



Dear Parents:

The final term has started! The snow has melted and we can see the end of the 2013-2014 school year approaching.

I hope everyone had a good Spring Break and with the first week behind us, you have settled back into school routines.

With the increase in daylight it will become important to make sure that our children get lots of sleep. I know it is difficult to maintain those bed time routines when daylight stays around later and later! However, we all know that getting enough sleep and providing children with predictable and consistent routines at home make a big difference in how successful they are in school and learning. Here is 'rooting' for a successful final term!

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 31st 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.

FAMILY DANCE - FRIDAY, APRIL 4!

On Friday, April 4 the PAC will be hosting a family dance hosted by SHAKEWOOD ANNIE! It will be an interactive dance with prizes and fun. The dance starts at 6:30pm and ends at 8:00pm in the Dufferin gymnasium. Come out and enjoy the fun!



TICKS ARE BACK!

Warm spring weather brings out ticks, small bugs that bite and feed on the blood of humans and animals and can sometimes transmit disease.



Ticks are most often found in tall grass and wooded areas, including playground areas. Fortunately there are precautions people can take and ways to deal with them.

One of the most important ways to reduce the risk is to do a daily skin check on your children. If you find a tick, wear gloves and gently remove it. Be careful not to crush the tick as this could cause it to inject its stomach contents in to the skin. If you find a tick, check very carefully for others. Other tips to remove ticks safely include:

- Use needle-nose tweezers to gently grasp the tick close to the skin.
- Without squeezing, pull the tick straight out.
- After removal, clean the area with soap and water.

For more detailed information about ticks, please refer to the handout under general information on the Dufferin School website (<http://dufferin.sd73.bc.ca>).

BIKES / SCOOTERS / SKATEBOARDS

Now that the snow is gone, many students are bringing their bikes, scooters and skateboards to school. Unfortunately, this also causes some safety concerns. For the time being, students can use them for transportation before and after school, but during recess and lunch they will need to be put away. Our play area is limited and used for basketball, four square and skipping. Riding skateboards and scooters presents a hazard during these busy times and the school does not have a designated area for this activity.



When students are using their bikes, scooters, or skateboards before and after school, they **MUST** be wearing a helmet at all times.

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 31	School Planning Council
Mar 31	Parent Advisory Council (PAC)
Apr 2-4	District Science Fair
Apr 4	Family Dance
Apr 7	Young People's Concert
Apr 7	Day of Sucwentwecw
Apr 8	Grade 3 Bike Parade
Apr 9	Battle of the Books
Apr 11	Jump Rope Skip-A-Thon
Apr 15	Flag Football Begins
Apr 15	Aquavan Visit
Apr 16	Battle of the Books
Apr 17	NI Day (No School for Students)
Apr 18	Good Friday (Holiday)
Apr 20	Easter
Apr 21	Easter Monday (Holiday)

AFTER SCHOOL

Please be aware that students who do not take a bus should be going directly home after school. The school is not set up to provide child care or supervision after school for students who are not waiting for a bus. After school, unless there is an extracurricular activity they are participating in, or they are waiting for a bus, children need to make their way home in a timely manner. If you have children that walk home, please talk to them about this. Thank you for your support.

FLAG FOOTBALL

Flag Football season has started! It looks like we have a number of students interested in playing. Ms. Simpson with the help of Mr. Bowden have volunteered to be the teacher sponsors. However, we are in desperate need of a coach or coaches!



If you are interested in coaching, please contact the school. The games are after school and will begin the week of April 14th.

JUMP ROPE FOR HEART



Jump Rope for Heart has already started! We have primary skipping happening in the gym on Wednesdays and then a wrap up Skip-A-Thon in the afternoon of April 11! We will be taking donations starting this week. If you can and you have not donated before the main event, please bring a Loonie (\$1) donation on April 11. Student can register online at www.jumpropeforheart.ca and invite friends and family to make donations. Wear your red Dufferin Elementary shirt and be ready to get some exercise, have fun, and be jumpcredible!

DAY OF SUCWENTWECW

On April 7th, all schools in School District 73 will be participating in a Day of Recognition to recognize that our schools are on Secwepemc territory.

At Dufferin Elementary, we will be holding an assembly after lunch (1pm) to recognize the Secwepemc territory. It will include a welcome from an elder and the welcoming song done by a local singer. You are welcome to attend.

SHOE DRIVE

Dufferin Elementary School is participating in the district wide "SHOE DRIVE" this year. If you have any shoes that you don't use, please bring them into your class. Shoes collected will be going to Nicaragua for children in need. The deadline will be this Friday!

SCIENCE FAIR

Congratulations to everyone who participated in our school science fair. Also thank you to our organizing staff, particularly Mrs. Bubela and Mrs.

Geoghegan! Finally we would like to thank all of our guest judges. We have a number of students who will go on to the district science fair this week and represent themselves and Dufferin School. Those students include: Zach Bullock, Dylan MacDonald, Cailin Dueck, Josie Cumming, Eric Hembling, and Kobe Pavlovich. Congratulations and good luck at Districts!



A TASTE OF DUFFERIN

On April 11 at lunch time the WE Team will be sponsoring "A Taste of Dufferin." This will be a fund raising activity. All items will be on sale for \$.25 cents each. Enjoy and support the Dufferin WE Team!

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 going to be working on **Bathroom Behaviour!** This includes HUSH, FLUSH, and WASH.

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