

# White Rock Elementary School

We're on the Web!

Newsletter 10/8/24  
Volume 1, Issue 2

<https://www.surreyschools.ca/whiterockelem>

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Vice-Principal: Sally Song



## October Newsletter...

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

It's hard to believe we are already a month into the school year. We have had a focus on behaviour expectations, relationship building and curricular concepts this past month. The academics will start to ramp up for the next few months now. It was nice to see so many of you at the Meet the Teacher Night. Thank you again for all your support.

Jas Atwal

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## Upcoming Dates of Interest

**Tuesday, Oct. 8 – Cross Country Meet at Crescent Park**

**Wednesday, Oct. 9 - Gr. 7 Coed Soccer Tournament**

**Thursday, Oct. 10 – Hillcrest Bakery (PAC Hot Lunch)**

**Monday, Oct. 14 – Thanksgiving Day (No School)**

**Tuesday, Oct. 15 – Cross Country Meet**

**Thursday, Oct. 17 – Fuel Catering (PAC Hot Lunch)**

**Monday, Oct. 21 – Drop Everything and Read and PJ Day**

**Tuesday, Oct. 22 – Cross Country Meet at Crescent Park**

**Tuesday, Oct. 22 – PAC Meeting 6 pm in the Fine Arts Studio**

**Thursday, Oct. 24 – COBS (PAC Hot Lunch)**

**Friday, Oct. 25 – Non-Instructional Day (No School)**

**Tuesday, Oct. 29 – PAC Halloween Dance (5:30-7:30 pm)**

**Thursday, Oct. 29 – Fresh Slice (Hot Lunch)**

**Thursday, Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> – Happy Halloween (Wear Your Costumes)**

**Friday, Nov. 1 – Hot Dog Day (PAC Hot Lunch)**

**Monday, Nov. 4 – Photo Retakes**

**Tuesday, Nov. 5 - Early Dismissal 1:27 pm**

**Wednesday, Nov. 6 - Early Dismissal 1:27 pm**

**Thursday, Nov. 7 – Bar Burrito (PAC Hot Lunch)**

**Thursday, Nov. 7 – Remembrance Day Assembly**

**Friday, Nov. 8 – Professional Development Day (No School)**

**Monday, Nov. 11 – Remembrance Day In (No School)**

### Upcoming Events

- ◆ Thanksgiving 14<sup>th</sup>
- ◆ DEAR & PJ Day 21<sup>st</sup>
- ◆ PAC Meeting 22<sup>nd</sup>
- ◆ Pro-D-Day 25<sup>th</sup>
- ◆ Family Dance 29<sup>th</sup>
- ◆ Halloween 31<sup>st</sup>
- ◆ Photo Retakes Nov. 1
- ◆ Early Dismissal 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>
- ◆ Pro D Day-Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>
- ◆ Remembrance Day 11<sup>th</sup>

## Parent Night Pics...

It was a pleasure hosting all the parents and families for our Parent Night last week. We hope to see you at future events soon.



## Photo Retakes/Ordering...

Photo orders have arrived at the school for those that have ordered prints from the initial photo day. Photo retake day will take place on November 4 for families that did not photo day. We will send a reminder about retakes a few days before they begin.



### Parent Visitor Protocol

All visitors must report to the office of the school due to safety reasons. One of our office staff will be happy to assist you. You can contact your child's teacher to make an appointment if necessary.

### Lunches/Water Bottles

Students should bring water bottles and lunches to school daily in the morning. If you need to drop off a lunch, please label the lunches and place them on the table in the lobby. Please bring special lunches like Subway or McDonalds to the Office.

### Lates and Absences

Please call and let us know if your child will be late or absent. We call you if you have not called in so we can ensure the safety of your child. If we are not available to pick up the phone, please leave a message on the answering machine. This would help us at the office immensely.

