



WHITTIER
greenleaf
NEWSLETTER



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November 2018

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WHITTIER ELEMENTARY
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pto
update

Happy November, Whittier Families!

Fall came fast at us!

Our first major event to lead us off was the FUN RUN!!! It was a little tight there for a minute about whether we would have the all-school Dance Party for meeting the fundraising goal but YOU DID IT!

Thank you for helping us raise over \$16,000!!! It is this financial support that helps us offer WISE and language scholarships, Whittier wear, and yearbooks and Book Fair cash to many of our students who might not benefit from these activities otherwise.

We also get to fund great events, and we hope to keep you posted on some of these new ones for next month.

A HUGE THANK YOU to our enthusiastic Fun Run Committee comprised of Shayla Bell, Elizabeth Carrier, Debbie Frantisak, Elizabeth McVey, Kelly Witt for another successful FUN RUN.

Your enthusiasm and energy made the kids especially excited to be a part of the event and you helped us reach our goal as a school. Thank you!

And thanks to all the parents and relatives for their generous donations. We know you dig deep in your own pockets and it's not always easy to ask friends and relatives for donations, but you make it happen for your love of our school. Thank you.

And a big thank you to:

Senora Aguirre and all the Whittier Latino parents and staff who contributed to the Hispanic Heritage Month display. It was wonderful to see the Whittier Latinx culture highlighted.

Olivia Schreiner, Kate Cares and Gayla Morales for organizing another fabulous Book Fair. It is always so much fun to watch the auditorium be transformed into our very own book store with such a fantastic selection of books for our teachers, kids and families.

Maureen Spain for organizing our Teacher/Staff Conference Dinner. Thank you also to all of our parents who stepped forward to bring items to make this meal a success! Our hard-working teachers deserve this extra little bit of pampering on these long days of conferences.

Don't forget to like the Whittier PTO page on Facebook. It is a great way to get more up to date information on what is going on.

Enjoy your November and the beginning of the holiday season. We are grateful for our teachers, staff, and all of you in our Whittier Community.

Brigitte Brostrom and Sofia Villafuerte
PTO Co-Presidents

Mark your calendar for these upcoming PTO meetings

November 13, 7 pm

PTO Meeting in the Community Room. Babysitting is provided.

December 4th, 7 pm

Holiday get together. Location will be announced.

**Lamaj**

I love pizza.
I don't like it to be too loud.
I'm happiest when I go to haunted trails.
I'm afraid of a scary dream.
I wish for Fortnite, Christmas to come, and to read.

James**Chris**

I love playing Fortnite.
I don't like cheese.
I'm happiest when I get the season battle passes in Fortnite.
I am afraid of black widow spiders and the dark.
I wish for EVERY skin in Fortnite, warm clothes for homeless people, and \$1,000,000.

Nash**Frances**

I love my family.
I don't like nightmares.
I am happiest when I dance.
I'm afraid of anything that has sharp teeth.
I wish for another fairy house, to be a ballerina and for a dress.

Hill**Gabriel**

I love movies.
I don't like bullies.
I'm happiest when I'm at school.
I am afraid of being alone.
I wish for no rain, school forever, and presents forever.

Swaine**Gianluca**

I love Minecraft.
I don't like spiders.
I'm happiest when I'm with my cousins and grandparents.
I'm afraid of losing my voice.
I wish that I could have Ms. Swanson as my teacher for 4th grade and 5th grade, that I could read the Boxcar Children #13, and that I had Mario Kart 7.

Balma**Claire**

I love to go on family trips.
I don't like to clean up.
I'm happiest when I am with friends and family.
I'm afraid of weapons and drowning.
I wish for nobody to starve, to live a long life and to let everybody make friends.

Robert**Lucia**

I love soccer.
I don't love getting hurt.
I'm happiest when my family is over at my house.
I'm afraid of heights.
I wish for a sister, a bunny as a pet and a pool.

Iannantuoni**Tessa**

I love when my room is clean.
I don't like being scared.
I'm happiest when I'm with my friends.
I'm afraid of spiders.
I wish for my family to go to New York again, for my Dad to be off work 3 days in the week, for homework to be only on Mondays.

Buczek**Marley**

I love drawing and animals.
I don't like going to sleep!
I'm happiest when I am with my family.
I'm afraid of cat fur.
I wish for peace, getting a passport and friendship.

Pointdujour

Bio Poems from Ms. Swanson's Class

Jett

I love softball.
I don't like spaghetti.
I'm happiest when I read in my room.
I'm afraid of bugs.
I wish for more softball games, more books at my house and more TV.

Garner**Khaliq**

I love drawing.
I don't like going to bed.
I am happiest when my friends are here for me.
I'm afraid of losing all that I have.
I wish for I could live in the ocean, that humans can breathe underwater, and for the world to be full of peace.

Cruz

Joshua

I love going to Wisconsin.
I don't like bullies.
I'm happiest when I'm with my family.
I am afraid of clowns.
I wish for peace, a green world, and more homes for the homeless.

