory came and everyone couldn't believe their eyes! He told us a few facts about himself and then a few people asked some questions.

After that, we all went to the Council Chamber where we sat at blue seats and watched people voting and making speeches. We even were on TV at that moment! We also met our city councillor, **Kristyn Wong- Tam**. Then we went on the bus back to our school.

Nefeli, room 303





Lunch Time

Activities

We are gearing up for Lunch Time Activities during the winter months. This session will run for 8 weeks, starting Monday February 2nd. Please see the attached file for an overview of the classes offered this term.

Stay tuned to the Whitney Word in the new year for more information, including lottery numbers. Registration will take place on Monday, January 19th.

Happy holidays,

Diana Parsons and Janice Meredith



Winter Lunch Time Activities Chart



After Four

Activities

After Four Registration is open and spaces are filling up quickly! Please continue to the next two pages to see the entire list of programs available for your child(ren) to enjoy in the comfort of Whitney Public School, during after school hours, run by Mooredale.

If you have not registered yet, please click the registration link and make sure you secure a spot in the program so that your child does not miss out!

Mooredale membership is required and can be processed as part of your registration.

Online Registration: Sign up [here](#).

For those who have registered, we hope that your children enjoy the great programs this Fall term.

If you have any questions about the programs, feel free to contact Eric Musselman at Mooredale: T: 416-922-3714 ext. 105 or by [email](#).

▶ Whitney Public School - After 4 Programs

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
TENNIS Grades JK - 6 3:40 - 4:45pm, Gym Min 6 Max 24	BASKETBALL Grades JK - 6 3:40 - 4:45pm, Gym Min 6 Max 24	KARATE Grades 1 - 6 3:40 - 4:45pm, Gym Min 8 Max 20	SCHOOL PLAY - THE LION KING Grades 3 - 6 3:40 - 5:15pm, Gym Min 8 Max 25
CARTOON-IT! Grades 2 - 6 3:40 - 4:45pm, Rm 304 Min 6 Max 15	LEGO ENGINEERING Grades SK - 3 3:40 - 4:45pm, Rm 304 Min 4 Max 10	LEARN TO SKI & SNOWBOARD Grades SK - 6 See page 11 for details	LEARN TO SKI & SNOWBOARD Grades SK - 6 See page 11 for details
	VIDEO GAME DESIGN Grades 3 - 6 3:40 - 4:45, Conference Room Min 4 Max 10	BABYSITTING COURSE Grades 5 & 6, Rm 304 3:40 - 5:00pm	
	GLEE Grades 3 - 6 3:40 - 5:15, Rm 203 Min 5 Max 12		

All Whitney After 4 programs are off the week of March Break - March 16 - 20

BABYSITTERS TRAINING

Grades 5 & 6

Thursday, February 6 - March 6

3:40 - 5:00 pm

5 Classes, \$95

This course is designed to teach babysitting, leadership and first aid skills in a fun and informative way. Students learn how to care for infants, toddlers and older children, what questions to ask parents, how to give first aid and what to do in emergencies. Activity book activities, role-playing and hands-on practice teach skills and build confidence. Each student should bring a doll/stuffed animal to the course. Each student will receive a copy of our award winning publication, "What Every Babysitter Should Know" handbook, and upon successful completion, a St. John's Ambulance Babysitter's attendance certificate.

for over 20 years now. She has a degree from OCADU, Sheridan College Animation and Western. No experience is necessary to take this course. To see more of Laurie's work: www.lauriestein.com

GLEE

Grades 3 - 6

Tuesday, January 13 - March 31

3:40 - 5:15 pm

11 classes, \$231

Ever wondered what Glee club is really like? Glee is all about bringing out the inner singer, dancer and star inside all of us. A fun, exciting and modern way to develop your on stage talents. Students will transform popular and catchy tunes into amazing stage numbers! Students will get to perform in a fun atmosphere while learning harmonies, pitch, theatrical dance, musical expression and providing self confidence in all areas. Led by Stefani Kleinberg (see her bio under 'School Play'), Glee is sure to put a smile on your face and put a song in your heart.



