



Dear Parents:

The dust has settled and the students are getting into the routines of their new classrooms. This is a good time to set up those important school routines at home that will help you be successful for the rest of the year. Our Dufferin website is also full of information, including tips on how to help students at home to have a great year! We also have information on bullying, what it is, and the difference between bullying, mean behaviour, and conflict. We know that some conflict can be expected as children learn how to interact and learn proper social skills.

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.

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." After the morning check-in, teachers report the names of students who are absent. This is checked with the "reported absences" and the parents of students who are unaccounted for are contacted.

In order for this program to operate smoothly it is imperative that parents let us know if their child is going to be absent. Please contact the school

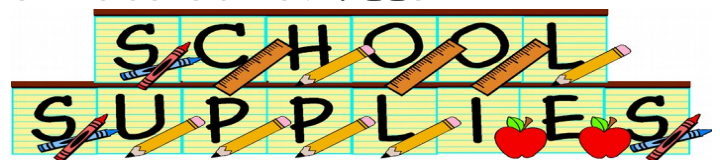
prior to the start of classes if your child will be absent OR late. **THIS IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT AS WE WILL BE USING A NEW ATTENDANCE SYSTEM THIS YEAR.** The school phone number is: 250-374-4425 or email Ms. Norton at anorton@sd73.bc.ca Please include a reason.

DAILY BELL SCHEDULE

A copy of the bell schedule can also be found on the school website (<http://dufferin.sd73.bc.ca>) under General Information and Schedules. We have had to adjust the bell schedule slightly this year in order to conform to the Ministry's mandate around minutes in an instructional day.

8:23am	Warning Bell
8:30am	Classes Begin (O'Canada)
10:02am	Recess Begins
10:17am	Recess Ends / Classes Begin
11:57pm	Lunch – Outside Play Time
12:30pm	Lunch – Inside Eating Time
12:45pm	Lunch – Warning Bell/Clean Up
12:50pm	Lunch Ends / Classes Begin
2:30pm	Students Dismissed
3:00pm	Detained Student Dismissal

SCHOOL SUPPLY FEES



If you have not already, this is a friendly reminder that school supply fees were due last Friday. If you are having difficulty paying, please contact the school and we can make arrangements.

An envelope has gone home. Please place your cheque or cash in the envelope, complete the front portion of the envelope and return it to the school secretary (do not give it to the classroom teacher). Please use one envelope per student.

If you are purchasing your own school supplies,

you will still need to pay for the Young Peoples' Concert (YPC) and school agenda!

Please note on the envelope that you are purchasing your own supplies and then include your payment for agendas and YPC. If you are not sure what the cost for agendas and YPC are, contact the school.



We will be offering the Kindergarten class the Young Peoples' Concert for the 2015-2016 school year. The cost will be added later this month. Agendas are not

offered to Kindergarten students so the cost of agendas are not included for them.

We apologize for the mix up in the prices in the first newsletter and thank you as always for your understanding.

STUDENT VERIFICATION FORMS

If you have not already, please make sure the student verification forms are sent back to the school as soon as possible. Please review and update the information on the forms. It is important that we have your most current information at the school.

Also, please make sure you return the Internet and Google consent forms as soon as possible.

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)

Or next PAC meeting will be on:

Monday, October 5 @ 7pm (at the school)

All parents are encouraged to attend and become actively involved at the school. Child minding is available upon request. Some upcoming PAC events are:

Dufferin Night At Chapters: **Nov 26, 2015**

School T-shirt orders and jerseys are now available at the school – students should be bringing order forms home. Also, lunch forms should be going home soon for our lunch program!