Larsen**Victor**

I love soccer.
I don't like school.
I'm happiest when I'm at my grandma's.
I'm afraid of poison dart frogs.
I wish for a giant house, a phone, and no homework.

Prokop**Thalia**

I love my friends.
I don't like bullies.
I'm happiest when people are nice.
I'm afraid of spiders.
I wish for friends, stuffed animals, and people to be nice.

Mullen**Cole**

I love resting with my dog.
I don't like cleaning my room.
I'm happiest when I go outside.
I'm afraid of rollercoasters.
I wish to go to Texas, for a new toy and for peace in the world.

Daly**Daniel**

I love legos.
I don't like being up high.
I'm happiest when I'm with someone.
I'm afraid of the dark.
I wish for no world famines, that everyone has a home and everyone has food.

Lesiowski**Jake**

I love my family
I don't like that I don't get to play Call of Duty.
I'm happiest when I get a win in Fortnite.
I am afraid of deep water.
I wish for \$250, another Xbox that comes with the Fornite skin "eon" and for everybody in the world to have a lot of money.

Tomlinson**Kaliaya**

I love video games.
I don't like cleaning my room.
I'm happiest when I get a Little Pet Shop toy.
I'm afraid of bees.
I wish for 100,000,000 Little Pet Shop toys and another dog.

Benson**Rayvon**

I love my family.
I don't like taking out the garbage.
I'm happiest when I go on trips with my family.
I'm afraid of nothing.
I wish for the biggest house in the whole entire world, a go cart and a go cart track in the back of my house.

Gibson**Luke**

I love Fortnite.
I don't like writing.
I'm happiest when I'm at my lake house.
I'm afraid of being up high.
I wish Gym was longer, we could bring iPads home and recess was longer.

Carrier**Gwen**

I love to draw.
I don't like loud noises.
I am happiest when I'm outside.
I'm afraid of spiders.
I wish for a dog, books, and paint sets.

Coffaro**Jessica**

I love my family.
I don't like the Xbox.
I am happiest when I play with my friends and family.
I'm afraid of American Girl dolls.
I wish for a new bed, a baby sister and I also wish for a phone.

Soumar**Zachary**

I love when I am reading.
I don't like when my sister is hurt.
I am happiest when my sister is happy.
I'm afraid of bad ghosts.
I wish for one billion dollars, a Lamborghini and a Star Wars Xwing.

Glennie**Tatiana**

I love reading books.
I don't like peppermint.
I am happiest when I draw.
I'm afraid of leeches.
I wish for no wars, no pollution and in the winter that no one gets frostbite.

Vega**Emma**

I like being with my friends and family.
I don't like cleaning my bedroom.
I am happiest when I'm with my friends.
I'm afraid of fire.
I wish for more BFFs, a phone, and a Rainbow Magic book.

Hartman

Find more student poems
on page 6!

WHITTIER WILDCAT
FUN RUN



The 2018 Whittier Fun Run was a Roaring Success!

Thank you to everyone who ran, organized, assisted and donated to this year's Whittier Wildcat Fun Run FUNdraiser!

The kids had a blast AND we met (and exceeded) our goal by raising \$16437.88.

These funds will help the Whittier PTO provide wonderful services like: teacher and classroom grants, all-school picnics, Homework Helpers, Opera for the Young, and scholarships for WISE and Camp Edwards.

Go Wildcats!

FUN RUN FAST FACTS

10 classrooms met or exceeded their classroom goal, well done!

Team Baker and Team Wright were the top classrooms, earning 168% and 166% of their class goals!



TOGETHER WE RAISED \$16,437

**Will**

I love Dogman books
I don't like **HOMEWORK**
I am happiest when I get to watch t.v.
I am afraid of shadows
I wish for all the Dogman books, an awesome couch to read on, have pet lizard, sleep for 2, 000 hours, have 20, 000, 000, 000, 000, 000, 000, 000, 000, 000, 000, 000 pieces of white chocolate, and go to an MLS soccer game.

Prokop**Ellie**

I love my friends
I don't like carrots
I am happiest when I am with my family
I am afraid of being alone
I wish for food for the poor and a sleepover

Hickok-Fletcher**Pippa**

I love Mom
I don't like dirty apples
I am happiest when I am taking a nap
I am afraid of heights
I wish for donuts, another sibling and a nap

Frantisak**Alba**

I love reading
I don't like fighting
I am happiest when I am with my family
I am afraid of people who break into houses at night
I wish for peace, less mosquitoes, and less fighting

Smith**Alessandra**

I love my family and ALL MY FRIENDS!!
I don't like quarreling and robberies
I am happiest when I am with my two brothers and I am cuddling with my two cats
I am afraid of getting a fever or any type of sickness
I wish for a quieter lunchroom, a healthier planet and a pet Pegasus

Gerut**Olivia**

I love my family
I don't like it when people are mean
I am happiest when people are happy and nice
I am afraid of guns
I wish for a happier and healthy world, and for all people to have a home, food, and water

