



Dear Parents:

January and February are often the longest months of the school season and when there isn't much daylight (although the days are getting longer). The weather outside isn't always cooperative, and there is an increased emphasis on school learning and assessment.

It is during this time when sticking to regular routines for your children around homework or study time, as well as getting exercise and regular sleep, is so important. It is also the time of year when children tend to get irritable with each other (and adults), so it is important to build in regular positive breaks where everyone can 'de-stress.' During this long winter month we can work together to help keep our children motivated and focused so they can be successful.

Developing students' knowledge, skills, and attitudes to their potential, so they can contribute to a multi-cultural society, and information-based world.

PAC NEWS

Our next PAC meeting is on **Monday, March 3rd at 6:30pm**. As a parent at our school you are automatically a member for our Parent Advisory Council. Our PAC Executive welcomes your involvement at any time! If you miss a meeting, don't forget to check out the minutes posted on the website on the right hand side.

If you are planning on attending the next PAC



meeting and require free child care, please contact Kirsten Christianson at dufferinelempac@gmail.com or at 250-851-9397.

HOT LUNCH

The hot lunch form can now be found on the school website under the PAC folder (www.dufferin.sd73.bc.ca).

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| Friday, Jan 31 | - Papa John's Pizza |
| Friday, Feb 14 | - Lunchbox Cafewraps |
| Thursday, Feb 20 | - Senor Froggy's Mexican |
| Friday, Feb 28 | - Spa-ghet-ti Pasta |

Please note that there is no hot lunch on February 7th due to the school ski trip.

FAMILY CHILI DINNER



On February 20th the PAC will be sponsoring a Family Chili Dinner at Dufferin Elementary School. Bring your family out for an evening of fun and

enjoy a hot dinner! Proceeds will go to the PAC activities that support your children.

Ticket sales will be available starting January 27th! The deadline for tickets will be February 12. See you there! Copies of the order form are found on the school website.

ANNUAL SKI TRIP

Our annual ski trip will be taking place on Thursday, February 6th and Friday, February 7th.

An alternate program will be provided for students who are not attending the ski trip. Please let the school know if your child is not going on the ski trip and/or will be staying home that day so we can plan and make arrangements for your child.

EARLY CLOSURE DAYS!

On **February 12 and 13**, students will be **dismissed at 12:30pm** for parent conferences.

Some buses will be running, however, you may have to make arrangements to pick your child up from school early that day. Please make arrangements for your child to be home 2 hours early.



No School Today!

If you wish to schedule an appointment, you can call the school and make an appointment with their teacher.

HEAD LICE

With the colder weather, students are 'bundling' up, wearing hats, keeping inside and in close contact with friends and family. This makes it easier for our pesky friends the head lice to spread.

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please note that the school calendar is also posted on the Dufferin Website

(www.dufferin.sd73.bc.ca). The website calendar is updated on a regular basis.



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| Feb 3 | School Planning Council |
| Feb 3 | Parent Advisory Council (PAC) |
| Feb 3 | Young People's Concert |
| Feb 4 | Dufferin ROCKS Assembly |

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| Feb 6-7 | Ski Trip |
| Feb 10 | Family Day |
| Feb 12-13 | Early Closure |
| Feb 14 | Valentine's Day |
| Feb 15 | National Flag Day |
| Feb 20 | PAC Chili Dinner |
| Feb 21 | NI Day (No School for Students) |
| Feb 25 | Pink Shirt Day |

PARKING ISSUES!

Please respect our bus round-about. We have noticed that there has been an increasing amount of traffic and parking in our bus drop off area.



For safety and access, there should be NO STOPPING or use of our round-about area while buses are active for any reason. This is between 7:40am and 8:15am and between 2:15pm and 3:40pm. Please use the designated public parking areas for pick up and drop off.

We thank you a head of time for modeling respect and for our school and helping to keep our students safe.

DUFFERIN ROCKS!

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

Respectful
On time and prepared
Careful
Kind
Self-disciplined

This month we are working on **Hands and feet to ourselves.** This includes horse play (pretend fighting) and wrestling.

If you could review these expectations with your children at home it would help us maintain a positive school culture at Dufferin.