

# White Rock Elementary School

We're on the Web!

Newsletter 01/11/23  
Volume 1, Issue 5

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

Principal: Jas Atwal  
Vice-Principal: Bronwen Howden



## January Newsletter..

Hello all,

Happy New Year and welcome back. I'd like to extend a thank you to the many parents, students and staff that have made my transition to White Rock Elementary a positive experience. I look forward to working with the White Rock Elementary community for many years to come. The staff and students are already working hard in the second term. I have been visiting classes and can see how much the staff care about the students that attend our school.

Please be careful when driving into the drop off zone and around the school and always have your child exit the vehicle away from oncoming traffic. Please check out the All About Me page in the newsletter.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if need be.

Take care,

Jas Atwal  
Principal

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### Upcoming Events

- ◆ Kindergarten Registration Starts
- ◆ Black Excellence Day (Wear Black)
- ◆ Chinese New Year (Wear Red)
- ◆ Grade 7 Bonding Event

## Kindergarten Registration Starts...

It's time to register for KINDERGARTEN. Those children who will turn 5 before January 1, 2024 are eligible to begin school in September 2023. Registration will began on Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup> and can be done through the online school District website.

To register, take pictures (to attach) or (scan and attach) the citizenship for both the parent and your child, proof of residency, and proof of guardianship. For proof of residency, we require any three of the following: purchase or rental agreement, income tax statement, property tax statement, utility bill, drivers licence, Care Card, BC identification or a signed letter form your landlord. These can also be scanned and attached (or take pictures to attach).

**It is very important to register as quickly as possible as the District bases the teacher allocation based on our enrollment. Thank you for your assistance in getting registrations in as soon as possible.**

Please refer to the following link for the choice fine arts lottery:  
<https://www.surreyschools.ca/page/987/kindergarten-choice-lottery>

Upcoming Calendar Events / Bells...

Calendar of Upcoming Events

- Jan 13 Black Excellence Day
- Jan 16 – Kindergarten Registration Begins
- Jan 18 Jump Rope for Heart Presentation
- Jan 19 Hot Lunch - Fuel Catering
- Jan 20 Grade 7 Bonding Evening
- Jan 20 Wear Red for Chinese New Year
- Jan 22 Chinese New Year
- Jan 26 Hot Lunch - White Spot
  
- Feb 1 Div. 2 and 6 Swimming
- Feb 2 Hot Lunch – Cobs
- Feb 2 Notables Presentation (Div. 8)
- Feb 7 PAC Meeting 6 pm
- Feb 8 Early Dismissal 1:30 pm
- Feb 9 Hot Lunch - Kesari
- Feb 16 Hot Lunch - Booster Juice/Fresh Slice
- Feb 20 Family Day Holiday (No School)
- Feb 20-24 Kindness Week
- Feb 22 Pink Shirt Day
- Feb 24 Non-Instructional Day (No School)
- Feb 23 Hot Lunch Boston Pizza
  
- Mar 2 Hot Lunch - Fuel Catering
- Mar 9 Hot Lunch - White Spot
- Mar 8 Social Studies Fair
- Mar 10 Report Cards Go Home
- Mar 10 Last day before Spring Break
- Mar 13-23 Spring Break (No School)
- Mar 27 First day back (From Spring Break)

SCHOOL HOURS

- 8:20 - Playground Supervision Begins
- 8:30 - Students may enter the building
- 8:35 - Start of Morning Classes
- 10:15 - Recess
- 10:30 - End of Recess
- 11:40 - Lunch Play (Intermediates)  
(Primary Eating Time)
- 12:05 - Lunch Play (Primaries)  
(Intermediate Eating Time)
- 12:30 - Start of afternoon classes
- 2:30 - Dismissal
- 2:45 - Playground Supervision ends

On Hot Lunch days, all students play first -11:45 then eat at 12:10 pm.

Office Hours (Phones)

8:00 am—3:00 pm—Monday to Friday

Weather/ Change of Clothes

Some students have had to call home to get a change of clothes after Recess or Lunch as they have slipped and fallen. It is not a bad idea to have a change of clothes at the school or in their backpack, particularly the primary students. Please have your child dress for the weather.



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)

Lunches/Water Bottles

Part of the recommendations is for all students to 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.



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 appointment if necessary.



## School Closures Information...

Sometimes extreme weather conditions or other circumstances can cause class cancellations at a school, or district wide on short notice. In the event of class cancellations, the Surrey School District will post information on its web site at [www.surreyschools.ca](http://www.surreyschools.ca) and provide updates to the following radio stations:

CKNW - 980 AM or [www.cknw.com](http://www.cknw.com) News 1130 AM or [www.news1130.com](http://www.news1130.com) CBC Radio - 690 AM or [www.cbc.ca/bc](http://www.cbc.ca/bc)

The District will do its best to communicate the status of schools by 7:00 am.

