

February 1, 2022



## Upcoming Events

JUN 14	5th Grade Adventure Day
JUN 16	5th Grade Promotion (during school)
JUN 17	End of Year Assembly & Last Day of School (1-hour early dismissal)
JUN 17	Donut You Think It Was a Great Year?!

Main Entrance @ 1:25pm

## Community Covid Wrap-Up

- Mask drive has been a great success! We have ample masks for students and staff. Thanks to our community's generosity, we've been able to share critical supplies with Northgate Elementary, too.
- Have you gotten your free federal and WA State rapid tests yet? Order them [here](#) and [here](#).
- You can request to get your Wildcat tested at school by contacting [Nurse Marissa](#). Note: This option is impacted by test availability. If there is a predicted change in availability, please keep an eye out for a text or email with info on who's eligible.
- Looking for a vaccine? Learn more about upcoming [SPS Vaccination Clinics](#).
- If your Wildcat or a family member tests positive, please contact [Nurse Marissa](#) and [Principal Watters](#) for information related to next steps.
- Nurse Marissa will continue contacting families with Wildcats that have known or close exposures at school. These emails will include any next steps to follow to keep our community safe.
- You'll always hear about any changes in our school schedule or learning from Principal Watters and SPS before any announcements on social media or a website, but if you'd like to keep a pulse on what's happening, check out [SPS's School Remote Learning and School Closure Updates Page](#) and the [SPS Covid Dashboard](#).

Questions? Please contact [Principal Watters](#).

## Follow Us!



## SUBMIT YOUR BALLOTS! Vote Yes on Props 1 & 2 by Feb 8!



Ballots are due February 8 by 8pm! These critical school levies are needed to simply keep our schools running. Proposition 1, or the EP&O Levy, represents the operations funds that are required to close the gap between state and federal funding and the amount required to maintain our current school operations. Proposition 2, or the BTA Levy, focuses on capital funds to support building and technology maintenance and repairs. Looking for more info? [Learn more here](#). Can't find your ballot or a drop box? [Check out King County voting information](#). Want bonus points? Share our [Whittier PTA social media Stories and Posts](#) to help spread the word and increase support for this special election.

## Thank you for your Advocacy!

Thanks to our Whittier community members for participating in our Advocacy Week! Along with PTAs around WA, we made our voices heard to support proposed policy that impacts our students' lives during this short legislative session. **Our work is not done!** [Sign up for WSPTA's Action Network](#) and continue to follow Whittier on Instagram to learn about timely opportunities to take action! Questions? Please contact our [Advocacy Chair](#)!

## Useful Links

- [Whittier Elementary School Website](#)

Thank You to our 2022 Sponsor!



February is Black History Month!

Black Lives Matter Week at Whittier

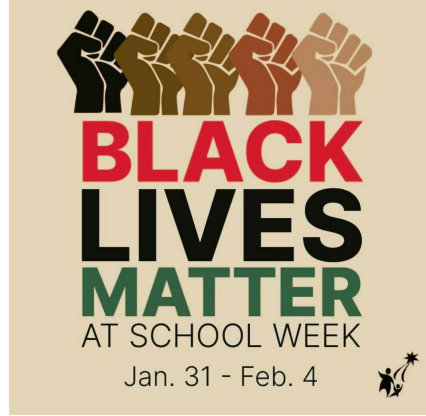


While black history is American history, Black History Month provides the necessary opportunity to dig deeper. Every February, we can support students as they learn more, discover cultural impacts, and follow movements through to the present day. In school, students will participate in more focused activities and discussions and families are encouraged to continue this important conversation and learning at home.

SPS librarians have curated book collections and online resource recommendations:

- [Fiction and Non-Fiction books that celebrates black joy](#)
- [Collection of online videos and websites that explores the BLM movement](#)
- [Book collection curated for 4th and 5th graders around Black Lives Matter and civil rights movements](#)
- [Picture book collection for younger Wildcats or their younger siblings](#)

Looking for more? The Center for Racial Justice in Education has a [comprehensive resource list](#) that covers everything from the history of Black History Month to teaching tools to how we continue this learning after February.



This year's Week of Action in school will include activities, discussions, and books related to different themes each day:

- Monday, 1/31: Restorative Justice, Empathy, and Loving Engagement
- Tuesday, 2/1: Diversity & Globalism
- Wednesday, 2/2: Trans-affirming, Queer-affirming, Collective Value
- Thursday, 2/3: Intergenerational, Black Families and Black Villages
- Friday, 2/4: Centering Black Women and Femmes, Unapologetically Black

In addition to Whittier's in-school events, the [Puget Sound Black Lives Matter in Schools](#) organization is also hosting an online "Young, Gifted, & Black Student Talent Showcase" from 6-8 p.m. Thursday (Feb. 3). They've also identified a [list of educational advocacy priorities](#) for the [Puget Sound area](#) that would be a great way to bring an in-school conversation into action.

