



Dufferin Elementary



Volume 18

May 30, 2016

Dear Parents:

One thing that Dufferin Elementary and many other schools highlight is Respect. Respect is the first "R" in our Dufferin ROCKS. It sometimes seems that it is an uphill battle to instill the habit of Respect with today's popular culture. Professional athletes yelling at refs, popular television shows where hosts demean and put down well-intentioned contestants, some popular music that demeans gender or authority... the list goes on. It doesn't mean that children should never question, they should. However, it can always be done in a respectful manner.



In a world where many children, especially older children, feel that adults and parents are not relevant anymore we need to make sure we are relevant. Despite popular culture, the reality is that we have more influence than we think.

1. Modeling how we respect differences and building empathy
2. Being consistent but flexible
3. Providing predictable structure
4. Having reasonable and consistent expectations
5. Being the parent/adult

As the adults in our child's world, what we do can frame how they interact with the world now and in the future. They watch us closely!

Children who respect others and themselves:

- Are happier, more successful, and have healthier relationships
- Are unselfish, considerate, caring, and generous
- Respect you and other influential adults
- Honour reasonable boundaries placed on them
- Are more likely to trust you and abide by your directives

At Dufferin Elementary, our aim is to develop students' knowledge, skills and attitudes so that they can reach their full potential and become contributing members of society.

AFTER SCHOOL STUDENT PICK UP

Thank you to parents for helping us teach good pick up routines for students by waiting for them outside!

Not coming into the school at the end of the day helps relieve congestion and disruption in the hallways as well as encourages students to learn how to be organized and independent.

Things you can do to help:

1. Try not to arrive at the school to pick up your child too early (or drop them off too early). The dismissal bell is at 2:30pm.

2. **Encourage independence! Meet your child outside.** This will teach 'independence' and 'organizational' skills and also help with our

congestion. If they come outside not organized, we can then come back in and sort it out. A teachable moment.

Thanks for your help with this!

SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS



Please note that the school office hours are from **8:00am to 3:30pm**. If you are attempting to reach the school by telephone, please note that generally no one is available to answer the telephone outside of these hours.

SAFE ARRIVAL PROGRAM

Our school operates a "Safe Arrival Program." In order for this program to operate smoothly it is imperative that parents let us know if their child is going to be absent prior to the morning bell.

Please contact the school prior to the start of classes if your child will be absent OR late. **THIS IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT AS WE WILL BE USING A NEW ATTENDANCE SYSTEM THIS YEAR.**

The school phone number is: 250-374-4425 or email Ms. Norton at anorton@sd73.bc.ca

Please include a reason for the late or absence.

DAILY BELL SCHEDULE

A copy of the bell schedule can be found on the school website (<http://dufferin.sd73.bc.ca>) under General Information and Schedules.

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)



Our next PAC meeting will be on: **Monday, June 6 @ 9:00am** (at the school)

THE PAC WILL BE DOING A SECOND CALL FOR NOMINATIONS. On Monday, June 6 @ 7pm we will be holding elections

for our new PAC executive. If you are interested in putting your name forward, please contact the PAC at:

dufferinelempac@gmail.com or Mr. Bowden at the school.



A **BIG** thank you to all the parents who have participated in all our fundraisers

and volunteering so far. Without you the PAC would not be able to support the school and our children the way we have! Having said that, we are desperately looking for more people to come out and get involved, especially parents with children in the primary grades.

PARENT REQUESTS 2016/2017

We do not formally ask for parent requests. However, we do value your opinion. We will be working on student placements for next year in June. The deadline for accepting requests will be mid June.

Requests in the summer or September are generally not considered. If you would like to make a request, it should be in writing and can be emailed to Mr. Bowden at mbowden@sd73.bc.ca before mid June 2016.

Some things to consider:

1. No guarantees. Your request is **only one** of many factors. Please refer to the Dufferin **School Organization Policy** for details on requests. The policy can be found on the Dufferin website.
2. We will not consider requests for specific teachers. Any requests must include an educational reason and be in writing.

3. Requests to be with friends or not with certain peers are rarely considered, unless there is a sound educational reason. Even then it is difficult as it affects more than just your child and the balance of other children and parent wants are affected.