Hart

Bio Poems from Mrs. Hoehne's Class

Roxy

I love my friends and family
I don't like when my sister scares me
I am happiest when I am with my friends
I am afraid of fires
I wish for no hunger, clean water and happiness

Salzman**Cora**

I love being a kid
I don't like my Mom wearing my socks
I am happiest when I am hugging my family
I am afraid of losing my family
I wish for nicer pets and a bigger house for my Dad

Munoz**Elliot**

I love my family and friends
I don't like Donald Trump
I am happiest when I go out with my family
I am afraid of Chucky
I wish for all Super cars, money for the homeless and for a basketball hoop to dunk on

Bell**Eloise**

I love donuts and cupcakes
I don't like Googly eyes and hot dogs
I am happiest when I go to my Grandma and Grandpa's house
I am afraid of Wolf Spiders
I wish for stuff, peace and free airplane tickets

Aydelott**Paxton**

I love my family
I don't like mosquitoes
I am happiest when it's my birthday
I am afraid of serial killers
I wish for a billion dollars for world peace and happy adults and children everywhere

Materna**Alex**

I love my dog
I don't like people ringing my doorbell asking me to buy things
I am happiest when there is a Thunderstorm outside and the windows and the back door are open
I am afraid of the world getting polluted and ending
I wish for freshwater, to stop world hunger and no pollution

Petratis

Nico

I love my dog
 I don't like onions
 I am happiest when I am having fun
 I am afraid of clowns
 I wish for everyone to have a house, family and a job

Lopez**Jack**

I love my family
 I don't like shots
 I am happiest when it is a special time
 I am afraid of Chucky
 I wish for peace, for Spiderman to be real, hugs with my family

Sekulich**Kennedy**

I love me
 I don't like when people be mean to me
 I am happiest when spending time with my family
 I am afraid of bears and storms
 I wish for a new bed, a bike and for my relatives to stay with us

Rice**Henry**

I love books
 I don't like squash
 I am happiest when I have friends by my side
 I am afraid of not having family near by
 I wish for happiness everywhere and for more food for everyone

Sculles**Ammon**

I love my family
 I don't like lightning bolts
 I am happiest when I am with my family
 I am afraid of jumping off a cliff
 I wish for money and happiness

Woodward**Ian**

I love my family
 I don't like Freddy games
 I am happiest when I am with my sister
 I am afraid of Zombies
 I wish for all my cousins, siblings and family to be together

Yesufu**Jalissa**

I love to play
 I don't like when I am not ok
 I am happiest when I get a gift
 I am afraid of the dark
 I wish for a house, trampoline, and a backyard pool

Ewing**Kayden**

I love my family
 I don't like bugs
 I am happiest when I am reading a book
 I am afraid of being on fire
 I wish for to see the world, world peace and to meet Rosa Parks

Jackson**Jorge**

I love my family
 I don't like spiders
 I am happiest when I watch a movie with my family
 I am afraid of heights
 I wish for a healthy planet, money for the poor and clean oceans

Alejandro**Caiden**

I love t.v.
 I don't like cake
 I am happiest when I play with my friends
 I am afraid of Bloody Mary
 I wish for a lot of video games

Whitehead**Alex**

I love trains
 I don't like eating burgers
 I am happiest when I ate a hotdog with Daddy
 I am afraid of mean dogs
 I wish for a ride on a train

Dyson**Ian**

I love my chickens and family
 I don't like when my brothers jump on me and wake me up at 6:00 a.m.
 I am happiest when I am in a place where mosquitoes don't bite me
 I am afraid of being stung by a bee or a wasp
 I wish for no more homeless people and world peace

Hollinden

[Find more student poems on page 13!](#)



palm leaves

Now with Library news!

Physical Education

Whittier Physical Education classes are going great! All grades continue to have a fitness component as well as focusing on the importance of using kind words with a kind voice, cooperating, and helping others.

The 3rd-5th grade students are actively enhancing their teamwork skills.

K-2nd grade students are working on movement skills as well as sport skills at an introductory level.

I am proud how students are improving and always keep trying.

Keep up the great effort Wildcats!

Mr. Coglianesi

Art

Happy Fall! This past month has been a full month of fantastic art making! All classes have continued to have their 18 minutes of personal sketchbook time everyday and are loving it! During this time students have been learning how to function in the space and take ownership of their art making time. Other than sketchbook time, students have dove into individual projects this month after completing their collaborative projects in September.

Kindergarten classes have been making art quickly and making Paper Roller Coasters: learning how to fold paper in different ways, Line Practice Paintings: learning different ways to draw lines and experimented with watercolors doing "wax resist," and are now finishing up a circle project using cut paper circles, painted circles and drawn circles.

1st graders have also been busy making two different Self Portraits, one of themselves and one of things that they like that make them who they are: working on drawing from their imagination and watercolor painting. Now they are starting their first artist project looking at Vincent Van Gogh's Starry Night: students practiced a Visual Thinking Strategy to gain visual literacy from visual clues and background knowledge, are discussing warm and cool colors, and painting using their fingers to get the impressionist looks.