BASKETBALL

Grades JK - 6

Tuesday, January 13 - March 31

3:40 - 4:45 pm

11 Classes, \$231

Instructors from TAC Sports provide a positive and secure environment where students can learn basketball skills and develop confidence. In addition, instructors will focus on leadership training with every child, with an emphasis on sportsmanship and positive self-talk. Children will be coached in ways that are appropriate for their age and skill level - from beginner to more advanced players.



CARTOON-IT!

Monday, Grades 3 - 6

3:40 - 4:45 pm

January 12 - March 30 *No Class February 16

10 classes, \$210

Almost every child is born a cartoonist. At the age of two they know how to reduce a drawing to a few simple lines. Laurie Stein teaches cartooning and all the tricks to create characters that come to life. The children will learn how to draw using the Disney method, starting with shapes to build the final drawings. They will learn to draw animals, people, cars and scenes based on this method.

Laurie has drawn the characters for the Mayfair posters and flyers



LEGO ENGINEERING

Grades SK - 3

Tuesdays, January 13 - March 31

3:40 - 4:45 pm

11 Classes, \$242

All new projects for the winter semester! Come build, tinker, and create using lego in new and creative ways. Younger children love being able to build and engineer their lego projects. Students can use this experience as a stepping stone for future competition in the fast growing Lego League. Unleash your inner creativity and join us Tuesdays for the coolest club in the school!

LEARN TO SKI & SNOWBOARD

Grades JK - 6

Wednesday and/or Thursday

3:35 - 7:35 pm

January 21 - February 26

6 classes, \$390 with Rental, \$370 without Rental

***Optional catered Dinner provided by Summerhill Market: add \$144**

Please see [page 11](#) for full program details.

KARATE

Grades 1 - 6

Wednesday, January 14 - April 1

3:40 - 4:45 pm *Returning students to 5:15

11 classes, \$231

James Greer returns to teach Karate for white belts and beginners. Trained as a second-degree black belt, James designs and teaches karate programs specifically for children. Students will be introduced to the principles of self - discipline, self-control, leadership and teamwork in addition to learning traditional Okinawan Karate. A karate gi (uniform) is required and can be purchased through the instructor at a reduced rate. PLEASE NOTE: Returning students stay until 5:15.

SCHOOL PLAY

Grades 1 - 6

Thursday, January 15 - April 2

3:40 - 5:15 pm

11 classes, \$231

Play performance at the end of the season

This term Stefani Kleinberg will be running a production of **The Lion King** at Whitney. Stefani Kleinberg is a director, writer, singer and actor. A graduate of the theatre program at Queen's University, she received her Bachelor of Arts Honours before moving to Berkeley California where she attended Berkeley Digital Film Institute. Her major focused on acting and directing for film and stage where she procured a diverse portfolio of independent and professional film, performance and photography credits. Children will explore a variety of performance platforms through fun filled games and exercises to do with theatre and film techniques. The program runs for eleven weeks and concludes with two 45 minute performances, one for the school and the other for friends and relatives.



TENNIS

Grades JK - 6

Monday, January 12 - March 30

*No Class February 16

3:40 - 4:45 pm

10 Classes, \$220

Instructors from TAC Sports provide a positive and secure environment where students can learn tennis skills and develop confidence. In addition, instructors will focus on leadership training with every child, with an emphasis on sportsmanship and positive self-talk. Children will be coached in ways that are appropriate for their age and skill level - from beginner to more advanced players. Junior tennis raquets and tennis balls will be provided.



