

Whittier Wildcat News

WHITTIER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



May 2019

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 9

From the Principal

Welcome to May Whittier families! May 6 through May 10 is teacher and staff appreciation week and I really want to honor the great work our teachers and staff members do every single day to ensure that all students receive the best education and support at Whittier. We are so fortunate to have some of the hardest working, most caring, and most dedicated teachers and support staff in the district. Whittier's staff have big hearts for your children and are always supporting them every day so that they are successful academically, socially, and emotionally. This is such a great place for learning for your children and it's also like a second home for many of our students and families. Please take the opportunity to thank your child's teacher and staff members next week, and to also encourage your child to express their appreciation to our teachers and all support staff at Whittier by saying thank you for everything they do. Let's honor staff appreciation week together. They deserve it!

Congratulations to Whittier staff members Mr. Al Bowles and Mrs. Nancy Olsen for being recognized by the Whittier PTA as the Outstanding Educators for 2019, and Mrs. Lisa Wilson for being recognized as the Golden Acorn Award winner for 2019. Big Al is Whittier's head custodian and does a great job ensuring that our building is safe every day while also supporting students and staff so that he can provide the best learning environment for all children, and Nancy makes rigorous learning fun for her 1st grade students everyday while also teaching them about the most important life skills of kindness, compassion, and respect. Lisa is a very dedicated parent who spends time at Whittier every week to ensure that all students have meaningful enrichment learning experiences every day. Parents and guardians, thank you for sharing your feedback in helping our PTA identify these very deserving individuals who make a difference at Whittier.

Whittier's PTA invites you to visit our Spring Scholastic Book Fair, which will run from Monday, May 13 through Friday, May 17 in Whittier's library. The book fair will be open before school from 8:10-8:30 a.m., during student lunch recess periods, and after school from 2:50-3:20 p.m. The Whittier Book Fair Family Night will take place on Thursday, May 16 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Reading is vital to every child's success and raising children as life-long readers means getting involved while they are young to help them get inspired to an amazing world of books. Thank you for your support!

The spring will be a busy time of the year at Whittier so here are some of the important School-wide events to put on your calendars for the final two months of the school year:

- Pajama Spirit Day! – May 3
- PTA Spring Book Fair – May 13-17
- PTA Book Fair Family Night – Thursday, May 16
- Bike to School Day – Friday, May 17
- May PTA Meeting – Wednesday, May 22 at 7:00 p.m. in the library
- Kindergarten Orientation – Thursday, May 23 at 6:00 p.m. in the cafeteria
- Whittier Talent Show – Tuesday, June 4 at 6:00 p.m.
- Reduced Student Day of 12:20 p.m. dismissal time – Friday, June 7
- Cultural Fair Celebration of Learning (1st – 5th) – Tuesday, June 11 from 5:00–7:00 p.m.
- Kindergarten Celebration of Learning – Thursday, June 13, at 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria
- 5th Grade Party at Legion Park – Tuesday, June 18
- 5th Grade Bridging Ceremony – Wednesday, June 19, at 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria
- Whittier Field Day – Thursday, June 20
- Last Day of School – Friday, June 21 (Full Day)

Let's continue to make the month of May a focused month of learning with kindness and compassion for each other. Thank you for your on-going support to help all of our children succeed at Whittier!

-Tony Wentworth, Principal

Tony Wentworth

Principal

Whittier Elementary School
916 Oakes Avenue,
Everett, WA 98201
www.everettsd.org/whittier

May 1

SBA Grade 4 ELA PT

May 2

SBA Grade 5 ELA PT

May 3

Full Day Friday – 2:50 pm dismissal
Pajama Spirit Day

May 5-10

Staff Appreciation Week

May 9

SBA Grade 5 Math CAT

May 10

LIF -1:35pm dismissal

May 13-17

Spring Scholastic Bookfair Week

May 14

SBA Grade 3 Math CAT

May 15

SBA Grade 4 Math CAT

May 16

Bookfair Family Night Bookfair Family
Night 6-7:30 pm

May 17

LIF -1:35pm dismissal
Bike to School Day in AM

May 21

SBA Grade 3 Math PT

May 22

SBA Grade 4 Math PT
PTA Meeting in Library @ 7pm

May 23

Kinder Orientation @ 6 pm

May 24

LIF -1:35pm dismissal

May 30

WCAS Science Assessment for 5th

May 31

LIF -1:35pm dismissal



May Library News

During April, all grades enjoyed various poetry in the library. We enjoyed silly poems, ones that told stories, and factual poems as well. Book Talks for upper grades spilled over into most of April. Students did a great job sharing book recommendations to peers!