2nd graders just finished up their first artist project looking at one of Henri Matisse's Cut Paper Collages: students practiced their first Visual Thinking Strategy to gain visual literacy from visual clues and background knowledge, they then learned how to cut paper and layer paper shapes while experimenting with making new shapes of their very own.

3rd graders also practiced a Visual Thinking Strategy for Vincent Van Gogh's yellow and blue flower experimentation: students practiced their visual literacy using visual cues and background knowledge, they then experimented with blue and yellow paint to create a unique pot for their flowers and then made cut paper flowers, still using only yellow and blue paper (along with green since blue and yellow make green), all together they created their own yellow and blue flower experimentation inspired by Vincent Van Gogh.

4th and 5th grade classes have begun to study color theory. Both grades learned primary colors and how to mix secondary colors from primary colors. 4th grade also learned how to make a tint and a shade while 5th grade learned how to mix tertiary colors. Both grades are finishing up this study and will move into individual art inspired projects soon!

- Miss. Connell

Library

Dear Whittier Families,

Happy November! We've been busy in the library this month!

Fourth and fifth grade students have been learning to check out ebooks on their iPads and utilize the other features of our online catalog.

Students and families can also check out ebooks, audiobooks, movies and more on your own personal devices using your public library card number. Ask your 4th or 5th grader (or email me!) for help!

Younger classes have been reading the Monarch Books.

Students read nominated titles in order to help choose the state-wide winner. Winning authors are thrilled to be selected for the Illinois Readers' Choice awards as they know the selection was made by their readers: the kids!

Kindergarten, first, second and third grade classes read Monarch nominees during library classes—so far, Creepy Pair of Underwear by Aaron Reynolds has been an early favorite.

Stay tuned to see which book is chosen!

We've also been busy in our makerspace! A makerspace is a physical space where students can go to create, tinker and problem-solve.

We have a cart filled with tools like Legos, Magnatiles, wiring sets, gears and more that we roll out to use with library and classroom curriculum.

Students have utilized these resources to discover math patterns, create habitats for lions, examine circuitry and so much more. We welcome donations of any building or critical thinking toys or tools!

MANY thanks to the PTO for an amazing donation to our library! We have a number of new tech tools that students will utilize in our makerspace and during library time.

We have new Dash robots (named Harvey, Augusta, Thomas, & Wildcat!), sphero robots, a green screen and 5 new library iPads, among other amazing items! The kids are SO excited to try these tools out! THANK YOU, PTO!

The October Book Fair was a big success this year. The money raised by the book fair goes to support the school and the library so we greatly appreciate your support.

The PTO generously donated many new books to the Whittier Library - everything from super scary The Collector by KR Alexander to silly There Was An Old Lady Who Swallowed a Cow by Lucille Colandro!

We're so lucky to have an active PTO that helps support our school through these fun programs.

Our birthday books program is also up and running - in honor of your child's birthday or other special event, you may adopt a book for our library. Please feel free to contact me if you're interested in participating and, as always, visit our library website at www.op97.org/whittier/mediacenter/.

Happy reading!
Laurie Conley
Whittier Teacher Librarian
lconley@op97.org



Music

Keep up with music week to week:

- Following on Twitter @kariamusic
- Checking in on the music website mrskaria.blogspot.com



Take a Seat

Whittier's Buddy Bench is a hit. Go to Mrs. Karia's twitter or website to see clips of Whittier's original buddy bench song.

October Highlights

- Focusing on melody through singing, boomwhackers and Orff (xylophones)
- Finishing our drumming unit
- Playing multi- part Orff arrangements (1st-5th)
- Improvising on glockenspiels (K)
- Identifying as a class steps, skips and jumps in written music
- Chorus learns the Buddy Bench song (check out the music website for the preview)
- The treble trophy has been traveling from classroom to classroom. It is awarded to a class who has excellent behavior that week! (Ms. Weiss' 1st grade pictured below)



To Come in November

- Composition activities with an emphasis on rhythm
- Assessments for first trimester
- Music Share Day- November 16-20 (a day where students can share their talents with their classmates during music)- Details to come!



Building Ensemble

3rd, 4th and 5th Graders have been playing the West African drums in October. We started with simple echoing activities and now have worked up to working on ensemble pieces. Ensemble pieces build listening skills, teamwork skills, and a feeling of community!

Spanish

¡Feliz Otoño!

Thank you so much for all the support during Latino/Hispanic Heritage Week! Many students and their families brought in artifacts, pictures and other items related to the Latino/Hispanic culture to display in school and also front of the main office. Check out the picture below.



K: We are learning vocabulary about Familia (Family) during October and November! We are reading books and playing some fun games to put the target language in use. Soon you will receive an email from me asking for pictures about your individuals families.

