

Dufferin Elementary

Volume 3

November 3, 2017

Dear Families:

November is upon us, and with it comes a comfort with our routines, and pride in our hard work. November is also a month to focus on respect. We do this by saying positive things to one another, by listening to each other, and by being polite and spreading kindness.

November is a time for remembering - a time to remember and respect all those who have given their life to make Canada a free and safe place to live. At Dufferin we are looking forward to focusing on RESPECT this month and hope to model it in everything we do!

All the best,
Mrs. Katrina Sewell

At Dufferin Elementary, we believe
Our students should AIM high:
Achieving excellence, Imagining a future
and Making it happen, through
creative, hands on academic and
Social competencies.

SAFE ARRIVAL PROGRAM

Our district operates an automated "Safe Arrival Program." After the 8:30 bell, teachers report the names of students who are absent or late (this is done on line). This is checked with the "reported absences" that are entered by parents on line and the parents of students who are unaccounted for are contacted in an automated call out.

In order for this program to operate smoothly, it is imperative that parents call the 1-800 number or access the website **before 8:30am** to let the school know if their child is going to be absent or late. The website: <http://ktsd.schoolconnects.com> and the phone number: 1-844-350-2647 can both be found on our website, in the upper left corner of our Dufferin home page.

SUPERVISORS NEEDED

We are still looking for people to assist us with supervision of students at lunch between 12:00 and 1:00 on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

An honorarium is provided for anyone interested in helping out. If you are able to supervise on any of these times or days on a regular / weekly basis, please contact the office at 250-374-4425.

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)

The PAC hosted a FUN Family Halloween Dance last week! Thank you to the families who volunteered their time before, during, and after the dance.

The next PAC meeting will be held in the library on November 6th for those wishing to attend. For information as it happens, visit the PAC Facebook Page at "THE DRAGON'S PACK", or email the PAC executive at dufferinelempac@gmail.com.

CHAPTERS FUNDRAISER



The PAC will be hosting a fundraiser evening at Chapters on Thursday Nov.23 from 6-8:30pm.

This year Chapters has come up another way for us to earn an additional 20% back from online gift card purchases. The great thing about this is that you can go online and purchase a gift card (PAC getting 20%) and then use that gift card at the store on Nov.23 (PAC getting another 20%).

Follow the easy steps to purchase a gift card:

- 1-www.indigo.flipgive.com
 - 2-Top left click "Find a Fundraier"
 - 3-Search: Dufferin PAC
 - 4-Click: Shop Online
 - 5-Click: Indigo eGift cards-buy now
- Follow the onscreen prompts.

This event will be open until PAC reaches their goal of \$1000.

REMEMBRANCE DAY ASSEMBLY

Dufferin Elementary's Remembrance Day assembly will be held on Friday, Nov. 10th at 10:30am. Students will be decorating classroom wreaths to lay and listening to stories, poems and songs of remembrance. Parents and other community members are welcome to attend. Members of Scouts and Guides Canada, as well as military cadets groups are encouraged to wear their uniforms to school on November 10th. School will not be in session on Monday, Nov. 13th, as it is the Remembrance Day holiday.



PURDY'S FUNDRAISER

Mr. Bamsey and Mrs. McGarry's grade 6/7 classes are organizing a Purdy's fundraiser to support their class trip to Eagle Bay.

Online ordering:

1. Go to purdysgpp.com
2. Click "Register" to create a new account or "Login" once you have an acct.
3. Join our group by typing in: **32400**
4. Invite your friends and family to join our group and shop online!
5. When ordering, please specify which Dufferin student you want the chocolates delivered with in the additional info box. This way we can deliver the chocolates to that student to give to you. If you wish to pick up at the office yourself, please write "office pickup" and your phone number.

Orders are due online or to the classroom teacher by **Tuesday, November 28th**.

POINSETTIA SALE

Order forms for this PAC fundraiser will go out Tuesday, November 7 and are due back

Tuesday, November 21. Poinsettias, wreaths, holiday table top trio (Gaultheria, Frosty Fern, Mini Cypress), and new this year is the Holiday Tropical planter.



