

# WHITE ROCK ELEMENTARY OCTOBER NEWSLETTER



## A WORD FROM YOUR ADMIN TEAM

Dear Families,

This past month we have focused on the book *What Do You Do with a Chance* by Kobi Yamada. Students have focused on the benefits of taking risks and trying new things.

As FreshGrade portfolios developed and started for the year, please review the [Proficiency Scale](#) on the following page. This will help you have clarity around how your child will be assessed this year in school. Child friendly language is included so students are also able to articulate their learning.

As we look back and reflect on the past month, staff, students and parents have been busy at White Rock. ‘Meet the Teacher Night’ with a pizza party, fire drill, the Terry Fox Run, soccer practices and games, cross country meets, one hot lunch and concession, Professional Development day and “Orange Shirt Day” are a few things that have been happening at White Rock Elementary. We thank parents for continuing to support our school.

**The parent social this past weekend raised over \$2000 for our new Playground.**

Ms. Swansburg and I are thankful for students arriving on time, and for the relative calm in the parking lot. We are thankful many children are walking to school now, as it gives them an opportunity to be awake and ready to learn. We are thankful for all of you who give of your time, at the school, and behind the scenes at home. We are thankful for outstanding staff and students that teach us every day about what is truly important in life.

As you gather with family and friends on this long weekend, we wish you a peaceful Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,

Ms. Rawji  
Principal


Ms. Swansburg  
Vice-Principal

# COMMUNICATING STUDENT LEARNING

*Learning how to speak about our own learning journey.*


## INTERMEDIATE:

**Emerging, Developing, Proficient, Extending**  
*(corresponding colours on FreshGrade Portfolios)*

PROFICIENCY LEVEL 			
Emerging	Developing	Proficient	Extending
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•The student is beginning to demonstrate basic knowledge and understanding in relation to the learning standards</li> <li>•Works with ongoing support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•The student demonstrates some knowledge and understanding in relation to the learning standards</li> <li>•Works with some support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•The student demonstrates good knowledge and understanding in relation to the learning standards</li> <li>•Works independently</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•The student demonstrates knowledge and understanding beyond the learning standards</li> <li>•Works independently and can support the learning of others</li> </ul>
<p>"I am just getting started." "I learn best with help."</p>	<p>"I get some of it." "I am beginning to do more and more on my own."</p>	<p>"I get it." "I can do it on my own."</p>	<p>"I get it and go beyond what is expected of me." "I can teach it to a friend."</p>

## PRIMARY:

**Emerging, Developing, Proficient**  
*(corresponding colours on FreshGrade Portfolios)*

PROFICIENCY LEVEL 		
Emerging	Developing	Proficient
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•The student is beginning to demonstrate basic knowledge and understanding in relation to the learning standards</li> <li>•Works with ongoing support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•The student demonstrates some knowledge and understanding in relation to the learning standards</li> <li>•Works with some support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•The student demonstrates good knowledge and understanding in relation to the learning standards</li> <li>•Works independently</li> </ul>
<p>"I am just getting started." "I learn best with help."</p>	<p>"I get some of it." "I am beginning to do more and more on my own."</p>	<p>"I get it." "I can do it on my own."</p>

# From The Library:

Dear White Rock Elementary Community Members,

It is my pleasure and privilege to serve as your teacher-librarian at White Rock Elementary.

Last year I began a program intended to help the children to keep track of library sign-outs and protect books from damage in backpacks and from the weather. Students were also able to easily view what materials were signed out in their names, which life skill I encouraged.

Last year, due to the kindness of a donor, we were able to provide each student with extra-large plastic Ziploc bags to which I affixed each individual student's bar code for sign-outs. Some students may still have these and, if in good condition, these bar-coded bags may still be used.

I received positive comments throughout the year and heard many stories of books that had been saved from exploding liquids in backpacks. Books were found in the gym/around the building and even outside, and it was clear whose they were. Having the books in plastic bags allowed us to keep much loved books as part of the library collection and also saved some families from the stress of paying for badly damaged books.