1st grade: Are reviewing vocabulary about the weather, feelings and animals. We read a short story called Tengo Frío and first graders became illustrators to show meaning of what happens in the story. Short books will come home with them soon. Stay tuned!

2nd grade: In November second graders will learn a bit more about the culture of México and día de los muertos holiday- Day of the Dead holiday. Stay tuned!

4th graders: Students were introduced to the first novel in Español. It is called: Brandon Brown quiere un perro- Brandon Brown Wants a Dog- It is the story about a boy who really wants a dog, but his mother is not quite so sure. A dog is a big responsibility for any age, much less a soon-to-be 9-year-old. Determined to get a dog, Brandon will do almost anything to get one, but will he do everything it takes to keep one...a secret?. We read our first chapter and soon we will begin acting the story! We will keep you posted!

5th graders: In November the 5th graders will take a field trip to the National Museum of Mexican Art in Pilsen. Art and Spanish are collaborating to expand their knowledge about Mexican culture and the Day of the Dead Holiday. More to come very soon!

!Hasta pronto!

World Language Program

Whittier's PTO sponsored World Language program is off to a great start! Thanks to all the students who signed up for French, German and Sign Language this year.

French classes have been working on greetings, colors, preferences, numbers, and seasons. They have recently been focusing on Fall, the changing colors of the leaves, and Halloween with some great songs and a fun bingo game.

German class has been working on numbers 1-20 and counting by tens, with the goal of playing bingo. They have also been learning the alphabet, with the goal of spelling their names. In addition, they are learning the colors by listening to several traditional German songs about different occupations (hunter, sailor, baker, artist, etc.).

American sign language classes have been working on fingerspelling, numbers, introductions, family and school-related vocabulary. They have been learning how to sign things around the school as well the names of the Whittier staff members!

We are all so happy to share these languages and cultures with the Whittier students. Look for more updates in the next issue of the Greenleaf!

Did you know?



If you take pictures at a school event, you can upload them directly to the PTO for use in the Greenleaf, Yearbook, the PTO website, and on social media. Just go to www.tinyurl.com/whittierpix to upload.

Don't have the link handy? You can always find access to submit photos through the Whittier PTO website, under "News & Events," and at the bottom of the Tuesday Newsday Digital Backpack emails.

**Jayden**

I love dogs
I don't like cats
I'm happiest when playing basketball
I'm afraid of spiders
i wish for the biggest birthday party,
that I can have dogs at my house, and
to go on a trip.

Tolliver**Augustus**

I love football
I don't like spiders
I'm happiest when my grandparents are
with me
I'm afraid of pumpkins
I wish to be a football player, have more
jobs and more school

Bucher**Cameron**

I love football.
I don't like sugar cookies.
I'm happiest when I'm not listening to
my brother talk about video games.
I'm afraid of my brother
I wish that the LA Rams go 16-0,
walrus to go extinct, and to have a
pet.

Taylor**Delilah**

I love my dog, Quila
I don't like violence
I'm happiest when I'm with Qulia
I'm afraid of my brother when he's mad
I wish for infinite wishes, peace, and
Cookie the dog.

Feuerherdt-McBroom**Stella**

I love donuts.
I don't like sports that involve a ball.
I'm happiest when it's family movie
night.
I'm afraid of Barney, the purple
dinosaur.
I wish for a unicorn, one million dollars,
and a trillion puppies.

Beasley**Kendrick**

I love pizza
I don't like veggies
I'm happiest on field trips
I'm afraid of ghosts
I wish for pumpkin cake, corn and
waffles

Noreiga**Steven**

I love mangoes
I don't like spiders.
I'm happiest when it's Thanksgiving.
I'm afraid of bats.
I wish for a dog, for Bumpy, my pet
lizard, to get a girlfriend, and to be a cat
with wings.

Taylor**Cameron**

I love my family.
I do not like mean people.
I'm happiest when I play basketball.
I'm afraid of weapons.
I wish Barack Obama was the president,
there was no violence in the world, and
everything was perfect.

Black**Noah**

I love baseball
I don't like my cast
I'm happiest when I'm playing baseball
I'm afraid of people saying I can't play
baseball ever again.
I wish for unlimited ice cream, I can play
baseball forever, and that Barack
Obama was president.

Zoloto**Madison**

I love my family.
I don't like homework.
I'm happiest when it's Friday.
I'm afraid of how bad my brother,
William's, diapers smell.
I wish for world peace, to end world
hunger, and for Halloween to come
sooner.

Hart**Joseph**

I love animals
I don't like my hair
I'm happiest when I'm with my friends
I'm afraid of my grandma when she is
mad
I wish for peace, no more violence, and
no more sickness

Coligan

Wyatt

I love animals.
 I don't like cars.
 I'm happiest when it's morning.
 I'm afraid of Nightmare Bonnie.
 I wish for Mister Nini, Naf Legos, and Safari Life book.

