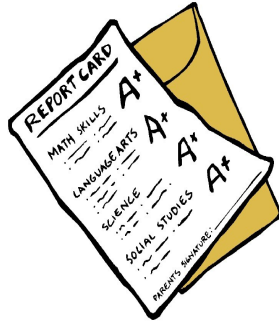




Dear Parents:

Spring break is rapidly approaching and so are report cards and the end of our second term. A child's report card can bring feelings of joy, excitement, and pride; it can also cause concern, frustration and uncertainty. In either case, it is a good time to set goals and reflect on past work habits, achievements and hardships.

Some things parents can do to help during report card time is to focus on the positive. Starting on a positive note shows your child that you truly care about their accomplishments, not only areas that need improvement. Be careful not to overreact to low grades, or grades you view to be unsatisfactory. Talk your child and ask questions to understand how a particular grade was earned.



As students, parents and teachers, we want the best, but this should not only be measured by the number of A's and B's brought home. What should be emphasized is important to do the very best job they can and that we care and are available to help them do that. By reviewing the report card, and developing a plan for the future, you will help your child find the road to success.

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 on 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.

PAC SPRING FUNDRAISER

The PAC Spring Fundraiser orders are due on March 10th. These are the orders for the gift items and the hanging planters!

BULLYING / MEAN BEHAVIOUR / PEER CONFLICT!

As young children enter school they continue to develop their skills on how to get along and interact with each other. This can be a growing process throughout their school career, especially because it is their first experience in a setting that has up to 300 children and adults interacting with each other during the day. Learning skills to get along, deal with adversity, and work with others that sometimes you may not enjoy working with is challenging for adults let alone children.



As part of that learning process, children encounter mean behaviour, peer conflict and yes, bullying. Bullying is probably the most serious of the behaviours. It is

distinct from the other two in that it will have been repeated over time (the incident has happened more than a few times), targeted only on the same student(s), and involves a power imbalance (age, size, social status, etc). Bullying can also be the most difficult for adults to intervene and support children with as it often goes unreported.

In all cases we try to intervene, educate and help young children learn how to interact appropriately – both bullies and victims. It is important that everyone can feel safe at school. One strategy we try to teach children is **TILT**: *T* = Tell them to stop; *I* = Ignore; *L* = Leave; and finally *T* = Tell an adult.

With our focus on bullying this past week, we can expect a rise in the use of the term bullying as children learn what that actually means and the difference between bullying, mean behaviour and peer conflict.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Dufferin Elementary will be accepting Kindergarten registration for September 2014 from March 4th - 6th. Birth certificate, Care Card and proof of residence (Dufferin Catchment Area) will be required. More information will be posted on the Dufferin website.

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

(<http://dufferin.sd73.bc.ca>). The website

calendar is updated on a regular basis.



Mar 3	School Planning Council
Mar 3	Parent Advisory Council (PAC)
Mar 4-6	Kindergarten Registration
Mar 5	Speed Stacking Competition
Mar 6	Science Fair
Mar 6	Young Authors Entry Due
Mar 7	Basketball Wind Up Lunch
Mar 10	PAC Spring Fundraiser Order Due
Mar 14	Spring Helmet Orders Due
Mar 14	Report Cards Home
Mar 15-23	Spring Break

YOUNG AUTHORS

Students in grades four to seven are invited to submit an entry into the Young Authors Conference. The deadline is Thursday, March 6. It can be a script, prose or two poetry pieces.

Please give your submissions to Ms. Dalsin. Students selected will be able to attend the Young Author's Conference at the end of April. More details on criteria is provided on the school website.



BASKETBALL

As our season draws to a close we would like to thank all the players for a successful season! We would also like to thank a number of people and volunteers. Without their help, this season would not have been possible. In particular we would like to thank Mrs. Geoghegan and Mrs. Bubela for being the teachers and organizers for this season!



We would also like to thank our coaches:
Tier 1 Boys – Mr. Ewings and Taylor Ewings
Tier 1 Girls – Mrs. Saari and Mrs. Applegath
Tier 3 Boys – Mrs. Friesen and Mrs. Perrett

Tier 3 Girls – Mrs. Hembling and Mrs. Deol

Our teacher sponsors: Mrs. Bubela, Ms. Dalsin, Mrs. Bailey, Mrs. Lovett, Mrs. Geoghegan and Mr. Bowden

Our Refs: Mrs. Bubela, Mrs. Trouton, Mr. Lovett, Mrs. Campbell, and Mr. Berezowski

Our Scorekeepers: Janae, Carly, Yoshi, Eric, Greg, Colby, Maddy, Sydney, Jeremy, Alina, Taylor S.

There will be a pizza lunch in the gym on Friday, March 7 at 12:30 for players, coaches, and scorekeepers.

SPEED STACKING

The annual district cup stacking competition will be happening on Wednesday, March 5th. Students wishing to attend and compete, must have their permission forms signed and back into Mrs. Ritcey the day before! Permission forms have already been handed out to the students who were interested.

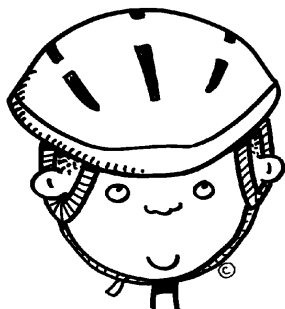
SCIENCE FAIR

Dufferin school will be hosting their annual Science Fair on Thursday, March 6. The projects will be open to parents to come and view from 9:30 to 12:00.



SPRING HELMET INITIATIVE

The Kamloops Brain Injury Association, Canada Helmet Initiative and Dufferin Elementary School are offering quality spring helmets for sale at a significant discount. There will be two kinds of helmets available for purchase: bike and multi-sport. If you are interested, please make sure you get an order form. Anyone in your family can purchase helmets. Helmets will be delivered by the end of April. Order forms with payment must be returned



to your teacher no later than Friday, March 14.

PARKING!

Please respect our bus round-about. A BIG thank you to everyone who is honouring our parking signs and not stopping in the 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:

- R** *espectful*
- O** *n time and prepared*
- C** *areful*
- K** *ind*
- S** *elf-disciplined*

This month we are continuing to work 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.