For May and June, students will continue to learn about current world topics from our TIME for Kids magazine. Grades 2-5 will expand on their abilities to navigate through our Destiny library catalog system. All grades will be exposed to our new Ozobots technology for coding fun!

Please help your child remember to bring library books back to school ☺

Spring Book Fair is coming!

May 13-17th

Family Night 16th 6-7:30

Enjoy reading this month!

~Shannon Heininger

sheininger@everettsd.org (425) 385-4308



Whittier PTA



Hello Whittier Wildcats and Families,

Summer may right around the corner, but May is busy with a number of PTA-sponsored events.

Whittier Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week, May 6th – 10th: LIGHTS! CAMERA! APPRECIATION! The first full week of May has been designated as a time to honor teachers, educators and support staff for their passion, hard work and dedication to education our kids. Please help us by showing your gratitude with appreciative gestures. We have a thoughtful team of parent volunteers creating a week of “**Celebrating our Stars.**” Whether special “fan mail,” to “curtain call” with flowers, and “Cut, Take 5” concession movie snacks – we are sure to bring joy to our teachers and staff. Please consider donating a concession food item or ‘swag bag’ item by visiting <https://signup.com/go/eVppEAS> or the Whittier PTA Facebook page. Super creative flyers went home with your student late last week!

Whittier PTA Scholastic Book Fair, May 13 – 17: Get ready to attend the biggest, loudest book fair. (*Shhh, not really*) The Scholastic DINO-MITE Spring Book Fair will start on Monday, May 13 at Whittier. Stomp, Chomp, and Read! We welcome reading raptors, bookceratops, and readasaurus rex bookivores. The Family Book Fair Night is Wednesday, May 15 from 6 – 7:30pm. Watch for more information coming home with your student(s). Buy a book, support a book. We hope to see you there!

Whittier PTA Bike to School Day, May 17: In partnership with the Northwest Neighborhood Association, Bike to School is Friday, May 17th, the same day as National Bike to Work Day. Students and their supervising adult are welcome to meet at Drew Nielsen Park starting at 7:45am. We will have breakfast goodies, coffee for adults, a bike decorating station and other fun activities. At 8:10am, Mayor Cassie Franklin is scheduled to kick-off the event. Cyclists will be escorted by the Everett Police Department to Whittier. Bikes will be stored during the day within the school’s locked gates. Watch for more information coming home with your student(s).

Lastly, we will help welcome our incoming Kindergarten families at Kinder Orientation on May 23rd starting at 6:00pm.

Please reach out to us at PTAWhittierElementary@gmail.com. If you are a Facebook user, please find us! We have a messaging option there as well.

Sincerely,

Brenda White, PTA President

Amy Smith, PTA Vice-President

Heather Reid, PTA Treasurer

Karen Zulinke, PTA Secretary



Congratulations to the 2019 Whittier PTA Award Recipients

Mrs. Lisa Wilson, Golden Acorn Award, Whittier Parent

Mrs. Nancy Olsen, Outstanding Educator Award, 1st Grade Teacher

Mr. Al Bowles, Outstanding Educator Award, Head Custodian

Our Award Recipients will attend a PTSA Council Awards Celebration on May 15th at the Everett Events Center. When you see them next, please offer a word of congratulations for their hard work throughout the school year!

Evergreen Middle School Drama Club Presents:



Performances Times:

Thursday 5/30 @ 7 pm

Friday 5/31 @ 7 pm

Saturday 6/1 @ 2 pm and @7 pm

Evergreen Middle School Auditorium

7621 Beverly Lane, Everett

\$6/person or \$25 for a family of 5



Summer school registration is open!