I would like to continue this initiative of protecting library books and encouraging students to keep track of what is signed out in their names. However, for this to happen, I need students to bring strong plastic bags that are large enough to hold large picture books and large non-fiction books.

Suitable bags are extra-large sized 13" wide x 14.75" (33 cm x 38.1 cm) or big bags 15" x 15" (38.1 cm x 38.1 cm).

Thank you so much for helping with this and supplying bags for your child/children.

I look forward to sharing some wonderful books with your children this year.

With appreciation,

(Mrs.) Lorraine Nygaard

Teacher-Librarian



# HAPPENINGS & REMINDERS

## Terry Fox Run

White Rock had another successful Terry Fox Run. Thank you for supporting the Terry Fox Run and Cancer Research!

We had a great run this year with many parents joining us as well as our constable! It was wonderful to have Bob McGill come and speak to the school community about how Terry was a Canadian hero and it is important to all of us to keep Terry's dream alive. He reminded us that we all have that hero within us. Thanks for all the great support for this really important event.



Say cheese, it's Photo Day!

**Monday October 15<sup>th</sup>** students will be having individual photos taken. Wear your best smile!

If you are absent on that day, there will be an opportunity on Retake Day on November 16<sup>th</sup> to have your photo taken.

## White Rock is Scent Free School

Strong scents can trigger many unpleasant reactions, such as sneezing, nausea, headaches and even migraines for some of our staff members and students. Such symptoms can impact learning, and therefore we wish to be mindful of those individuals. Please avoid wearing perfumes, cologne or body sprays.

## Allergy Alert

We are an Allergy Aware School. A number of students at White Rock Elementary have life-threatening allergies to peanuts and nut products. We are asking for your co-operation to help make White Rock as safe a place as possible for all students. Please pack a nut free lunch and snack for your child.



## **FSA's- October 2018**

FSA's (Foundation Skill Assessment) will take place in Grade 4 and 7 this October.



Please speak to your child's teacher if you have any questions concerning the FSA's.

## **Rainy Days are on the Horizon**

We believe fresh air and exercise are good for our students and helps with their concentration and learning throughout the day. Please make sure students have appropriate rain wear, as we will be going outside at recess and lunch unless it is pouring. Staff also encourages you to send a change of clothes regularly in your child's backpack.



# STOP THE SPREAD OF COLD & FLU

REMEMBER THE **3 C'S**



## 1 CLEAN

Wash your hands often. Scrub your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand cleaner.

## 2 COVER

Cover your cough. Use a tissue to cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze. Don't have a tissue? Your sleeve will do.



## 3 CONTAIN

Contain germs by steering clear of others who are sick. If you do get sick, stay at home until you're well again, so you don't spread more germs.



For more health tips, visit [TexasFlu.org](http://TexasFlu.org)

## Flu Season

Flu season is upon us and many students are falling to the illness. Please make sure your child has been 24-hours-symptom-free (of vomiting, diarrhea, or fevers) before sending them back to school.

If prescribed antibiotics, please ensure your child has taken them for 24 hours before returning to school. Handwashing is the best way to stop the spread of infections.

## **--- FROM OUR P.A.C ---**

### **Halloween Family Dance**

The PAC is sponsoring a Halloween Family Dance on Friday, October 26th, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

**Admission is FREE!**

Parents must accompany their children and are encouraged to dress up as well! There was some amazing costumes last year!

Register online at [www.wrepac.ca](http://www.wrepac.ca) to receive PAC email updates about this and other events. The school code is WREHL.

### **Hot Lunches**

**Follow the PAC on social media to stay up to date!**

**Facebook - White Rock Elementary PAC**

**Instagram/Twitter - @wrepac**

Hot Lunch ordering is open!

Register using WREHL and you can order for the entire year. For payment options please see notice being sent home with students.



# Fire Prevention Week

This Fire Prevention Week, October 7 to 13, 2018, your local fire department and your child's school have teamed up for safety! Your child has been learning about home fire escape planning, working smoke alarms, fire and burn hazards and ways to prevent home fires.

The theme this year is "Look. Listen. Learn. Be aware. Fire can happen anywhere".

