



Dear Parents:

Report Cards! Report Cards! Read all about it! The first term is almost over and you will soon be receiving your child's report card. There is a week, maybe two, where your child can get those last minute assignments in. This would be a good time at home to also review goals and expectation for the new term and set up home environments and routines to help with success in term two!

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

PAC NEWS

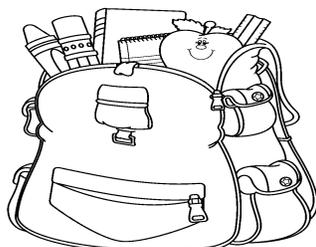
Our next PAC meeting is on Tuesday, December 3rd at 6:30pm. If you missed a meeting, don't forget to check out the minutes posted on the website on the right hand side.

Dufferin T-shirts are available at \$10. There are extra order forms at the office.

The Duffy's Pub Steak dinner was a great success! Thanks to everyone who came out and supported us!

BACKPACK DONATIONS!

Many thanks to Dufferin students and staff who helped us send backpacks to the children on the streets in Russia once again this year!



Special thanks to Mrs. Lovett and her grade 3-4

class for collecting the donated items and helping to put together the backpacks.

From the supplies that were generated at Dufferin over 50 backpacks were created! In total we are sending over 200 packs to the children. These backpacks should arrive in Russia by the January 6th Ukrainian Christmas! You will have made a very caring difference to the children when they receive the pack from you.

BOOK FAIR

On Tuesday, November 19th and Wednesday, November 20th Dufferin will be hosting a book fair in the library from 8:30 to 4:00. Please spend a moment and check it out!



INTRAMURAL VOLLEYBALL

We would like to thank all of our excellent volunteers for reffing and score keeping during our lunch intramural program!



We would particularly like to thank the following student leaders for their time and excellent leadership during intramural volleyball! Taylor Klassen, Daisy Heinonen, Alina Saari, Carly Geoghegan, Janae Marchio, Sierra Cocker, Cailin Dueck.

KINDERGARTEN HELPERS

We have a number of exemplary student leaders at our school. Some of them spend time as Kindergarten helpers. We would like to thank those students! Sierra Cocker, Taylor Klassen, Maddy Aulin, Aidyn Carr, Sarah Czajkowski. Keep up the great work!

SCENT AWARE SCHOOL!

Dufferin is a 'Scent Aware' school. Many people are extremely sensitive to perfumes, colognes, smoke from cigarettes, and other scented products including soaps and hair/body products. Please try not to wear them when you are in the school for any length of time. These products can trigger allergic reactions. Thank you for your consideration.

For more information you can visit the Canadian Lung Association website:

http://www.lung.ca/protect-protegez/pollution-pollution/indoor-interieur/scents-parfums_e.php

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.

Nov 19-20	Book Fair
Nov 29	Report Cards
Dec 2	Non-Instructional Day (No School)
Dec 3	PAC Meeting
Dec 17	Christmas Concert Rehearsal
Dec 18	Christmas Concert
Dec 20	Last Day of Classes
Dec 21	Holidays Begin
Jan 6	Classes Return

INSIDE SHOES!

With the change in weather and the arrival of snow, this is just a friendly reminder to make sure students have inside shoes.

When they do come in from outside it is important for students to be able to change into warm dry footwear. This also helps keep our school clean and our floors safe and dry.



SCHOOL PARKING

Please respect our bus round-about. There is no parking (including dropping off or picking up) in the bus loading or staff parking area.



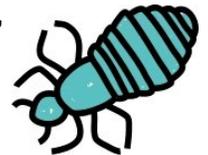
Please obey the traffic signs and stop or park only in designated areas.

INTERMEDIATE SKI TRIP

The annual Dufferin Intermediate ski trip will be taking place on February 6th and 7th this year. There will be information coming out soon to let parents know what the fees will be for a ski pass, bus and equipment. Lessons are mandatory on all alpine ski trips.