**(604-531-5731)**

## Student Planners...

Planners have arrived and have been issued to teachers. The planners cost \$5. The planners will have important information



about the school and District in the front 8 pages. Please refer to these pages for school contact information, school address and school code of contact. Please use School Cash Online for your payment. Cash payments will also be accepted. <https://surreyschools.schoolcashionline.com/>

## School Cash Online...

School Cash online is an online payment program run through the School District. It is completely safe and does not cost any additional fees. We will use this online method for planners, field trips, Fine Arts fees and Kindergarten Supplies. If you need help registering or adding your child to the account please call Ms. Foreman. The fees owing will already be attached to your child's profile. Go to the following link to start an account or make payment:

<https://surreyschools.schoolcashionline.com/>

Cash payments can also be made if necessary.



Alex House

## Before and After School Care

Are you looking for a fun Before and After School care program for your child? Alex House is offering a day care program at White Rock Elementary in the Fine Arts Studio before and after school (7:30-8:30 am and 2:30-5:30 pm). Please contact 604-535-0015 or visit [www.alexhouse.net](http://www.alexhouse.net) for more details.

## Early Dismissals No School Days...

Please double check our school calendar and mark down the days we have no school for Professional Development Days, holidays and our Early Dismissal days.

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  |
| 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

## Drop off and Pick Up Safety Policy...

- ALWAYS HAVE YOUR CHILDREN EXIT TO THE SIDEWALK SIDE OF THE VEHICLE
- Never open the door to the interior of the street to exit out as cars may be passing
- Please drive slowly in front of the school.
- Look both ways before exiting the drop off area
- Do not double park on the street
- Do not overpass a stopped car as they may be stopped for students to cross
- Park one block down the street and walk to pick up your children
- Use the drop off and pick area in the parking lot with caution



## Crossing Guards ...

We are happy to report that we now have crossing guards at Roper and Fir Street. Please look out for the guards and follow their lead when crossing. We ask that drivers in the area drive safely and look for pedestrians when near the cross walks.

## Terry Fox Run and Fundraising for Cancer Research...



Thank you for your amazing contributions during our "Toonies for Terry Fundraising". Our school raised over \$800 through coin donations and online donations. You have all done an amazing job raising money for cancer research.

## Important Forms to Bring Back to School...

We sent a few forms home in September for you to review and sign:

The Internet based tools, internet use, media release and fruit and vegetable program were on one form. The Student Information Form allows you to update your address, email, phone numbers and emergency contact information.



**It is VERY important that these forms are returned promptly** so we can update our records and students can participate in all educational opportunities.

## Preparing for the Weather...

The weather can change throughout the day. Please ensure that your child looks at the forecast and dresses for the weather (especially jackets and footwear) We will go out most days even when it is raining. Inside days will only occur on extreme weather days. It is important for the students to get fresh air and connect with others before returning to the classroom academics.



## PAC Meeting Information October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6 pm...

**Our Next PAC Meeting will take place on:**

**Tuesday October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6 pm in the Fine Arts Studio**

\*\*\*Babysitting will be available\*\*\*

Volunteer Call Out:

\*volunteers can be any family member, parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, household members.

Please email us [whiterockpac@gmail.com](mailto:whiterockpac@gmail.com)

Fundraiser Lunch Volunteers: Please sign up in [Munchalunch](#).

### **Ways you can help**

- Help with Halloween Dance
- Organize the alphabetical letters for the outside sign (can be taken home overnight).
- Change the sign- short notice request.
- Help PAC with communication posts – ex: facebook, instagram
- Attend a PAC meeting: PAC meetings are a 1 hour commitment.
- Buy "PAC snacks" for sports day or fundraiser lunches from PAC fun
- Create a PAC newsletter
- Review and improve the coin drive information for parents (February)
- Help with Babysitting /Stay Safe course 1 hour shifts
- Help distribute hot lunch (Thursdays from 11-1230; sign up in Munchalunch
- Be the Grade 7 rep /PAC contact (spring 2025. From February- June)
- Winter fundraiser (2 parents Nov-Dec)
- COIN DRIVE. Count the money collected - daytime school hours (2 parents, Spring 2023)
- YEARBOOK- Compile a school yearbook with Mountain West Studios and student leadership (January 2025 start. Work spread over 2-3 months) - ideal for 2 individuals, gr 7 parents)

We look forward to meeting you and helping to support the students this year.