Smith**Silvana**

I love my mom
 I don't like snakes
 I'm happiest when i see my mom pick me up from school
 I'm afraid of spiders.
 I wish I could live in a big house, I could have a tree house, and be a famous singer

Gomez-Pulido**Maria**

I love my family
 I don't like spicy food
 I'm happiest when I'm playing board games with my family
 I'm afraid of being outside in the dark alone.
 I wish for nonviolence in the world, daddy to have more time with me and my family, and to visit my family that doesn't live with me.

Van Horn**Caroline**

I love kitties.
 I don't like violence.
 I'm happies when I'm reading.
 I'm afraid of giant bugs.
 I wish for world peace, good laws, and happy times.

Slade**Christian**

I love popcorn.
 I don't like grapes.
 I'm happiest when I get to sleep.
 I'm afraid of nightmares.
 I wish for no homework, to be in Tennessee, and no school.

Cabrera**Mia**

I love going to birthday parties.
 I don't like eating other people's food.
 I'm happiest when I go places.
 I'm afraid of Barney the purple dinosaur.
 I wish for lots of makeup, pizza to be my dinner everynight and to live in a mansion.

Prince**Jewan**

I love Michael Jackson and my family.
 I don't like chapter books when I read them.
 I'm happiest when people trust me.
 I'm afraid of Michael Myers.
 I wish for equality for all, that Michael Jackson was still living, and I wish i could be a famous singer.

Garner**Alex**

I love Mom and Dad.
 I don't like fire.
 I'm happiest when I go home.
 I'm afraid of geese.
 I wish for a lizard, Chinese food, and to go my uncle's house.

McNeal**Noah**

I love my family
 I don't like peas
 I'm scared of Jason, the movie character
 I'm happiest when I'm on vacation
 I wish for anything I want when I want it

Bryant**Charlie**

I love iPad at my mom's house.
 I don't like nightmares.
 I'm happiest when I can relax.
 I'm afraid of monsters.
 I wish for Nintendo Switch, Pokémon and Crash Bandicoot.

Ray**Isabella**

I love animals.
 I don't like onions.
 I'm happiest when I'm with my family.
 I wish for more pets, not having allergies, and having more peace in the world.

Velasco**Ayden**

I love YouTube.
 I don't like bullies!
 I'm happiest the most at field trips.
 I'm afraid of Micael Myers.
 I wish for dinosaurs to be alive, that I'm rich, and no more bad presidents.

Villalobos

**Bio Poems from Mrs. Little-Johnson's
 and Ms. Jacobson's Class**

Whittier Students are Getting in the Green Zone!



Ms. Ryan, Whittier’s School Social Worker, and Ms. Jamrosz, Whittier’s Speech and Language Pathologist, have been providing “Zones of Regulation” lessons to teach emotional regulation skills to K, 1st, and 2nd grade students!

We welcome you to use the below coping skills we have been practicing in the classrooms with your children at home!

Blue Zone: I may be feeling...

 sad	 crying	 mad	 tired
--	---	--	--

I can ask to ...

 go to the safe place	 have a drink	 draw	 talk
---	---	---	---

Green Zone: I may be feeling...

 proud	 happy	 okay	 calm
--	--	---	---

I am ready to ...

 listen	 learn	 play	 recess
---	--	---	---

Yellow Zone: I may be feeling ...

 cry	 angry	 upset	 nervous
--	--	--	--

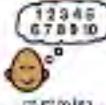
I can ask to ...

 walk	 have a drink	 use a tool	 stretch
---	---	---	--

Red Zone: I may be feeling ...

 out of control	 angry	 scared	 mean
---	--	---	---

I need to ...

 go to the safe place	 walk	 count to ten	 take deep breath
---	---	---	---

To find out more information regarding the Zones of Regulation, you can visit their website at: www.zonesofregulation.com/learn-more-about-the-zones.html

Meet Superflex!

Some students in Ms. Ryan's Lunch Bunch have been using the *Superflex®: A Superhero Social Thinking Curriculum* to strengthen social and communication skills.

This curriculum also helps students enhance awareness of their own thinking patterns and social behaviors.

The students in this group would like to share the super, awesome powers of Superflex with Whittier!

Every month, they will showcase a member from Superflex's "Team of Unthinkables" and "Team of Thinkables."

The "Unthinkables" are cartoon-like characters who represent behaviors and/or challenges students may encounter at school and/or in their community.

The "Thinkables" are cartoon-like characters that teach students specific strategies to be flexible thinkers, proficient problem solvers, and great friends.

So, stay tuned! December's Greenleaf will introduce "Brain Eater" and "Focus Tron!"



Geppetto's Toy Box & Box Tops!



Geppetto's Toy Box Holiday Savings Card

It's back! The Whittier PTO is partnering with Geppetto's Toy Box for a holiday fundraiser. Purchase your GTB Holiday Savings Card for \$5 and use it to get 20% off at Geppetto's Toy Box for 8 days in November!

Be on the look out for order forms and more details about the Holiday Savings Card and instructions on how to purchase your card. All proceeds from the sale of the Card go directly to the Whittier PTO!