HEAD LICE

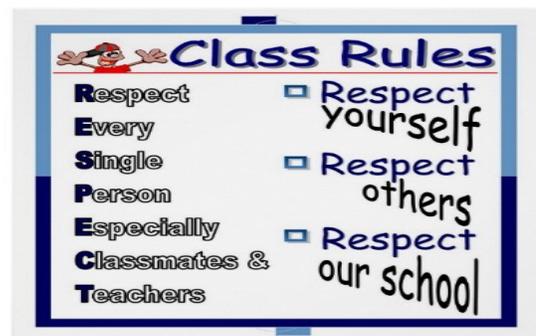
With the arrival of colder weather, students will be 'bundling' up and wearing hats. This makes it easier for our pesky friends the head lice to spread. It is recommended to parents that we **check our children at home at least twice a month!** If you find any, please treat them immediately and report it to the school so that we can take steps to keep them under control. The school handles any reported cases confidentially. Thank you in advance for helping with this.



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*



Some of the more recent things we have been working on are:

1. **Hands and feet to self** – especially during breaks. Rough housing often leads to children getting hurt (mostly unintentional) and angry reactions.
2. **Appropriate language** – encouraging students to use appropriate language, especially during breaks.
3. **Coming into the school right when the bell goes** and being prepared to participate in class. As we move into the year, some students are slower to return to their classes after the bell.

Finally, with **the arrival of snow**, it is our expectation that snow stays on the ground. This means **no snowballs** or even kicking snow at other students. We have already had a minor injury at school where a piece of ice from the snow hit a student in the eye leaving a cut. We were fortunate that this was not a more serious injury.

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

CUP STACKING! SPEED STACKING! SPORT STACKING!

Thanks to Dufferin P.A.C., our school has a "Speed Stack Sport Kit"! Ms. Ritcey is sponsoring 'Stack It' club



time and there is a S.D. # 73 March 2014 tournament to look forward to. Students have been able to try the beneficial mind and body challenges of cup stacking. Over thirty students showed up for practise time!

Cup stacking is not only fun and challenging but students that sport stack on a regular basis have shown increases in test scores and levels of concentration. When students sport stack they are crossing the "mid-line" of their bodies and developing new connections in their brains. These new connections help to spur brain growth

which in turn promotes greater academic achievement.

For information on what speed stacking is please go to the website under speedstacks.com. Click on the TV – Video Screen on the right or also view under the left Teacher Central tab where you will see video and read info on the benefits of speed stacking.

http://www.speedstacks.com/groups/teacher_central.php

For students interested in the "Stack It" club time, we practise at noon in portable #4. Come and pick up a pamphlet to order your own cups. To order stacking cups go to speedstacks.com and go to Shop, Group Orders, British Columbia, and Dufferin School. Credit card orders are accepted.

The first speed stack order went through Nov. 15th. Dufferin earned bonus bucks to buy our school a stack mat and timer! The next order ends on the morning of Tuesday, Nov. 26th. Please place your orders soon, they'll be here before the second week of December. The orders comes to the school and Ms. Ritcey hands them out.

If parents want to order privately, label the name with a title Mr., Ms., Mrs. etc. and give Ms. Ritcey your phone number. This may be the last order before January. Students can do speed stacking home practise with their DVD directions and get faster for competitions! We look forward to sharing speed stacking with students and parents!

BULLYING AWARENESS WEEK

November 18-22 is National Bullying Awareness Week. The purpose of this week is to challenge many incorrect assumptions that people have held about bullying. Among these myths are such notions as 'bullying is just a normal part of life.' These old attitudes are not only wrong, but they help to give bullies their power by supporting a culture of acceptance of bullying behaviours. Please talk to your children about strategies such as TILT when dealing with bullying. TILT stands for: T = Tell them stop; I = Ignore; L = Leave; T = Tell an adult.