SCHOOL ORGANIZATION

Our projected enrollment for this year is around 280 students. The staff at Dufferin presently consist of:

Primary Teachers:

Ms. J. Carter	Mrs. C. Twamley
Mrs. N. Preymak	Mrs. P. Lovett
Mrs. M. McGeough	Mrs. L. Thomas
Mrs. B. Primus	Mrs. S. Hammond

Intermediate Teachers:

Ms. L. Eacrett	Ms. J. Dalsin
Mrs. K. Geoghegan	Mr. K. Bamsey
Mrs. S. McGarry	

Teacher Support:

Principal	Mr. M. Bowden
Librarian	Mr. R. Rhynolds
Learning Assistance	Mrs. M. Bell
	Mrs. K. Bartanus
Math Resource Teacher	Mr. C. Levitt
Teacher Preps	Mr. J. Berezowski
	Mrs. K. Bartanus

CUPE Support:

Certified Education Assistants (CEA)

Mrs. P. Behrmann
Mrs. S. Dickinson
Mrs. N. Sun
Mrs. J. Rahn
Mrs. T. Mirtle
Mrs. C. Cleveland

First Nations Education Worker (FNEW)

Ms. F. Joe

Library Assistant

Mrs. L. McBurnie

Secretary

Ms. A. Norton

Custodians

Mr. D. Bruno
Mr. D. Smith

X-COUNTRY RUNNING TEAM

The Dufferin Cross Country Running Team training is well underway! Our team made an excellent showing at the OLPH MacArthur Island race September 16th. Thank you to all the athletes who come out to train, to the parents who come out to cheer, and to Mrs. Lovett for keeping things running smoothly at the starting

line!

SUBSTITUTE SUPERVISORS REQUIRED

We are looking for people who might be able to fill in as a supervisor when our regular parent volunteer supervisors are not available. If you are interested, please leave your name and number at the school. You will have to fill out a criminal record check free of charge.

Morning 7:40am to 8:30am
Lunch 12:00pm to 1:00pm

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!

MEDICAL ALERTS

A special note to parents to remind you that it is your responsibility to let the school know if your child has a serious health condition or requires medication at school.



Parents who have completed forms last year are also required to update the information on file. Please contact the school office if you require more information or to pick up the forms to be filled out.

Please be aware that we have a number of staff and students who are allergic to peanuts and scents. As such our school is scent free. Also, individual classrooms will be sending information home concerning expectations for peanut allergies at the beginning of the year.

GO GREEN WITH CRAYOLA!

This year Dufferin is going to try and take part in a green initiative program sponsored by Crayola. Kamloops is one of the few cities being offered this program.

Bring in any old markers (it can be any name brand) highlighters and dry erase markers, drop them in the labeled box at the front entrance and the PAC will take care of sending them to

Crayola! They will be then be taken to a conversion facility where they will be transformed into clean-burning fuel.

DUFFERIN NIGHT AT CHAPTERS

On November 26 the Dufferin PAC and Chapters book store will be hosting a "Dufferin Night at Chapters." 10-20% of any purchases at Chapters on the evening of November 26 will go to books for our library.

STUDENT 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!

SCENT AWARE SCHOOL!

**SCENTS can KNOCK
you
SENSELESS!**

**Be sensible.....
NO SCENTS**



Dufferin is a 'Scent Aware' school. Many people are extremely sensitive to perfumes, colognes, and other scented products including soaps and hair/body products.

Please try not to wear them when you are in the school for any length of time. These products can trigger allergic reactions. Thank you for your consideration.

For more information you can visit the Canadian Lung Association website:

http://www.lung.ca/protect-protegez/pollution-pollution/indoor-interieur/scents-parfums_e.php

HEAD LICE

After a long holiday and students interacting with many friends and family, head lice tend to spread. There is often two weeks before those pesky critters begin to hatch and show themselves. Now that we are two weeks into school we are encouraging parents to be extra vigilant!

It is recommended to parents that you **check our children at home at least once a week!** If you find any, please treat them immediately and report it to the school so that we can take steps to keep them under control. The school handles any reported cases confidentially.

More information about head lice and how to control them can be found on our school website. Thank you in advance for helping with this. Vigilance by the home is the best way to control the spread of head lice. Remember, it isn't enough to just use the shampoo. Some lice are immune - so removal of all the nits (eggs) from the hair after treatment is necessary or they can hatch and re-infest. It only takes one live louse to lay hundreds of eggs.

CELL PHONES

The school district has a policy (Policy 406.1) concerning the use of cell phones at school. Please be advised that should you require your child(ren) to have a cell phone at school, you and your child are required to read our guidelines and complete a permission form which outlines the use of cell phones. The guidelines and slips may be obtained at the office.

Children bring cell phones to school at their own risk. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen cell phones.