Delivery will be December 7th.
Plants will go home Friday, December 8th.

ABORIGINAL UPDATE

What a busy start to the year! We are in November already! In September we used the time to get settled and review our behaviour matrix, ROCKS, using an Aboriginal focus. We compared our matrix behaviours to the behaviour traits of animals and selected totem animals that would best represent our school and students. In October our Aboriginal focus was salmon and fishing. We learned the importance of salmon to the Secwepemc people and some of the fishing techniques and tools that are used. Some students even took the opportunity to make a salmon to take home. This month the focus will be on remembering and recognizing our Aboriginal Veterans as well as learning about the Metis nation as we approach Louis Riel Day.



SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

It's a great time to think about Christmas!

Tuesday, November 7th: 2:15pm – 3:00pm
Wednesday, November 8th: 8:30am – 3:15pm
Thursday, November 9th: 8:30am – 3:15pm
...in the library

The 'Highlights Flyer' features only a few of the hundreds of books available and will come home with your child on Tuesday, November 7th. The flyer also contains a special Family Event Draw ballot that parents or students can drop off during our event. You could win \$50 in books - \$25 for your family PLUS \$25 for your child's classroom. Ballots must be dropped off by noon on Thursday! Classes will have buying blocks on Wednesday and Thursday where students may come in and purchase. All money and product earned are returned directly to our library.

LOST AND FOUND

Our lost and found bin is often overflowing. If your child is missing any items, please stop by to have a look or inform your child's teacher and he/she can support your child in looking through the bin for the missing items. Mrs. Carter will pack up our unclaimed items and donate them to charity before the winter break.





CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

The Dufferin PAC is hosting a Craft Fair on **Sunday, November 19th** between 10:00am and 2:00pm.

Come shop at the 40 vendor and bake sale tables and try to win one of many raffle baskets.

DUFFERIN ROCKS!

At Dufferin Elementary we follow our "ROCKS" matrix. ROCKS stands for:

Respectful
Organized
Caring
Kind
Safe



This month we are going to be working on **Being Respectful**. Students are reminded of ways to be respectful around the school, and they can earn a paper poppy when they are caught showing respect. These poppies are proudly displayed in the hallway beside the office in celebration of their hard work.

You can review these expectations with your child at home by looking at the ROCKS Matrix in the student agenda.

PREPARING FOR COLD WEATHER



It is getting to be the time of year when our outside weather is getting cold and snowy. We expect that students will come prepared for the colder, wetter weather, including having appropriate

outdoor footwear. Students should have a pair of "inside shoes" that they can change into when the snowy weather persists.

There are orange cones at the end of our mats when entering that will remind the students it is "change your footwear" time. I am expecting that as adults, we set the example and remove our own shoes as well when entering from outside. I know that this always feels inconvenient, but it is necessary so that there isn't water and mud down our hallways, especially when students are walking in their socks and carrying their footwear. We appreciate your support in communicating this to your child(ren) and setting the example yourself!

SUPERVISION BEFORE SCHOOL

Supervision before school begins at 8:15 for our students. Mrs. Paulsen begins her day early to welcome and supervise our bus students, who are picked up on a schedule set by the district. On cold days, below -15°C, Mrs. Paulsen will bring the bus students inside. We encourage families to have their children arrive at or after 8:15 so that they are properly supervised before the 8:22 bell, and, especially on cold days, so students will not be in the cold for too long.

CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

Our two afternoon Christmas concerts this year will be on Wednesday, December 20th and Thursday, December 21st. Both concerts will begin at 1:00 PM so that we can end before our regular dismissal time. We are looking forward to sharing our performances with you!

GRAVEL PARKING LOT

The City of Kamloops would like to remind the Dufferin community to use the proper entrance on the Southeast gravel parking lot. We have been notified that some community members are driving over the end of the sidewalk closest to the school, rather than using the proper entrance. This is a concern as it is deteriorating the curb, and, more importantly, it could be a safety hazard to our students, who would not expect vehicles to be driving over the end of the sidewalk. Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.