[Registration materials are now online.](#) Summer programs for high school students include opportunities to strengthen the skills and knowledge required for the district core expectations, repeat courses, extend their interests in academic areas, and take new courses. Tuition-based summer programs are offered for students through Online High School and at Cascade High School. Elementary and middle school summer programs are available for specific students who need academic support.

High school boundaries

Is your student planning to attend one of these high schools the 2020-21 school year?

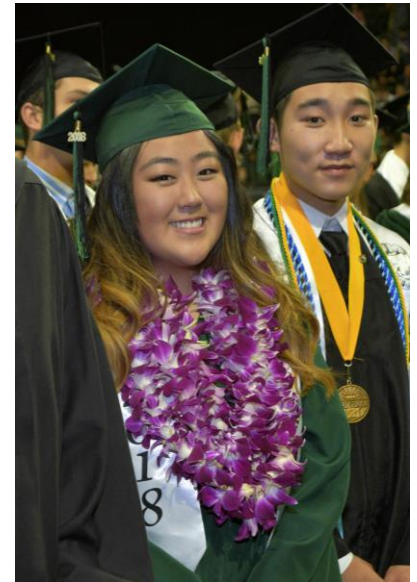
- Cascade High
- Everett High
- Jackson High

If so, the high school your child will attend may change beginning fall 2020. [A committee](#) of parents, students and principals representing each of these schools has been studying current boundaries and recently recommended modifications to the superintendent. The board will review the superintendent’s recommendation during their regular board meeting May 21. Following the board’s decision, the district will communicate directly with families who will be affected by the high school boundary changes.

Spring safety reminders

Spring brings out the beautiful blooms on trees and flowers and warmer weather. It also seems to bring an increase in crime. Here are some general safety and awareness reminders to share with your family.

- Always tell family where they are going and when they will be there.
- Be alert to their surroundings – this means not wearing headphones or texting while walking.
- Walk or ride bikes in pairs and groups.
- Report anything suspicious or unusual to a trusted adult.



Graduation dates

Ceremonies for each of the four high schools are coming soon!

- Cascade High School, June 16 at 7 p.m. at Angel of the Winds Arena
- Everett High School, June 16 at 3 p.m. at Angel of the Winds Arena
- Jackson High School, June 16 at 11 a.m. at Angel of the Winds Arena
- Sequoia High School June 13, 6 p.m. at Everett Civic Auditorium



3900 Broadway
Everett, WA 98201
425-385-4000
www.everettsd.org

Everett Public Schools does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

Designated to handle inquiries about nondiscrimination policies are:

- Title IX Officer/Civil Rights Compliance Officer – Mary O’Brien, MO’Brien@everettsd.org, 425-385-4106, PO Box 2098, Everett, WA 98213
- 504 Coordinator – Becky Ballbach, rballbach@everettsd.org, 425-385-4063, PO Box 2098, Everett, WA 98213
- ADA Coordinator – Randi Seaberg, rseaberg@everettsd.org, 425-385-4104, PO Box 2098, Everett, WA 98213



Summer Safety Checklist for Kids

By Katherine Lee |

Updated January 08, 2019

Summer means lots of kids will be playing outdoors, but it's important to keep a safety checklist in mind to keep kids safe while they're having fun. Here are some great tips to keep in mind for [kids' safety](#). Post this safety checklist on your fridge or family bulletin board as a reminder of ways you can keep your kids safe and prevent injuries or accidents from intruding on your family's summer fun.

1. Practice Summer Sun Safety for Kids

When it comes to protecting your kids from the sun, sunscreen plays an important role. But sunscreen is just one of the ways to guard against the sun's damaging rays. Because the sun's rays can reflect off of the sand and water or other reflective surfaces, hats, and sunglasses can also play an important role in preventing UV damage.