Want to learn more about how you can continue the conversation at home? Check out [last year's SPS BLM Guide for educators](#), [WA State's resource guide for childcare centers](#), and review guides like [this](#) and [this](#) for parents.

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## Happy Lunar New Year!



Today is Lunar New Year, an annual holiday celebrated in many East Asian and Southeast Asian countries and by Asian and Asian-American families in the US. Each culture has its own unique New Year traditions and celebrations, often including special foods. Does your family celebrate Lunar New Year?

Resources:

[Mindy Kim and the Lunar New Year Parade](#)

## Calling All 1st Grade Families!

It's 1st grade's month to host the February Whittier Staff Appreciation! On February 17th, we would love to provide the staff with a FUN CEREAL BAR along with some key supplies needed this month. If you're a 1st grade family, please sign up [here](#) and show our Wildcat staff some love!

## Whittier Website/SPS Calendar Now Syncs!

Great news! Whittier Elementary website visitors can now subscribe to district and school website calendars. Once subscribed, their personal calendars will automatically update whenever a change is made to an event or a new event is added to the website calendar.

To subscribe, scroll to the bottom of the [calendar page](#), click **Subscribe to calendar** and then select a subscription option. If you're using Outlook, I recommend the iCalendar option. You can also subscribe to the Whittier PTA calendar on Konstella by clicking on "Sync My Calendar" from the "Calendar" section!



## Watch Last Month's PTA Community Meeting

Did you miss last month's PTA Community Meeting? This informational session was filled with important information related to this (and next year's) budget, an overview of our special education services, and more. Watch the recording [here](#).

## Join the PTA BUDGET COMMITTEE

Help the PTA make magic happen, learn more about what the PTA does, and meet great people while you're at it! The PTA Budget committee is an easy way to get involved. With 2-3 meetings and a bit of independent work, you'll help review budget line items and make sure every dollar counts.



To learn more or volunteer,  
**CONTACT OUR TREASURER**  
([treasurer@whittierptaseattle.org](mailto:treasurer@whittierptaseattle.org))



## UPCOMING LUNCH MENU



1/31	2/1	2/2	2/3	2/4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chicken Burger w/ Fries</li> <li>• Bagel Lunch Box</li> <li>• Yogurt Lunch Box</li> <li>• Seasonal Veggie</li> <li>• Seasonal Fruit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lemongrass Chicken Pot Stickers w/ Fried Rice</li> <li>• Hummus Lunch Box</li> <li>• Chicken Caesar Salad</li> <li>• Seasonal Veggie</li> <li>• Seasonal Fruit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bean and Cheese Quesadillas</li> <li>• Florentine Chicken Pasta Salad</li> <li>• BBQ Turkey Salad</li> <li>• Seasonal Veggie</li> <li>• Seasonal Fruit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cheese and Broccoli Cavatappi</li> <li>• Chicken Banh Mi</li> <li>• Veggie Tex Mex Salad</li> <li>• Seasonal Veggie</li> <li>• Seasonal Fruit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chef's Choice</li> <li>• Moroccan Quinoa Chicken Salad</li> <li>• Chicken Caesar Salad</li> <li>• Seasonal Veggie</li> <li>• Seasonal Fruit</li> </ul>



Congrats, Wildcat Unicyclists!

# MR. PULE'S P.E. PALACE

Congrats Wildcats! Last week, we celebrated our 47th new unicyclist for the 2021-2022 school to bring Whittier's total "One-Wheeled Wonders" to 112. Awesome! Easily reached our modest goal of 100 and closing in on our next goal of 115. Our K/1st Graders are beginning to dabble in our "one-wheeled culture" in PE and lunch recess. Five 1st Graders are already riding. Many fellow Wildcats are helping our *padawans* (learners) add a completely new skill set. Remember that lunch recess is open for those who want to "dabble" in the "circus arts" (stilts, hula hooping, etc.). If wanting to practice unicycling, best to bring your own helmet so not to need a hairnet to use a school helmet.

## Reminder: Spring Sports & Mid-Winter Break Camp Sign-ups

- Whittier Ultimate Frisbee
- Props Lacrosse
- Ballard Little League
- ILS Mid-Winter Break Camp
- Math for Love Mid-Winter Break Camp
- NEW: More Mid-Winter Break Camps to Explore

Thank you, Wildcats!