VIDEO GAME DESIGN

Tuesday, Grades 3 - 6

3:40 - 4:45 pm

January 13 - March 31

11 Classes, \$286

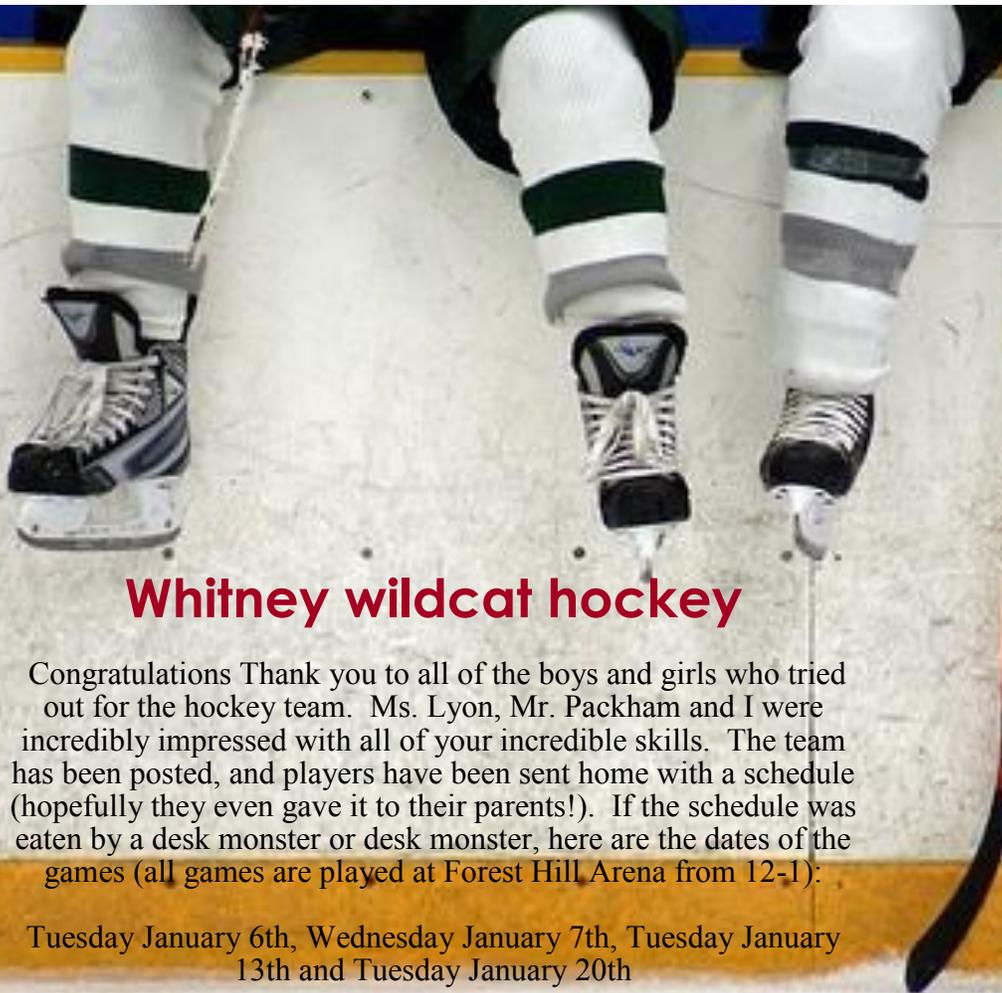
Instead of just playing video games, come and learn how to make your own! Join Christopher MacDonald and his team from AFTERFOUR as they guide introduce students into the exciting cyber-world of game making. Game making is an exciting chance for students to create and choreograph their very own game to take home and play on their Windows PC*. As well as leading to a better understanding of game design and programming, this course develops children's computer skills and logic.

* optional conversion to Apple-compatible software: \$30



wittenberg's wall

sports | house leagues | wildcats



Whitney wildcat hockey

Congratulations Thank you to all of the boys and girls who tried out for the hockey team. Ms. Lyon, Mr. Packham and I were incredibly impressed with all of your incredible skills. The team has been posted, and players have been sent home with a schedule (hopefully they even gave it to their parents!). If the schedule was eaten by a desk monster or desk monster, here are the dates of the games (all games are played at Forest Hill Arena from 12-1):

Tuesday January 6th, Wednesday January 7th, Tuesday January 13th and Tuesday January 20th

We will be having a practice in the gym at lunch on Monday (no equipment necessary).



MONDAY

Hockey practice
12-12:30pm in the gym

TUESDAY

Girls Volleyball practice
7:30am in the gym

WEDNESDAY

Boys Basketball practice
7:30am in the gym

THURSDAY

Girls Volleyball practice
7:30am in the gym

FRIDAY

Boys Basketball practice
7:30am in the gym

Thank You!

Thank you to all of the families who have supported the Whitney sports teams throughout the first four months of school. Whether you were cheering from the sidelines, bringing snacks, driving to and from games and tournaments, or coaching, your support has been greatly appreciated!