



Dear Parents:

It is hard to believe we are already more than half way through May! Despite the occasional challenges in consistency with weather, it appears that spring has finally arrived.

I would like to draw your attention to the numerous academic and extra-curricular activities involving our students. Track and Field, football, as well as class field trips to the things such as gymnastics have been ongoing. Our staff and students have also continued to 'keep their focus' in a positive manner academically. At the end of May and beginning of June, the school will be starting their district assessments for math and literacy. We appreciate everybody's patience and understanding as we move through this very busy time of 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, June 2nd 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.



Please welcome our new PAC Executive for the upcoming school year!

President	Kirsten Christianson
Vice-Pres	Teresa Neves
Secretary	Lesley Willford
Treasurer	Karen McKenzie
DPAC Rep	Karen McKenzie

School Planning Council (SPC)

Lesley Willford, Josee Lang, Shari Harrison

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.

PARENT REQUESTS FOR 2014-2015

Dufferin Elementary School will not be sending out parent request forms this year for placement in 2014-2015. The school undergoes a rigorous process when considering the placement of students.

If there is information that the school does not have and should consider when placing your child, you can write a letter or send an email to (mbowden@sd73.bc.ca) by June 13, 2014. In your letter please describe the learning environment that may suit your child's needs. If you are requesting placements that involve other students, think carefully and provide an explanation. The information you provide will be shared with staff as part of the placement process. Please be aware that late requests, including requests in September, may not be considered.

Please note that no letters will be accepted if names of staff members are used. Letters containing staff names will not be used in the class building process. All staff at Dufferin Elementary are certified and qualified teachers. Our goal is to meet the needs of ALL students and maximize the growth as learners as a whole community. We appreciate your support in this complex multi-level process of arranging educationally sound and balanced classes.

DUFFERIN FUN FAIR!

The Dufferin Fun Fair is soon arriving! Not only is this a great family event, but it is also a fund raising activity for our Parent Advisory Council. There is a dunk tank and bouncy castle as well as many other activities. Mark it on your calendar:

Wednesday, June 11
5:00pm – 9:00pm

We are also looking for volunteers to help – ½ hour shifts – as well as help to set up and take things down. If you can help, please contact the PAC at dufferinelempac@gmail.com.

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:

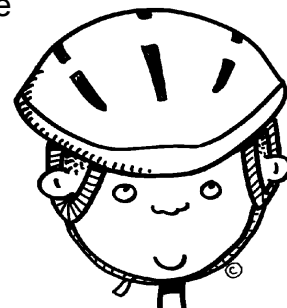


- Use needle-nose tweezers to gently grasp the tick close to the skin.
- Without squeezing, pull the tick straight out.
- After removal, clean the area with soap and water.

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 20	Track & Field – Zones
May 22	Earth Ranger Assembly
May 23	Intermediate Dance
May 27	1500m District Zones
May 28	Track & Field – Districts
June 2	PAC Meeting
June 5	Kindergarten Orientation
June 6	Aboriginal Day
June 9-10	Eureka Science

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.

LOST AND FOUND

Our lost and found is overflowing! Please take some time this week and go through the items. We will keep it out until the end of the month and then look at donating the rest. You should consider labeling any items sent to school to avoid them getting lost.

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 allowed during school time.

TRACK AND FIELD

The school is participating in the zone and district track meets in the next two



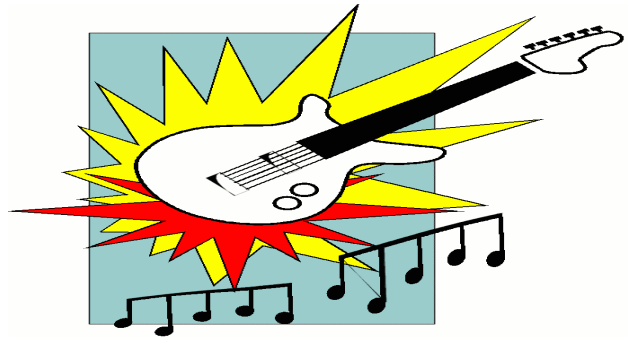
weeks. If your child is

representing Dufferin, please remember to send them with water, sun block and a hat. They spend all day out in the field with little or no shelter from the sun. Thanks!

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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.