



Dear Parents:

The end of the school year is fast approaching and we need to remember to stay focused and have a strong finish. With the good weather as well as the increased number of activities offered both during school and outside of school, it is easy to get distracted from our learning.

With summer holidays looming, students and parents often get focused on the finish line instead of staying focused on the present. There is still two months of school and whether you have struggled during the year or you have done well all year, two months is still enough time to make sure you have a strong finish to the year!

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, May 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

During this PAC meeting, we will be voting on our executive for next year (2014-2015). If you are interested in either being on the executive or wanting to come and vote, please show up. If you know of anyone who might be interested in



being on the executive, please check our nomination form on the school website.

If you are planning on attending the next PAC meeting and require free child care, please contact Kirsten Christianson at [dufferinelempac@gmail.com](mailto:dufferinelempac@gmail.com) or at 250-851-9397.

## SPOKE KIDS

Have fun learning bike skills! Spoke N Motion is sponsoring bike skills course. The course costs \$30 per child and will be every Tuesday starting on May 6<sup>th</sup> and going until June 3<sup>rd</sup>. It will be taking place at the Dufferin Bike Course and the Juniper Bike Ranch. It is designed for students from grade 3 to grade 7.

Spoke Kids Bike Camp May 6th-June 3<sup>rd</sup>  
(First camp at Dufferin)

Tuesdays at 3:15pm for approx 1.5 hours  
Basic mountain bike cross country skills will be taught.

All inquiries can be sent to [spokenmotion@hotmail.ca](mailto:spokenmotion@hotmail.ca)

## 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 morning, 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.



May 1	Young Artist Conference
May 1	One-to-One Reading Wrap Up
May 2	Young Author's Conference
May 5	Susan Mitchell (Illustrator)

May 5	ROCKS Assembly
May 5	PAC Elections
May 8	Hot Lunch
May 9	Dufferin Track & Field Meet
May 15	Hot Lunch
May 16	NI Day (No School for Students)
May 19	Holiday (Victoria Day)
May 20	Zone Track and Field Meet

## AFTER SCHOOL

**Please be aware that students who do not take a bus and walk home – 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.

## KAMLOOPS TRACK & FIELD

The Kamloops Track and Field Club is a non-profit, community-orientated organization devoted to the development of all athletes. From Junior Development to Masters, we have a program to suit any athletic ability, and we welcome participants of all ages and levels of experience.

If you are interested you can get more information or register at [www.kamloopsgrackandfield.ca](http://www.kamloopsgrackandfield.ca)

## SHOE DRIVE

Thank you everyone for participating in our shoe drive. Dufferin School was able to donate 450 pairs of shoes to children in need in Nicaragua. Mrs. Preymaks class donated the most pairs of shoes at 90! Great job!

## HOT LUNCH!

Monday, April 14<sup>th</sup> was the deadline for hot lunch. Please refer to the following dates for our hot lunch:



Friday, April 25	- Wendy's
Friday, May 2	- Subway

Thursday, May 8 - Panago Pizza  
Thursday, May 15 - Sweet Home Cafe

A reminder that we have reverse lunch on hot lunch days. This means that children will be eating before they go outside.

## PARKING!

**For safety and access, there should be NO STOPPING or use of our round-about area while buses are active for any reason.** A BIG thank you to everyone who is honouring our parking signs and not stopping in the bus drop off area.

**Please respect our bus round-about.** 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.

## POKEMAN CARDS & PERSONAL ITEMS

With better outside weather, students have been bringing a number of personal items to school to use during breaks. Although we like to encourage students to keep busy, we also would like to remind parents that the school is not responsible for any personal items brought to school by students. This includes items such as Pokeman or other trading cards. The school can not provide a secure environment for these items.

If you or your child chooses to bring these items to school it is at your own risk. If they do, they are to be used appropriately. Trading, buying and selling personal items are not aloud during school time.

## TRACK AND FIELD

The school track meet will be held on May 9<sup>th</sup> this year! We are inviting Savona to come and

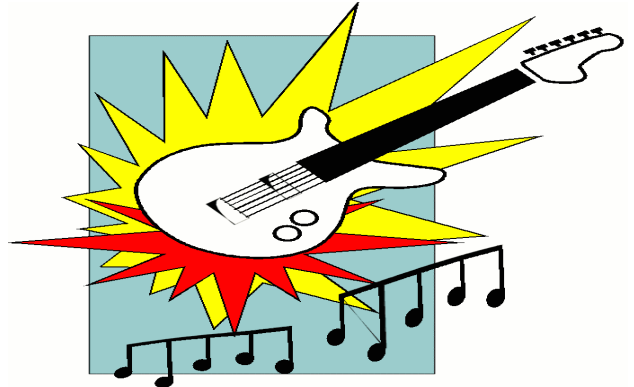


participate with us.

We are looking for parent volunteers for that day. If you can or are interested, you can contact the school or email Mrs. Bubela at [jbubela@sd73.bc.ca](mailto:jbubela@sd73.bc.ca)

## 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 **Outside Behaviour!**

- Stay within playground boundaries
- Use equipment safely and follow game rules
- Keep hands, feet and objects to self
- Settle problems using T.I.L.T.
- Return borrowed equipment

T = Talk to the person  
I = Ignore  
L = Leave  
T = Tell an adult

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