If there is a closure mid day for any reason, we will keep all students until parents or guardians are contacted and pick up occurs. All students should check in to the office and should never return home on their own without contact made by the school staff. **Please discuss this safety protocol with your children.**

## Basketball Season

The Basketball season has begun with the Grade 7 boys and girls practices taking place during the school day, before and after school. The games for boys will be on Wednesdays and the girls games will take place on Thursdays. Mr. Fryer and Mr. Bencze will send out game information as soon as the schedule is sent to them from the coordinator. Good luck to all our participants.



## Black Excellence Day

Friday January 13<sup>th</sup> is Black Excellence Day which aims to highlight past and present struggles of Black and other racialized Canadians. Black Excellence Day is a new initiative in BC and aims to spark important conversations about anti-racism and unity among various ethnic groups. A few of our intermediate classes will be watching the virtual livestream presentation on Friday with many other Surrey Schools students.



## Chinese New Year

Chinese New Year is also called the Lunar New Year and takes place on January 22<sup>nd</sup> this year. It is the festival that celebrates the beginning of the new year on the Chinese calendar and is commonly referred to as the Spring Festival. In Chinese culture, animals represent their different zodiac signs. This year is the Year of the Rabbit. The Rabbit symbolises prosperity, peace and longevity in Chinese Culture.

**You may wear red on the 20<sup>th</sup> if you wish.**

## Illness Protocols

If your child is not feeling well please do a daily health check to determine if they should stay home. If your children are repeatedly coughing, sneezing or have flu like symptoms, it would be better to keep them at home. We do not want ill students to pass on their illness to other students or staff.

Thank you in advance for your understanding.



## New Addition Progress

I am happy to report that the new addition is close to completion, however, The City of White Rock has not issued an occupancy permit yet. There are a few things that need to be finished before we can move in. We anticipate moving in by mid to late February. We thank you for your ongoing patience as the contractors work through the completion process. For your safety, please continue to be aware of construction traffic and work being done on the way to and from school.

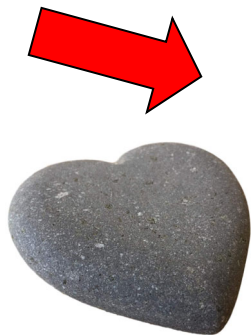


## Personal Belongings

Please keep personal belongings and valuables at home. The school can not be responsible for items that are lost or missing. Cell phones should only be used before and after school and should only be used in the class when under direct supervision by the Classroom Teacher. Phones can be locked up in the teachers cupboard so they are not lost or misused.



**Kindness  
Rocks**



**Be Kind to Yourself**  
**Be Kind to Others**  
**Be Kind to Your School**

## Drop off and Pick Up Safety Policy..

Please drive slow and safe when dropping off and picking up your child near the school grounds. In addition:



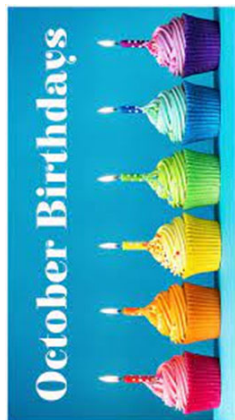
- ALWAYS HAVE YOUR CHILDREN EXIT TO THE SIDEWALK SIDE OF THE VEHICLE
- Never open the door to the interior of the street to exit out as cars may be passing
- Please drive slowly in front of the school.
- Look both ways before exiting the drop off area to go back in the passing lane
- Do not double park on the street as it creates unnecessary congestion
- 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
- Do not park in the staff parking stalls during pick up or drop off times.

## PAC Meeting-Feb. 7th

The PAC will be holding their next PAC Meeting on February 7<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. Come and meet Mr. Atwal. If you need babysitting, please contact the PAC and they will provide childcare during the meeting. All parents at the school can attend the PAC Meeting and have input/find out about what the PAC is planning for the year. We hope to see you there.



# All About Mr. Atwal



I was born in New Westminster, BC

I am 50 years old and my birthday is in October.

I have lived in South Surrey for 12 years.

I am married and have three children (Devon, Damon and Jada).

My boys play ice hockey and my daughter is in figure skating and Soccer.

I have been a school VP/Principal for 18 years in Surrey.

My favorite colours is blue and my favorite subjects in school were Math and P.E.

My favorite foods are pizza, nachos and chocolate.

I have played and coached soccer for many years.

My hobbies are playing golf and watching sports on T.V.

My favorite animals are penguins and tigers.

I have traveled to several cities in Canada and the United States and several countries in Europe and Asia.