## Family Halloween Dance Oct. 29- Run by our PAC...

The PAC is hosting a Halloween Dance on Tuesday, October 29 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. The PAC has booked a DJ for Music. The dance is meant for all families that want to attend and have some family fun. Students that attend must be accompanied by at least one adult. Costumes may be worn but we would like adults and students to follow the costume guidelines attached at the end of the newsletter. The District does not allow real or replica weapons of any kind so please do not bring real or fake guns, knives, swords, axes, etc. Costumes should be school appropriate. The PAC will be sending out more information about how to volunteer, the concession and other fun activities that may be included as part of the dance festivities. We look forward to seeing you there.



## Trick or Treating Tips...

1. Be creative, wear make up instead of a mask.
2. Be sure your child's costume is flameproof.
3. Wear light clothing that is easy to see at night.
4. Carry a flashlight, so you can see in areas where there might not be much light.
5. Go with friends or your brothers and/or sisters and preferably one parent should accompany each group of children.
6. Walk on the same side of the street instead of criss-crossing the street.
7. Children should be instructed to cross only at intersections.
8. Children should trick or treat in well-known areas only.
9. Never go into a strange house or apartment.
10. Children should avoid stray animals.
11. Know where the Block Parent homes are in your area in case you are frightened, or hurt.
12. Have your parents check your treats before you eat them.



## Costume Guidelines Tips...

This year, we are again allowing costumes to be worn at school on October 29th for the school dance and on October 31st. There are strict guidelines that no weapons of any sort are allowed even if they are fake (guns, knives, swords, etc.). In addition, masks with flowing blood or with high amounts of blood will not be allowed. Costumes must not be too revealing either. Students that do not meet the criteria will be asked to change. If you do not wish to wear a costume, you can wear orange and black. There will be a costume sharing time where each class will share student costumes from their classrooms. We will be giving you more information towards the end of the month regarding costume guidelines.

## Halloween Fireworks Safety Tips...

Every Halloween, children and adults are seriously injured by fireworks and firecrackers. On occasion, fireworks/firecracker use has even resulted in death. According to municipal by-laws, it is illegal for any person under the age of 18 to be in possession of fireworks/firecrackers of any kind. Please discuss the legal and safety implications of fireworks with your children. Security guards will be on site during Halloween and any fireworks brought on school property can be confiscated and students involved may face suspension. We want our school property to be protected over Halloween. If you see anyone trying to damage the school grounds or use fireworks on the grounds, we ask that you report it to the RCMP.



## Fundamental Skills Assessment...

The Fundamental Skills Assessment Tests (FSA's) will be used this year for all Grade 4, Grade 7 and Grade 10 students. The FSA's are a Provincial wide test that assesses the Reading Writing and Math knowledge students have. These tests will be starting in the next few weeks. You will get the results sent to you directly. The FSA results will show you how your child performed in the different areas in relation to the rest of the provincial grade group. All students are expected to write the FSA test unless the school feels the students meet the Ministry Guideline for exemption.



## Greenspace Between Fir and Merklin...



On the other side of the cross walk on Fir Street, there is a greenspace that is private property. It is not designated as a pathway to Merklin Street. Please use the sidewalk to get around the green space as the neighbours continue to see heavy traffic through their property.

## School Soccer Team...

Our Grade 6 and 7 soccer team have been practicing the last few weeks in preparation for the Playday tournament on October 9<sup>th</sup>. They recently had a great game against Douglas. Good luck in your tournament.



## Cross Country Team...

Our Grade 4-7 Cross Country team has been practicing for their Tuesday Cross Country events. Many of our athletes have finished very well in the races and look forward to improving their finishing places. Congratulation to our racers.

## Family Assistance Fund...

The Family Assistance Fund from the Ministry allows our schools to help families that need assistance with costs associated with school related activities. If you are a family in need of financial help for school related activities, please contact the office and we will help where we can. This may include planners, backpacks, school supplies or field trips.

## Grade 7 Camp Parent Meeting...

The Grade 7 teachers held a Parent Meeting for Grade 7 Camp on Thursday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6 pm in our School Theatre. We ask that you review the forms and send them back as soon as possible so we can start to plan for Camp. If you need a form, please contact your child's Grade 7 teacher.