"LOOK" for places fire could start. Take a good look around your home. Identify potential fire hazards and take care of them.

"LISTEN" for the sound of the smoke alarm. You could have only minutes to escape safely once the smoke alarm sounds. Go to your outside meeting place, which should be a safe distance from the home and where everyone should know to meet.

"LEARN" two ways out of every room and make sure all doors and windows leading outside open easily and are free of clutter.

Please spend some time with your child to review the "Fire Safety Starts with You" activity booklet they brought home from school.

## Home Fire Escape Plans

- Create a home fire escape plan showing two ways out of every room. Practise your plan with your entire family by having a home fire drill at least twice a year.
- Choose a meeting place a safe distance away from your home. All household members should be taught to report to the meeting place after leaving the home.
- One person should then go to a neighbour's house or the nearest phone in a safe location to contact 9-1-1 or your local emergency number.
- Visit [www.firepreventionweek.org](http://www.firepreventionweek.org) for more information.



## Smoke Alarms

- Make sure everyone in your home can recognise the sound of the smoke alarm and knows exactly what to do when it sounds.
- Install working smoke alarms near sleeping areas and on every level of your home. Smoke alarms should be tested once a month by pushing the test button and listening for the alarm.
- For battery operated smoke alarms, replace batteries at least once a year. Batteries should also be replaced when the smoke alarm makes a chirping sound.
- Smoke alarms should be cleaned at least every 6 months by gently vacuuming the exterior.
- Smoke alarms should be replaced at least every 10 years.
- To find out how old a smoke alarm is, look at the date of manufacture on the back of the alarm; the alarm should be replaced 10 years from that date.

Thank you for making fire safety your priority in your home!

Bob Schlase  
White Rock Fire Rescue

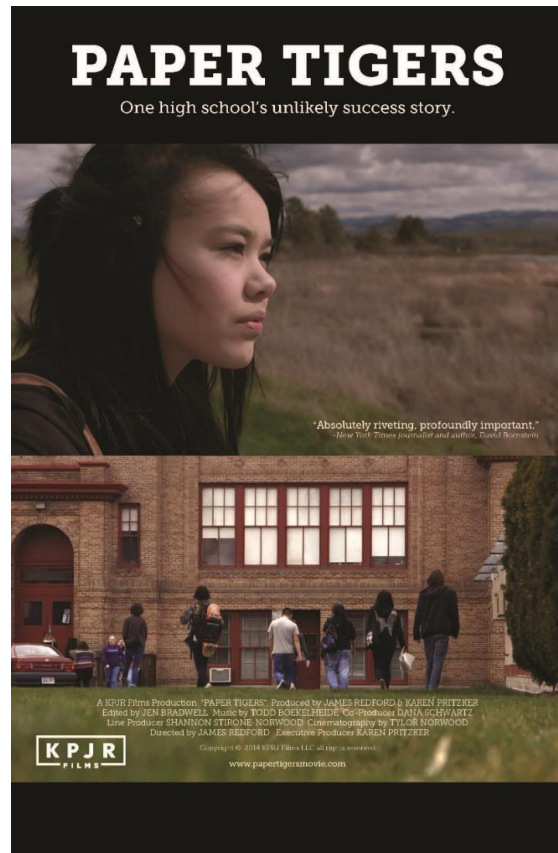


# ***BUILDING A COMMUNITY THAT RAISES CHILDREN WHO THRIVE***

Join us for a FREE screening of **Paper Tigers**, the award-winning documentary which tells an inspiring story of how just one caring adult can help break the cycle of adversity in a young person's life; and how the community healed itself.

- Gain insights for assisting children and youth experiencing challenges.
- View the impact of teaching and parenting with consistency, love, acknowledgement and acceptance.
- Who should attend?  
Parents, educators, caregivers, youth and professionals.

*The film is not rated. It does contain some profanity and may not be suitable for all children.*



Register FREE on Eventbrite:

<https://wrpapertigers.eventbrite.ca>

**Wednesday, October 24, 2018  
6 – 8:30 pm, doors open at 5:30 pm  
White Rock Elementary School  
1273 Fir Street, White Rock**