TOYS OR GAME CARDS

Please be aware that we do try and assist students who have items stolen or lost at the school. However, we also want parents to be aware that toys or playing cards (example: Pokemon, etc) are brought to school at your own risk. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items of this nature. If items of this nature are causing playground issues or become a distraction to learning, they may be confiscated.

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.

Sept 25 NI Day* (No School for Students)
Sept 28 Terry Fox Run
Sept 30 Orange Shirt Day

Oct 1 Earth Rangers Presentation
Oct 7 Picture Day
Oct 12 Holiday (Thanksgiving)
Oct 13 Volleyball League Begins
Oct 21-22 Early Closure / Interviews
Oct 23 NI Day* (No School for Students)

Nov 1 Daylight Saving (Back 1hr)
Nov 4 Picture Retakes
Nov 10 Remembrance Day Assembly
Nov 11 Holiday (Remembrance Day)
Nov 26 Dufferin Night at Chapters
Nov 27 Term 1 Report Cards

Dec 7 NI Day* (No school for students)
Dec 16 Christmas Concert
Dec 18 Last day before Winter Holiday

December 19 – January 3 WINTER HOLIDAY

Jan 4 School Reopens
Jan 18 Basketball Season Begins

Feb 8 Holiday (BC Family Day)
Feb 10-11 Early Closure / Interviews
Feb 19 NI Day* (No school for students)
Feb 24 Pink Shirt Day
Feb 29 Leap Day

Mar 13 Daylight Saving
Mar 17 St. Patrick's Day
Mar 18 Term 2 Report Cards
Last day before Spring Break

March 19 – April 3 SPRING BREAK

Apr 4 School Reopens
Apr 7 Day of Suwewtwew
Apr 12 Flag Football Begins
Apr 18 NI Day* (No School for Students)

May 9 Mother's Day
 May 16 NI Day* (No School for Students)
 May 23 Holiday (Victoria Day)
 May 26 Zone Track & Field Meet
 May 30 District 1500m

Jun 1 District Track & Field Meet
 Jun 19 Father's Day
 Jun 21 Aboriginal Day
 Jun 29 Last Day of School (½ Day)
 Term 3 Report Cards

***NI Day = Non-Instructional Day (Staff Professional Development)**

SCHOOL PARKING

For the safety of our students and to avoid congestion, we would like to remind parents that parking/dropping off students in the ROUND-ABOUT AREA in front of the school is restricted to buses only.

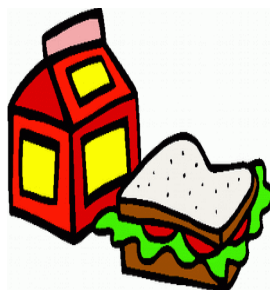


We have four buses that bring students to school and pick up after school and it is important that the roundabout area is accessible for buses at all times. This includes quick drop off and pick ups. Please obey the traffic signs and stop or park only in designated areas.

EATING LUNCH AT SCHOOL

Students who live close enough to school to go home for lunch are encouraged to do so. If not, students are welcome to remain at school during the lunch hour. We ask that all students remaining at the school for lunch:

1. Eat lunch in their designated area
2. Behave in a mannerly fashion
3. Clean up after themselves
4. Remain on school grounds for the duration of the lunch hour



Students who are unable to follow school expectations during the lunch period may be asked to go home for their lunch.

If your child brings a lunch to school, we will assume it is your intention they remain at school for lunch.

ONE-TO-ONE READING VOLUNTEERS

Parents, grandparents, friends, university students – we need your help!

We are still looking for volunteers and alternates to assist us with our One-to-one Reading program.

It is Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday starting from mid October until mid January.

If you are interested in volunteering for the One-to-One Reading program or want more information about the program, please contact the office at 250-374-4425.

VOLLEYBALL 2015

We are looking for volunteers interested in coaching or being an assistant coach volleyball this year. The season starts on **October 19, 2015**. We will need coaches for senior boys and girls (grade 6/7) and junior boys and girls (grade 4/5).

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 **Back to School Behaviour!**

- Respect
- Washroom & Hallways
- Outside / Playground Behaviour
- Classroom Behaviour

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

T = Talk to the person
 I = Ignore