- **Apply sunscreen.** It can certainly be challenging to remember to apply [sunscreen](#) at least 30 minutes before going outdoors. But that's exactly what you and your kids should do before heading outside, even on cloudy days (that's because UVA rays can go right through the clouds and still cause damage). Use generous amounts of UVA- and UVB- blocking sunscreen with an SPF of at least 15 and reapply every two hours or more often after swimming or sweating. Studies have shown that people often underestimate how much sunscreen they should be using, so be sure to follow the directions on the package (about one ounce for the entire body is usually the recommended amount). If your grade-schooler is old enough and wants to apply his own sunscreen, supervise the application and remind him to wash his hands when he's done so that he doesn't accidentally rub sunscreen into his eyes. Finally, avoid using combination sunscreens with insect repellants because when sunscreen is reapplied, it can lead to excessive exposure to the repellent.
- **Get some sun-protective clothing.** Dress your kids in hats in wide brims and tightly-woven cotton clothing or clothes that have SPF built-in (many kids' clothes, especially swimsuits, have sun protection in them nowadays). Try to stay out of the sun between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., when the sun is at its most intense peak, and try to stay in the shade as much as possible.
- **Shop for some cool shades.** Don't forget your child's eyes when you are out and about. Look for kids' sunglasses that block 99 to 100 percent of UVA and UVB rays. You don't need to spend a lot on kid sunglasses — research has shown that inexpensive sunglasses that are labeled as protective for UVA and UVB are effective in blocking the sun's harmful rays.
- **Remember that you can still get a sunburn even if it's cloudy.** Sunburns do not happen only on sunny days; up to [80 percent of the sun's UV rays](#) can penetrate the skin, even on cloudy days, according to the American Academy of Dermatology.

2. Protect Against Bugs

Bugs are one of those annoyances of summer. But insects such as potentially disease-carrying [mosquitoes](#) and bees can also be harmful to kids. To protect your child against bugs:

- **Use [insect repellents](#) to guard against ticks, which can carry Lyme Disease, and mosquitoes, which can carry the West Nile Virus and other viruses.** Many repellents are made with DEET, an effective insecticide that is toxic or even potentially deadly if swallowed. If you do use a product containing DEET, it's crucial not to apply the product to a child's hands or face to avoid possible ingestion; it's also important to wash off the product before bed to prevent overexposure to the chemical. Another effective ingredient found in repellents is picaridin, but DEET is the most effective, and what doctors recommend (at 30 percent DEET concentrations) given the dangers posed by viruses such as West Nile.
- An alternative to DEET-containing repellents are natural insect repellents; however, parents should keep in mind that "natural" doesn't always mean "safe." Talk to your pediatrician about which insect repellent is right for your family.
- **Wear long sleeve shirts and long pants when going outside,** particularly at dusk when mosquitoes are more likely to be present.
- **Never leave stagnant pools of water around the house.** Pools of water can serve as breeding grounds for mosquitoes.
- **Avoid using scented soaps or perfumes on your child.** And do not allow your child to walk around carrying sweetened beverages, such as fruit juices. These sweet, strong scents can attract bees and wasps and increase your child's risk of being stung.

3. Prevent Dehydration

Whether your child is playing soccer with teammates or running around in the park with some buddies, it's important to keep in mind that frequent water breaks are very important to prevent [dehydration](#). Your child should drink water before exercise and during breaks, which should be about every 15 to 20 minutes. On particularly hot and humid days, it's also a good idea for parents to spray down kids with some water from a spray bottle.



4. Don't Forget Helmets

Your child should wear a helmet whenever she is on anything with wheels, such as a scooter, bicycle, or roller skates. A helmet is the most important device available that can reduce head injury and death from a bicycle crash, according to Safe Kids USA. And be sure to set a good example by always wearing your helmet when riding your bike.

5. Practice Food Safety

Foodborne illnesses increase in the summer because bacteria grow faster in warmer temperatures and humidity. On top of that, more people are eating and preparing food outdoors, at picnics and barbecues, where refrigeration and places to wash hands are not readily available.

To prevent foodborne illnesses:

- **Be sure to wash your hands before preparing or serving any food.** Make sure your children wash their hands, or at least use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer, before eating.
- **Never cross-contaminate.** Do not allow any raw meat or poultry to come into contact with any other food or plates or utensils.
- **Consider the temperature.** Use a thermometer and be sure to cook all meat and poultry to [the correct temperatures](#) to kill any harmful bacteria. Keep all perishable foods in the refrigerator and do not keep leftovers unrefrigerated for more than one or two hours.