Save Your Box Tops!

Now is the time to turn in all of those box tops you have been collecting! Use the flyer in the digital backpack or put them in an envelope and turn them in to your child's classroom teacher.

Box tops are worth 10 cents each, and they quickly add up to dollars that the PTO uses to support some of your favorite programs and events!





Ms. Darley's 4th grade realistic fiction unit asks students to use figurative language, dialogue, sensory images, and "Show, don't tell' details.

She tried to swim away, but the jellyfish stung her arms and legs. The next thing she saw, was Adam picking her up and she was so shocked, she fainted.

-Mallory McConville

She could see the big sign that read "Lakeview School." Lizzie was the last one to get out of the bus. She walked up to a big area of kids standing in front of the school. Everyone turned around and stared at her. It began to rain.

-Freia Brostrom

I opened the window, closed my eyes, and felt the wind blow on my face.

-Whitney Williams

Violet ran over to the football field and the boys said, "We're sorry for saying you can't play. Do you want to play now?"

-Aryana Blanchard

Barry walked home feeling pretty good about himself. Both Barry and Adam slept really well that night.

-Hank Hickok-Fletcher

I hopped into the car. My butt sank into the seat, like I was drowning in the rolling sea, but didn't come up for air. Just as I was sinking into the chair, the car jerked to a stop.

-Geneva Volk

So that night, we sat under the stars with Ernie between us, looking up and looking down, as he licked us back.

-Will Haarvei

I got to the office with my head hung. Wait, I thought, I shouldn't be the one in trouble; the "bully" should. He tripped me, I thought.

-Gavin O'Shaughnessey

I was excited until I stepped onto the porch, and I felt in my head a feeling that came up that couldn't go down. And I knew knew what was coming next...my biggest fear that I was going to do something wrong.

-Juliette Azizi

Slowly, I realize this is what's been happening with me. I use all my brain power for boxing and I have none left for school! So I decide to be a little more conservative with my energy.

-Henry Kephart

The next day during recess, Sammy went to his friends and exclaimed, "I might be moving." "To a different state!" yelled Max. "Probably not," Sammy said.

-Annabelle Brimeyer

His mom came back from the store. "Hey mo— whoa that is a lot of food from the market! Why did you get all of those?" asked Jerry.

-Cheslynn Ash

As I get pulled down the river, I can hear Jackie screaming for help, and the panting of Louise and Jacob as they furiously paddle down the river.

-Raena Pruss

"Oh my god!?" I said as I walked into the kitchen. There was a blaze of fire raising from the oven and there stood Madden standing by the blaze mouth open ready to explain until I started.

-Arielle Spurlock

"Come on you crybaby, get in the car already!" my sister, Via, said. Then she grabbed me and ran out of the door. She slipped and dropped me; CLANG, my head connected with the pole and then I went face first into the ground. "AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA" I screamed.

-Aaron Smith

I played on the street for pennies, hoping I could buy a candy or can of orange soda.

-Tekla Schreiner-Witte

It was a very nice humid day outside. I liked it until my mom told me that I had to come inside. She had a surprise for me. I was pretty excited and happy until I saw it was a phone.
-Dylan Braam

"Jack? How on earth did you and Quinn meet!" shrieked Ms. Snow as she wrote her signature on a slip of paper.
-Troy Gerut

Finally, though when I reached the final step of the staircase, I knew right away that it was coughing. Right then and there I knew that my parents had kept a big secret from me.
-Ruby O'Shaughnessey

I run into my mom's hands and give her a hug. "Where have you been?"

"Canada."
-Sebastian Builes

They got in the car and started driving away. Briana asked her dad, "Why do we have to move to Florida?"
-Laila Mosso

We start into the forest. The smell of pine needles reminded us of Christmas.
-Clare Gulbransen

"You made a mistake going through the front door. The boss gives the most work to kids that use the front door."
-Zoe Yesufu

In the middle of the building was a small door with security cameras looming above it.
-Arjun Mody

Her classmates were like a puzzle, they all fit together perfectly, but Bailey was a bunch of different pieces.
-Eliana Perez

"I am begging you, repeat, BEGGING YOU to let me go."
-Lane Stelzer-Jocks

"Oh, I'm so hungry. I could even eat a whole cow!"
-Marcel Balance

"The only reason I want friends is for protection," I whispered.
-Anthony Pinzari

As the wheels run over my chest, it feels like there's a panther on top of me.
-Ethan Danko

Evan's mouth was wide open, he looked like somebody had broken his favorite video game.
-Elias Danko



SAVE THE DATE!

**4th ANNUAL WHITTIER TRIVIA NIGHT
FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT THE PTO**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH

Want to be part of the team who plans this fun event?

We're looking for a few more committee members to help with promotion, food & beverage, decorations, raffle and auction items. The time commitment can be flexible.

We are also looking for donations for the auction—do you have a vacation home, special skill or season tickets that you would be willing to donate?

Please email: Jessica Daly at jessica.beach@gmail.com or Padmini Kanive at padmini.kanive@gmail.com.