EVENTS AT A GLANCE

- Nov 6 – PAC Meeting: 6:30 – 8:00pm
- Nov 6-10 – Scholastic Book Fair
- Nov 10 – Remembrance Day Assembly 10:30am
- Nov 13 – Remembrance Day Holiday
- Nov 15 – Picture Retakes
- Nov 19 – Craft Fair
- Nov 21 – Come Read With Me (Grade 1 families)
- Nov 23 – Chapters Fundraiser
- Dec 1 – Term 1 Report Cards
- Dec 4 – Pro-D Day: no school
- Dec 20 – Christmas Concert #1 (1:00pm)
- Dec 21 – Christmas Concert #2 (1:00pm)



SCHOOL WEBSITE

Please visit our school website for the most up-to-date information, including calendar events.

Our school website is: www.dufferin.sd73.bc.ca

NOTES FROM THE PUBLIC MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

October 23, 2017

CONSENT AGENDA

- Remembrance Day assignments.
Details of the consent agenda can be found on the public agenda.

EDUCATION TOPIC

The Board congratulated the successful participants of this year's Leadership Development Program. The two-year program, which started in Kamloops nearly 50 years ago, is designed to develop the District's future leaders from within the ranks of current employees. This year, 10 teachers completed the two-year program. The LDP integrates courses, TRU-based instruction, senior leader mentorship and in-school practicums to develop leadership and enhanced pedagogical skills.

PUBLIC INQUIRIES

City Coun. Arjun Singh introduced the Board to seven secondary students from schools across the city who are the inaugural members of a newly formed student city council. The students will address, debate and provide insight into City issues and the decisions made by council, particularly those issues that are important to youth. The group asked the Board about the possibility of forming a similar student school board. Trustees agreed the initiative would provide interesting opportunities to engage students while providing the Board with valuable insights from young people.

REPORTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS/DISTRICT LEARNING PLAN

The Board heard a presentation from senior staff regarding the district learning plan, which is the high-level document that sets the educational direction. District staff will follow. The plan identifies trends based on student success rates, and offers new directions for education stemming

from the B.C. government's revised curriculum, the District's new five-year strategic plan and the Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement. The Board was told the implementation of the plan will lead to better strategies and structures to improve outcomes and benefit all of the District's students.

ENROLMENT INCREASE ANALYSIS

The District's data shows the net number of students coming to School District No. 73 has increased this year. The majority of those new students came from other districts in B.C. but significant numbers of new students also came from other provinces as well as from independent schools. The number of international students is also up significantly.

ENROLMENT COMPARISON BY SCHOOL

The Board was provided a school-by-school breakdown of enrolment numbers across the district. Twenty-seven schools have more students than last year, with the largest increases being seen at Sa-Hali and Valleyview secondary schools, as well as Aberdeen, Kay Bingham, McGowan Park and Westmount elementary schools.

OUT-OF-PROVINCE FIELD TRIP

The Board unanimously approved an out-of-province field trip for NorKam Secondary Grade 11 and 12 biology school students, who intend to travel to Hawaii for a number of biology-oriented activities, including the Hawaii Marine Institute, the Honolulu Zoo, the Foster Botanical Gardens and a tropical rain forest. The trip is planned from March 29 to April, 5, 2018. The cost of the trip will be covered by participants, although no student will be denied the opportunity to attend the trip because of financial hardship.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Wade reported she attended the official community opening of the new BCAA playground at Marion Schilling Elementary on October 14. Despite the poor weather, the event was well attended. Chair Wade, along with Superintendent Sidow and Trustee Sim attended the 100th anniversary celebrations of Raft River Elementary on October 19. Many former students and staff joined community members, current students and staff to celebrate the event.

The next public board meeting will take place at Logan Lake Secondary November 6th at 7 p.m.