6. Guard Against Drowning

Each year, more than 830 children ages 14 and under die as a result of [accidental drowning](#), and an average of 3,600 children are injured in near-drowning incidents. Between May and August, drowning deaths among kids increase by a whopping 89 percent. If you have a swimming pool or if your child will be near one, it is crucial to put multiple safety measures in place to keep kids safe.

- **Put barriers around the pool to restrict access.** Use doors with locks and alarms to keep kids out when adults are not present.
- **Never leave kids unsupervised.** Even if your grade-schooler is a confident and capable swimmer, do not leave the pool area without adult supervision if children are in or near the water.
- **Remember that drownings can happen silently.** You may not hear splashing or a call for help—a drowning can happen in minutes and may be silent.
- **Do not use flotation devices.** Inflatable “floaties” and other flotation devices and toys can give kids who cannot swim a false sense of security.
- **Learn CPR.** You may never need to use it, but knowing CPR for adults and for kids is something that can mean the difference between life and death in an emergency.
- **Learn about the dangers of secondary drowning,** which can happen on dry land, hours after a child inhales water into the lungs.
- **Do not assume that a teen or relative will be watching.** Talk to them about not using cell phones, texting, or allowing other distractions while supervising kids in the water.

7. Avoid Trampoline Danger

Over 90,000 emergency-room visits were related to trampoline injuries in 2001, according to U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC). Some [trampoline safety tips](#): Never let more than one child use the trampoline at a time, do not let kids do somersaults, and do not allow kids younger than 6 play on a full-sized trampoline, and move the trampoline away from other structures or play areas.

8. Warn Kids About Hiding in Enclosed Spaces

Teach children to never play hide and seek by crawling inside an enclosed space such as a car trunk, chest, or old cooler or appliance.

9. Use Caution When Doing Yardwork

Never allow children to ride on lawnmowers or to play near motorized lawn equipment. Do not allow children under age 12 to operate push mowers and do not allow children younger than 16 to operate ride-on lawnmowers.

In addition to lawnmowers, be sure to never allow your young child to ride an ATV (all-terrain vehicle). ATVs were responsible for 74 deaths and 37,000 injuries in the U.S. in 2008. The AAP recommends that no child under 16 ride on an ATV.

10. Safeguard Home Playgrounds

If you have a backyard playground or play equipment, make sure the ground beneath the equipment is soft enough. Surfaces made of concrete, asphalt or dirt are too hard and do not absorb enough impact in the event of a fall. Instead, the CPSC recommends using at least 9 inches of mulch or wood chips.



May 2019

Whittier Events



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 4TH ELA PT Whittier Robotics 3-4 Stemtree Robotics 3-4 4-H Club 3-4	2 5TH ELA PT Soccer club 2:50-3:50 4 th Grade Math 3-4	3 Pajama Day!! Full Day Friday 2:50 pm Bricks 4 Kidz 3-4 pm	4
5	6	7 Soccer Club 2:50-3:50 Spanish Club 3-4 French Club 3-4 4 th Grade Math 3-4	8 Whittier Robotics 3-4 Stemtree Robotics 3-4 4-H Club 3-4	9 5TH MATH CAT Soccer club 2:50-3:50 4 th Grade Math 3-4	10 LIF 1:35pm dismissal Bricks 4 Kidz 3-4 pm	11
12	13	14	15 Scholastic Book Fair 4TH MATH CAT Whittier Robotics 3-4 Stemtree Robotics 3-4 4-H Club 3-4	16	17 LIF 1:35pm dismissal Bricks 4 Kidz 3-4 pm	18
19	20	21 3RD MATH PT Soccer Club 2:50-3:50 Spanish Club 3-4 French Club 3-4 4 th Grade Math 3-4	22 4TH MATH PT Stemtree Robotics 3-4 4-H Club 3-4	23 Soccer club 2:50-3:50 Kinder Orientation 6 pm in Cafeteria	24 LIF 1:35pm dismissal Bricks 4 Kidz 3-4 pm	25
26	27 NO SCHOOL MEMORIAL DAY	28	29 Stemtree Robotics 3-4 4-H Club 3-4	30 5TH WCAS SCIENCE	31 LIF 1:35pm dismissal Bricks 4 Kidz 3-4 pm	

Office Phone:

425-385-4300

Attendance Line:

425-385-4305