Whittier Diversity Committee

General Meeting

Please join us to discuss various topics and projects related to issues surrounding educational access, various biases that include gender, race, and disability.

Our current projects include:

The Podcast Club – informal viewing and discussion of a podcast relating to gender, race, disability, etc.. We watch a brief TED talk, then just talk about it. Topics are varied.

Whittier 101 Series – series of informational lectures to parents on topics such as academic supports available to students, school/district policy on discipline, steps leading to an IEP or 504.

The goal of the diversity committee is one of general advocacy.

Transparency and access to information are important components of this process to keep in mind when putting together events and providing education.

Parents, teachers, administrators, if any of this sounds interesting to you, please join us. For more information, please contact Munirah Curtis at munirahcurtis@gmail.com.

Podcast Club

Who participated? Various parents of our Whittier community joined in a discussion of a short TED talk we watched last week.

What was discussed? TED talk "The Single Story" by Nigerian author Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

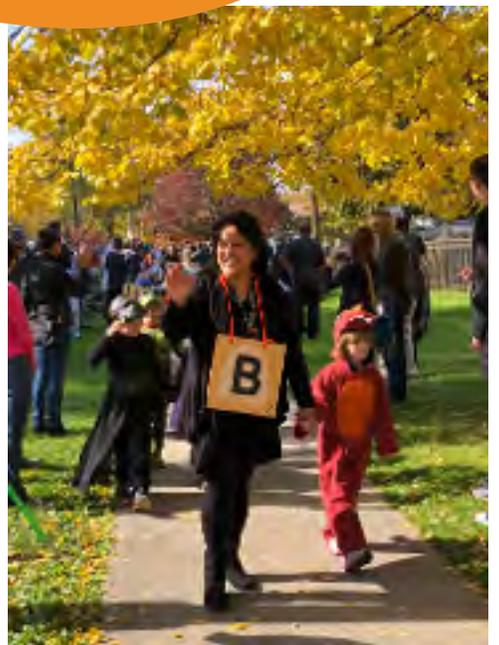
What did we take away from the discussion? Here are a few snippets of ideas that were discussed.

1. "The single story creates stereotypes, and the problem with stereotypes is not that they are untrue, but that they are incomplete. They make one story become the only story." Meaning, seeing a person from a narrow description and not acknowledging the strengths along with the weaknesses of one's attributes.
2. We might feel safer and more open if we work to recognize our own biases and presumptions of single stories. When we more openly and honestly take accountability for our missteps or statements that are based on biases and presumptions. In other words, when one says something that might be offensive to someone else, think about how it could be considered biased and let that inform your decision about what to do in the future in a similar situation.
3. There is an ever presence of 'single stories' in our interactions with one another. If you've been hurt by assumptions someone has made about you or a people, it's okay to experience emotions, but consider waiting a moment to react on those emotions.

Meetings are typically the 3rd Tuesday of every month, alternating a General Whittier DivCo meeting with a Podcast Club meeting.

NEXT UP

When: Wednesday, November 14, 2018 from 7 pm to 8:30 pm
 Where: Dole Library Community Room
 Topic: General Meeting Discussion



Harvest Dance

The 5th Grade Girl Scout Troop will host the Harvest Dance on Friday, November 16th 6:30 pm to 8 pm.

The theme is "The Great Outdoors Then and Now". Preserving our outdoor space is critical so that all generations will be able to enjoy. Guests may wear their favorite nature or camping related outfit from historical or current time periods.

We will have a DJ, photo booth, games and snacks. Please donate a canned or non-perishable food for entrance.

Book Fair

Over 600 items (mainly books!) were purchased at the Fall Book Fair.

Through our profits, we purchased almost \$800 worth of books for our Whittier Library.

Happy reading, Whittier!



The Green Team Seeks Volunteers

Earth Day Lead

Not a year long commitment - planning out events for April's Earth Day; can be as involved as you want. Work with a committee to get the event planned.

Recycling Manager

Self-paced commitment - once every few weeks, pop into the vestibule and see what recycled items need to be redistributed, managed to Art, Office Depot, etc.

Set up and advertise, collect and recycle holiday lights from end of November through January.

Zero Waste Lead

Check in with the leaders of each event i.e. Fun Run, Coffee Meet Ups, Teacher Dinners, and aid in making the event zero waste.

Fall Thatcher Woods Hike Lead

Advertise in newsletter a meet-up at Thatcher Woods for a group hike. Be willing to attend the hike and welcome attendees.

Signup at <https://tinyurl.com/WhittierGreenTeam> to take the lead on these and other Green Team efforts and events!



November 13
PTO Meeting

November 14
Picture Retakes
DivCo General Meeting

November 15
Turkey Trot (3rd-5th Grade)

November 16
Family Harvest Dance

November 21-23
Thanksgiving Break

December 4
PTO Meeting

December 7
Report Card Distribution
Whittier Common Ground

December 24-January 4
Winter Break