Most of our classes in the coming year will again be multi-grade. There is information on multi-grade classrooms on the school website. PLEASE READ AND REFER TO BOTH THE ORGANIZATIONAL POLICY AND THE MULTIGRADE/COMBINATION PAMPHLET BEFORE SUBMITTING A REQUEST.

Organizational Policy:
file:///C:/Users/mbowden/AppData/Local/Temp/School_Organization_Policy-Procedure.pdf

Multi-Grade/Combination Classrooms:
file:///C:/Users/mbowden/AppData/Local/Temp/Combination_Classes-1.pdf

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION TEA

The staff and students at Dufferin will be holding a Volunteer Appreciation Tea on June 14 from 11:30 to 12:30 in our gym.



We will be inviting all volunteers to join us for some entertainment and refreshments on that day. If you are one of the many volunteers that help make Dufferin Elementary such a great place, please reserve the time and date and join us!

SUMMER ACTIVITIES



KAMLOOPS CANOE & KAYAK CLUB

The KCKC Summer Camps teacher paddling fundamentals to kids, plus many useful skills

they will use for the rest of their lives. The camps are for ages 7-14. There are 8 one week long camps to choose from starting July 4. Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 3pm. There are also several other camps available. If you are interested, pick up a pamphlet at the school or go to: www.kamloopscanoeandkayakclub.ca

TRU WOLFPACK SPORTS CAMP

TRU Wolfpack will be running sports camps this summer starting July 4. For more information or to register go to: www.tru.ca/sportcamp or call at 250-852-7135

PAC FUN FAIR - JUNE 9



The PAC is planning their annual fun fair on Thursday, June 9 from 5pm-8pm. This is always a big fund raiser and great community activity. You can help support your children and PAC by:

1. **Volunteering** – if you can volunteer, please contact the school and/or PAC (dufferinelempac@gmail.com).
2. **Donate to Gift Baskets** – each class is collecting items for a gift basket that will be raffled off at the Fun Fair.
3. **Donate Prizes** – A box will be located at the entry way for *lightly* used toys that can be given as prizes for events at the fun fair. Please drop donations off in the box.

GRADE 7 NEWS!

There are several activities happening in June for grade seven students that need to be noted:

May 30	Grade 7 Parent Meeting
June 1	Sa-Hali Orientation Day
June 15-17	Eagle Bay
June TBA	Grade 7 Luncheon
June 29	Grade 7 Leaving Ceremony

The Grade 7 Luncheon is planned and organized by the grade seven parents. They will be meeting on May 30 at 6:30pm at the school to begin planning and setting a date for the luncheon. The gym is reserved for this event. If you wish to help, please attend the meeting on May 30 or contact the school if you can't make the meeting but would like to help.

TOYS, ITEMS AND EQUIPMENT FROM HOME

With the warmer weather, some students are wanting to bring items from home to play with during their free time and breaks. Some things to consider before you send items from home to school are:

1. Don't bring items to school that you aren't willing to lose. Items can get broken or go missing and the school is not responsible.
2. Many children find items from home a BIG distraction at school. A hint that this might be an issue is if you might have a problem saying no to them about bringing it to school, then it will probably be an issue at school when they need to put it away.

SUMMER LEARNING PROGRAMS

Summer Math Program

For students who lack comfort when working in math or who would like some enrichment.

Grades 4 to 9
July 5 to 22
Monday to Friday
9:00am to 12:00pm

Registration opens in Mid-May. If you are interested go to the school district website:

<http://www3.sd73.bc.ca/kool/content/summer-school-2016>

RECYCLING

Unfortunately we are no longer able to do juice box recycling at the school. In order to make an effort to be 'garbage' free we would like to encourage parents and students to use recyclable food and liquid containers to reduce waste and garbage.



If students do bring juice boxes or other recyclable waste containers, they will be asked to bring them home to get recycled.

Thanks for your help in reducing waste!

DRESS CODE

With the warm weather we would also like to share a friendly reminder about our dress code. Please be



aware that the dress code is in compliance with high school expectations. A detailed copy of the dress code can be found on the Dufferin School website in the Code of Conduct folder. www.dufferin.sd73.bc.ca).

KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION

Our Kindergarten Orientation this year is scheduled for Tuesday, May 31, 2016 at 9am in the library. Registered Kindergarten parents will receive an invite with information in the mail in early May.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Kindergarten registration for 2016-2017 was open on February 22. If you have a child (or know of someone who has a child) going into Kindergarten in September 2016, there is still time to register!

MATHLETICS

Unfortunately this may be the last year for Mathletics. Without the support of an active PAC, we may have to drop the Mathletics program for the 2016-2017 school year.



The school, supported by the PAC is continuing with our Mathletics

online program until the end of June. Teachers will be giving their students a Mathletic account, which includes a password and user name. Students can access Mathletics at home through the website: <http://www.mathletics.ca/>

If you would like to access this program and do not have a user name and password for your child, please contact your teacher for information.

STUDENT/SCHOOL SAFETY

Please be aware that parents and visitors should check in at the front office before they proceed into the school.

Also, if you need to be in the school, please make sure you use the front doors. Thank you in advance for observing this precaution for the safety of your children.

Thanks again for helping us keep our children safe!

TRAFFIC AND PARKING

We would like to remind parents to be EXTRA careful while driving through our school zones and in our parking areas.



Please keep the bus turn-about clear while the buses are running. Not only operating a running vehicle around a bus is extremely dangerous, but holding up a bus can disrupt their schedule. Most of our buses serve more than one school and community. If you are dropping your child off and are caught in the bus loop, please don't stop but proceed through or turn and drop off in the designated drop off and parking area.

TRACK AND FIELD



Congratulations to all of our AWESOME track and field students! We did great in both the Zones and then the Districts!

Congratulations to our THREE

aggregate winners at the Zone track meet:

Kieran Harrison – Tyke Boys
Kalie Saari – PW1 Girls
Yoshi Matthews – PW2 Boys

Congratulations to our District aggregate:

Kalie Saari – PW1 Girls

Zone and District aggregates are the top athletes for their age and gender out of all the schools in our zone or our district. Way to go! They will be receiving aggregate medals at the recognition assembly in June.

LIBRARY NEWS

The last week for book exchanges will be June 6th to 10th. All student books must be returned to the library by June 15th! Thank you for your support.

A reminder that the public library is an excellent source for books over the summer!

TICKS!

With the warm weather, ticks are out! Children are outside almost every day of the week. It is important to check them (and pets) daily for ticks, especially before they come into the house. Ticks can easily drop off on carpets or furniture. Some favorite places for ticks are under arms, between legs, hair, behind your knees, and even in your belly button!



Some other ways to avoid ticks are: wear light-colored clothing; wear long pants with sneakers (socks or bare feet don't work); and stay on trails or groomed areas.

2015/2016 SCHOOL CALENDAR



Please note that the school calendar is also posted on the Dufferin Website (www.dufferin.sd73.bc.ca). The website calendar will be updated on a regular basis and may change.

- May 30 Grade 7 Parent Meeting
- May 31 Kindergarten Orientation

- Jun 1 Gr 7 Sa-Hali Orientation
- Jun 6 PAC Meeting
- Jun 9 Fun Fair
- Jun 14 Volunteer Appreciation Tea
- Jun 15 All Library Books Due
- Jun 15-17 Eagle Bay Trip
- Jun 19 Father's Day
- Jun 21 Aboriginal Day
- Jun 27 Fun Day!
- Jun 28 Recognition Assembly
- Jun 29 Last Day of School (½ Day)
Term 3 Report Cards
Gr. 7 School Leaving Assembly

T = Tell an adult

If you could review all of these expectations as well as the parent/student handbook with your children at home it would help us maintain a positive school culture at Dufferin. A copy of the ROCKS Matrix can also be found in the student agenda. A copy of the parent/student handbook can also be found online.

The School District has also revised the CODE OF CONDUCT. Copies of the CODE OF CONDUCT are on the school website as well as posted around the school.

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 **ROCKS!** We will be reviewing all of our ROCKS matrix for the month of June. The

staff is on the look out for students who are displaying our **ROCKS** motto. Tickets will be handed out and put on our display in the entrance for students who are caught doing this! Check out the tickets in the entrance!

We will also be working on strategies to deal with peer conflicts (TILT):

T = Talk to the person
 I = Ignore
 L = Leave

BEING SAFE IS COOL!



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DUFFERIN ROCKS!